



State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Care Services



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

Tim Engelhardt, Acting Director
CMS Medicare-Medicaid Coordination Office
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20201

CALIFORNIA'S DUAL ELIGIBLES COORDINATED CARE DEMONSTRATION,
"CAL MEDICONNECT"

Dear Mr. ^{Tim} Engelhardt,

On behalf of the California Department of Health Care Services, we would like to thank you for the opportunity to work with your office on California's Coordinated Care Initiative (CalMediConnect) demonstration to serve beneficiaries dually-eligible for Medicaid and Medicare services. As you know, our demonstration is now operational in seven counties and is serving over 117,000 beneficiaries as of August 1, 2015.

Despite our significant commitment to the success of the Coordinated Care Initiative, there continue to be challenges that require ongoing refinements to our program. We know, however, that beneficiaries are extremely satisfied with the coordinated services once they are enrolled with our participating health plans. We believe these coordinated benefits and services, once appropriately evaluated, will show better health outcomes and a reduction in unnecessary or duplicative services, a requirement of the California enabling statute as well as of federal law.

California agrees with your proposal to allow states to extend the scheduled end date of the demonstration in order to allow for an appropriate evaluation based on the necessary time required for claims submission, data collection and the requisite analysis. While we are hereby stating our interest in considering an extension of this demonstration, we cannot make any commitment at this time. We have complied and will continue to comply with the stakeholder engagement requirements. Any official extension of the Coordinated Care Initiative must be formally agreed to, as noted in your letter, and all parties preserve their current rights to terminate the demonstration prior to the scheduled end date.

Mr. Tim Engelhardt
Page 2

It is a pleasure working with you. Thank you for your partnership and cooperation in this important initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mari Cantwell", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mari Cantwell
Chief Deputy Director, Health Care Programs
State Medicaid Director

cc: Sarah Brooks, Deputy Director, Health Care Delivery Systems, DHCS