

January 1 – December 31, 2024

#### **Evidence of Coverage:**

Your Medicare Health Benefits and Services as a Member of Network Health Prime (MSA)

This document gives you the details about your Medicare health care coverage from January 1 – December 31, 2024. This is an important legal document. Please keep it in a safe place.

For questions about this document, please contact our member experience team at 800-378-5234 (TTY users should call 800-947-3529). Hours are Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. From October 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024, we are available every day, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. This call is free.

This plan, Network Health Prime, is offered by Network Health Insurance Corporation. (When this *Evidence of Coverage* says "we," "us," or "our," it means Network Health Insurance Corporation. When it says "plan" or "our plan," it means Network Health Prime.)

Benefits, premiums, deductibles, and/or deposit may change on January 1, 2025.

This document explains your benefits and rights. Use this document to understand about:

- Your plan premium and cost sharing;
- Your medical benefits;
- How to file a complaint if you are not satisfied with a service or treatment;
- How to contact us if you need further assistance; and,
- Other protections required by Medicare law.

#### 2024 Evidence of Coverage

#### **Table of Contents**

CHAPTER 1: G	Setting started as a member	4
SECTION 1	Introduction	5
SECTION 2	What makes you eligible to be a plan member?	6
SECTION 3	Your plan member ID card – Use it to get all covered care	7
SECTION 4	Your monthly costs for Network Health Prime	
SECTION 5	Keeping your plan membership record up-to-date	9
CHAPTER 2: II	mportant phone numbers and resources	11
SECTION 1	Network Health Prime contacts (how to contact us, including how to reach our member experience team)	
SECTION 2	Medicare (how to get help and information directly from the Federal Medicare progr	am)
SECTION 3	State Health Insurance Assistance Program (free help, information, and answers to you questions about Medicare)	our
SECTION 4	Quality Improvement Organization	
SECTION 5	Social Security	
SECTION 6	Medicaid	
SECTION 7	How to contact the Railroad Retirement Board	
SECTION 8	Do you have group insurance or other health insurance from an employer?	
CHAPTER 3: U	Ising the plan for your medical services	23
SECTION 1	Things to know about getting your medical care as a member of our plan	24
SECTION 2	How to use the money in your medical savings account	25
SECTION 3	How to get services when you have an emergency or during a disaster	27
SECTION 4	What if you are billed directly for the full cost of your services?	28
SECTION 5	How are your medical services covered when you are in a clinical research study?	29
SECTION 6	Rules for getting care in a religious non-medical health care institution	30
SECTION 7	Rules for ownership of durable medical equipment	31
CHAPTER 4: N	ledical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)	33
SECTION 1	Understanding your out-of-pocket costs for covered services	34
SECTION 2	Use the <i>Medical Benefits Chart</i> to find out what is covered and how much you will pay	
SECTION 3	What services are not covered by the plan?	68
	sking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical	
	ervices	
SECTION 1	Situations in which you should send us a bill you have received for your covered services.	
SECTION 2	How to ask us to pay a bill or to count your expenses toward your deductible	
SECTION 3	We will consider your request and say yes or no	75

CHAPTER 6: Y	our rights and responsibilities	76
SECTION 1	Our plan must honor your rights and cultural sensitivities as a member of the plan	77
SECTION 2	You have some responsibilities as a member of the plan	
	Vhat to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appe	
	• •	
SECTION 1	Introduction	
SECTION 2	Where to get more information and personalized assistance	
SECTION 3	To deal with your problem, which process should you use?	
SECTION 4	A guide to the basics of coverage decisions and appeals	
SECTION 5	Your medical care: How to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal of a cove decision	
SECTION 6	How to ask us to cover a longer inpatient hospital stay if you think you are being discharged too soon	
SECTION 7	How to ask us to keep covering certain medical services if you think your coverage ending too soon	
SECTION 8	Taking your appeal to Level 3 and beyond	110
SECTION 9	How to make a complaint about quality of care, waiting times, customer service, or concerns	
CHAPTER 8: <i>E</i>	Ending your membership in the plan	115
SECTION 1	Introduction to ending your membership in our plan	116
SECTION 2	When can you end your membership in our plan?	
SECTION 3	What happens if you leave our plan in the middle of the year?	
SECTION 4	How do you end your membership in our plan?	
SECTION 5	Until your membership ends, you must keep getting your medical items and service	
SECTIONS	through our plan	
SECTION 6	Network Health Prime must end your membership in the plan in certain situations	
CHAPTER 9: <i>L</i>	egal notices	121
SECTION 1	Notice about governing law	122
SECTION 2	Notice about non-discrimination	
SECTION 3	Notice about Medicare Secondary Payer subrogation rights	
SECTION 4	Third Party Liabilities	
CHAPTER 10:	Definitions of important words	124

## CHAPTER 1:

Getting started as a member

# SECTION 1 Introduction Section 1.1 You are enrolled in Network Health Prime, which is a Medicare Medical Savings Account Plan

You are covered by Medicare, and you have chosen to get your Medicare health care through our plan, Network Health Prime. We are required to cover all Part A and Part B services. However, cost sharing and provider access in this plan differ from Original Medicare.

