

Cal MediConnect – January 2015 Enrollment FAQ

What populations are enrolling in Cal MediConnect in January 2015?

January 2015 is a unique month in Cal MediConnect enrollment, and will include enrollment for several groups who had been held out of enrollment until now:

- **Beneficiaries with January birthdays in Medicare & Medi-Cal FFS:** These beneficiaries in active CCI counties will be passively enrolled in Cal MediConnect.
- **Santa Clara County:** The Santa Clara County Medi-Cal managed care crosswalk is happening in January as the county launches Cal MediConnect enrollment. MSSP beneficiaries in Santa Clara County will also enroll in Cal MediConnect.
- **Enrollees in DSNPs associated with Cal MediConnect plans (CMC-DSNPs):** Under the DSNP policy, Cal MediConnect eligible beneficiaries enrolled in a Duals Special Needs Plan (DSNP) associated with a Cal MediConnect plan **cannot stay in their DSNP**. They must either move into a Cal MediConnect plan, or opt out of Cal MediConnect and go into a different Medicare Advantage plan or Medicare fee-for-service.
- **Medicare Part D LIS Re-assignees:** These are beneficiaries who either had to change their Part D plans in January 2014, or will need to change their plan in January 2015. Medicare policy prevents beneficiaries from being passively enrolled in a Medicare plan twice in a single year.

DSNP ENROLLEES

What extra help might DSNP enrollees need in their enrollment process?

- **Cal MediConnect:** DSNP enrollees will be assigned to the Cal MediConnect plan associated to their DSNP plan, which should help smooth the transition. However, the DSNP provider network may not match the Cal MediConnect network exactly. In addition, beneficiaries will now receive their Medi-Cal benefit and services through the Cal MediConnect plan. Beneficiaries may still want to check with their Cal MediConnect plan to be sure that their providers will continue to be in network. Continuity of care protections can help beneficiaries continue to see their physicians and receive needed services through a transition period.
- **Medi-Cal Managed Care:** If a CMC-DSNP enrollee wants to opt out of Cal MediConnect, they cannot stay in their DSNP. If they want to stay in a plan for just their Medicare benefits, they must choose a Medicare Advantage plan. Otherwise, they must receive fee-for-service Medicare. They still must choose a plan for their Medi-Cal benefits. They do not have to have “matching” Medicare and Medi-Cal plans – they can pick a Medicare plan that is different than their Medi-Cal plan.

PART D LIS REASSIGNEES

Why are Medicare Part D LIS re-assignees all enrolling in Cal MediConnect now?

Every year, Medicare assigns a number of dual eligible beneficiaries in the Low Income Subsidy (LIS) program to new Medicare Part D plans. This happens for two reasons. First, a Part D plan may no longer be offered in a service area or the Part D plan may be closing entirely. Second, changes in the benchmarks that Medicare uses to set premiums and cost sharing may mean that the plan will no longer be the lowest cost option to the beneficiary.

Medicare has rules about how many times in a year a beneficiary can be assigned to a new plan for their Medicare benefits. For this reason, a beneficiary cannot receive a new LIS Part D plan assignment and a Cal MediConnect plan assignment within the same 12 months.

In January, Medicare Part D re-assignees will be passively enrolled in Cal MediConnect. This includes beneficiaries who received a new Part D plan assignment in January 2014, and so were held out of Cal MediConnect enrollment until January 2015. It also includes beneficiaries who would otherwise have received a new Part D plan assignment in January 2015.

What extra help might Part D plan re-assignees need in their enrollment process?

Part D plan re-assignees may need extra help if they decide to opt out of Cal MediConnect. This is because the opt-out process is designed to connect a beneficiary back with their original Part D plan. For this population, that may mean that they will be reconnected to the plan that will result in higher costs for 2015. To maintain a \$0 premium for their Part D plan, this group of beneficiaries needs to select a new plan.

90-DAY NOTICE COUNTS

	D-SNP Enrollees	2015 LIS	2014 LIS	Phase enrollment	Medi-Cal Crosswalk	
Los Angeles	37,000	6500	7500	19,500	-	
Riverside	5,500	900	1000	3,000	-	
San Bernardino	6,000	900	1000	3,000	-	
San Diego	11,000	1500	1500	4,500	-	
Santa Clara	500	1300	0	3,000	9,500	Grand Total
Totals	60,000	11,100	11,000	33,000	9,500	124,600