



Iowa Department of Human Services

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Director

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 1341

DATE: January 13, 2014
TO: All Iowa Medicaid Providers
FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)
RE: Iowa Health and Wellness Plan
EFFECTIVE: January 1, 2014

The IME has implemented the new Iowa Health and Wellness Plan that became effective on January 1, 2014.

This new healthcare plan replaced the IowaCare program, which ended on December 31, 2013. The Iowa Health and Wellness Plan offers new coverage options to adults ages 19 through 64 with income up to and including 133 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) who otherwise do not qualify for Medicaid.

The Iowa Health and Wellness Plan coverage is an Alternative Benefit Plan (ABP) as allowed under Medicaid expansion through the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA). The coverage is implemented through two separate 1115 demonstration waivers with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and is comprised of two distinct plans:

- **The Iowa Wellness Plan:** The Iowa Wellness Plan covers all Iowans ages 19-64 with income up to and including 100 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. The Iowa Wellness Plan is administered by the IME and the members will receive Medicaid state ID cards. The Iowa Wellness Plan utilizes the existing Medicaid provider network.

In the Iowa Wellness Plan (0-100 percent of the FPL), members select a Patient Manager from one of the following: a primary care provider (PCP) such as a doctor or nurse practitioner, a Federally Qualified Health Care Center (FQHC), a Rural Health Center (RHC), or the Health Maintenance Organization. This provider has the responsibility of coordinating and monitoring necessary medical care, acts as a monitor to assure appropriate utilization of services, and serves as an advocate for the member who might not otherwise seek appropriate medical care. The Patient Manager is also responsible for authorizing all referrals when necessary.

- **The Iowa Marketplace Choice Plan:** The Iowa Marketplace Choice Plan covers all Iowans ages 19-64 with income from 101 up to and including 133 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. Members are enrolled in specific coverage available in the new Health Insurance Marketplace from either Coventry Health Care of Iowa or CoOpportunity Health, and Iowa Medicaid will pay the premiums. These members will receive eligibility ID cards from their selected plan and see their respective networks of providers.

Both programs under the Iowa Health and Wellness Plan will provide a comprehensive benefit package that ensures coverage for all of the Essential Health Benefits (EHB) as required by the Affordable Care Act.

- Physician services, including primary care
- Outpatient services
- Emergency room services and emergency transportation (ambulance)
- Hospitalization
- Mental Health and substance use disorder services and treatments
- Rehabilitative and habilitative services and devices (physical, occupational, and speech therapy, etc.)
- Lab services, x-rays, imaging (MRI, CT, etc.)
- Preventive and wellness services
- Prescription drugs
- Home and community-based services for persons with chronic mental illness after a Medically Exempt determination.

If you have any questions, please contact the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909, locally in Des Moines at 515-256-4609 or by email at imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us.