Network Health Prime is a Medicare Advantage Medical Savings Account (MSA) Plan. This plan does <u>not</u> include Part D prescription drug coverage. Like all Medicare health plans, this Medicare MSA Plan is approved by Medicare and run by a private company. If you are interested in enrolling in a Medicare prescription drug plan or to see what plans are available in your area, visit <u>www.Medicare.gov</u> or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, seven days a week. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048. Generally, unless you are new to Medicare or meet a special exception, you can only join during the Medicare fall open enrollment period, which occurs from October 15 to December 7. **If this is your first time enrolling in an MSA plan, you may cancel this enrollment by December 15, 2023.** 

Coverage under this Plan qualifies as Qualifying Health Coverage (QHC) and satisfies the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act's (ACA) individual shared responsibility requirement. Please visit the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) website at: www.irs.gov/affordable-care-act/individuals-and-families for more information.

#### Section 1.2 What is the *Evidence of Coverage* document about?

This *Evidence of Coverage* document tells you how to get your medical care. It explains your rights and responsibilities, what is covered, what you pay as a member of the plan, and how to file a complaint if you are not satisfied with a decision or treatment.

The words *coverage* and *covered services* refer to the medical care and services available to you as a member of Network Health Prime.

It's important for you to learn what the plan's rules are and what services are available to you. We encourage you to set aside some time to look through this *Evidence of Coverage* document.

If you are confused, concerned or just have a question, please contact our member experience team.

#### Section 1.3 Legal information about the *Evidence of Coverage*

This *Evidence of Coverage* is part of our contract with you about how Network Health Prime covers your care. Other parts of this contract include your enrollment form and any notices you receive from us about changes to your coverage or conditions that affect your coverage. These notices are sometimes called *riders* or *amendments*.

The contract is in effect for months in which you are enrolled in Network Health Prime between January 1, 2024 and December 31, 2024.

Each calendar year, Medicare allows us to make changes to the plans that we offer. This means we can change the costs and benefits of Network Health Prime after December 31, 2024. We can also choose to stop offering the plan in your service area, after December 31, 2024.

Medicare (the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) must approve Network Health Prime each year. You can continue each year to get Medicare coverage as a member of our plan as long as we choose to continue to offer the plan and Medicare renews its approval of the plan.

#### SECTION 2 What makes you eligible to be a plan member?

#### Section 2.1 Your eligibility requirements

You are eligible for membership in our plan as long as:

- You have both Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B
- - and you live in our geographic service area (Section 2.2 below describes our service area). Incarcerated individuals are not considered living in the geographic service area even if they are physically located in it.
- - and you must reside in the United States for 183 or more days during the year in which the enrollment becomes effective
- - and you are a United States citizen or are lawfully present in the United States
- -and you are *not* currently getting hospice care (If you begin hospice care after you enroll, you can remain a member of the plan.)
- - and you don't have the following types of additional health benefits:
  - O You don't have other health coverage that would pay the MSA plan deductible, including benefits under an employer or union group health plan;
  - You don't get benefits from the Department of Defense (TRICARE) or the Department of Veterans Affairs;
  - You are not a retired Federal government employee and part of the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program (FEHBP); or
  - You are not eligible for Medicaid (a joint Federal and state program that helps with medical costs for some people with limited income and resources).

#### Section 2.2 Here is the plan service area for Network Health Prime

Network Health Prime is available only to individuals who live in our plan service area. To remain a member of our plan, you must continue to reside in the plan service area. The service area is described below.

Our service area includes these states: Wisconsin.

If you plan to move out of the service area, you cannot remain a member of this plan. Please contact our member experience team to see if we have a plan in your new area. When you move, you will have a Special Enrollment Period that will allow you to switch to Original Medicare or enroll in a Medicare health or drug plan that is available in your new location.

It is also important that you call Social Security if you move or change your mailing address. You can find phone numbers and contact information for Social Security in Chapter 2, Section 5.

#### Section 2.3 U.S. Citizen or Lawful Presence

A member of a Medicare health plan must be a U.S. citizen or lawfully present in the United States. Medicare (the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) will notify Network Health Prime if you are not eligible to remain a member on this basis. Network Health Prime must disenroll you if you do not meet this requirement.

#### SECTION 3 Your plan member ID card – Use it to get all covered care

While you are a member of our plan, you must use your member ID card whenever you get services covered by this plan. If you do not use your plan member ID card when receiving services, you will have to submit a claim to our plan. (For information about submitting a claim, see Chapter 5, *Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services.*) Here's a sample member ID card to show you what yours will look like:

#### Medical Member ID Card



123456789

Do NOT use your red, white, and blue Medicare card for covered medical services while you are a member of this plan. If you use your Medicare card instead of your Network Health Prime member ID card, you may have to pay the full cost of medical services yourself. Keep your Medicare card in a safe place. You may be asked to show it if you need hospital services, hospice services or participate in Medicare approved clinical research studies also called clinical trials.

You will also get a debit card to use to pay for qualified medical expenses with money from your MSA savings account.

# HealthEquity Medical Savings Account Valid Thru 10/24 LEE CARDHOLDER AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE U. his card to pay for eligible health care expenses from your MSA. By using this card, you agree to the terms and conditions of the Cardholder Agreement provided to you. You understand that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) limits use of this account to qualified medical expenses and that any non-qualified expenditures must be reported to the IRS. This card may not be used at certain merchants that accept Visa debit cards, at an ATM or to obtain cash. This card is issued by The Bancorp Bank pursuant to a license from Visa U.S.A. Inc.

