



Proposed Enrollment Strategy for Los Angeles County into Cal MediConnect

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in March 2013 requires California to present a proposal for enrollment in Los Angeles County (LAC). Per the MOU, this proposal must be posted for a 30-day public comment period before finalization, and is subject to CMS approval. DHCS encourages comments and asks that they be submitted by **August 2, 2013** via this [form](#) or by sending to info@calduals.org.

LAC Eligible Population and Cal MediConnect County Enrollment Cap

It is estimated that 216,000^{1,2} beneficiaries with Medicare and Medi-Cal are eligible for passive enrollment into a Cal MediConnect health plan in LAC. With a county enrollment cap of 200,000, DHCS intends to implement a waiting list when 200,000 beneficiaries have been enrolled in Cal MediConnect. The waiting list for Cal MediConnect will be managed by the Medi-Cal Managed Care Division at DHCS. If enrollment declines after the cap is reached, then DHCS will passively enroll those on the waiting list. Passive enrollment will only occur after the rigorous plan readiness review process is complete, as overseen by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Overview of the Proposed Cal MediConnect Enrollment Strategy for LAC

With additional detail available in the below chart, steps for the LAC Enrollment Strategy include:

1. All 216,000 beneficiaries eligible for passive enrollment will receive an initial mailing on November 1st regarding the Cal MediConnect program and their ability to enroll starting January 2014.³
2. Following the three-month, opt-in enrollment period, all beneficiaries eligible for passive enrollment who do not choose to enroll will receive notices indicating that they will be enrolled by month of their birth with the following exceptions.
 - All beneficiaries in the Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MSSP) will be passively enrolled all at once in a month TBD (approximately 5,000 eligible enrollees).
 - Beneficiaries with birthdays in January, February, or March will be passively enrolled later in the year. People with January birthdays will be combined with April; February birthdays will be combined with July; and March birthdays will be combined with October.
 - 2014 Medicare Part D Low Income Subsidy (LIS) re-assignees will be enrolled all at once in January 2015 for their Medicare benefits. They will be enrolled in a Medi-Cal managed care plan for Medi-Cal benefits by birth month in 2014.
 - Persons who opt-out will not be passively enrolled in the future.

Those populations exempt from passive enrollment will receive information regarding the mandatory enrollment into Managed Long Term Services and Supports (MLTSS). These populations: 1) will be enrolled by birth month starting in January for MLTSS; and 2) will not be sent any information on Cal MediConnect. For the full list of eligible populations, please see the [CCI Population Chart](#).

Context: Cal MediConnect Notices and the Medi-Cal Managed Care Transition

Beneficiaries eligible for Cal MediConnect are also part of the eligible population for mandatory enrollment into Medi-Cal managed care for their long term supports and services (LTSS) and wrap

¹ SB 94 (June 2013) exempted beneficiaries enrolled in a Medicare Advantage plan (including DSNP) from passive enrollment.

² DHCS, Enrollment Data Analysis by Medi-Cal Managed Care Division, May 2013, which shows that there are 65,000 persons in DSNP/Medicare Advantage. This is an updated analysis to the DHCS Research and Analytic Studies Branch. Released November 2012 based on July 2010 data.

³ Current DHCS policy is that enrollment will occur no sooner than January 2014. For planning purposes, this document assumes a start date of January 2014.

around benefits. Should a Cal MediConnect eligible beneficiary elect to not participate in Cal MediConnect, he or she will be enrolled in a Medi-Cal managed care plan for LTSS and wrap around benefits. Per previous feedback from stakeholders, DHCS will notice Cal MediConnect eligible beneficiaries about both transitions at once, and have one enrollment effective date.

Because awareness of both transitions is important for beneficiaries at the coverage decision point, Cal MediConnect notices will be all-inclusive and work to relay all relevant information and choices to:

- Join a Cal MediConnect plan; or
- Join the Program for All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) if eligible; or,
- Keep their Medicare the way it is today but enroll in a Medi-Cal health plan for all of their Medi-Cal benefits. (Notices will also explain that any beneficiary may disenroll from Cal MediConnect at any time and return to Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage health plan.)

Proposed Cal MediConnect Enrollment Timeline for Los Angeles County

Period of Enrollment	Population	Estimated number in LAC
Month TBD – All enrolled in same month	All beneficiaries in the Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MSSP)	5,000
April 2014	April + January birthday	27,667
May 2014	May birthday	13,833
June 2014	June birthday	13,833
July 2014	July + February birthday	27,667
August 2014	August birthday	13,833
September 2014	September birthday	13,833
October 2014	October + March birthday	27,667
November 2014	November birthday	13,833
December 2014	December birthday	13,833
January 2015	2014 Medicare Part D Low- Income Subsidy (LIS) plan re-assignees ⁴	45,000
Total estimated beneficiaries eligible for passive enrollment in LAC		216,000

⁴ This estimate is based on historical numbers of re-assignees, per CMS analysis. Enrollment will be coordinated with CMS' annual reassignment process to avoid assigning an individual to a new Part D plan and then moving him or her to a MediConnect plan in the same year. Reassignment occurs in October for individuals who qualify for extra help or are enrolled in terminating Medicare Advantage or Part D plans.