



Alabama Medicaid Agency  
Alabama Coordinated Health Network (ACHN)

Wednesday, October 9, 2019 -- The webinar will begin at 12:00 p.m. CST

## Role of the Specialist in the ACHN

# Attention!

Please MUTE your phone and computer microphone!

- You will not hear any sound until the webinar begins.
- Use the Chat Box function to type in questions.
- Questions will be answered at the end of the webinar.

# Alabama Medicaid Agency

## Alabama Coordinated Health Network (ACHN)

### Role of the Specialist in the ACHN



**Jerri Jackson**

Director of Managed Care Operations

**ACHN—**

**A New Direction**



# Alabama Coordinated Health Networks (ACHNs)

- Single care coordination delivery system combining Patient 1<sup>st</sup>, Health Homes, Maternity Program, and Plan First
- Replaces silos in current care coordination efforts
- Care coordination services provided by regional Primary Care Case Management Entities (PCCM-Es), or networks
- Seven defined regions



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# Alabama Coordinated Health Network

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to Learn More*

**BMI Reporting from a  
Specialists Perspective  
in Alabama Medicaid**



# BMI Updates

- Specialists will not be required to submit a BMI on the claim
- Pregnancy Diagnoses are excluded from the BMI Requirement

# Referrals

ALABAMA MEDICAID REFERRAL FORM		Today's Date _____
PHI-CONFIDENTIAL		Date Referral Begins _____ (if different from above)
Important NPI Information		See Instructions
<b>Medicaid Recipient Information</b>		
Recipient Name _____	Recipient # _____	Recipient DOB _____
Address _____		Telephone # with Area Code _____ Name of Parent/Guardian _____
<b>Primary Care Provider (PCP) (Alabama Coordinated Health Care Network Information) Screening Provider (if different from PCP/ACHN Provider)</b>		
Name _____		Name _____
Address _____		Address _____
Telephone # with Area Code _____		Telephone # with Area Code _____
Fax # with Area Code _____		Fax # with Area Code _____
Email _____		Email _____
NPI # _____		NPI # _____
Medicaid Provider # _____		Medicaid Provider # _____
Signature _____		Signature _____
<b>Type of Referral</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> ACHN		<input type="checkbox"/> Lock-in
<input type="checkbox"/> EPSDT Screening Date _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input type="checkbox"/> Case Management / Care Coordination		
<b>Length of Referral</b>		
Referral valid for _____ month(s) or _____ visit(s) from date referral begins.		
<b>Referral Valid For</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation Only		<input type="checkbox"/> Treatment Only
<input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation and Treatment		<input type="checkbox"/> Hospital Care (Outpatient)
<input type="checkbox"/> Referral by consultant to other provider for identified condition (cascading referral)		<input type="checkbox"/> Performance of Interperiodic Screening (if necessary)
<input type="checkbox"/> Referral by consultant to another provider for additional conditions diagnosed by consultant (EPSDT Only)		
Reason for referral by PCP _____		Other conditions/diagnoses identified by PCP _____
<b>Consultant Information</b>		
Consultant Name _____		
Address _____		Consultant Telephone # with Area Code _____
Note: Please submit written report of findings including the date of examination/service, diagnosis, and consultant signature to Primary Care Physician (PCP). Findings should be submitted to Primary Care Physician (PCP) by		
<input type="checkbox"/> Mail <input type="checkbox"/> E-mail <input type="checkbox"/> Fax <input type="checkbox"/> In addition, please telephone		
Form 362		
Alabama Medicaid Agency www.medicaid.alabama.gov		



# Referrals

- The ACHN is a new program that operates in a different way
- PCPs no longer have assigned patient panels

