



Tell Me More about... Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)

What is the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly?

Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly, also known as PACE, is an innovative program that provides a full range of long-term care, health and medical services, and prescription drugs to enable you to live as independently as possible.

Long-term care is any service or support that you may need as a result of a disability, getting older, or having a chronic illness that limits the ability to do the things that you need to do throughout the course of your day. This includes things such as bathing, getting dressed, making meals, going to work, paying bills, and much more. There are a variety of services and supports available in PACE that can help people do these things independently, or with the support of someone else. Some of these services may be provided at the PACE Center, if you choose to attend the Center.

PACE also covers your health and medical services, which includes the services of a physician, registered nurse, physician assistant, or other qualified medical professional. Health promotion, disease prevention, health maintenance, and patient education are also provided. In addition, Medicaid and Medicare drug services are provided by the Managed Care Organization (MCO) which operates PACE. If you enroll in PACE, then you do not need to have a separate Medicare Part D drug plan.

By coordinating your long-term care, health and medical care, and prescription drugs all together, this program is convenient for you and efficient in its operation.

How Does PACE Work?

People Receive Interdisciplinary Care Management.

Identifying your needs, what is available, and knowing about care and services can be difficult. You may want help to coordinate your health, medical and long-term care services. If you participate in PACE, then you receive the support of a care team that is trained to provide care management for health and medical conditions, in addition to your long-term care needs.

You are an active participant on the care team that also includes, at a minimum, a PACE doctor (or community doctor), a registered nurse, a care manager, PACE Center coordinator, home care coordinator, physical therapist, occupational therapist, recreational therapist and a dietitian. You can choose to include a family member or loved one on your team. Sometimes people also choose other professionals to participate as team members. In PACE, this team is called



an “interdisciplinary team.” The interdisciplinary team plans, delivers, and oversees your care across all settings.

People Receive Services to Live in Their Own Home Whenever Possible.

Helping people stay at home is at the heart of the PACE program. Whether you live in a house, apartment, condominium or mobile home, your PACE team will work with you so that you can remain in your own home. Most services can be provided at home for many people. If you already reside in an assisted living facility or nursing home that is not affordable for you, then PACE can help you find another place to live that meets your needs at a more affordable rate. PACE works with you to find and secure the best living situation.



People Participate in Determining the Services They Receive.

The first step in planning PACE services is for you to discuss with your team the kind of life you want to live, whether you want to live where you live now or in a different place, and the kind of support you need to meet your long-term care needs. This step is called the assessment.

The services that you will receive are then outlined in a care plan. Team members support you in developing your plan by providing the information you need to make informed choices about the care you receive. Your care plan will help you to meet your long-term care needs in order to reach your personal outcomes for your life and that your team identified in the assessment.

People Choose Service Providers from a Comprehensive Network.

Participants in PACE select their long-term care and health care providers from a provider network. Managed Care Organizations (MCOs), are the agencies that provide the PACE benefit to people, are required to have providers for all the services covered by the program and have enough to give members a choice about the provider and setting in which they receive their services.

In addition to selecting your long-term care providers through the provider network, in PACE, you also select your physician from the physicians who work for the PACE program or other community physicians. Your health care and long-term care services are coordinated in the way that the program is designed by including a physician on the team. If your physician is not part of the provider network, then the PACE program could contact your physician about joining the provider network.

If you join a PACE program, medication coverage is also integrated into the benefit. Members of PACE receive their prescription medications at PACE pharmacies. If you have Medicare, you do not need to have a separate Medicare Part D drug plan. You will have no co-pays or deductibles for medications if you enroll in PACE. Members also receive dental services as part of the benefit package.





Please note: to be eligible for PACE, you must be enrolled in every part of Medicare for which you are eligible.

People Receive the Services They Need Through One Benefit.

Sorting through multiple government programs to determine your possible benefits can be confusing. The good news is that PACE pays for your long-term care, health and medical services and prescription drugs that would otherwise be available through various Medicare and Medicaid programs. This includes pharmacy services so that you can receive your prescription and some over-the-counter medications conveniently.

People Receive Services that Best Achieve the Results They Want.

The success of PACE is measured by your real-life results, or the outcomes that you get from the services you receive. “Quality of Life Outcomes” in PACE represents important parts of people’s lives.

The following statements are the “Quality of Life Outcomes” that the PACE team strives to help you achieve. When you participate in the program, you define your outcomes for your life. Helping you to meet your long-term care needs to achieve your personal outcomes is the goal of PACE:

- I decide where and with whom I live.
- I make decisions regarding my supports and services.
- I decide how I spend my day.
- I have relationships with family and friends.
- I do things that are important to me.
- I am involved in my community.
- My life is stable.
- I am respected and treated fairly.
- I have privacy.
- I have the best possible health.
- I feel safe.
- I am free from abuse and neglect.

