

# The TRICARE® Autism Care Demonstration



## Upcoming Changes to the Autism Care Demonstration (ACD)

The changes to TRICARE's Autism Care Demonstration (ACD) move the program towards comprehensive care that integrates all potential services, tailored to the beneficiary for the best possible outcomes.

### The ACD program changes will:

- Move the ACD to a beneficiary-centric model to help beneficiaries reach their maximum potential
- Empower parents to have a greater role in their child's care
- For new beneficiaries to the program, incorporate all clinical and non-clinical service into one comprehensive care plan, coordinated by an Autism Services Navigator (ASN)

### What's Not Changing:

- The coverage for the definitive diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
- Referral requirement from an eligible TRICARE-authorized provider
- Prior authorization requirement for services
- ABA provider completion of assessment and treatment plan
- Case management services remain unaffected and are available to currently enrolled ACD beneficiaries

### What's Changing:

- For beneficiaries new to the ACD program, the ASN will:
  - develop a comprehensive care plan
  - improve care transition support
  - provide greater care coordination
- Increased access to ASD support and resources
- Outcome measures – additional measures/changing of timelines
- Increased parental involvement and family support
- Addition of group coverage for ABA services
- Improved medical collaboration via medical team conferences
- Continued parental training via telehealth beyond COVID-19
- Removal of confirmation diagnosis requirement



**For additional information, contact your contractor.**

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