#### Debit Card

If your plan member ID card or debit card is damaged, lost or stolen, call our member experience team right away and we will send you a new card.

24/7/365 • Member Services • 866.346.5800

#### SECTION 4 Your monthly costs for Network Health Prime

Your costs may include the following:

- Plan Premium (Section 4.1)
- Monthly Medicare Part B Premium (Section 4.2)
- Optional Supplemental Benefit Premium (Section 4.3)

Medicare Part B premiums differ for people with different incomes. If you have questions about these premiums review your copy of *Medicare & You 2024* handbook, the section called *2024 Medicare Costs*. If you need a copy you can download it from the Medicare website (www.Medicare.gov). Or you can order a printed copy by phone at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, seven days a week. TTY users call 1-877-486-2048.

#### Section 4.1 Plan premium

You do not pay a separate monthly plan premium for Network Health Prime. (You must continue to pay your Medicare Part B premium).

If you signed up for extra benefits, also called *optional supplemental benefits*, then you pay an additional premium each month for these extra benefits. If you have any questions about your plan premiums, please call our member experience team. Dental optional supplemental benefits are available for a monthly premium of \$42.

#### Section 4.2 Monthly Medicare Part B Premium

#### Many members are required to pay other Medicare premiums

You must continue paying your Medicare premiums to remain a member of the plan. This includes your premium for Part B. It may also include a premium for Part A which affects members who aren't eligible for premium free Part A.

Many members are required to pay other Medicare premiums. As explained in Section 2 above, in order to be eligible for our plan, you must have both Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B. Some plan members (those who aren't eligible for premium-free Part A) pay a premium for Medicare Part A. Most plan members pay a premium for Medicare Part B. You must continue paying your Medicare Part B premium to remain a member of the plan.

Your copy of the *Medicare & You 2024* handbook gives information about these premiums in the section called "2024 Medicare Costs." This explains how the Medicare Part B premium differs for people with different incomes. Everyone with Medicare receives a copy of the *Medicare & You 2024* handbook each year in the fall. Those new to Medicare receive it within a month after first signing up. You can also download a copy of the *Medicare & You 2024* handbook from the Medicare website (www.Medicare.gov). Or, you can order a printed copy by phone at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, seven days a week. TTY users call 1-877-486-2048.

#### Section 4.3 Optional Supplemental Benefit Premium

If you signed up for extra benefits, also called *optional supplemental benefits*, then you pay an additional premium each month for these extra benefits. See Chapter 4, Section 2.2 for details. Dental optional supplemental benefits are available for a monthly premium of \$42.

#### SECTION 5 Keeping your plan membership record up-to-date

Your membership record has information from your enrollment form, including your address and telephone number. It shows your specific plan coverage including your personal doctor.

We use information in your membership record to provide your coverage. Because of this, it is very important that you help us keep your information up-to-date.

#### Let us know about these changes:

- Changes to your name, your address or your phone number
- Changes in any other health insurance coverage you have (such as from your employer, your spouse or domestic partner's employer, Workers' Compensation or Medicaid)
- If you have any liability claims, such as claims from an automobile accident
- If you have been admitted to a nursing home
- If you receive care in an out-of-area hospital or emergency room
- If your designated responsible party (such as a caregiver) changes
- If you are participating in a clinical research study. (**Note:** You are not required to tell your plan about the clinical research studies you intend to participate in, but we encourage you to do so.)

If any of this information changes, please let us know by calling our member experience team.

It is also important to contact Social Security if you move or change your mailing address. You can find phone numbers and contact information for Social Security in Chapter 2, Section 5.

## **CHAPTER 2:**

Important phone numbers and resources

# SECTION 1 Network Health Prime contacts (how to contact us, including how to reach our member experience team)

#### **How to contact Network Health's Member Experience Team**

For assistance with claims, billing or member ID card questions, please call or write to the Network Health Prime Member Experience Team. We will be happy to help you.

Method	Member Experience Team – Contact Information
CALL	800-378-5234
	Calls to this number are free. Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
	Our member experience team also has free language interpreter services available for non-English speakers.
TTY	800-947-3529
	This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
	Calls to this number are free. Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
FAX	920-720-1905
WRITE	Network Health Medicare Advantage Plans
	PO Box 120
	1570 Midway Pl.
	Menasha, WI 54952
WEBSITE	networkhealth.com

#### **How to contact the HealthEquity MSA Contact Center**

For questions about your MSA savings account and debit card, please contact Network Health Prime Member Experience Team and we can connect you to the HealthEquity MSA Contact Center. If you prefer, you may contact HealthEquity MSA Contact Center directly at the telephone number or address listed below.

Method	HealthEquity MSA Contact Center – Contact Information
CALL	877-750-1445
	Calls to this number are free.
	24 hours a day, seven days a week.
TTY	711
	This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
	Calls to this number are free.
	24 hours a day, seven days a week.
FAX	801-727-1005
WRITE	HealthEquity, Attn: Member Services
	PO Box 14374
	Lexington, KY 40512
WEBSITE	my.healthequity.com

**Note:** HealthEquity or the trustee that you have chosen can only assist you with your MSA account and/or debit card and are unable to assist you with any benefit issues. For benefit issues, please contact our plan's member experience team.

