

Change to National Coverage Determination may affect your Medicare coverage

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) sometimes change the coverage rules that apply to an item or service under Medicare. When this happens, CMS issues a National Coverage Determination, or NCD.

NCDs tell us:

- What benefits and services are covered
- What benefits and services are changing
- What Medicare will pay for an item or service

CMS recently issued an update to the NCD that applies to the following service:

Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Prevention National Coverage Determination (NCD) 210.15

Here is a description of the change to the NCD. This affects services given **on or after September 30, 2024**

Services affected	Additional information
<p>The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued an NCD Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for Human Innumodeficiency Virus (HIV) Prevention</p>	<p>Effective for claims with dates of service on or after September 30, 2024, Medicare covers these services without cost-sharing (for example, deductibles or co-pays under Part B) to decrease an individual's risk of acquiring HIV:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FDA-approved Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) using antiretroviral drugs to prevent HIV in individuals at increased risk of acquiring HIV • Administration of injectable PrEP using antiretroviral drugs to prevent HIV • Supplying or dispensing the drug regardless of the route of administration (oral and injectable) • Individual counseling (up to 8 visits every 12 months), including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ HIV risk assessment (initial or continued assessment of risk) ○ HIV risk reduction ○ Medication adherence • HIV screenings (up to 8 times every 12 months using FDA-approved laboratory tests and point-of-care tests) • Hepatitis B virus screening (1 time only) <p>Medicare covers HIV prevention services, including PrEP, for people with Medicare at increased risk of acquiring HIV. Physicians and health care practitioners assessing the individual's history determine if an individual is at increased risk for HIV. To be eligible for counseling, individuals must be competent and alert at the time you provide the counseling.</p> <p>Some people with Medicare may have previously gotten PrEP for HIV drug coverage through Part D and paid a deductible and coinsurance or copayments. As of September 30, 2024, Part B covers these drugs. If an individual currently has HIV and uses antiretroviral drugs to treat HIV, Part D will continue to cover these drugs, even though these may be the same drugs that are used for HIV PrEP.</p>

We're here to help you

Mercy Care Advantage is an HMO SNP with a Medicare contract and a contract with the Arizona Medicaid Program. Enrollment in Mercy Care Advantage depends on contract renewal. This information is not a complete description of benefits. Contact the plan for more information. Limitations, copayments, and restrictions may apply. Benefits and/or copayments/coinsurance may change on January 1 of each year. The formulary, pharmacy network, and/or provider network may change at any time. You will receive notice when necessary. See Evidence of Coverage for a complete description of benefits, exclusions, limitations and conditions of coverage. If you have questions, Mercy Care Advantage Member Services representatives are available to help you 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., 7 days a week. Please call 602-586-1730 or 1-877-436-5288 (TTY 711).