

CHAPTER 1 - INTRODUCTION TO AHCCCS

Revisions: 10/22/2018; 10/1/2018; 4/26/2018; 3/9/2018

USE OF THIS MANUAL

The Fee-For-Service Provider Billing Manual is intended to outline billing requirements for providers who are billing the AHCCCS FFS unit for reimbursement.

The AHCCCS Fee-For-Service Provider Billing Manual is a publication of the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System's (AHCCCS) Claims Department of the Division of Fee-for-Service Management (DFSM). The Claims Department also publishes Claims Clues as a supplement to this manual.

Questions or comments related to this manual should be directed to:

The AHCCCS Claims Policy Unit 701 E. Jefferson Mail Drop 8000 Phoenix, AZ 85034

This manual is also available online at:

https://www.azahcccs.gov/PlansProviders/RatesAndBilling/FFS/providermanual.html.

Any updates to the manual will be posted on the AHCCCS website and available to providers for viewing. Any updates will *also* be listed at the bottom of each, individual chapter, under the Revision History section, so that providers may see, at a glance, the most recent updates to each chapter.

This manual contains basic information concerning AHCCCS, Arizona's Medicaid Program (Title XIX), KidsCare and Arizona's SCHIP Program (Title XXI). The intent of this manual is to furnish providers' billing staff and contracted billers with information about AHCCCS, coverage of specific services, and requirements for the completion of Fee-For-Service claims that are submitted to DFSM. Additional requirements are found in AHCCCS regulations, the Provider Agreement, and the Claims Clues publications.

Physicians, hospital administrators, and other medical professionals may only be interested in reviewing chapters pertaining directly to their specialty, in addition to chapter 1 of this manual. However, the office staff and billers of providers should also become familiar with the requirements for member eligibility and enrollment, prior authorization requirements, claims submissions, billing policies and procedures, and the use of modifiers. Use of this manual will help reduce questions and expedite the claims process by ensuring that claims are submitted correctly the first time.



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This manual provides guidance for **Fee-For-Service claims** *only* and it is **not** intended as a substitute or a replacement for a health plan's or a program contractor's billing manual.

 If you contract with and/or provide services to members enrolled with an AHCCCS health plan or program contractor, please continue to follow their instructions when providing and billing for services rendered to a member enrolled with that health plan or program contractor.

Note: The covered services, limitations, and exclusions described in this manual are global in nature and are included to offer general guidance to providers. The *AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual (AMPM)* contains additional information about covered services, limitations and exclusions, and is available on the AHCCCS website at:

https://www.azahcccs.gov/shared/MedicalPolicyManual/.

AHCCCS OVERVIEW

The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) was implemented on October 1, 1982, as the nation's first statewide indigent health care program designed to provide services to eligible persons primarily through a prepaid capitated managed care system. Operating as a demonstration project under the federal Medicaid program, AHCCCS receives federal, state and county funds to operate, plus some monies from Arizona's tobacco tax.

The Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS) was implemented December 19, 1988, for the developmentally disabled and on January 1, 1989, for the elderly and physically disabled. ALTCS provides institutional care and home and community based services to individuals who meet financial eligibility requirements and are at risk of institutionalization.

AHCCCS enrolls most eligible persons with acute care health plans and long term care program contractors. The health plans assume responsibility for the provision of all acute care covered services to enrolled members. The program contractors are responsible for providing and managing acute health, behavioral health, and long term support services for ALTCS members.

On October 1, 2018 AHCCCS integrated physical and behavioral health care for most members. This is referred to as AHCCCS Complete Care (ACC). For additional information on integration please visit the AHCCCS website.

NOTE: In this manual, the term "member" is used to describe an AHCCCS or ALTCS eligible individual who may be either Fee-For-Service or enrolled with a health plan



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or program contractor. The term "contractor" refers to both health plans and program contractors.

The contractors also are responsible for reimbursing providers for services rendered to eligible members during the prior period coverage (PPC) time frame that precedes the actual posting of enrollment with a contractor. The PPC period extends from the beginning date of an AHCCCS member's eligibility to the date prior to the member's date of enrollment with a contractor.