For more information about your MSA trustee services provided by HealthEquity, please refer to your deposit agreement and disclosure statement.

## How to contact us when you are asking for a coverage decision or appeal about your medical care

A **coverage decision** is a decision we make about your benefits and coverage or about the amount we will pay for your medical services. An appeal is a formal way of asking us to review and change a coverage decision we have made. For more information on asking for coverage decisions or appeals about your medical care, see Chapter 7 (*What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints*)).

Method	Coverage Decisions and Appeals for Medical Care – Contact Information
CALL	800-378-5234
	Calls to this number are free. Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
TTY	800-947-3529
	This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
	Calls to this number are free. Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
FAX	Coverage Decisions: 920-720-1916
	Appeals: 920-720-1832
WRITE	Network Health Medicare Advantage Plans
	Attn: Appeals and Grievances
	PO Box 120
	1570 Midway Pl
	Menasha, WI 54952
WEBSITE	networkhealth.com

#### How to contact us when you are making a complaint about your medical care

You can make a complaint about us including a complaint about the quality of your care. This type of complaint does not involve coverage or payment disputes. For more information on making a complaint about your medical care, see Chapter 7 (*What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints*)).

Method	Complaints about Medical Care – Contact Information
CALL	800-378-5234
	Calls to this number are free. Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
TTY	800-947-3529
	This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
	Calls to this number are free. Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
FAX	920-720-1832
WRITE	Network Health Medicare Advantage Plans
	Attn: Appeals and Grievances
	PO Box 120
	1570 Midway Pl.
	Menasha, WI 54952
MEDICARE WEBSITE	You can submit a complaint about Network Health Prime directly to Medicare. To submit an online complaint to Medicare go to www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx.

## Where to send a request asking us to pay for our share of the cost for medical care you have received

If you have received a bill or paid for services (such as a provider bill) that you think we should pay for, you may need to ask us for reimbursement or to pay the provider bill. See Chapter 5 (Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services).

Please note: If you send us a payment request and we deny any part of your request, you can appeal our decision. See Chapter 7 (What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)) for more information.

Method	Payment Requests – Contact Information
CALL	800-378-5234
	Calls to this number are free. Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
TTY	800-947-3529
	This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
	Calls to this number are free. Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
FAX	920-720-1905
WRITE	Network Health Medicare Advantage Plans
	PO Box 120
	1570 Midway Pl.
	Menasha, WI 54952
WEBSITE	networkhealth.com

SECTION 2	Medicare
	(how to get help and information directly from the Federal
	Medicare program)

Medicare is the Federal health insurance program for people 65 years of age or older, some people under age 65 with disabilities, and people with End-Stage Renal Disease (permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a kidney transplant).

The Federal agency in charge of Medicare is the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (sometimes called CMS). This agency contracts with Medicare Advantage organizations including us.

Method	Medicare – Contact Information
CALL	1-800-MEDICARE, or 1-800-633-4227
	Calls to this number are free.
	24 hours a day, seven days a week.
TTY	1-877-486-2048
	This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
	Calls to this number are free.
WEBSITE	www.Medicare.gov
	This is the official government website for Medicare. It gives you up-to-date information about Medicare and current Medicare issues. It also has information about hospitals, nursing homes, physicians, home health agencies and dialysis facilities. It includes documents you can print directly from your computer. You can also find Medicare contacts in your state.
	The Medicare website also has detailed information about your Medicare eligibility and enrollment options with the following tools:
	<ul> <li>Medicare Eligibility Tool: Provides Medicare eligibility status information.</li> <li>Medicare Plan Finder: Provides personalized information about available Medicare prescription drug plans, Medicare health plans, and Medigap (Medicare Supplement Insurance) policies in your area. These tools provide an estimate of what your out-of-pocket costs might be in different Medicare plans.</li> </ul>
	You can also use the website to tell Medicare about any complaints you have about Network Health Prime:
	• Tell Medicare about your complaint: You can submit a complaint about Network Health Prime directly to Medicare. To submit a complaint to Medicare, go to <a href="https://www.Medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx">www.Medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx</a> . Medicare takes your complaints seriously and will use this information to help improve the quality of the Medicare program.
	If you don't have a computer, your local library or senior center may be able to help you visit this website using its computer. Or, you can call Medicare and tell them what information you are looking for. They will find the information on the website and review the information with you. (You can call Medicare at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, seven days a week. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.)

# SECTION 3 State Health Insurance Assistance Program (free help, information, and answers to your questions about Medicare)

The State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) is a government program with trained counselors in every state. In Wisconsin, the SHIP is called Wisconsin SHIP.

Wisconsin SHIP is an independent (not connected with any insurance company or health plan) state program that gets money from the Federal government to give free local health insurance counseling to people with Medicare.

Wisconsin SHIP counselors can help you understand your Medicare rights, help you make complaints about your medical care or treatment, and help you straighten out problems with your Medicare bills. Wisconsin SHIP counselors can also help you with Medicare questions or problems and help you understand your Medicare plan choices and answer questions about switching plans.

#### METHOD TO ACCESS SHIP and OTHER RESOURCES:

- Visit https://www.shiphelp.org (Click on SHIP LOCATOR in middle of page)
- Select your STATE from the list. This will take you to a page with phone numbers and resources specific to your state.

