

What Medicare Doctors Need to Know: Payment of Medicare Deductibles and Coinsurance

Changes are coming to how most Medicare and Medi-Cal beneficiaries (dual eligibles) receive their health care in the eight counties participating in the state's Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI). There are two parts to the CCI:

Cal MediConnect: Dual eligible beneficiaries have a new option to receive their Medicare and Medi-Cal benefits through a Cal MediConnect health plan, which offers additional care coordination, vision and transportation benefits. Talk to your Cal MediConnect plans about joining the new system of care.

Medi-Cal Managed Care: Dual eligible beneficiaries who choose not to join a Cal MediConnect health plan will keep their Medicare the way it is now, but must choose a Medi-Cal health plan for Medi-Cal wrap-around benefits including:

- Any applicable Medicare deductibles or coinsurance.
- Incontinence supplies, hearing aids and non-emergency transportation.
- Long-term services and supports (such as IHSS [In Home Supportive Services] and skilled nursing facility care).

Medi-Cal Plans Now Process Cross-Over Claims

If your dual eligible patients opt out of Cal MediConnect and instead join a Medi-Cal managed care plan for long-term support services, you may continue to be their doctor. You do not have to have a contract with the Medi-Cal health plan.

For Medicare Services: You will still bill Medicare, as you do today, for Medicare-covered services. If there is any deductible or coinsurance payment due to you, you do not need to bill the Medi-Cal health plan. After you bill Medicare, the "crossover claim" will be automatically sent to Medi-Cal. If you are owed anything, the Medi-Cal health plan will pay you directly, the way traditional Medi-Cal used to pay you.

For Medi-Cal Services: You will bill the Medi-Cal health plan directly. You may need an authorization for some services; contact the plan for more information. Transportation and equipment providers may need to contract with the plan.

**You do not need a health plan contract
to receive deductible and coinsurance payments.**

Remember to check your patients' Medi-Cal eligibility at every visit.

To find out more about the Coordinated Care Initiative visit www.CalDuals.org/providers.