

# Guiding an Improved Dementia Experience (GUIDE) Model Overview Factsheet

## MODEL PURPOSE

Dementia takes a toll on not just the people living with the disease but also on their loved ones and caregivers in a way that almost no other illness does. About 6.7 million Americans currently live with Alzheimer’s disease or another form of dementia, a number that is projected to grow by nearly 14 million by 2060. To help address the unique needs of this population, the GUIDE Model aims to:



**Improve quality of life for people living with dementia** by addressing their behavioral health and functional needs, coordinating their care for dementia and co-occurring conditions, and improving transitions between community, hospital, and post-acute settings.



**Reduce burden and strain on unpaid caregivers of people living with dementia** by providing caregiver skills training, referrals to community-based social services and supports, 24/7 access to a support line, and respite services.



**Prevent or delay long-term nursing home care** for as long as appropriate by supporting caregivers and enabling people living with dementia to remain safely in their homes for as long as possible.

## CARE DELIVERY APPROACH

The model will promote improved dementia care by defining and requiring a comprehensive, standardized care delivery approach that will include the following:



**Standardized set of services** for beneficiaries and their unpaid caregivers.



**An interdisciplinary care team** to deliver these services.



**A training requirement** for care navigators who are part of the care team.

The interdisciplinary care team will deliver services by creating and maintaining a **person-centered care plan**, which will include details on the beneficiary’s goals, strengths, and needs; comprehensive assessment results; and recommendations for service providers and community-based social services and supports.

### CARE COORDINATION

The care plan will identify the beneficiary’s primary care provider and specialists and outline the care coordination services needed to help manage the beneficiary’s dementia and co-occurring conditions.



### CAREGIVER SERVICES

Participants will assess and address caregiver needs and include the caregiver as part of the care team as appropriate. Caregiver services will include ongoing monitoring and support via 24/7 access to a support line.

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## BENEFICIARY TIERS

People with Medicare who receive care from model participants will be placed in one of five “tiers,” based on a combination of their disease stage and caregiver status. Beneficiary needs, and correspondingly, care intensity and payment, increase by tier.

	TIER	CRITERIA
Beneficiaries <b>with</b> a caregiver	Low complexity	Mild dementia
	Moderate complexity	Moderate or severe dementia <u>and</u> low to moderate caregiver strain
	High complexity	Moderate or severe dementia <u>and</u> high caregiver strain
Beneficiaries <b>without</b> a caregiver	Low complexity	Mild dementia
	Moderate to high complexity	Moderate or severe dementia

## PAYMENT OVERVIEW



### INFRASTRUCTURE PAYMENT

Certain safety net providers in the new program track will be eligible for a one-time, lump sum infrastructure payment to support program development activities.



### PER-BENEFICIARY-PER-MONTH PAYMENT

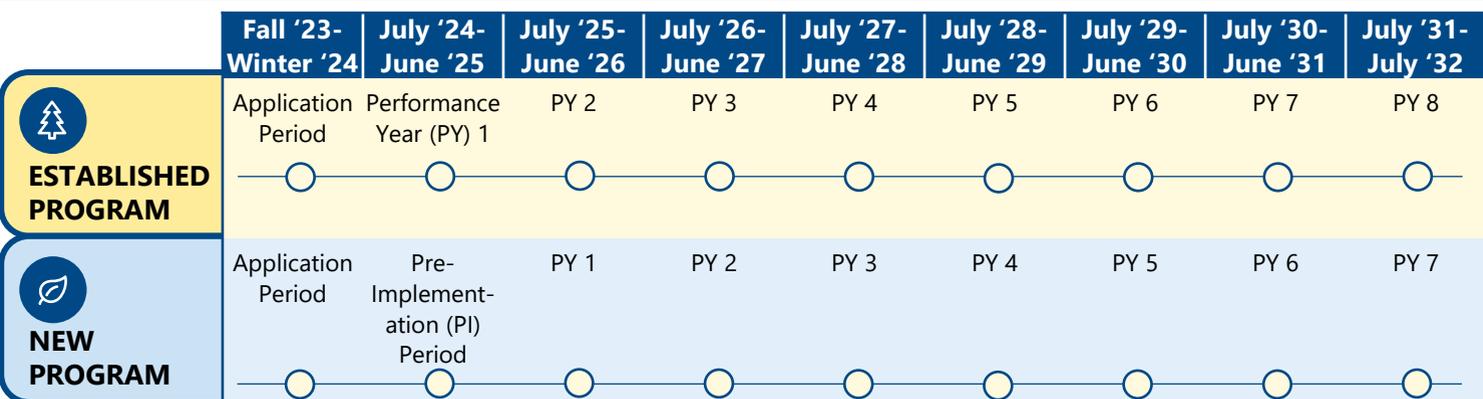
Participants will receive a monthly, per-beneficiary amount for providing care management and coordination and caregiver education and support services to beneficiaries and caregivers.



### RESPITE CARE PAYMENT

Participants will be able to bill for respite services for beneficiaries with a caregiver and moderate to severe dementia, up to an annual respite cap amount.

## MODEL TIMELINE



## GUIDE MODEL AND HEALTH EQUITY



The GUIDE Model aims to advance health equity in alignment with the [CMS Innovation Center's Strategy Refresh](#). For instance, the new program track intends to diversify participation, including among providers caring for underserved populations. Care delivery reporting will include a section where participants report on equity objectives based on their beneficiary population and describe equity strategies they are implementing.

### Model Contact Information and Resources

Webpage: <https://innovation.cms.gov/innovation-models/guide>

Email: [GUIDEModelTeam@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:GUIDEModelTeam@cms.hhs.gov)

LOI: <https://app1.innovation.cms.gov/GUIDELOI/s/>

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## MODEL PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY

GUIDE is an 8-year voluntary model offered in all states, U.S. territories, and D.C. The GUIDE Model is designed to attract a range of Medicare Part-B enrolled providers and suppliers (excluding durable medical equipment and laboratory suppliers) with the expertise and capabilities to provide ongoing, longitudinal care and support to people living with dementia.

Participants must maintain an **interdisciplinary care team** to meet GUIDE's care delivery requirements. At a minimum, care teams must include the following:

- 1 Care navigator who has received required training in dementia, assessment, and care planning.
- 2 Clinician with dementia proficiency as recognized by experience caring for adults with cognitive impairment; experience caring for patients 65 years or older; or specialty designation in neurology, psychiatry, geriatrics, geriatric psychiatry, behavioral neurology, or geriatric neurology.

*Note: Additional members may be included at the participant's discretion, such as pharmacists or behavioral health specialists.*

### Model Participant Tracks



#### ESTABLISHED PROGRAM

- + Designed for participants already providing comprehensive dementia care
- + Applicants should be ready to immediately implement GUIDE's care delivery requirements



#### NEW PROGRAM

- + Designed for participants not operating a comprehensive outpatient dementia care program who are interested in scaling support
- + Applicants must submit a detailed plan for implementing a dementia care program

## MODEL BENEFICIARY ELIGIBILITY

The GUIDE Model's intended beneficiary population is community-dwelling Medicare fee-for-service beneficiaries, including beneficiaries dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid, living with dementia. Eligible beneficiaries must meet the following criteria:

- ✓ Beneficiary has a diagnosis of dementia, as confirmed by clinician attestation.
- ✓ Have Medicare as their primary payer.



- ✓ Enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B (not enrolled in Medicare Advantage, including Special Needs Plans and PACE).
- ✓ Not enrolled in Medicare hospice benefit.

- ✓ Not residing in a long-term nursing home.