Method	Wisconsin SHIP – Contact Information
CALL	1-800-242-1060
WRITE	Wisconsin State Health Insurance Assistance Program 1402 Pankratz Street, Suite 111 Madison, WI 53704-4001
WEBSITE	dhs.wisconsin.gov/benefit-specialists/medicare-counseling.htm

#### **SECTION 4** Quality Improvement Organization

There is a designated Quality Improvement Organization for serving Medicare beneficiaries in each state. For Wisconsin, the Quality Improvement Organization is called Livanta BFCC-QIO Program.

Livanta BFCC-QIO Program has a group of doctors and other health care professionals who are paid by Medicare to check on and help improve the quality of care for people with Medicare. Livanta BFCC-QIO Program is an independent organization. It is not connected with our plan.

You should contact Livanta BFCC-QIO Program in any of these situations:

- You have a complaint about the quality of care you have received.
- You think coverage for your hospital stay is ending too soon.
- You think coverage for your home health care, skilled nursing facility care, or Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services are ending too soon.

Method	Livanta BFCC-QIO Program – (Wisconsin's Quality Improvement Organization) - Contact Information
CALL	888-524-9900 Available Monday – Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
TTY	888-985-8775  This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
WRITE	Livanta BFCC-QIO Program 10820 Guilford Road, Suite 202 Annapolis Junction, MD 20701
WEBSITE	livantaqio.com/en/states/wisconsin

#### **SECTION 5** Social Security

Social Security is responsible for determining eligibility and handling enrollment for Medicare. U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents who are 65 or older, or who have a disability or End-Stage Renal Disease and meet certain conditions, are eligible for Medicare. If you are already getting Social Security checks, enrollment into Medicare is automatic. If you are not getting Social Security checks, you have to enroll in Medicare. To apply for Medicare, you can call Social Security or visit your local Social Security office.

If you move or change your mailing address, it is important that you contact Social Security to let them know.

Method	Social Security – Contact Information
CALL	1-800-772-1213
	Calls to this number are free.
	Available Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
	You can use Social Security's automated telephone services to get recorded information and conduct some business 24 hours a day.
TTY	1-800-325-0778
	This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
	Calls to this number are free.
	Available Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
WEBSITE	www.ssa.gov

#### **SECTION 6** Medicaid

Medicaid is a joint Federal and state government program that helps with medical costs for certain people with limited incomes and resources. Some people with Medicare are also eligible for Medicaid.

The programs offered through Medicaid help people with Medicare pay their Medicare costs, such as their Medicare premiums. These **Medicare Savings Programs** include:

- Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB): Helps pay Medicare Part A and Part B premiums, and other cost sharing (like deductibles, coinsurance, and copayments).
- Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB): Helps pay Part B premiums. (Some people with SLMB are also eligible for full Medicaid benefits (SLMB+).)
- Qualifying Individual (QI): Helps pay Part B premiums.
- Qualified Disabled & Working Individuals (QDWI): Helps pay Part A premiums.

To find out more about Medicaid and its programs, contact Wisconsin Medicaid. (Please note that people with Medicaid coverage are not eligible for a Medicare MSA plan.)

Method	Wisconsin Medicaid – Contact Information
CALL	1-800-362-3002 Available Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
	Available Moliday – Filday Holli 8 a.ili. to 6 p.ili.
TTY	711 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who
	have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
WRITE	Department of Health Services
	1 West Wilson St.
	Madison, WI 53703
WEBSITE	dhs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid

#### **SECTION 7** How to contact the Railroad Retirement Board

The Railroad Retirement Board is an independent Federal agency that administers comprehensive benefit programs for the nation's railroad workers and their families. If you receive your Medicare through the Railroad Retirement Board, it is important that you let them know if you move or change your mailing address. If you have questions regarding your benefits from the Railroad Retirement Board, contact the agency.

Method	Railroad Retirement Board - Contact Information	
CALL	1-877-772-5772	
	Calls to this number are free.	
	If you press "0", you may speak with an RRB representative Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.	
	If you press "1", you may access the automated RRB HelpLine and recorded information 24 hours a day, including weekends and holidays.	
TTY	1-312-751-4701	
	This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.	
	Calls to this number are <i>not</i> free.	
WEBSITE	rrb.gov/	

## SECTION 8 Do you have group insurance or other health insurance from an employer?

If you (or your spouse or domestic partner) get benefits from your (or your spouse or domestic partner's) employer or retiree group as part of this plan, you may call the employer/union benefits administrator or our member experience team if you have any questions. You can ask about your (or your spouse or domestic partner's) employer or retiree health benefits, premiums, or the enrollment period. (Phone numbers for our member experience team are printed on the back cover of this document.) You may also call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227; TTY: 1-877-486-2048) with questions related to your Medicare coverage under this plan.

## **CHAPTER 3:**

Using the plan for your medical services

## SECTION 1 Things to know about getting your medical care as a member of our plan

This chapter explains what you need to know about using the plan to get your medical care covered. It gives definitions of terms and explains the rules you will need to follow to get the medical treatments, services, equipment, prescription drugs and other medical care that are covered by the plan.

For the details on what medical care is covered by our plan and how much you pay when you get this care, use the benefits chart in the next chapter, Chapter 4 (*Medical Benefits Chart, what is covered and what you pay*).

