ARIZONA HEALTH CARE COST CONTAINMENT SYSTEM

801 E. Jefferson Street
Phoenix, AZ 85034
602.417.4000

KATIE HOBBS
GOVERNOR

CARMEN HEREDIA
DIRECTOR

DATE: January 14, 2025

TO: Holders of the AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual (AMPM)

FROM: Division of Managed Care Operations (DMCO) Contracts and Policy Unit

SUBJECT: AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual (AMPM)

This memo describes additions and/or revisions to the AMPM. For questions regarding policy updates email the Contracts and Policy Unit at: DMCOContractsandPolicy@azahcccs.gov.

NAME CHANGE

Effective April 1, 2021, Comprehensive Medical and Dental Program (CMDP) changed to Comprehensive Health Plan (CHP) due to Behavioral health integration. Refer to Laws 2019, 1st Regular Session. AHCCCS is in the process of revising all pertinent documents to reflect the new name.

DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES TRIBAL HEALTH PROGRAM (DDD THP)

Effective April 1, 2022, The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) Tribal Health Program (THP) that is the Fee-For-Service health plan which administers physical health, behavioral health, and Long-Term care Services and Supports (LTSS) for DDD-THP enrolled American Indian/Alaska Native members. responsibility for managing acute Physical/Behavioral Health/Children's Rehabilitative Services (CRS), and THP members with a Serious Mental Illness (SMI) designation was transitioned to AHCCCS. AHCCCS is in the process of revising all pertinent documents to reflect this new change.

CONTRACT NAME CHANGE

Effective October 1, 2022, the Regional Behavioral Health Authority (RBHA) for the Managed Care Organization was aligned with the Competitive Contract Expansion YH20-0002 to expand the provision of services for the awarded ACC-RBHA Contractors. AHCCCS is in the process of revising all pertinent documents to reflect this change.

SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT

Effective May 1, 2024, The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) finalized the rule that prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability. AHCCCS is in the process of revising all pertinent documents to remove symbols and periods from various Federal and State citations to ensure accessibility for all individuals in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

AHCCCS NEW AGENCY STRUCTURE

Effective May 3, 2024, AHCCCS unveiled a new Agency structure. AHCCCS is in the process of revising all pertinent documents to reflect the new Division titles. For complete details related to the new Agency structure, please see the press release found on the AHCCCS website under News & Press Releases.

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STATEWIDE BRANDING

Effective August 23, 2024, Arizona announced a statewide branding effort. AHCCCS is in the process of revising all pertinent documents to reflect the new AHCCCS Logo, colors, and design elements.

CONTRACT AND POLICY DICTIONARY AND AHCCCS RELATED ACRONYMS

To view the AHCCCS Contract and Policy Dictionary, please access the following link:

AHCCCS CONTRACT AND POLICY DICTIONARY

The AHCCCS Contract and Policy Dictionary offers a centralized location for definitions found within the various AHCCCS Contractor Operations Manual (ACOM) and AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual (AMPM) policies.

To view the AHCCCS Related Acronyms found on the AHCCCS website, please access the following link:

AHCCCS RELATED ACRONYMS

CURRENT UPDATES AND REVISIONS TO THE AHCCCS MEDICAL POLICY MANUAL (AMPM)

AMPM POLICY 320-V – BEHAVIORAL HEALTH RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

AMPM Policy 320-V was revised to clarify prior authorization requirements for medically necessary behavioral health services that are not provided by the Behavioral Health Residential Facility (BHRF), including strengthening expectations for documentation, admission assessment, and treatment planning.

POST PUBLIC COMMENT CHANGES that concluded on JUNE 17, 2024: Additional substantial revisions were made to AMPM Policy 320-V based on public comment including but not limited to:

- Clarification to the requirements for prior and continued authorization for medically necessary services beyond the scope of the Behavioral Health Residential Facility (BHRF).
- Adding references for respite services, billing, and additional guidance.
- Clarifying that Behavioral Health Residential Facility (BHRF) providers are prohibited from requiring members to change providers of choice as a condition of admission or continued participation in treatment.
- Clarifying that Secure Behavioral Health Residential Facility (Secure BHRFs) need to both be established and then enrolled with AHCCCS.
- Revising to include minimum requirements in the Behavioral Health Residential Facility (BHRF) Overview and Requirements section.
- Strengthening expectations for Behavioral Health Residential Facility (BHRF) treatment planning.
- Revising for person centered language.
- Enhancing continued stay expectations.
- Aligning language with discharge criteria.
- Adding Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and home health services as examples.