



DATE: September 30, 2025

TO: AHCCCS MCO Contractors

FROM: AHCCCS Division of Managed Care (DMC)

SUBJECT: AHCCCS Announces Expanded Coverage

Following the passage of AZ Senate Bill 1741 in June 2025, AHCCCS is pleased to announce expanded healthcare coverage for adults aged 21 and older. Effective October 1, 2025, outpatient speech therapy and cochlear implants, previously limited to children under Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT), are now covered benefits for eligible adults.

This update removes longstanding exclusions, allowing adults to access vital treatments that improve speech and hearing. Coverage includes necessary rehabilitation services to help individuals adjust to and benefit from cochlear implant technology.

What's New:

- Speech Therapy: Now covered in outpatient settings for adults aged 21 and older.
- Cochlear Implants: Available for adults aged 21 and older following medical evaluation demonstrating medical necessity.

Please be advised of the following updates to the AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual (AMPM) are posted to the AHCCCS website for public comment related to the expanded coverage and prior authorization requirements:

- AMPM Policy 310-JJ, Orthotic and Prosthetic Devices
- AMPM Policy 310-X, Occupational, Physical, and Speech Therapies
- AMPM Policy 820, Fee-for-Service Prior Authorization Requirements

These changes will be reflected in a future Contract amendment. Contractors shall let this memo serve as the standing requirement until further notice from AHCCCS. The Contractor shall communicate this information to members and providers.

These changes reflect AHCCCS's commitment to expanding access to high-quality, cost-effective care for Arizona residents.

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If you have questions regarding this memo, please contact Brandi Howard, AHCCCS Medical Management Manager. Thank you.