

# Complex Care Program:

In-home care for eligible San Francisco Bay Area Blue Shield members

May 2024

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# Agenda



- **Complex Care Program overview**
  - Service areas, member eligibility, member financial arrangement
- **Complex Care Program model**
  - Approach, member and PCP engagement, levels of engagement, care services, care team
- **Member and provider outreach**
- **Q&A**

## Today's presentation team



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# New Complex Care Program

**Blue Shield of California and Altais are administering a new Complex Care Program.** Eligible members in select Bay Area counties who have multiple, specific chronic illnesses will have access to comprehensive home-based care provided by BT Health.

- **Blue Shield** contracted **Altais** to provide program administration services.
- My Health Medical Group DBA **BT Health** is managed by Altais to provide in-home and virtual care services.





## Complex Care Program overview

- 1 Offers comprehensive home-based care including medical, behavioral and social services, plus 24/7 access to medical professionals and in-home urgent care.
- 2 Staffed by BT Health with nurse practitioners, registered nurses and a team of medical professionals who specialize in home-based care. Oversight is provided by licensed physicians.
- 3 Complements the care that PCPs are already providing to patients. The home-based care team collaborates with PCPs to ensure delivery and continuity of care.

# Complex Care Program service area

A total of ten (10) Bay Area counties are in the Complex Care Program service area.

## Live now

Alameda

Contra Costa

Santa Clara

San Francisco

San Mateo

## Live later in 2024

Marin

Napa

Santa Cruz

Solano

Sonoma

# Member eligibility

Blue Shield identifies members for inclusion in the Complex Care Program based on their health data and the following criteria.

- Member in a Medicare Advantage, Commercial, or IFP fully-insured plan, with Blue Shield plan as primary.
  - Exception: Eligible flex/self-funded plans: Blue Shield Employer Benefit Program and City and County of San Francisco (San Francisco Health Service System Fund).
- 18 years of age or older.
- Diagnosed with 4 or more specific chronic conditions in the previous 24 months **OR** at least 2 chronic conditions with recent history demonstrated need for complex care services (e.g., ER visits, SNF admission, hospitalization).

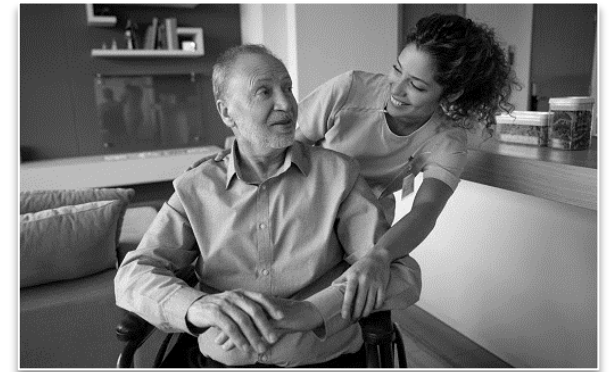
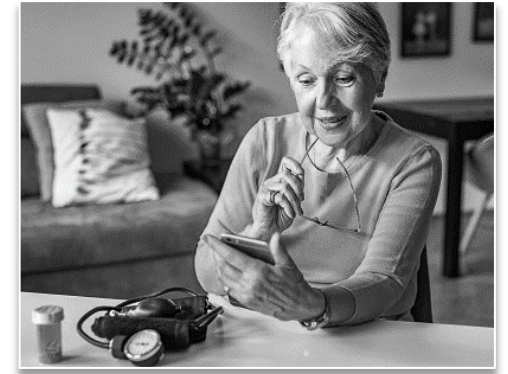
## Exclusions:

- Lines of business: Blue Shield Promise Medi-Cal, BlueCard®, CalPERS, FEP, Self-Funded (ASO), Shared Advantage, Specialty, and Tri-West
- Medicare Supplement plans
- Assignment to a full risk IPA/medical group
- Pregnancy within the last 12 months
- Hemophilia within the last 24 months
- Transplant acute stage
- Hospice, long-term acute care, or specialty-level palliative care



# Member financial arrangement

- Members opt into the Complex Care Program.
- Services are offered as an optional program to eligible members; participation does not impact members' benefits or how a provider bills.
- Program is available at **no additional cost** to those who meet the eligibility criteria.
- There is **no co-pay for services** provided by the program.
- Covered services provided by non-program providers through a referral from BT Health may be subject to co-pays, based on members' benefits and coverage.







# Complex Care Program overview

# Clinical care teams serve as an extension of the PCPs practice



**Supporting the patient where they are in their healthcare journey**



## **Collaborative care**

Facilitate seamless transitions between care settings to ensure consistent, high-quality care.



## **Expanded access**

Care teams provide expanded services and support to meet patients where they are in their health journey.



