

Medicaid Targeted Case Management

What is Targeted Case Management:

Targeted Case Management (TCM) is a Medicaid benefit category that allows states the option to cover services “to assist beneficiaries in gaining access to needed medical, social, educational, and other services, and coordinating that care.” States have the option to limit or target this benefit to particular populations. At least 45 states use TCM in some capacity, and most states provide TCM to high risk pregnant women and infants and children with special healthcare needs.

Examples of Services Provided:

- Development of an individualized plan of care for prenatal case management services for at risk pregnant women.
- Assistance in locating specialty providers (needed by high risk pregnant women and infants and children with special healthcare needs) who accept Medicaid and who are located near the beneficiary.
- Referral to tobacco cessation counseling for pregnant women.
- Help in obtaining needed medical equipment and supplies, such as wheelchairs, often needed by children with disabilities who were born with birth defects.
- Technical support for parents whose infants were born with rare medical disorders—locating information and linkages to treatment.
- Help coordinate referrals to broad range of follow-up care with various needed specialty health providers. (For example, a case manager may connect parents of a child born preterm with needed specialists to address development delays, cognitive/behavioral problems, vision problems and other medical needs.)

Regulation:

The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (DRA) clarified the types of activities that may be reimbursed as a TCM service. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimated that this would result in a \$760 million decrease in Medicaid funding to states for TCM over 5 years. However, the rule promulgated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) goes beyond the savings Congress approved in the DRA and cuts Medicaid funding to states for TCM by \$1.28 billion over 5 years—putting at risk the availability of TCM services for some of the most medically compromised Medicaid beneficiaries, including women with problem pregnancies and infants and children with special healthcare needs.