

Improving Care Coordination for “Dual-Eligibles”

- The Jobs Budget authorized Ohio Medicaid to seek federal approval to implement an Integrated Care Delivery System (ICDS) to improve care coordination for the 190,000 Ohioans served in the Medicaid program who are also covered by Medicare (known as “dual-eligibles”).
- The federal Medicare program provides health-care coverage to people who are 65 and over or disabled. Medicaid is a state and federal partnership that provides health-care coverage for people who have low incomes.
- Because Medicaid and Medicare are designed and implemented with virtually no connection to each other, the long-term care services and supports, behavioral health services and physical health services that are provided to these dual-eligible individuals are poorly coordinated. The result is diminished quality of care, which leads to poor health outcomes for individuals and high costs for the Medicaid system and taxpayers.
- There is also a built-in incentive to shift costs between the programs, which increases costs for Ohio’s Medicaid program. A consolidated approach to care delivery, which can be achieved through an ICDS, will limit cost-shifting and provide a financial benefit to Ohio.
- On January 12, Ohio Medicaid will present a first draft of an ICDS model to the [Unified Long-Term Care System Advisory Group](#).
- The goal of the proposed ICDS model is to provide the most integrated and coordinated care by: (1) creating one point of contact for beneficiaries; (2) developing a service-delivery system that is person-centered, increases choice and is easy for individuals and providers to navigate; (3) providing seamless transition between settings and programs of care; and (4) reducing costs for taxpayers through improved efficiency.
- This “straw-man” proposal that will be presented by Ohio Medicaid on January 12 will be for discussion, input and testing, not a finished product. Ohio Medicaid will hold regional meetings in January and February to hear directly from individuals, families, advocates and other organizations on the initial proposal. This feedback will be used to mold the final ICDS proposal that Ohio submits to the federal government (CMMI) for approval.