## **Proactive Communications**

All visit notes and clinical summaries sent to the PCP via their preferred method of communication.



## **Patient Experience**

Provide education and additional support to engage and empower patients to make informed decisions.

# Comprehensive, multi-faceted approach to address medical cost



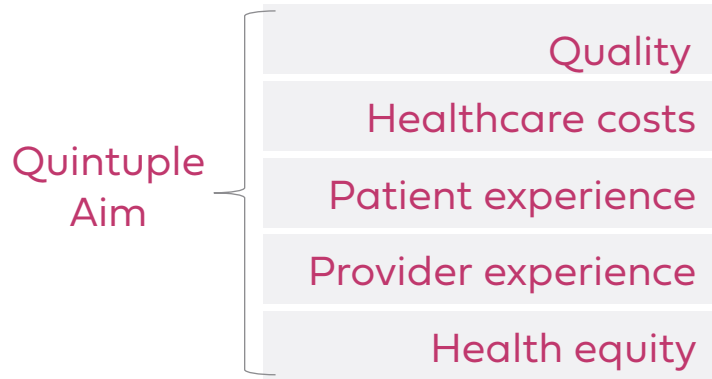
## Minimizing Healthcare Cost Drivers

Success is driven by the **ability to integrate** our care models and health solutions with **PCPs**.

- **High-risk and end-of-life care:** Chronic, complex and palliative care management. \*
- **Inpatient care:** Clinical concierge care model.
- **ER utilization:** Behavioral health, focus on psychiatric diagnosis and substance use. Primary care access, technology, medical.
- **Specialist care:** E-consults and referral management.
- **Specialty medication management:** Rare disease management program. High-cost drug management.
- **Hospital outpatient vs. ambulatory surgery center:** Site-of-service redirection.
- **Health equity:** Community health advocates – Social determinants of health (SDoH).
- **Behavioral health:** Primary care collaborative care model.

\* Patients are referred to Blue Shield's Home-Based Palliative Care Program when specialty-level palliative care is required.

# Meeting patients where they are



## Complex Care Program

- Specialized in home concierge services for the most vulnerable patients
- Focused on 'what matters' to the patients and their families
- Empower patients to achieve their health goals
- Designed to defragment healthcare
- Work with patients to optimize their well-being

## Differentiators



### Concierge services

- Personalized services delivered where patients are located



### Extended networks

- Clinical and community resource extension beyond PCP practice resources



### Technology platform

- Interoperable, integrated tools that power data-driven and automated workflows



### Patient engagement

- Elevate patient engagement and meet patients where they are with their knowledge and skills to manage their health



### Patient experience

- Deliver high touch and high-tech whole person health services

# Engaging patients in the Complex Care Program

Right  
diagnosis,  
right care,  
best  
outcomes

## Enroll

- Health advocate outreach for patient enrollment

## Access & engage

- Comprehensive assessment by ICT\* and nurse practitioner
- Services deployed to address patient needs
- Frequency of outreach determined by risk level

## Monitor

- Monitor triggers to reassess and re-stratify patient's risk level as needed
- Frequent ICT\* rounds

## Sustain

- Ongoing collaboration with patient and PCP


\* ICT = Interdisciplinary care team

# Care team collaboration to ensure patients are supported by the most appropriate care pathway

Service pathways	Care services	Care team
<b>Complex chronic care overseen by physician advisor</b>	Caregiver support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registered nurse</li> <li>Nurse practitioner</li> <li>Health navigator</li> <li>Community health advocate</li> <li>Licensed clinical social worker</li> <li>Pharmacist</li> <li>Physical therapy</li> <li>Occupational therapy</li> <li>Speech language pathologist</li> <li>Psychiatrist</li> <li>Nurse practitioner</li> </ul>
	Environmental assessment	
	Nutrition	
	Pharmacy	
	Rehabilitation and functional health	
	Remote patient monitoring	
<b>Behavioral health</b>	Behavioral health specialist	
<b>Social determinants of health</b>	Social determinants of health	
<b>Palliative care</b>	Palliative care (non-specialty) *	
<b>Episodic care</b>	24/7 and nurse triage	
	IV antibiotics	
	Transition of care	
	Wound care	

\* Patients are referred to Blue Shield’s Home-Based Palliative Care Program when specialty-level palliative care is required.