#### Section 1.1 What are providers and covered services?

- **Providers** are doctors and other health care professionals licensed by the state to provide medical services and care. The term providers also includes hospitals and other health care facilities.
- Covered services include all the medical care, health care services, supplies, and equipment that are covered by our plan. Your covered services for medical care are listed in the benefits chart in Chapter 4.

#### Section 1.2 Basic rules for getting your medical care covered by the plan

As a Medicare health plan, Network Health Prime must cover all services covered by Original Medicare and must follow Original Medicare's coverage rules.

Network Health Prime will generally cover your medical care as long as:

- The care you receive is included in the plan's Medical Benefits Chart (this chart is in Chapter 4 of this document).
- The care you receive is considered medically necessary. Medically necessary means that the services, supplies, equipment or drugs are needed for the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of your medical condition and meet accepted standards of medical practice.
- You receive your care from a provider in the United States who is eligible to provide services under Original Medicare.
  - You must show your plan member ID card every time you visit a provider. A provider can
    decide at each visit whether to accept the payment amount, and thus whether to treat you.
    You may obtain plan services and equipment from any licensed provider in the United
    States.

Network Health Prime does <u>not</u> require you to obtain approval in advance for medically-necessary covered services. If you have any questions about whether we will pay for any medical service that you are considering, you have the right to ask us whether we will cover it before you get it.

#### Section 1.3 Medical savings accounts and prescription drug coverage

The law does not allow Medicare Advantage MSA plans to offer Medicare prescription drug coverage. If you have a Medicare MSA plan, you can, however, also join a Medicare prescription drug plan to get coverage. Any money that you use from your MSA savings account on drug plan deductibles or cost sharing will **not** count towards your MSA plan deductible, but it will count towards your drug plan's out-of-pocket costs. If you are interested in enrolling in a Medicare prescription drug plan or to see what plans are available in your area, visit www.Medicare.gov or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, seven days a week. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048. Generally, unless you are new to Medicare or meet a special exception, you can only join during the Medicare fall open enrollment period, which occurs from October 15 to December 7.

Note that even if you are not enrolled in a Medicare prescription drug plan, money spent from your MSA savings account on prescription drugs are considered "qualified medical expenses" for tax-reporting purposes and are not taxed. See the discussion on tax-reporting responsibilities for members of MSAs in Chapter 6, Section 2.2 (*Special tax-reporting responsibilities of members of a Medicare MSA plan*) for more information on qualified medical expenses.

#### SECTION 2 How to use the money in your medical savings account

#### Section 2.1 How does the medical savings account work?

The plan makes the deposit into your medical savings account at the beginning of each calendar year. (Except for those who become entitled to Medicare in the middle of the year and enroll in the plan at that time—these members receive their deposit in the first month they are covered under the plan.) Only the plan can make deposits into your account; you can't deposit your own money. The deposit amount will be less than your deductible amount.

You can use the money in your account to pay for medical expenses, but only Medicare Part A and Part B covered services count toward your deductible. (For more information about what types of expenses you can use the money for, see Section 2.2.)

- If you use all of the money in your account and haven't met your deductible, you must pay for all of your medical expenses out-of-pocket until you reach your deductible.
- If you don't use all of the money in your account, the money left in your account at the end of the year will remain in your account. If you stay with the plan next year, a new deposit will be added to any leftover amount.

Once you get your initial deposit, you may move the deposit to a savings account that's offered through your own bank or financial institution. If you move your deposit, you will be responsible for keeping track of your account balance.

#### How can I access the money in my account?

You will receive a checkbook and a debit card from our banking partner, HealthEquity. The debit card cannot be used at Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs). You may receive your debit card *before* your MSA funds are deposited into your MSA account. To avoid bank penalties, please call our member experience team for confirmation that the money has been deposited into your MSA account before you use your MSA account debit card. If you need to pay for qualified expenses prior to receiving notice that your funds are available, you may reimburse yourself for the payment(s). See Section 2.2 for more information about the Qualified Medical Expenses the account money may be used for and see Section 2.3 for information on keeping track of your expenses.

#### Section 2.2 What types of expenses can the money in the account be used for?

You can use the money in your account to pay for medical expenses, but **only Medicare Part A and Part B covered services count toward your deductible**. You are responsible for handling the money in your account. This includes deciding which types of expenses to pay with the money in your account.

To avoid taxes and penalties, you must use the money in your account for Qualified Medical Expenses. Qualified Medical Expenses are the same types of services and products that could be deducted as medical expenses on your yearly income tax return. Again, only Medicare Part A and B covered services count toward your deductible:

- Some services, like doctors' visits, lab tests, and hospital stays, are Qualified Medical Expenses and are also covered by Medicare Part A or Part B. If you use the money in your account for this type of expense, the money won't be taxed *and* it will count toward your plan deductible.
- Other services, like dental care, vision care, and Part D drugs, are Qualified Medical Expenses, but aren't covered by Medicare Part A or Part B. If you use the money in your account for this type of expense, the money will not be taxed. However, these expenses won't count toward your deductible.

To avoid a tax on withdrawals from your account, you need to file Form 1040, U.S. Individual Income Tax Return, and Form 8853 each year to report your Qualified Medical Expenses. For a complete list of the services and products that count as Qualified Medical Expenses and for other tax information, call the Internal Revenue Service at 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676). Ask for a free copy of the IRS publication #502, *Medical and Dental Expenses*. You can also request the IRS publication #969 to get more information about the tax Form 8853 or visit www.irs.gov on the Web and select *Forms and Publications* to view or print copies of the publications.

