



CMSP Letter No.: 20-07
Issue Date: December 9, 2020

TO: All County Welfare Directors

SUBJECT: Connect to Care Program (Launched December 1, 2020)

The purpose of this All County Letter is to provide information to counties concerning the new Connect to Care Program that will provide preventive and primary care benefit coverage for low-income, uninsured CMSP county residents, regardless of immigration status, who are adults ages 21 to 64 and are not currently enrolled in any other health coverage program, including Medi-Cal, Medicare, Covered California, or private health insurance.

Background

The purpose of the new Connect to Care Program (translated in Spanish as “Conexion a la Salud de CMSP”) is to promote timely delivery of preventive and primary care medical services to the remaining uninsured low-income residents of CMSP counties, regardless of immigration status, in order to improve health outcomes and reduce the use of emergency services and need for inpatient hospitalization.

Community Health Centers in all CMSP counties will be invited to serve as Connect to Care “Enrollment Providers” and enroll applicants in the Connect to Care Program through a dedicated enrollment system that is separate from C-IV and CalWIN. The CMSP Governing Board staff will make final determinations of Connect to Care eligibility. ***County Social Services will continue to process CMSP applications under existing CMSP rules, but will not participate in Connect to Care enrollment.***

Connect to Care started initial operations on December 1, 2020 with Marin Community Health Center serving as the lead Enrollment Provider. Connect to Care will expand to other CMSP counties beginning in February 2021 as additional Community Health Centers join as Enrollment Providers. Counties are encouraged to share information about Connect to Care with local Community Health Centers.

Eligibility for Connect to Care

To become eligible for Connect to Care, a potential member must be a resident of a CMSP county, have an income between 138% and 300% FPL, not have current health insurance coverage, and not be pregnant. Legal immigration status is not required.

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After enrollment, the Connect to Care member will be eligible for covered services for up to six months. The member may receive covered services from any CMSP contracted service provider that delivers the covered services, including community health centers, other medical offices, and participating pharmacies. Connect to Care re-enrollments will be handled by Community Health Centers that serve as Enrollment Providers

Scope of Benefit Coverage for Connect to Care

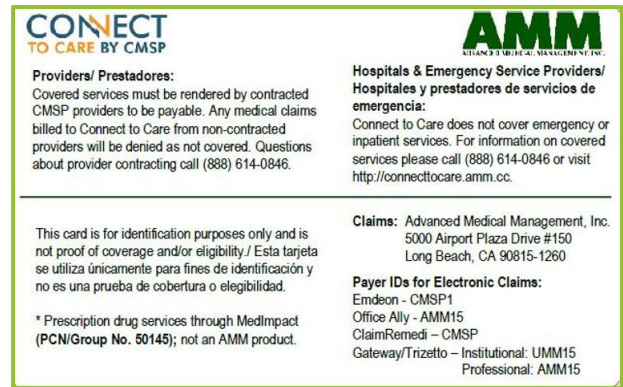
Connect to Care provides coverage for a specific set of primary and preventive services during the member’s benefit period. These services include:

- Primary care and/or specialty care services for:
 - Medical office visits with a primary care doctor and/or specialist at the health center
 - Preventive health screenings: annual physical, specific lab tests and cancer screenings
 - Specific diagnostic tests and minor office procedures
- Prescription drug coverage with a \$5.00 copay per prescription (limited to a maximum of \$500 per claim and a \$1500 maximum benefit per enrollment period)

Connect to Care members receive an ID card (example below) and a Member Guide in the mail. All member information is provided in English and Spanish. The ID card provides the unique member identification number, the benefit period, important phone numbers and required copay for prescriptions. Please note, Connect to Care members will NOT be issued a Beneficiary Identification Card (BIC) and will NOT be assigned a Client Index Number (CIN).



Sample ID Card Front



Sample ID Card Back

Dental, inpatient hospital services, emergency services, and out of network care are NOT covered by Connect to Care. A Connect to Care member may apply for CMSP coverage. In that instance, County Social Services should treat the application according to the standard process for reviewing and approving CMSP cases.



For more information on the Connect to Care Program, please consider attending one of the following Informational Webinars:

Connect to Care Informational Webinar - Session 1

December 15, 2020 at 10 AM

Zoom Webinar ID: 998 2092 7595

Passcode: 001545

or

Connect to Care Informational Webinar - Session 2

December 18, 2020 at 2 PM

Zoom Webinar ID: 927 3937 3156

Passcode: 001545

If you have any questions regarding the new Connect to Care Program, refer to the website at www.myconnectocare.org or contact Alison Kellen, Program Manager, at akellen@cmspcounties.org or 916-649-2631, ext. 119.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kari Brownstein".

Kari Brownstein
Administrative Officer

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