

October 2022

RE: CalAIM and the Long Term Care Carve-In to Managed Medi-Cal Plans

Dear Contractor,

California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) is a multi-year initiative by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) seeking to move Medi-Cal to a more consistent and seamless system by reducing complexity and increasing flexibility through Benefit Standardization. The Medi-Cal program provides benefits through both a fee-for-service (FFS) and a managed care plan (MCP) delivery system. While Medi-Cal managed care is available statewide, the benefits vary among counties depending on the managed care plan model.

Variations in Medi-Cal benefits across counties include coverage of the Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) benefit.

Currently, only County Organized Health System (COHS) MCPs cover SNF services under the institutional Long Term Care (LTC) benefit for all ages. Kaiser Permanente currently provides Medi-Cal services in the following COHS counties:

- Southern California: Orange and Ventura
- Northern California: Marin, Napa, San Mateo, Solano, Sonoma, and Yolo

MCPs operating in Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI) counties cover SNF services under the institutional LTC benefit for adults (21+). Kaiser Permanente currently provides Medi-Cal services in the following CCI counties:

- Southern California: Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego
- Northern California: San Mateo and Santa Clara

Kaiser Permanente Medi-Cal Managed Care members in non-COHS, non-CCI counties, as well as pediatric managed care members (under 21) in CCI counties, are presently disenrolled from Kaiser Permanente and enrolled in Medi-Cal FFS if they require institutional LTC SNF care. Kaiser Permanente currently provides Medi-Cal services in the following non-COHS, non-CCI counties:

- Southern California: Kern
- Northern California: Alameda, El Dorado, Contra Costa, Placer, Sacramento, San Francisco, and San Joaquin

To further CalAIM's goals to standardize and reduce complexity across the state and reduce county-to-county differences, DHCS is implementing Benefit Standardization across Medi-Cal MCPs statewide. Benefit Standardization will help ensure consistency in what benefits are delivered by managed care and FFS statewide, including institutional LTC SNF benefits.

Effective January 1, 2023, DHCS will require most non-dual and dual LTC members (including those with a Share of Cost) to enroll in a Medi-Cal MCP. Additionally, as of January 1, 2023, SNF services

covered under the institutional LTC benefit will become the MCP's responsibility, regardless of the managed care plan model or member's age. Kaiser Foundation Health Plan (KFHP) will assume all health plan and payment responsibilities, when delegated, for all KFHP managed Medi-Cal members residing in a SNF facility as of January 1, 2023, as well as those members authorized by KFHP for LTC SNF services thereafter.

If you have any questions about this information, please contact MediCalNCAL@kp.org. Additional information will also be made available on the Kaiser Permanente Community Provider Portal

- Southern California: <http://kp.org/providers/scal>
- Northern California: <http://kp.org/providers/ncal>

Thank you for your continued participation in the KP network of Skilled Nursing Facilities. We appreciate the care you provide to our members and the communities we serve.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Reno

Elizabeth Reno
Executive Director
Medi-Cal Regulatory Strategy and Operations
Northern California