

## Network Provider Update

To: Medi-Cal network participants

December 2021

From: Manuel T.G. Enriquez   
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Subject: **All Plan Letter 21-015 – Benefit Standardization and Mandatory Managed Care Enrollment Provisions of the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal Initiative**

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The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) recently issued All Plan Letter (APL) 21-015, "Benefit Standardization and Mandatory Managed Care Enrollment Provisions of the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal Initiative." We are sharing a summary of this APL with you to ensure you are aware of the information, and you can apply the information to your practice or facility operations, where appropriate.

APL 21-015 standardizes managed care and fee-for-service (FFS) enrollment statewide, as part of the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (Cal-AIM) initiative. Beneficiaries in certain voluntary or excluded aid codes that are currently enrolled in Medi-Cal FFS plans will be required to enroll in a Medi-Cal managed care plan (MCP). In addition, all MCPs will be required to cover major organ transplants and institutional long-term care. Specialty mental health services will be carved out and instead covered by county health plans.

Key information and dates:

- Effective **January 1, 2022**, impacted populations will be transitioned from FFS plans to managed care plans. [Attachment 1](#) explains which populations are impacted and planned outreach to beneficiaries. **Providers should expect to see new members on their member rosters as a result.**
- Effective **January 1, 2022**, all MCPs are required to cover the Major Organ Transplant (MOT) benefit for adult and pediatric transplant recipients and donors, including related services such as organ procurement and living donor care. [Attachment 2](#) details requirements of the MOT program.
- Effective **January 1, 2023**, all MCPs will be required to authorize and cover institutional long-term care (LTC) services as required by state and federal law in an appropriate LTC facility.
- Effective **July 1, 2023**, specialty mental health services will be carved-out services for all MCPs, specifically Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, and will be covered by county mental health plans.

This summary is only meant as a brief description of the APL. Please see the APL itself for additional background and the complete requirements. The full text of APL 21-015 may be found at this URL: <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/Documents/MMCDAPLsandPolicyLetters/APL2021/APL21-015.pdf> (Links to the DHCS.ca.gov website will take you off of the Blue Shield Promise website.)

Please direct questions about serving Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan members to our Provider Services Department at **(800) 468-9935** from 6 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.