As of January 1, 2020, Medicare has implemented a new Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) benefit. Below are details on the new benefit for IEHP DualChoice Members.

**New Medicare Benefits effective January 1, 2020**

Medicare will pay Medicare-enrolled Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs), to deliver Opioid Treatment Programs (OTP) treatment services to Medicare beneficiaries.

Medicare previously covered office-based Opioid Treatment with Buprenorphine and Naltrexone, but has historically not covered services furnished in OTP, which are the only entities authorized to use Methadone to treat OUD. Medicare coverage of OTPs is a new benefit that is anticipated to expand access to care.

**IEHP- Direct and IPAs will be responsible for authorization and payment of these benefits for their respective assigned IEHP DualChoice Members.**

Payments will be bundled to the OTP Providers.

### Medicare OTP Benefits

- FDA-approved opioid agonist and antagonist medication-assisted treatment (MAT) medications
- Dispensing and administration of MAT medications (if applicable)
- Substance use counseling
- Individual and group therapy
- Toxicology testing
- Intake activities
- Periodic Assessments

### Medi-Cal vs. Medicare Benefits

**No Change** with Medi-Cal OUD treatment and benefit

For dually eligible beneficiaries (those enrolled in both Medicare and Medicaid) currently receiving OTP services through Medi-Cal, **Medicare will be the primary payer for OTP services.** CMS will issue guidance to States to clarify how Medi-Cal can pay OTP providers that are not yet enrolled in Medicare, so State Medicaid Agencies can uphold their responsibilities as the payer of last resort while promoting continuity of care for dually eligible beneficiaries.

**Medi-Cal** must pay for services delivered to these beneficiaries by OTP Providers who are not yet enrolled in Medicare but are enrolled in Medi-Cal, to the extent the services are covered in the State plan.
Medi-Cal will later recoup those payments made to the OTP, back to the date the Provider can begin billing Medicare (30 days prior to the effective date of the OTP’s Medicare enrollment), and OTP will then bill Medicare for those services.

How To Become an OTP Provider:
Providers must possess a full certification through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services (SAMSHA) and must be enrolled in Medicare (cannot enroll as an OTP Provider through Medicare without having certification through SAMHSA first).

For information about the certification of Opioid Treatment Programs, contact the SAMSHA Division of Pharmacologic Therapies at (240)-276-2700. For assistance with the Opioid Treatment Program Extranet, contact the OTP helpdesk at OTP- Help@jbsinternational.com or 1-866-348-5741.

As a reminder, all communications sent by IEHP can also be found on our Provider portal at: www.iehp.org > For Providers > Plan Updates > Correspondence.