

## Change to National Coverage Determination may affect your Medicare coverage

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) sometimes change the coverage rules that apply to an item or service under Medicare. When this happens, CMS issues a National Coverage Determination, or NCD.

NCDs tell us:

- What benefits and services are covered
- What benefits and services are changing
- What Medicare will pay for an item or service

CMS recently issued an update to the NCD that applies to the following service:

### **Cochlear Implantation**

Here is a description of the change to the NCD. This affects services given **on or after September 26, 2022**

<b>Services affected</b>	<b>Additional information</b>
<p>The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued an NCD to update Cochlear Implantation.</p>	<p>Effective for services performed on or after September 26, 2022, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid expanded coverage for treatment of bilateral pre- or post-linguistic, sensorineural, moderate-to-profound hearing loss in individuals who demonstrate limited benefit from amplification. Limited benefit from amplification is defined by test scores of less than or equal to 60% correct in the best-aided listening condition on recorded tests of open-set sentence cognition. The policy also provides coverage of cochlear implants when performed in the context of FDA-approved category B investigational device exemption clinical trials or as a routine cost in clinical trials under section 310.1 of the National Coverage Determination (NCD) Manual titled Routine Costs in Clinical Trials.</p>

**We're here to help you**

Mercy Care Advantage is an HMO SNP with a Medicare contract and a contract with the Arizona Medicaid Program. Enrollment in Mercy Care Advantage depends on contract renewal. This information is not a complete description of benefits. Contact the plan for more information. Limitations, copayments, and restrictions may apply. Benefits and/or copayments/coinsurance may change on January 1 of each year. The formulary, pharmacy network, and/or provider network may change at any time. You will receive notice when necessary. See Evidence of Coverage for a complete description of benefits, exclusions, limitations and conditions of coverage. If you have questions, Mercy Care Advantage Member Services representatives are available to help you 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., 7 days a week. Please call 602-586-1730 or 1-877-436-5288 (TTY 711).