



California Collaborative for Long Term Services and Supports Resources for Understanding Long Term Services and Supports

Overview based on the Legislative Analyst's Coordinated Care Initiative Update, 3/13
About 1.9 million seniors and persons with disabilities (SPDs) are enrolled in Medi-Cal, the state-federal program providing medical care and long-term services and supports (LTSS) to low-income persons. The majority are also eligible for Medicare, the federal program that provides medical services to qualifying persons over age 65 and certain persons with disabilities. Those who are eligible for both Medi-Cal and Medicare are known as "dual eligibles" and receive services paid by both programs.

Medicare Is a Federal Health Insurance Program overseen by CMS. It pays for most physician and hospital care and pharmacy costs for beneficiaries. It also covers some mental health services, including outpatient treatment and most acute inpatient psychiatric admissions. Beneficiaries generally pay for their benefits through cost-sharing arrangements such as premiums, deductibles, coinsurance, and copayments.

Medi-Cal Is a Federal-State Health Program. Federal funds are available to the state for the provision of health care services for low-income families with children and seniors and persons with disabilities. California receives a 50 percent federal match for Medi-Cal costs. Medi-Cal provides a wide range of services, including hospital inpatient and outpatient care, doctor visits, coverage of prescription drugs, and durable medical equipment, substance abuse treatment services, and an array of mental health services for beneficiaries with mild and serious mental illnesses. These behavioral health benefits are largely provided at the county level.

Medi-Cal also provides a variety of LTSS commonly categorized into two types: institutional care, such as skilled nursing facilities (SNFs), and home and community-based services (HCBS) aimed at preventing unnecessary hospitalizations and SNF stays and maintaining people in the community. Major Medi-Cal LTSS include:

- **In-Home Supportive Services.** The IHSS program provides in-home care for people who cannot safely remain in their own homes without such assistance. In July, 2011, 442,000 Californians received IHSS.
- **Community-Based Adult Services (CBAS).** CBAS is an outpatient, facility-based service program serves participants using a multidisciplinary staff, including: professional nursing services; physical, occupational, and speech therapies;

mental health services; therapeutic activities; social services; personal care; meals and nutritional counseling; and transportation to and from the participant's residence. About 27,000 receive CBAS services.

- **Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MSSP).** MSSP provides both social and health care management services for Medi-Cal recipients aged 65 or older who meet the eligibility criteria for a SNF. About 9,500 receive MSSP services.
- **Skilled Nursing Facilities.** SNFs provide nursing, rehabilitative, and medical care to facility residents. Generally, SNF residents receive their medical care and social services at the facility. According to the California Association Health Facilities, on any given day, 63,000 Medi-Cal beneficiaries reside in SNFs.
- **Waiver Programs.** About 3,500 people receive nursing care, assisted living, or in-home services through various federal Medi-Cal waivers.

Generally, seniors and persons with disabilities are more expensive to serve than other Medi-Cal beneficiaries because of the higher prevalence of complex medical conditions and greater functional needs within this population. SPDs represent 25 percent of enrollment but 60 percent of Medi-Cal expenditures.

Links: Legislative Analyst's Coordinated Care Initiative Update

<http://www.lao.ca.gov/analysis/2013/health/coordinated-care/coordinated-care-022713.aspx> Materials on pages 1 and 2 above are from this update.

LAO: Integrating Care for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities

<http://www.lao.ca.gov/analysis/2012/health/integrating-care-021712.aspx>

California fact sheets from The SCAN Foundation

<http://www.thescanfoundation.org/publications/facts/california>

- An Overview of LTC: <http://www.thescanfoundation.org/overview-long-term-care-california>
- Overview of LTC in Government: <http://www.thescanfoundation.org/organization-long-term-care-government>
- Who Needs and Uses LTC: <http://www.thescanfoundation.org/who-needs-and-uses-long-term-care>
- Who provides LTC in CA: <http://www.thescanfoundation.org/who-provides-long-term-care-california>

More about the California Collaborative for Long Term Services and Supports

- <http://www.gacnstitute.org/ccltss.php> General
- <http://www.gacnstitute.org/ccltss-members.php> Members
- <http://www.gacnstitute.org/ccltss-videos.php> Videos
- <http://www.gacnstitute.org/ccltss-podcasts.php> Podcasts about LTSS