

To:
All Providers
HMOs and Other
Managed Care
Programs

Supplemental Security Income Managed Care Program Expansion

The Supplemental Security Income (SSI) managed care program will expand to the following counties in early 2007:

- Buffalo.
- Jackson.
- La Crosse.
- Monroe.
- Ozaukee.
- Trempealeau.
- Washington.
- Vernon.

This *Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Update* provides enrollment and eligibility information for SSI recipients and SSI-related Medicaid recipients in these counties.

Background

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients and SSI-related Medicaid recipients in counties listed in this *Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Update* may be eligible to enroll in an SSI HMO. An SSI-related Medicaid recipient receives coverage from Wisconsin Medicaid because of a disability determined by the Disability Determination Bureau.

Supplemental Security Income HMOs provide the same benefits as Medicaid fee-for-service (e.g., medical, mental health/substance abuse, and vision) at no cost to their enrollees through

a care management model. Through the care management model, each enrollee receives an initial health assessment, as well as assistance in choosing providers, accessing social and community service options, health education programs, and treatment and follow-up information.

Supplemental Security Income managed care programs are currently offered in Dane, Milwaukee, Kenosha, Racine, and Waukesha counties.

Ozaukee and Washington Counties

Effective for dates of service (DOS) on and after January 1, 2007, SSI recipients and SSI-related Medicaid recipients in Ozaukee and Washington counties will be enrolled in the SSI managed care program. Enrollment information has been mailed to these recipients.

Most SSI and SSI-related Medicaid recipients who reside in Ozaukee and Washington counties will be required to choose the HMO in which they wish to enroll. Dual eligibles (recipients receiving Medicare and Wisconsin Medicaid) are not required to enroll. After a 60-day trial period and up to 120 days after enrollment, enrollees may disenroll and return to Medicaid fee-for-service if they choose.

Southwestern Wisconsin Counties

Effective for DOS on and after February 1, 2007, the SSI managed care program will be offered to SSI recipients and SSI-related Medicaid recipients in the following Southwestern Wisconsin counties:

- Buffalo.
- Jackson.
- La Crosse.
- Monroe.
- Trempealeau.
- Vernon.

Enrollment information will be mailed to these recipients in January.

Other counties may be added later in 2007.

Supplemental Security Income recipients and SSI-related Medicaid recipients who reside in these counties may choose to receive coverage from the HMO or remain in Wisconsin Medicaid fee-for-service.

Recipient Eligibility

Recipients who meet SSI managed care program eligibility criteria or are SSI-related Medicaid recipients are eligible for enrollment in an SSI HMO. The following meet the SSI managed care program eligibility criteria:

- Medicaid-eligible individuals living in the previously listed counties.
- Individuals ages 19 and older.
- Dual eligibles.

Individuals who are living in an institution or nursing home or are participating in a Home and Community-Based Waiver program are not eligible to enroll in an SSI HMO.

Covered Services

Wisconsin Medicaid requires contracted SSI HMOs to provide all medically necessary

Medicaid-covered services. If the SSI HMO does not include services such as chiropractic or dental, the enrollee receives these services on a Medicaid fee-for-service basis.

Noncovered Services

The following are not covered by SSI HMOs in the counties listed in this *Update*, but are provided to enrollees on a fee-for-service basis:

- Community Support Program benefits.
- Comprehensive community services.
- Crisis intervention services.
- Dental services.
- Environmental lead inspections.
- Prenatal care coordination services.
- School-based services.
- Targeted case management services.
- Transportation by common carrier (unless the HMO has made arrangements to provide this service as a benefit).
- Tuberculosis-related services.

Continuity of Care

Special provisions are included in the contract for SSI HMOs for continuity of care for SSI recipients and SSI-related Medicaid recipients.

These provisions include the following:

- Coverage of services provided by the recipient's current provider for the first 60 days of enrollment in the SSI program or until the first of the month following completion of an assessment and care plan, whichever comes later.
- Honoring a prior authorization (PA) that is currently approved by Wisconsin Medicaid. The PA must be honored for 60 days or until the month following the HMO's completion of the assessment and care plan, whichever comes later.
- Coverage of drugs that an SSI recipient is currently taking until a prescriber orders different drugs.

Recipients who meet SSI managed care program eligibility criteria or are SSI-related Medicaid recipients are eligible for enrollment in an SSI HMO.

Eligibility Verification Reminder

Providers are reminded that they should verify a recipient's eligibility before providing services to determine eligibility for the current date (since a recipient's eligibility status may change) and verify whether the recipient is enrolled in an HMO. HMOs are required by contract to reimburse non-contracted providers for services provided to their enrollees only during the first 60 days of their enrollment, or until the first of the month following completion of an assessment and care plan, whichever comes later. To assure payment, the non-contracted providers should contact the HMO to authorize services.

After the enrollee's first 60 days of enrollment in the SSI program, or until the first of the month following completion of an assessment and care plan, whichever comes later, the non-contracted provider should contact the recipient's HMO for a referral before providing services or the services may not be reimbursed.

Enrollment Specialist

The Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare enrollment specialist provides objective enrollment, education, outreach, and advocacy services to HMO and SSI HMO enrollees. The enrollment specialist is a knowledgeable single

point of contact for enrollees, solely dedicated to managed care issues. The enrollment specialist is not affiliated with any health care agency.

The enrollment specialist provides the following services to HMO and SSI HMO enrollees:

- Education regarding the correct use of HMO and SSI HMO benefits.
- Telephone and face-to-face support.
- Assistance with enrollment, disenrollment, and exemption requests.

The enrollment specialist is available from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, at (800) 291-2002.

The *Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Update* is the first source of program policy and billing information for providers.

Although the *Update* refers to Medicaid recipients, all information applies to BadgerCare recipients also.

Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare are administered by the Division of Health Care Financing, Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, P.O. Box 309, Madison, WI 53701-0309.

For questions, call Provider Services at (800) 947-9627 or (608) 221-9883 or visit our Web site at dhfs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid/.

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