# Referral Process

- PCP referrals to most specialists will be required for specialists to receive payment. For a complete list of specialists and procedures that require a referral, see Chapter 40 of the Provider Billing Manual
- Path to manual: [www.Medicaid.Alabama.gov](http://www.Medicaid.Alabama.gov), **Providers/Manuals**
- Although hematology and oncology patients have been excluded from Patient 1st in the past, and thereby did not require referrals, that is no longer the case. Hematology/Oncology practices need to work with PCPs to get the kind of ongoing referrals they might need
- Referrals to NPs or PAs collaborating with specialty groups will also require a referral
- When a PCP cannot be identified, the ACHN entity may provide a billing referral

# Determining Who Should Write the Referral

- In the past, a provider/specialist looked up the patient's assignment
- Today, providers can view who the patient is attributed to in the Provider Portal
- Attribution does not equal assignment

# Attribution

- Attribution is the process that will be used to associate a Medicaid recipient to the source of the majority of their care
- Attribution does not equal assignment

# Key Steps in the Attribution Process

- Medicaid recipients who meet criteria for the ACHN Program for three out of the previous 24 months will be attributed; This does not have to be a continuous period
- The previous two-year history of face-to-face provider visits:
  - Both preventive visits and regular office visits are scored
  - Preventive visits receive a higher point value
  - Recent visits are scored higher than older visits
  - PCP visits receive a higher point value than specialist visits
- The previous 12-month history of filled prescriptions for chronic care conditions are scored

# Referral, Attribution, and the Web Portal

- Attribution does not equal assignment
- The specialist's referral may come from any PCP which may not equal the attributed provider
- Determine the PCP as you would with most other insurers:
  - Ask the patient who their PCP is
  - Determine who made the contact with your office to set up the appointment
  - If this does not yield a PCP, then contact the ACHN for a billing referral
  - The ACHN will work with the patient to establish a PCP

# Referral Process (continued)

- Referrals dated prior to 10/1/2019 continue to be valid until the expiration date of the referral
- The recipient's PCP should be contacted for a referral, if one is needed for dates of service 10/1/2019 and after
- Specialists should not request PCP referrals from health departments (other than Jefferson and Mobile county), other specialists, or Children's Rehabilitation Services (CRS)
- For more details on services and provider types, see Chapter 40 of the Provider Billing Manual

# For Teaching Facilities Only

- Specialists linked to a teaching facility will not require referrals and may also make referrals to other specialists
- Medicaid considers all providers linked to teaching facilities as part of a PCP Group
- Medicaid will monitor for any changes in utilization patterns and will respond accordingly



# Referrals (continued)

- Some services do not require referrals
  - Administration of allergy injections
  - Ambulance services
  - Certified emergencies
  - Radiology services
  - Laboratory services
  
- Some provider types also do not require a referral
  - County health departments
  - Children's Rehab Services (CRS)
  - Hospitals
  - Independent radiologists
  - Pathologists
  - Dermatologists
  - Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs)

\*A complete list of services and provider types that do not require a referral is in Chapter 40 of the Provider Billing manual

# To Recap

- Referrals dated prior to 10/1/2019 will continue to be valid until the expiration date of the referral
- The recipient's PCP should be contacted for a referral, if one is needed for dates of service 10/1/2019 or after
- If the recipient does not have a PCP, then the specialist may contact the ACHN for a billing referral until a PCP can be established for the recipient

# To Recap (continued)

- Specialists should not request PCP referrals from health departments (other than Jefferson and Mobile county), other specialists, or CRS
- A referral is no longer required for PCP to PCP visits
- Referral Form 362 has been updated
- A referral is still required for most specialties and EPSDT screenings that are referred outside of the PCP practice
- See Chapter 40 of the Provider Billing Manual for a complete list of services and provider types that require referrals

# Questions?

[www.Medicaid.Alabama.gov](http://www.Medicaid.Alabama.gov)

- For additional ACHN information and Frequently Asked Questions:



- Submit questions for official response to:  
[ACHN@medicaid.alabama.gov](mailto:ACHN@medicaid.alabama.gov)