If you use the money in your account for non-qualified expenses, it will be taxed as part of your income and will also be subject to an additional 50 percent tax penalty. Each year, you should get a 1099-SA form from your MSA trustee that includes all of the withdrawals from your account. You will need to show that you have had qualified medical expenses in at least this amount, or you may have to pay taxes and additional penalties.

For more information about your tax reporting responsibilities, go to Chapter 6, Section 2.2.

#### Section 2.3 How can you keep track of your expenses?

You should keep any health care bills or receipts you get to make it easy to summarize your account usage for tax purposes. It may be helpful to keep this information in one place.

If you keep your deposit in the trustee we have selected, you will get a monthly statement that lists your account activity. You can also get information on whether your expenses count toward your deductible.

If you move your deposit to a different trustee or financial institution, you are responsible for tracking your own expenses.

## SECTION 3 How to get services when you have an emergency or during a disaster

#### Section 3.1 Getting care if you have a medical emergency

#### What is a medical emergency and what should you do if you have one?

A **medical emergency** is when you believe that you have medical symptoms that require immediate medical attention to prevent your loss of life (and, if you are a pregnant woman, loss of an unborn child), loss of a limb or function of a limb, or loss of or serious impairment to a bodily function. The medical symptoms may be an illness, injury, severe pain, or a medical condition that is quickly getting worse.

If you have a medical emergency:

- **Get help as quickly as possible.** Call 911 for help or go to the nearest emergency room or hospital. Call for an ambulance if you need it. You do *not* need to get approval from our plan. You do not need to use a network doctor. You may get covered emergency medical care whenever you need it, anywhere in the United States or its territories, and from any provider with an appropriate state license even if they are not part of our network.
- As soon as possible, make sure that our plan has been told about your emergency. We need to follow up on your emergency care. You or someone else should call to tell us about your emergency care, usually within 48 hours. Call utilization management at 920-720-1602 or 866-709-0019, Monday Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., to share this information.

#### What is covered if you have a medical emergency?

Our plan covers ambulance services in situations where getting to the emergency room in any other way could endanger your health. We also cover medical services during the emergency.

The doctors who are giving you emergency care will decide when your condition is stable and the medical emergency is over.

After the emergency is over, you are entitled to follow-up care to be sure your condition continues to be stable. If you decide to get follow-up care from the provider treating you, then you should tell them of your coverage as soon as possible by showing them your plan member ID card. The plan will pay for all covered services, including non-emergency care that you get from any provider in the United States who is eligible to provide services under Original Medicare.

#### Section 3.2 Getting care during a disaster

If the Governor of your state, the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, or the President of the United States declares a state of disaster or emergency in your geographic area, you are still entitled to care from your plan.

Please visit the following website: networkhealth.com/medicare/medicare-pdfs/medicare-disaster-policy f 508.pdf for information on how to obtain needed care during a disaster.

## SECTION 4 What if you are billed directly for the full cost of your services?

#### Section 4.1 You can ask us to pay our share of the cost of covered services

Before you reach your deductible, you must pay the full cost of your covered services. Even though you must pay for the services, you must submit a claim to our plan so that we can count your expenses towards your deductible.

After you meet the deductible, we will pay for your covered services. If you receive a bill, you should not pay it – you should submit the bill to us for payment. If you have already paid the bill, you should submit a payment request to us so that we can pay you back.

If you have paid for your covered services, or if you have received a bill for the full cost of covered medical services, go to Chapter 5 (*Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services*) for information about what to do.

#### Section 4.2 If services are not covered by our plan, you must pay the full cost

Network Health Prime covers all medically necessary services as listed in the Medical Benefits Chart in Chapter 4 of this document. If you receive services not covered by our plan or services obtained out-of-network and were not authorized, you are responsible for paying the full cost of services.

For covered services that have a benefit limitation, you also pay the full cost of any services you get after you have used up your benefit for that type of covered service. The payments for services received after you reach the benefit limitation will not apply toward your out-of-pocket maximum. You can call our member experience team when you want to know how much of your benefit limit you have already used.

If you have any questions about whether we will pay for any medical service or care that you are considering, you have the right to ask us whether we will cover it before you get it. You also have the right to ask for this in writing. If we say we will not cover your services, you have the right to appeal our decision not to cover your care.

Chapter 7 (What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)) has more information about what to do if you want a coverage decision from us or want to appeal a decision we have already made.

## SECTION 5 How are your medical services covered when you are in a clinical research study?

#### Section 5.1 What is a clinical research study?

A clinical research study (also called a *clinical trial*) is a way that doctors and scientists test new types of medical care, like how well a new cancer drug works. Certain clinical research studies are approved by Medicare. Clinical research studies approved by Medicare typically request volunteers to participate in the study.

Once Medicare approves the study, and you express interest, someone who works on the study will contact you to explain more about the study and see if you meet the requirements set by the scientists who are running the study. You can participate in the study as long as you meet the requirements for the study and you have a full understanding and acceptance of what is involved if you participate in the study.

