



DEPARTMENT OF
HUMAN SERVICES

SNBC 65+ Transition to Senior Products and Diversity Outreach Grant Summary

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SNBC Policy Change for People Turning 65 Years Old

- As of January 1, 2017, Special Needs BasicCare (SNBC) members who turn 65 years old must transition to a managed care program for seniors, either Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) or Minnesota Senior Health Options (MSHO).
- All SNBC members received and will continue to receive an enrollment packet with their health plan and health care program options.

Important Reminders about the SNBC Transition

- All SNBC enrollees who turn 65 years old must transition out of SNBC. This rule does not differ under any circumstance, including if they are on a disability waiver, such as Community Access for Disability Inclusion (CADI) waivers.
- People transitioning from SNBC can keep their disability waiver (CAC, CADI, BI, DD) after transitioning to a senior managed care program, as long as they maintain eligibility criteria and choose to remain on the same waiver.
- These members will get their PCA through the health plan once they move to MSHO/MSC+, as opposed to getting PCA on a fee-for-service basis.

Transition of SNBC Members who were 65 as of January 1, 2017

- Any SNBC member who was 65 years old as of January 1, 2017 was moved to MSHO, MSC+, or in some cases started receiving their health care on a fee-for-service basis, by January 1, 2017.
- The biggest transition was during Annual Health Plan Selection, with almost 2,500 SNBC members transitioning to a managed care product for seniors on January 1, 2017.
- Some SNBC members moved earlier than this, if they were in the northern part of the state and were in Medica prior to July 1, 2016.

Transition During Annual Health Plan Selection

- 2,358 SNBC members were 65 years old or over as of 1/1/17.
- These members received an enrollment packet during Annual Health Plan Selection, in order to choose a health plan and MSHO or MSC+, if those choices were available to them.
- If someone is 65, they could enroll into MSHO prior to the January 1, 2017 transition date, just by submitting their enrollment form early.
- 154 people enrolled into MSHO in November, 386 in December, and 279 for January 1, 2017. Leaving 1,539 who enrolled into MSC+ on 1/1/17.

Assistance with Transition

- SNBC members who were transitioning received assistance in a few ways.
 - Senior Linkage Line called people who have Medicare and a medical spenddown to make sure they understand they must enroll in MSHO if they want to stay in managed care.
 - Care coordinators at the health plans have worked hard to help SNBC members understand the transition and to help them enroll in a program. DHS requested particular outreach to people with medical spenddowns and those on integrated SNBC.

Members who Changed Health Plans

- Only about 10% of SNBC members who are 65+ changed health plans – about 243 members. Some moved prior to 1/1/17. Most of the members changed health plans because their SNBC health plan does not offer senior products in their county of residence.
- Health Plans provided case management transfer data to the health plans receiving their members to improve the transfer experience for the members.

Ongoing Transition

- On average, around 80 to 100 SNBC members turn 65 every month. In order to align with the Medicare enrollment timeline, an enrollment packet will be sent to SNBC members turning 65 in 90 days. These packets will allow SNBC members to choose the health plan and health care program of their choice.
- It is hoped language in the letter will help notify people if they don't currently have Medicare and how they can get help enrolling in Medicare when they turn 65.

Initiative to Support Medicare Enrollment

- Not everyone eligible for Medicare is getting enrolled – one finding from the diversity outreach grants. The mailing to SNBC members turning 65 is one initiative to help people get assistance enrolling in Medicare.
- In the coming months, additional initiatives will be explored to support seniors and people with disabilities to get on Medicare if they are eligible. One particular focus is tracking when people are getting Medicare buy-in options.

Diversity Outreach Grant

- Minnesota Senior Health Options Cultural Outreach Grants: Final grant summary is now available on the DHS website. The eDocs number is DHS-3766A
- The team is starting work to address recommendations and themes outlined in the grant summary report. Supporting Medicare enrollment among those eligible is currently being planned, as is supporting direct enrollment into MSHO among various groups.