

September 28, 2021

Brian Zolynas
Division of Medicaid and Children's Health Operations
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
90 Seventh Street, Suite 5-300 (5W)
San Francisco, CA 94103-6707

RE: Arizona SPA #21-013, Clinical Nurse Specialist

Dear Mr. Zolynas:

Enclosed is State Plan Amendment (SPA) #21-013, Clinical Nurse Specialist, which adds the Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) provider type to the State Plan. This provider type aligns with Arizona Revised Statute 32-165, permitting a CNS to prescribe and dispense pharmacological agents in specific settings, upon certification by the state Board of Nursing. The effective date for this SPA is October 1, 2021.

Public notice requirements for this SPA have been fulfilled and are linked below.

Tribal Consultation:

https://www.azahcccs.gov/AmericanIndians/Downloads/Consultations/Meetings/2021/August12_2021QuarterlyTC.pdf

Public Notice: <https://www.azahcccs.gov/AHCCCS/PublicNotices/ClinicalNurseSpecialistSPA.html>

If there are any questions about this SPA, please contact Ruben Soliz at ruben.soliz@azahcccs.gov or 602-417-4355.

Sincerely,



Dana Flannery
Assistant Director
Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)

Services covered by a dentist must be related to the treatment of a medical condition such as acute pain, infection, or fracture of the jaw and include examination of the oral cavity, required radiographs, complex oral surgical procedures such as treatment of maxillofacial fractures, administration of an appropriate level of anesthesia and the prescription of pain medication and antibiotics.

6. Medical care and any other types of remedial care recognized under State law, furnished by licensed practitioners within the scope of their practice as defined by State law.

6b. Optometrists' services.

Optometrists' services when they are provided by a licensed optometrist. See section 12d for limitations on eyeglasses and contact lenses.

6d. Other practitioners' services.

Other practitioners' services provided by:

- i. Respiratory Therapists
- ii. Certified Nurse Practitioners
- iii. Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists
- iv. Non-physician First Surgical Assistants and Physician Assistants
- v. Licensed midwives within the limitations provided in the AHCCCS policy and Procedures
- vi. Licensed affiliated practice dental hygienists practicing within the scope of Arizona's state practice act.
- vii. Licensed Pharmacists employed by an AHCCCS-registered pharmacy and acting within the scope of their practice may administer AHCCCS covered vaccines and anaphylaxis agents to adults.
- viii. Non-physician behavioral health professionals, as defined in rule, when the services are provided by the following state-licensed practitioners: social workers, physician assistants, psychologists, counselors, registered nurses, psychiatric nurse practitioners, marriage and family therapists, and substance abuse counselors.
- ix. Emergency Medical Care Technicians(EMCT) providing Treat and Refer services through an AHCCCS-registered Treat and Refer entity, in accordance with locally adopted Treat and Refer standards of care, education and certification requirements, and demonstration of competence pursuant to A.R.S. 36-2204.

EMCT personnel are able to perform medical treatments, procedures or techniques within their scope of practice when certified by the statewide Emergency Medical Services and Trauma System.

A Treat and Refer interaction is a healthcare event with an individual that accessed 9-1-1 or a similar emergency number, but whose illness or injury does not require ambulance transport to an emergency department, or other such facility. The interaction must include (1) documentation of an appropriate clinical and social evaluation, (2) a treatment/referral plan for accessing social, behavioral and/or healthcare services that address the patient's immediate needs, (3) evidence of efforts to follow-up with the patient to ascertain adherence with the treatment plan, and (4) documentation of efforts to assess customer satisfaction with the treat and refer visit.

x. Clinical Nurse Specialist