

Social determinants of health (SDOH) overview

Social determinants of health are the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age.

They include factors like:

- Socioeconomic status
- Education
- Neighborhood and physical environment
- Employment
- Social support network
- Access to healthcare

Addressing social determinants of health is important for improving health and reducing health disparities.¹ We all recognize that healthcare is an essential component of our lives. Yet research shows that health outcomes are driven by a variety of factors that include:

- Underlying genetics
- Health behaviors
- Social and environmental factors
- Healthcare

AHCCCS Requirements²

Effective April 1, 2018, AHCCCS started requiring the usage of SDOH diagnosis codes on all applicable claims. Specific ICD-10 diagnosis codes representing SDOH were identified³ as a valuable source of information that impacted members' health.

When appropriate within the scope of practice, providers should routinely be screening and documenting for the presence of any social determinants. Any identified social determinant diagnosis codes should be listed on all claims for AHCCCS members in order to comply with state and federal coding requirements.

Note: Social determinants are not the primary ICD-10 codes. They are secondary ICD-10 codes.⁴

Please email the Office of Individual and Family Affairs at MCCAZOIFA@MagellanHealth.com with any questions.

Magellan Complete Care of Arizona looks forward to working closely with our providers to improve the lives of our members.

1. <https://www.kff.org/disparities-policy/issue-brief/beyond-health-care-the-role-of-social-determinants-in-promoting-health-and-health-equity/>

2. <https://www.azahcccs.gov/PlansProviders/Demographics/>

3. https://www.azahcccs.gov/PlansProviders/Downloads/FFSProviderManual/Exhibit_4-1SocialDeterminantsHealthICD-10List.pdf

4. FEE-FOR-SERVICE PROVIDER BILLING MANUAL - CHAPTER 4 - GENERAL BILLING RULES, PG 16