

# Inside the Division

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November 2014, Issue 15

## DENTAL BENEFITS AND RESOURCES for ADULTS

### HOW TO DETERMINE IF MEDICARE IS AN OPTION FOR DENTAL BENEFITS

- Does the individual receive both Medicare Part A (Hospitalization) and Medicare Part B (Medical insurance) coverage?
- Is the individual eligible for a Medicaid (AHCCCS) health plan? Eligibility can be through a number of AHCCCS programs such as ALTCS, FTW (Freedom to Work), SSI-MAO (Medical Assistance Only).
- If Medicare/Medicaid eligible, has the individual chosen a Medicare health plan? Is it a Medicare Advantage Special Needs Plan (SNP)?
- There are extra benefits, such as dental care, that SNP's provide, which Medicare or Medicaid alone does not provide.
- If on a Medicare SNP, depending on the plan chosen, benefits can range from \$1,500/year of dental care or a plan with 2 exams (including cleaning, fluoride treatment, & x-rays) *plus* \$2,100 of dental work each year within the plan network.
- If not on a Medicare SNP, enrollment can be done anytime. There is no need to wait for an open enrollment period. Coverage takes effect the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month following enrollment. If enrolled on the 30<sup>th</sup> of one month, coverage starts the 1<sup>st</sup> of the following month. SNP's can also be changed or dropped anytime.
- As with any health plan decisions, the network of providers in the plan need to be reviewed to insure any desired provider is in the network.
- Prescription coverage (Medicare Part D) is always covered as part of the SNP.
- Some SNP's provide transportation to medical appointments (including dental) and have dentists in facilities that can provide sedation when necessary.
- To find Medicare Special Needs Plans in an individual's zip code go to Medicare Plan Finder at [www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan](http://www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan).

## DISCOUNTED DENTAL CARE – DENTAL SCHOOLS IN AZ

- AZ School of Dentistry & Oral Health - A.T. Still  
5855 East Still Circle Mesa, AZ 85206 Phone: 480-248-8100  
Clinic hours: M-F 8:30-4pm. [www.atsu.edu/asdoh](http://www.atsu.edu/asdoh)  
For an adult with special needs, directly contact the Special Care Dept. (Liz) at 480-248-8170 for an appointment.

AZ School of Dentistry and Oral Health – Glendale location  
20325 N. 51<sup>st</sup> Ave Bldg. B7 Suite 156 Glendale, AZ 85308  
Phone: 623-251-4700  
Dental clinic hours: M-F 8:30-5pm.

Plans accepted at both Mesa & Glendale locations include Medicare SNP's for UHC (APIPA) and Mercy Care. Sedation available if needed. A specialized lift is available so patients in a wheelchair can remain in their chair during treatment.

- Midwestern University Dental Institute – Dental clinic  
19369 N. 59<sup>th</sup> Ave Glendale, AZ 85308  
Phone: 623-537-6000 (for appointments) Clinic hours: M-F 8-5pm.  
[www.MWUclinics.com](http://www.MWUclinics.com)

A specialized lift is available so patients in a wheelchair can remain in their own chair during treatment.

## DISCOUNTED DENTAL CARE–FEDERALLY FUNDED CENTERS (137 in AZ)

See [www.accdental.org](http://www.accdental.org) for the following:

- Statewide clinics
- AZ Community Dental Clinic  
1150 E. Washington  
Phoenix, AZ 85034 Phone: 602-254-3822  
Financial requirement - <200% of FPL (\$23,340/yr. for 1 person)  
Can be up to a 6 month wait for an appointment.
- Donated dental services statewide  
Must be 65+ of receiving SSDI

For more information, contact DDD Benefits Coordinator Carolyn in the Family and Community Resources Unit by calling 602-364-0812 or sending questions to [cguffrey@azdes.gov](mailto:cguffrey@azdes.gov).

Contacting Carolyn with your experiences seeking dental care for adult DDD members, especially those with Medicare Special Needs Plan coverage, will be appreciated.

