

ACHN Questions and Answers - Updated 6/21/19

	Issue	Question	Response
1	General	Why is there not a general forum page for community-wide discussions? Why was the video link disabled to disallow comments?	The Agency has established a page on its website where questions and comments may be submitted. A link to subscribe for email updates is also available on this page. All questions and answers received by the Agency will be posted to this page. Additional community engagement activities will be announced as the program is developed.
2	General	I just learned of this new program. Are yall going to have meetings in the different regions so providers can learn more about these? When is the current expected implementation/go live date?	Future public meetings regarding the ACHN Program and will be posted to the Agency's Website at <a href="http://www.medicare.alabama.gov/content/2.0_Newsroom/2.7_Special_Initiatives/2.7.6_ACHN.aspx">http://www.medicare.alabama.gov/content/2.0_Newsroom/2.7_Special_Initiatives/2.7.6_ACHN.aspx</a>
3	General	I was trying to locate to dates, time and location for the meeting. However I'm not being successful at locating this. Could you please email this info to me? Thanks in advance.	The Agency has established a page on its website where questions and comments may be submitted. A link to subscribe for email updates is also available on this page. All questions and answers received by the Agency will be posted to this page. Additional community engagement activities will be announced as the program is developed.
4	General	I was recently made aware of the innovative plan for the Alabama Coordinated Health Network and would like to speak with someone about this initiative for "pivot entities".	Information on the ACHNs (formerly known as Pivot Entities) can be found at <a href="http://www.medicare.alabama.gov/content/2.0_Newsroom/2.7_Special_Initiatives/2.7.6_ACHN.aspx">http://www.medicare.alabama.gov/content/2.0_Newsroom/2.7_Special_Initiatives/2.7.6_ACHN.aspx</a> An email address is also provided at the website to submit any questions regarding the new program.
5	General	As of 8/30/18, has the 1915b waiver been submitted to CMS? If so, will the waiver be posted to the ACHN page on Medicaid?	The Waiver was submitted to CMS on August 2, 2018 and has been posted to the website.
6	General	When will these changes happen?	The Agency plans to implement the ACHNs in 2019.

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7	General	Will meetings be held in each region?	<p>Several provider-specific (OB/Gyn, Pediatrics, Family Medicine) meetings and presentations have already been conducted. More provider meetings, webinars and other activities are planned in the coming months. The Agency has also established a page on its website where questions and comments may be submitted. A link to subscribe for email updates is also available on this page. All questions and answers received by the Agency will be posted to this page. Additional community engagement activities will be announced as the program is developed.</p>
8	General	Will the Agency provide an open comment period for the waiver prior to submitting to CMS for approval?	<p>The 1915 (b) ACHN waiver was formally submitted to CMS on August 2, 2018 and has been posted to the AMA website. If you have any questions concerning the waiver, you may submit them to the ACHN e-mail address.</p>
9	General	Will there be protocols in place to prescribe certain drugs to Medicaid recipients? I am assuming there will be a focus on cost containment, aka using the lowest-cost/generic drugs, but are there some instances where providers might be incentivized to prescribe higher-cost drugs for their proven efficacy?	<p>The Agency utilizes various programs and criteria to ensure cost-effective prescribing, such as the Preferred Drug Program, Prescription Limit, DAW edits, etc. More information can be found on the Agency website under the Pharmacy link below. If you have questions on a specific program, we can hold a discussion with your staff and Medicaid pharmacy staff at an upcoming meeting.</p>