# Patient risk levels drive level of engagement and support



Status	Risk level	Frequency of visits
<b>Stable</b>	Multi-chronic that is controlled and stable	Monthly
<b>Emerging risk</b>	Uncontrolled chronic disease (uncontrolled blood glucose or blood pressure controlled)	Every two (2) weeks
<b>High risk</b>	Recent acute or post-acute discharge, appointment coordination, medication adherence	Weekly
<b>Crisis</b>	Uncontrolled symptoms (pain, shortness of breath), acute psychosocial needs, caregiver burnout	Daily until symptoms are controlled

# Care delivery support to address the needs of patients and clinicians

## Patient outreach and scheduling

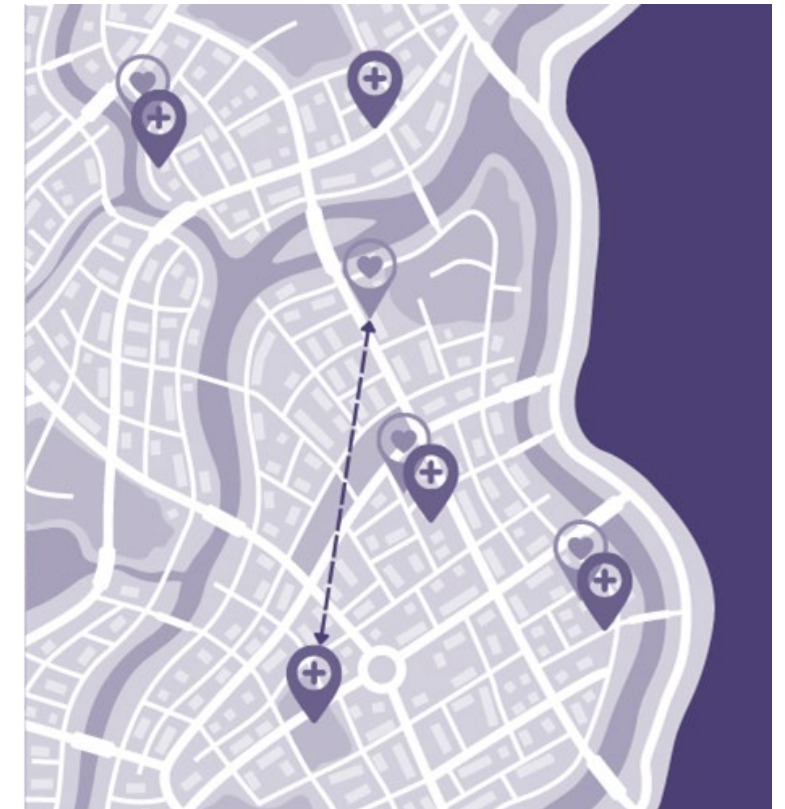
- Outreach by health advocate to schedule visits once member is enrolled.
- Daily clinician schedule development occurs centrally for field and virtual clinical teams.

## Clinician field team management

- Daily huddles conducted with field team leaders to ensure clinician understanding of schedule, patients, and to identify any specific areas of concern.
- GPS location management tracks and manages field workforce, and supports real-time needs as they arise.

## Patient and clinician support

- Clinician enablement team is available real-time to ensure all clinical, IT, or other questions and needs are met.
- Remote patient monitoring occurs within the support center to track diagnostics, where appropriate (along with alerting clinical team for follow up).
- Support teams operate both proactive outreach and reactive response when addressing patient and clinician needs.



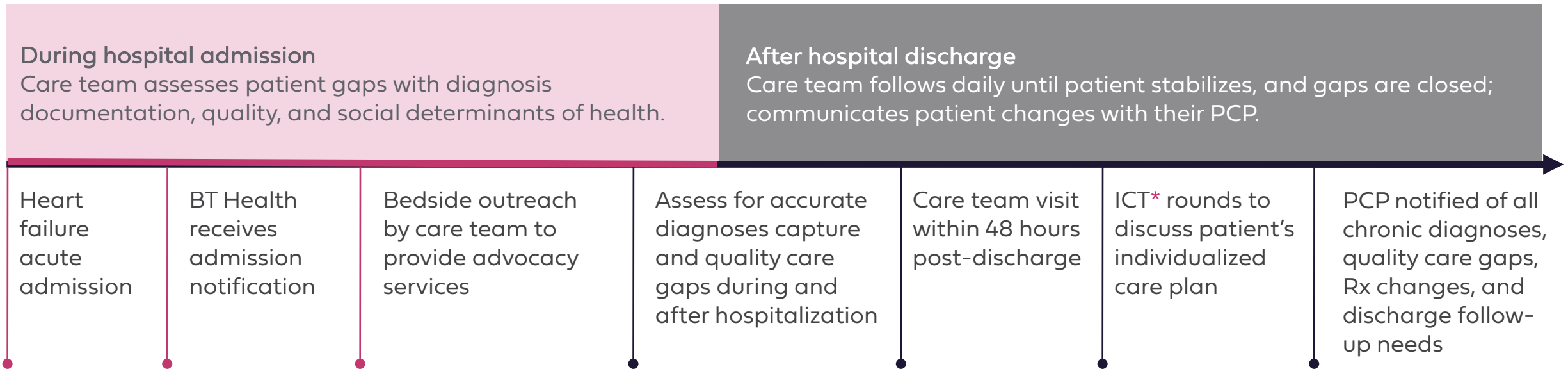
Matching patients to appropriate care and support



# Whole person health management with every interaction = best outcomes

## Episodic care pathway (acute hospital admission):

Care team comprehensively supports the patient across the care continuum to ensure we capture accurate diagnoses and drive high quality, evidence-based care.