AHCCCS reimburses providers for services in only two ways:

- Contractors receive a prepaid capitation payment each month to cover services
 provided to their enrolled members and members covered under PPC. The contractors
 then directly reimburse providers who subcontract with them or provide services to their
 enrolled members.
- AHCCCS reimburses providers on a Fee-For-Service basis for services rendered to members eligible for AHCCCS or ALTCS, who are not enrolled with a contractor or covered under PPC.

In limited situations, AHCCCS is authorized to reimburse members.

AHCCCS FEE-FOR-SERVICE POPULATIONS

The Fee-For-Service populations include members that are enrolled in the following programs:

- The American Indian Health Program (AIHP),
- Tribal Regional Behavioral Health Authority (TRBHA),
- Tribal ALTCS,
- Federal Emergency Services Program (FESP),
- FFS Regular,
- FFS Temporary,
- · FFS Prior Quarter,
- Hospital Presumptive Eligibility (HPE), and
- Third Party Accounts.

AHCCCS FEE-FOR-SERVICE PROVIDERS

The provider's primary role is to render medically necessary services to AHCCCS members. Prior to billing for services, the provider must be an active registered provider with AHCCCS. Providers may elect to only provide services to AHCCCS Fee-For-Service members or may subcontract with one or more contractors to provide services to enrolled members.



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NOTE: The provider **must** be registered with AHCCCS in order to receive payment for any services provided from **either** AHCCCS or any contractor.

AHCCCS-COVERED SERVICES

Emergency Services

Per A.A.C. R9-22-210, AHCCCS provides coverage for emergency medical and behavioral health services for members who are not in the Federal Emergency Services Program (FESP), for the treatment of an emergency condition.

An emergency condition is a medical or behavioral health condition, including labor and delivery, which manifests itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity, including severe pain, such that a prudent layperson who possesses an average knowledge of health and medicine could reasonably expect the absence of immediate medical attention to result in:

- Placing the member's health, including mental health, in serious jeopardy;
- Serious impairment to bodily functions;
- · Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part; or
- Serious physical harm to self or another person.

Emergency medical services are covered for members when there is a demonstrated need and/or after triage/emergency medical assessment services indicate an emergency condition. A provider is not required to obtain prior authorization for emergency services.

For additional information on emergency services for members, who are not in FESP, please refer to AMPM 310-F, Emergency Services.

For information on FESP coverage please refer to AMPM Chapter 1100, Federal Emergency Services (FES) Program or to Chapter 18, Federal Emergency Services Program of the Fee-For-Service Provider Billing Manual.

Acute and Long Term Care Services

AHCCCS provides coverage for medically necessary services furnished to Fee-For-Service members by registered AHCCCS providers.

Coverage of services falls into two broad categories: AHCCCS Acute Care and the Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS).

AHCCCS Acute Care

AHCCCS Acute Care offers preventive, acute, and behavioral health care services (except for members determined to be SMI, or Seriously Mentally III), and it also covers General Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders (GMH/SA). There is limited coverage of



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rehabilitative services, home health care and long term care, as specified in A.A.C. Title 9, Chapter 22, Articles 2 and 12.

- For an overview of AHCCCS covered services for Acute Care refer to:
 - o AMPM Exhibit 300-1, AHCCCS Covered Services Acute Care; and
 - The AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual (AMPM), which has policies that detail additional covered and uncovered services.
- For an overview of AHCCCS covered services for Behavioral Health refer to AMPM Exhibit 300-2A, AHCCCS Covered Services Behavioral Health.

Acute care services covered under Title XXI, the State Children's Health Insurance Program (also known as KidsCare), are specified in A.A.C. Title 9, Chapter 31, Articles 2, 12, and 16.

- For an overview of AHCCCS covered services for Title XXI (KidsCare) members refer to:
 - o AMPM Exhibit 300-1, AHCCCS Covered Services Acute Care; and
 - The AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual (AMPM), which has policies that detail additional covered and uncovered services.
- For an overview of AHCCCS Behavioral Health services for Title XXI (KidsCare) members refer to AMPM Exhibit 300-2A, AHCCCS Covered Services Behavioral Health.

Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS)

The Arizona Long Term Care System covers, but is not limited to, the below list of services.

