# The TRICARE® **Autism Care Demonstration**



## **Upcoming Changes to the Autism Care Demonstration (ACD)**

The changes to TRICARE's Autism Care Demonstration (ACD) move the program towards comprehensive care that integrates all potential services, tailored to the beneficiary for the best possible outcomes.

#### The ACD program changes will:

- Move the ACD to a beneficiary-centric model to help beneficiaries reach their maximum potential
- Empower parents to have a greater role in their child's care
- For new beneficiaries to the program, incorporate all clinical and non-clinical service into one comprehensive care plan, coordinated by an Autism Services Navigator (ASN)

#### **What's Not Changing:**

- The coverage for the definitive diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
- Referral requirement from an eligible TRICARE-authorized provider
- Prior authorization requirement for services
- ABA provider completion of assessment and treatment plan
- Case management services remain unaffected and are available to currently enrolled ACD beneficiaries

### **What's Changing:**

- For beneficiaries new to the ACD program, the ASN will:
  - develop a comprehensive care plan
  - improve care transition support
  - provide greater care coordination
- Increased access to ASD support and resources
- Outcome measures additional measures/changing of timelines
- Increased parental involvement and family support
- Addition of group coverage for ABA services
- Improved medical collaboration via medical team conferences
- Continued parental training via telehealth beyond COVID-19
- Removal of confirmation diagnosis requirement

#### For additional information, contact your contractor.

TRICARE East:

tricare-east.com 1-800-444-5445 TRICARE West: tricare-west.com 1-844-866-9378

