

Monthly Provider Check-In

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Introducing Wellcare By Meridian



Effective **January 1**, Wellcare Meridian Dual Align (HMO D-SNP) combines Medicaid and Medicare Advantage benefits into one plan. What you need to know:

- The Meridian Medicare-Medicaid Plan (MMP) sunsets on **December 31**.
- Current Meridian **MMP members will automatically be enrolled** in the Wellcare By Meridian D-SNP.
- The majority of providers contracted with Meridian MMP and Wellcare Medicare Advantage plans were mailed amendments with the Wellcare by Meridian D-SNP requirements. The amendment

automatically becomes effective on **January 1, 2026**, unless the provider contacted Meridian to opt out.

- **Find answers to common provider questions** about this transition on the [For Providers page of our new D-SNP website](#) under "Provider Resources" in the "Documents and Forms" drop-down menu.

Wellcare By Meridian

Reduce RSV risk

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) is the **leading cause of hospitalization in infants** and can be dangerous for older adults—especially those with chronic conditions or weakened immune systems. Review our pharmacy team's update about RSV vaccines available to Meridian members and find recommendations for different patient groups.

RSV guidance

Upcoming HEDIS[®] deadlines

Measurement Year (MY) 2025 HEDIS medical record submission deadlines are fast approaching. All MY 2025 medical records must be submitted by **December 1** for guaranteed abstraction.

[2025 HEDIS deadlines](#) ↗

Dig into diabetes prevention

Almost 98 million American adults have prediabetes, and it's estimated that 80% of them don't even know it. During National Diabetes Month, let's create awareness and promote lifestyle changes that prevent progression to type 2 diabetes.



- Participate in our [2025 Pay for Performance program](#) and earn **incentives for helping patients who have diabetes manage it**.
- Remind members they can earn a prepaid debit card through our **Healthy Rewards** program when they receive a diabetic blood test (HbA1c) or eye exam, and those with diabetes can earn rewards by maintaining healthy A1c levels.
- Refer Meridian members to our **Chronic Disease Management Program**, offering extra support to reduce risk—call us or initiate a referral via the [secure provider portal](#).
- Leverage Meridian's resources like **diabetes-friendly recipes** through our **Eat Well, Be Well program** and our [Fast Facts for Better Health video](#) about prediabetes.

Supporting our rural providers

Providers who serve members in rural communities experience unique challenges. Meridian is proud to support these providers in delivering quality care and celebrate their efforts—on **National Rural Health Day** (November 20) and every day.

Provider point of view

"Our Provider Engagement representative with Meridian is professional and responds to our requests in a very timely manner. We have also noticed Meridian's increased presence in our service area, with their team connecting with patients and the rural communities we serve. This outreach is vital and very much appreciated."

Lorraine H.
Rural Health, Inc.
Anna, IL

New partnership promotes healthy grocery shopping



With more than 30,000 products in a typical grocery store, it can be overwhelming to shop for nutritious, budget-friendly foods. That's why **we've teamed up with Jewel-Osco through Meridian at the Supermarket**, a series of wellness events at Chicago-area stores where expert dietitians offer grocery store tours, share recipes, and provide nutrition education. Eligible members can receive free blood pressure screenings and earn rewards, including a prepaid gift card for groceries.

Eat Well, Be Well

Fee schedule updates, rate changes, & billing updates

Claim alerts and known issues are posted on our [website](#), along with updates from Meridian about proactively reprocessing claims.

Claims should not be resubmitted unless otherwise indicated. For billing questions, contact your assigned Provider Engagement representative. If your practice doesn't have an assigned representative, please complete our [intake form](#).

- [Annual rates for hospice providers](#), **effective October 1, 2025**, have been posted to the HFS website.

In case you missed it

- The Illinois Department of Human Services has published a new **[website with resources in multiple languages to support households affected by changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program \(SNAP\)](#)**, and Meridian's member site highlights [community resources for food assistance](#).
- Find **[resources to help encourage influenza prevention](#)**, including suggestions for your practice and vaccine information for all ages.
- HFS is reminding all hospitals and birthing centers that **[certified doulas must be allowed in birthing rooms](#)** for Medicaid members and cannot be counted against support person quotas.

- Due to a **shortage of diabetic testing supplies on the preferred drug list** (PDL), HFS is temporarily removing prior authorization requirements for non-preferred brands.

Meridian and our family of plans connect communities across the state to the whole-health care they need, right where they are.



Meridian complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex (including pregnancy, sexual orientation, and gender identity).

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