- Preventive and acute medical care services such as:
 - o Doctor visits,
 - Hospitalizations,
 - o Prescriptions (prescription coverage is limited for people who have Medicare),
 - Labs.
 - X-rays, and/or
 - Tests and other specialist treatments.
- Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) such as:
 - Home Health Nursing;
 - Personal Care:
 - Homemaker;
 - Home Health Aide;
 - Habilitation;
 - Medical Transportation;
 - Attendant Care;
 - Home Delivered Meals;
 - Adult Day Care;
 - Behavioral Health;
 - Respite Care;
 - Hospice;



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- Nursing services for ventilator dependent individuals residing at home;
- Services may also be provided in a supervised alternative setting, such as an Adult Foster Care Home, Assisted Living Home, Group Home, or a Level I, II, or III Behavioral Health Center.
- Long term care institutional services such as:
 - o Alternative residential living services,
 - o Nursing Home Care, or
 - Intermediate Care Facility.
- Residential treatment facility for persons under 21 years of age;
- Psychiatric hospital for persons age 65 or older;
- Speech, physical, respiratory, and occupational therapies; and/or
- Dental, including:
 - Medically necessary dental services up to \$1,000.00 per benefit year for:
 - Diagnostic,
 - Therapeutic,
 - Preventative care; and/or
 - Dentures.
- Emergency dental services up to \$1,000 per benefit year.

Arizona Long Term Care services are covered more extensively in the ALTCS regulations, as specified in A.A.C. Title 9, Chapter 28, Articles 2 and 11.

Note: Out-of-state services are covered when the conditions outlined in 42 CFR, Part 431, Subpart B are met.

- Services are needed because of a medical emergency;
- Services are needed and the member's health would be endangered if he were required to travel to his/her State of residence;
- The State determines, on the basis of medical advice, that the needed services, or necessary supplemental resources, are more readily available in the other State; or
- It is the general practice for the members in a particular locality to use medical resources in another State.

Note: Services furnished to AHCCCS members outside the United States are not covered.

Medical Necessity

Medical necessity may be determined through a professional review for appropriateness of services related to severity of illness and intensity of services. Documentation submitted by providers is key to the determination of medical necessity. Failure to submit documentation that substantiates medical necessity may result in denial of reimbursement.

Utilization Management



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Payment for services is subject to AHCCCS rules, the Provider Agreement, policies and requirements, including, but not limited to the following Utilization Management functions:

- Prior Authorization
- Concurrent Review
- Medical Claims Review
- Post-Payment Review
- Special Consent Requirements

Prior Authorization

Certain services may require prior authorization. Prior Authorization (PA) is a process by which the AHCCCS Division of Fee-For-Service (FFS) Management (DFSM) determines in advance whether a service that requires prior approval will be covered, based on the initial information received.

For information on Prior Authorization please refer to Chapter 8, Prior Authorization, of the Fee-For-Service Provider Billing Manual and to AMPM 820, Prior Authorizations. Also refer to the Prior Authorization webpage for the most up-to-date, current information regarding the PA process and services requiring PA, which can be found at:

https://www.azahcccs.gov/PlansProviders/FeeForServiceHealthPlans/PriorAuthorization/index.html

Contact Telephone Numbers

Please see Exhibit 1-4 for a quick reference to important telephone numbers.

REVISION HISTORY

Date	Description of changes	Page(s)
10/22/18	The following verbiage was added: The Fee-For-Service	1
	Provider Billing Manual is intended to outline billing	
	requirements for providers who are billing the AHCCCS	
	FFS unit for reimbursement.	
10/1/2018	Information on Integration/AHCCCS Complete Care (ACC), when it	2
	begins, and which populations are excluded added.	
	Clarification added to the AHCCCS Acute Care section.	5
	"AHCCCS contracted health plans" changed to "AHCCCS	All
	Complete Care (ACC) health plans"	
	"MCOs" removed throughout.	All



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4/26/2018	Prior Authorization section added, including a link to the PA webpage.	6-7
3/9/2018	AHCCCS Fee-For-Service Populations section updated	3
	Emergency Services section added	3-4
	AHCCCS Covered Services section updated to include updates for	3-6
	Emergency Services, Acute Care Services, and ALTCS Services	
12/22/2017	Formatting	All