



# MEDICARE MEDI-CAL PLANS (MEDI-MEDI PLANS)

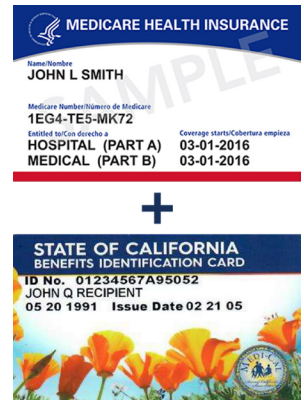
## The Issue



Californians enrolled in both Medicare and Medi-Cal, known as dual eligible members, often have high rates of chronic conditions and functional impairments, and are three times more likely than Medicare-only members to report being in poor health (13% vs. 4%).



For most dual eligible members, Medicare and Medi-Cal operate separately, with limited coordination across program benefits. This fragmented system creates challenges for these members who often use services at a high level, as they need to navigate the two health programs.



In order to offer coordinated care across Medicare and Medi-Cal for dual eligible members, the California Department of Health Care Services, along with our federal Medicare partners, established **Medicare Medi-Cal Plans (Medi-Medi Plans)** in 2023. Medi-Medi Plans provide integrated care for their members and are available for new enrollment.

## Faces of Medi-Cal’s Transformation: Meet Josephine

Josephine is a 68-year-old from Orange County with multiple chronic health conditions, including arthritis, diabetes, and hypertension. She has been enrolled in Original Medicare and a Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan since 2019 and has experienced difficulties managing her own care and navigating among various Medicare and Medi-Cal services. In 2023, Josephine joined a Medi-Medi Plan. Her primary care physician informed her that she was assigned a care manager at the health plan who helps coordinate both her Medicare and Medi-Cal benefits, works with her primary care and specialist providers, and organizes transportation to her medical appointments. The Medi-Medi Plan also has a strong provider network and provides Josephine with a care team and care plan to coordinate her Medicare and Medi-Cal benefits. She is able to receive the services she needs to live independently, such as In-Home Supportive Services, durable medical equipment, and automatic prescription refills. Through these coordination efforts, Josephine’s Medi-Medi Plan helps her successfully manage her chronic conditions, maintain her independence, and remain in her home and community.



## Advancing Coordinated Care for Dual Eligible Members

Medi-Medi Plans are a type of Medicare Advantage plan in California that are only available to dual eligible members. These plans provide Medicare Part A, B, and D services, specialized care coordination, and wrap-around Medi-Cal services. Medi-Medi Plan members are automatically enrolled in the aligned Medi-Cal plan operated by their Medicare plan so that both their Medicare and Medi-Cal benefits and care are coordinated by one managed care organization.

Medi-Medi Plans coordinate all benefits and services across both programs, including:

- » All Medicare-covered services, including medical providers, hospitals, prescription drugs, labs, and X-rays
- » All Medi-Cal covered services, including long-term services and supports, durable medical equipment, and medical transportation
- » Additional supplemental benefits over and above Original Medicare and Medi-Cal
- » Coordination with carved-out benefits, such as In-Home Supportive Services, Medi-Cal Specialty Mental Health Services provided by the counties, and Medi-Cal Dental Benefits
- » One care management team to coordinate care and help a member manage the services they need

Through Medi-Medi Plans, members receive:

- » Integrated materials, such as a single health plan card and one phone number to call for both Medicare and Medi-Cal benefits, leading to reduced administrative burden
- » Care coordination, including a unified Health Risk Assessment, a person-centered individualized care plan, and an interdisciplinary care team that includes their Medicare, Medi-Cal, and carved-out service providers
- » Continuity of care, so they can continue to see their provider for up to twelve months in most cases, even if they are not in the health plan's provider network

Medi-Medi Plans are currently offered in seven counties: Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Mateo, and Santa Clara. In 2024, Medi-Medi Plans will be offered in five additional counties: Fresno, Kings, Madera, Sacramento, and Tulare. They will be available to dual eligible members in other California counties by 2026.

## The Positive Impact of Medicare Medi-Cal Plans

The statewide transition to [Medi-Medi Plans](#) promotes the goals of Medi-Cal transformation and the [California Master Plan for Aging](#) to improve care integration and person-centered care for the state's 1.6 million dual eligible members. With improved care integration and coordination, Medi-Medi Plans contribute to better health outcomes, address health disparities, and provide a more efficient delivery system for members and providers.

