

1620-I HIGH COST BEHAVIORAL HEALTH REINSURANCE STANDARD

REVISION DATES: 10/01/04 02/01/05, 09/01/05, 10/01/07, 01/01/11, 05/01/12, 03/01/13,
10/01/13, 01/01/16

INITIAL

EFFECTIVE DATE: 2/14/1996

The Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS) program for high cost behavioral health reinsurance is specifically designed to provide supplemental payment for members who are elderly and/or have physical disabilities, enrolled with ALTCS Contractors (as specified by contract), and who meet all of the following criteria:

1. Have significant behavioral problems or a history of these behaviors which have been documented as difficult to manage,
2. Require a specialized service regimen for the management of his/her behavioral challenges,
3. Would be inappropriate for placement in a locked Alzheimer's or dementia unit, and
4. Behavioral health reinsurance was approved by AHCCCS prior to October 1, 2007 and the case was active on September 30, 2007.

A member's temporary absence from the approved placement (e.g. for hospitalization) will not impact the continuation of the approval upon the member's return. However, a previously approved reinsurance case where the member has been terminated for the circumstances described below cannot be reapproved at a later date.

1. Contractor's activity to transfer the member to a lower level of care.
2. AHCCCS determines through the review process at renewal that the member no longer meets the criteria.

In addition to all other ALTCS case management standards, the following standards also apply to members covered under the ALTCS reinsurance program for high cost behavioral health:

1. A request for renewal of a reinsurance authorization must be submitted to the AHCCCS/Division of Health Care Management (DHCM)/ALTCS Unit using the form found in Exhibit 1620-6, within ten business days prior to the expiration of the current approval. Additional provider documentation that supports the member's behaviors and need for intervention must also be submitted.

AHCCCS will provide the Contractor with written verification of authorization or denial.

Authorization will be granted for the member's current placement and setting only. If there is a subsequent change of placement or setting, information and documentation to describe the reason for the change must be submitted as a new reinsurance request. Contractors must also notify AHCCCS when a reinsurance member is disenrolled from ALTCS, transferred to another Contractor and/or discharged from a specialized treatment setting.

2. The service plans for E/PD members who receive specialized services covered under the High Cost Behavioral Health Reinsurance program must be coordinated with the member's Primary Care Provider (PCP) and the Contractor's Medical Director.
3. Covered services may be provided in the member's own home, in a Home Community Based (HCB) approved alternative residential setting, an unclassified health care institution licensed by the Arizona Department of Health Services or a nursing facility that is licensed to provide behavioral health services.
4. All institutional and Home Community Based Services (HCBS) described in Chapter 1200 of this Manual, including non-emergency transportation, are included in the High Cost Behavioral Health Reinsurance program. Behavioral health services, except as noted below, are also covered. The following services are excluded from behavioral health reinsurance coverage under this program as they are included as a part of regular reinsurance:
 - a. Individual and group behavioral health counseling
 - b. Acute care hospitalization, including psychiatric hospitalization
 - c. Durable medical equipment and medical supplies
 - d. Pharmaceuticals
 - e. Physician services, and
 - f. Therapies, including physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy and respiratory therapy.

Refer to the Encounter Reporting User Manual and the AHCCCS Reinsurance Claims Processing Manual for information regarding reporting and payment issues. These manuals are available on the AHCCCS Web site at www.azahcccs.gov.