\* ICT = Interdisciplinary care team

# Engaging with Altais and BT Health in support of complex patients

- Blue Shield notified IPA/medical groups and PCPs about the Program in April via written communication with a link to register for this webinar.
- In early May, Altais:
  - Sent IPA/medical groups and PCPs a list of Program-eligible members attributed to the practice.
  - Began outreach to eligible members to explain the program and schedule an in-person assessment when a member opts in.
- After successful intake, Altais provides PCP an outline of the member's engagement and a contact list.



# Complex care eligibility flag

- A *Complex Care Program* notation has been added in eligible members' eligibility record on the Provider Connection website ([www.blueshieldca.com/provider](http://www.blueshieldca.com/provider)). The notation indicates if a member is eligible as well as if the member opts in to the program.
  - To access, log in to Provider Connection and click *Verify Eligibility* from the home page or from the *Eligibility & benefits* section.

The screenshot displays a member's eligibility record on the Provider Connection website. The record is organized into several sections:

- Member Information:** Includes Member name (redacted), Status (Eligible), Subscriber ID (redacted), Date of birth (redacted), Gender (Male), Member address (redacted), Plan name (Platinum Full PPO 0/10 OffEx), Plan type (Commercial PPO (Fully insured)), Coverage effective / start date (redacted), Coverage end / redetermination date (Present), Relationship to subscriber (Subscriber), Subscriber name (redacted), PCP name (redacted), and Office visit copay (In-network-\$10). A Network status section with a 'Check status' link is also present.
- Member information:** Includes Member phone (N/A), Language (English), and Subscriber dues paid to (N/A).
- Special Programs:** Includes Maven maternity status (Eligible) and Complex Care status (Aitais - Attributed But Not Engaged), which is circled in green.

Utility icons for Print, ID Card, Benefits, and Claims are located in the top right corner.

# Engaging with Altais and BT Health in support of complex patients continued

## BT Health:

- Sends initial assessment and all visit notes and clinical summaries to PCP after each visit, via the preferred method of communication.
- Provides a warm hand-off by clinical staff for urgent issues that need follow up by the PCP.
- Offers optimal co-management options including joint phone/telehealth visits with the care team if requested.
- Presents PCP with discharge summary that includes a summary of active issues when a member disengages from the program.



# Contacts

- Providers can contact Altais at **866-270-4514** or [complexcareprogram@altais.com](mailto:complexcareprogram@altais.com) if they have questions about the program, member eligibility, and member care. Altais will connect providers to BT Health representatives when needed.
- For general questions about the Complex Care Program, contact Blue Shield's Provider Customer Service at **800-541-6652** or [log in to Provider Connection to start a chat](#).
- IPA/Medical Groups can also contact their Blue Shield Provider Relations Representative.



Blue Shield of California is an independent member of the Blue Shield Association



# Appendix

# Blue Shield patient care programs

## Telephonic support

- On-demand services provided outside in-person support.
- Includes *Care Management*, *Teledoc*, and *NurseHelp 24/7*.
- [Care Management](#): **877-455-6777** (TTY: 711) 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.
- Teledoc: **800-835-2362**
- NurseHelp: **877-304-0504** (TTY: 711)

## Blue Shield Promise Complex Case Management Program

- Case managers work with high-risk members and their physicians to coordinate care and services.
- Goals are to help members regain optimum health or improved functional capability, educate members regarding their chronic condition, and reinforce the PCP-prescribed treatment plan.
- [How to refer](#).

## Blue Shield Home-Based Palliative Care Program (specialty-level)

- Specialized medical care focused on providing relief from pain and other symptoms of a serious illness such as cancer, heart disease, etc.
- Services are based on the needs of the patient, not on the patient's prognosis and can be provided along with curative treatment.
- How to refer: Download the [Eligibility Screening Tool](#) complete the form and email to [BSCPalliativeCare@blueshieldca.com](mailto:BSCPalliativeCare@blueshieldca.com).

## Blue Shield of California Complex Care Program

- Blue Shield identifies members for inclusion in this program based on age, health data, and plan type.
- Program offers comprehensive home-based care including medical, behavioral and social services, plus 24/7 access to medical professionals and in-home urgent care.
- The home-based care team collaborates with PCPs to ensure delivery and continuity of care.