

Medicare Advantage special needs plans

ISSUE: Special needs plans (SNPs) are Medicare Advantage (MA) plans that are permitted to limit enrollment to certain types of beneficiaries. Dual-eligible SNPs (D-SNPs) enroll beneficiaries with both Medicare and Medicaid coverage, chronic condition SNPs (C-SNPs) enroll certain chronically ill beneficiaries, and institutional SNPs (I-SNPs) enroll beneficiaries eligible for a nursing home level of care. The statutory authority by which SNPs can limit their enrollment to only beneficiaries with special needs expires at the end of 2013.

KEY POINTS: In this paper we report on findings of SNPs' quality of care and Medicare payments, and D-SNPs' integration with Medicaid benefits.

ACTION: Commissioners will continue the discussion begun at the October meeting.

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