## WHAT'S A MEDICARE SPECIAL NEEDS PLAN?

- Medicare Special Needs Plans (SNP's) are a type of Medicare Advantage Plan (like an HMO or PPO). Medicare SNP's limit membership to people with specific diseases or characteristics, and tailor their benefits, provider choices, and drug formularies to best meet the specific needs of the group served.
- You can join a Medicare HMO SNP if you have Medicare Part A and Part B, live in the plan's service area, and meet the plan's eligibility requirements, such as one of the following:
  - Chronic Condition SNP (C-SNP): You have one or more specific severe or disabling chronic conditions.
  - Institutional SNP (I-SNP): You live in an institution (like a nursing home), or you require nursing care at home.
  - Dual Eligible SNP (D-SNP): **YOU HAVE MEDICARE AND MEDICAID.**
- **Full Benefit Dual Eligible (FBDE)** in Arizona are individuals eligible for Medicare and AHCCCS medical services. A person who is Medicare eligible and receiving AHCCCS help through the Medicare Savings Programs (QMB, SLMB, QI-1), but not receiving AHCCCS medical services, is not FBDE. (AHCCCS refers to that person as "Deemed Dual Eligible," not "Full Dual Eligible.")
- All DDD ALTCS members eligible for Medicare Part A and Part B would be considered Full Benefit Dual Eligible and could choose to participate in a Medicare HMO Special Needs Plan serving their area.
- All DDD TSC members who have an AHCCCS health plan and are eligible for Medicare Part A and Part B would also be considered Full Benefit Dual Eligible and could choose to participate in the Medicare HMO Special Needs Plan serving their area.

### WHY DOES THIS INFORMATION MATTER?

- Medicare HMO SNP's must cover all medically-necessary and preventive services covered under Medicare Part A, Part B, and Part D (prescription drug coverage). **Extra** services covered are tailored to the special groups served.
- Some of the extra services for FBDE's include: dental care, vision services including glasses, hearing care including aids, podiatry services and over the counter healthcare products which can include incontinence supplies.
- FOCUS medical coverage screen, in the TPL/Medicare Coverage section, now shows if a Medicare eligible member has a Medicare HMO (Medicare Part C), although the plan name is identified only for DD LTC members.

Contact member services for more information about a plan's extra services. Contact Carolyn Guffrey at 602-364-0812 for assistance with identifying a member's Medicare plan name.

# MEDICARE

## WHERE TO FIND PLAN INFORMATION

Anyone who is eligible for Medicare (Parts A & B) and has a Medicaid (AHCCCS) health plan is eligible for a Medicare Advantage Special Needs Plan (SNP) as "Full Benefit Dual Eligible." The quickest way to find which Medicare Special Needs plans are available in a person's service area is to go to the **Medicare Plan Finder** at [www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan](http://www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan) .

- For a general search of plans, enter the zip code at [www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan](http://www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan) , click on "Find Plans" and then complete the following Steps.

"Step 1". Answer: "How do you get your Medicare coverage?" and "Do you get help from Medicare or your state to pay your Medicare prescription drug costs?"

"Step 2". *Either* enter medications used or, to skip Step 3, click on "I don't want to add drugs now" and "Skip Drug Entry."

"Step 4". Under "Refine Your Search" (left column), click on "Select Special Needs Plans" and then select "plans for people who are eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid" (AHCCCS). Then click on "Medicare Health Plans with Drug Coverage" (all SNP's include drug coverage) and "Continue to Plan Results."

"Your Plan Results" screen will show eligible plan details. Click on the plan name for more information. Special Needs Plans have their own provider networks and offer extra benefits such as dental/vision/hearing services and over-the-counter health care products. Medicare and Medicaid eligible members can join/switch/drop Medicare Advantage Plans or Medicare prescription drug coverage at any time.

- **SHIP (AZ State Health Insurance Assistance Program)** generally assists the elderly making Medicare plan decisions, but is a resource for everyone. Contacts numbers are:  
La Paz, Mohave and Yuma Counties (928) 217-7121  
Apache, Coconino, Navajo & Yavapai Counties (928) 213-5235  
Cochise, Graham, Greenlee & Santa Cruz Counties (520) 432-5301  
Pima County (520) 546-2011  
Gila & Pinal Counties (520) 838-2758  
Maricopa County (602) 264-2255
- **ABIL (Arizona Bridge to Independent Living)** Phoenix office has a person available once/month to meet one to one, assisting with Medicare choices. To schedule an individual meeting - contact John Beaubien at (602) 443-0738.

Note: It is very important that health plans have the correct mailing address for members so that information about extra benefits (such as health product catalogues) will be received.