

To Interested Stakeholders of the Emergency Triage, Treat and Transport (ET3) Payment Model:

In response to the CMS Innovation Center's Request for Applications for the ET3 payment model, the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) is expressing its intent to participate as a payer source.

As Arizona's Medicaid program, AHCCCS is committed to reaching across Arizona to provide comprehensive, quality health care to those in need. AHCCCS participation in the ET3 model aligns with this commitment by allowing Medicaid recipients to access the most appropriate emergency services at the right time and in the right place, reducing hospital admissions, improving quality and reducing costs as part of a multi-payer alignment strategy. AHCCCS recognizes that long term program sustainability of the ET3 Model will be dependent upon the participation of multiple payers, and is committed to helping our provider community achieve this.

Given the administrative and operational challenges of operationalizing a new payment model, we anticipate a reasonable time frame for AHCCCS participation to be October 1, 2020. However, this date is subject to change. AHCCCS is currently reviewing the ET3 Model to determine which of the three components it will participate in.

In the interim time period between September 19, 2019 and October 1, 2020, AHCCCS has developed the following, tentative timeline:

- Late 2019/ Early 2020 AHCCCS will research potential ET3 payment methodologies and model components.
- Late 2019/ Early 2020 AHCCCS will form an external stakeholder workgroup to discuss the ET3 model.
- Second Quarter 2020 AHCCCS will present its proposed State Plan Amendment at Tribal Consultation and post it for a 45 Day Public Comment Period.
- Second/Third Quarter 2020 AHCCCS will submit a State Plan Amendment to CMS outlining its proposed ET3 Payment Methodology.
- Third Quarter 2020 AHCCCS will initiate targeted education and outreach to ambulance suppliers and providers.
- Third Quarter 2020 AHCCCS will issue a public notice regarding the proposed ET3 program rates.
- October 1, 2020 AHCCCS will implement the ET3 program.

Once the ET3 Model has been operationalized, Medicare-enrolled ambulance suppliers and providers that have been selected for participation in the ET3 Model by CMS will also be eligible for reimbursement for services offered to AHCCCS eligible members (the provider must also be an AHCCCS-registered provider).

AHCCCS looks forward to working with external stakeholders and community partners throughout Arizona to ensure the successful implementation of the ET3 model in our communities.

Sincerely,

Jami Snyder

Jan J Angde

Director