

DATE: December 3, 2024
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](#).

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](#)

Effective August 2, 2021, AHCCCS created a Dictionary that provides a centralized location for definitions that are utilized in various ACOM and AMPM Policies. A hyperlink to the location of the AHCCCS Contract and Policy Dictionary will be added to applicable policies. AHCCCS is in the process of adding an area within the Definition Section of all policies that identifies but is not limited to some common terms used/referenced in that policy to encourage viewing of the AHCCCS Contract and Policy Dictionary to better understand how AHCCCS defines the word or term. There are instances when some policies have specific terms/definitions that may have a slightly different meaning for that respective Policy; those terms/definitions will remain in the Policy and will include a statement indicating 'For purposes of this Policy only'. AHCCCS is in the process of revising all pertinent documents to reflect this change.

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 310 – B – TITLE XIX XXI BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICE BENEFIT

AMPM Policy 310-B was revised to clarify service delivery requirements for clinical oversight, clinical supervision, outpatient treatment services, and alignment with the AHCCCS Covered Behavioral Health Services Guide (CBHSG) and AHCCCS Medical Coding page resources. Additionally, Policy had minor formatting and grammatical edits for clarity.

POST PUBLIC COMMENT CHANGES THAT CONCLUDED ON OCTOBER 27, 2024: Additional revisions were made to AMPM Policy 310-B based on public comment including but not limited to:

- Removing “excluding leaving voicemails” under indirect contact to align with the AHCCCS Covered Behavioral Health Services Guide (CBHSG).
- Clarifying Behavioral Health Professionals (BHP)s shall be responsible for clinical care and treatment for members they are directly treating and the services and supports provided by Behavioral Health Technician (BHT)s and Behavioral Health Paraprofessionals (BHPP)s for whom the BHP is providing supervision or clinical care.
- Clarifying language under Referrals to indicate a member may directly contact their enrolled Health Plan’s member services department.
- Clarifying existing provider is a provider currently serving the member in network.
- Clarifying Therapeutic Foster Care is for children under Outpatient Residential Treatment Services.

AMPM POLICY 310 – II - GENETIC TESTING

AMPM Policy 310-II was revised for minor formatting, grammatical edits, and clarity. Additional substantial changes include but are not limited to:

- Alignment with the AHCCCS State Plan Amendment (SPA) which covers Rapid Whole Genome Sequencing Testing.
- Clarifying purpose statement to reflect applicable Fee-For-Service (FFS) Programs.
- Adding rapid whole genome sequencing definition based on 2023 Arizona Senate Bill 1720.
- Adding Rapid Genome coverage requirements in alignment with Arizona Senate Bill 1726.
- Aligning with Prior Authorization (PA) requirements.

AMPM POLICY 320 – M – MEDICAL MARIJUANA

AMPM Policy 320-M was revised for a general five-year review including minor formatting, grammatical edits, and clarity.

AMPM POLICY 1100 - FEDERAL EMERGENCY SERVICES PROGRAM

AMPM Policy 1100 was revised update the location of the Initial Dialysis Case Creation Form, former Attachment A, and Monthly Certification of Emergency Medical Condition, former Attachment B, to [AHCCCS Fee-For-Service \(FFS\) Prior Authorization Forms web page](#).

ATTACHMENT A – RESERVED

The former AMPM Policy 1100 - Attachment A – Initial Dialysis Case Creation Form has been reserved and relocated to the [AHCCCS Fee-For-Service \(FFS\) Prior Authorization Forms web page](#).

ATTACHMENT B – RESERVED

The former AMPM Policy 1100 - Attachment B – Monthly Certification of Emergency Medical Condition has been reserved and relocated to the [AHCCCS Fee-For-Service \(FFS\) Prior Authorization Forms web page](#).

To view all AMPM policies and attachments, please access the following link:

[AHCCCS MEDICAL POLICY MANUAL \(AMPM\)](#)