If you participate in a Medicare-approved study, Original Medicare pays most of the costs for the covered services you receive as part of the study. If you tell us that you are in a qualified clinical trial, then you are only responsible for the in-network cost sharing for the services in that trial. If you paid more, for example, if you already paid the Original Medicare cost-sharing amount, we will reimburse the difference between what you paid and the in-network cost sharing. However, you will need to provide documentation to show us how much you paid. When you are in a clinical research study, you may stay enrolled in our plan and continue to get the rest of your care (the care that is not related to the study) through our plan.

If you want to participate in any Medicare-approved clinical research study, you do *not* need to tell us or to get approval from us. The providers that deliver your care as part of the clinical research study do *not* need to be part of our plan's network of providers. Please note that this does not include benefits for which our plan is responsible that include, as a component, a clinical trial or registry to assess the benefit. These include certain benefits specified under national coverage determinations (NCDs) and investigational device trials (IDE) and may be subject to prior authorization and other plan rules.

Although you do not need to get our plan's permission to be in a clinical research study, covered for Medicare Advantage enrollees by Original Medicare, we encourage you to notify us in advance when you choose to participate in Medicare-qualified clinical trials.

If you participate in a study that Medicare has not approved, you will be responsible for paying all costs for your participation in the study.

#### Section 5.2 When you participate in a clinical research study, who pays for what?

Once you join a Medicare-approved clinical research study, Original Medicare covers the routine items and services you receive as part of the study, including:

- Room and board for a hospital stay that Medicare would pay for even if you weren't in a study.
- An operation or other medical procedure if it is part of the research study.
- Treatment of side effects and complications of the new care.

After Medicare has paid its share of the cost for these services, our plan will pay the difference between the cost sharing in Original Medicare and your in-network cost sharing as a member of our plan. This means you will pay the same amount for the services you receive as part of the study as you would if you received these services from our plan. Therefore, if you have met your yearly deductible, you will pay nothing for the items and services you receive as part of the study. However, you are required to submit documentation showing how much cost sharing you paid. Please see Chapter 5 for more information for submitting requests for payments.

When you are part of a clinical research study, neither Medicare nor our plan will pay for any of the following:

- Generally, Medicare will *not* pay for the new item or service that the study is testing unless Medicare would cover the item or service even if you were not in a study.
- Items or services provided only to collect data, and not used in your direct health care. For example, Medicare would not pay for monthly CT scans done as part of the study if your medical condition would normally require only one CT scan.

#### Do you want to know more?

You can get more information about joining a clinical research study by visiting the Medicare website to read or download the publication *Medicare and Clinical Research Studies*. (The publication is available at: www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/02226-Medicare-and-Clinical-Research-Studies.pdf.) You can also call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, seven days a week. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

## SECTION 6 Rules for getting care in a religious non-medical health care institution

#### Section 6.1 What is a religious non-medical health care institution?

A religious non-medical health care institution is a facility that provides care for a condition that would ordinarily be treated in a hospital or skilled nursing facility. If getting care in a hospital or a skilled nursing facility is against a member's religious beliefs, we will instead provide coverage for care in a religious non-medical health care institution. This benefit is provided only for Part A inpatient services (non-medical health care services).

#### Section 6.2 Receiving Care from a Religious Non-Medical Health Care Institution

To get care from a religious non-medical health care institution, you must sign a legal document that says you are conscientiously opposed to getting medical treatment that is **non-excepted**.

- **Non-excepted** medical care or treatment is any medical care or treatment that is *voluntary* and *not required* by any federal, state, or local law.
- **Excepted** medical treatment is medical care or treatment that you get that is *not* voluntary or *is* required under federal, state, or local law.

To be covered by our plan, the care you get from a religious non-medical health care institution must meet the following conditions:

- The facility providing the care must be certified by Medicare.
- Our plan's coverage of services you receive is limited to *non-religious* aspects of care.
- If you get services from this institution that are provided to you in a facility, the following condition applies:
  - You must have a medical condition that would allow you to receive covered services for inpatient hospital care or skilled nursing facility care.

Medicare inpatient hospital coverage limits apply. Please see the benefits chart in Chapter 4 for more information.

#### SECTION 7 Rules for ownership of durable medical equipment

## Section 7.1 Will you own the durable medical equipment after making a certain number of payments under our plan?

Durable medical equipment (DME) includes items such as oxygen equipment and supplies, wheelchairs, walkers, powered mattress systems, crutches, diabetic supplies, speech generating devices, IV infusion pumps, nebulizers, and hospital beds ordered by a provider for use in the home. The member always owns certain items, such as prosthetics. In this section, we discuss other types of DME that you must rent.

In Original Medicare, people who rent certain types of DME own the equipment after paying copayments for the item for 13 months. As a member of Network Health Prime, however, you usually will not acquire ownership of rented DME items no matter how many copayments you make for the item while a member of our plan, even if you made up to 12 consecutive payments for the DME item under Original Medicare before you joined our plan. Under certain limited circumstances we will transfer ownership of the DME item to you. Call our member experience team for more information.

## What happens to payments you made for durable medical equipment if you switch to Original Medicare?

If you did not acquire ownership of the DME item while in our plan, you will have to make 13 new consecutive payments after you switch to Original Medicare in order to own the item. The payments made while enrolled in your plan do not count.

Example 1: You made 12 or fewer consecutive payments for the item in Original Medicare and then joined our plan. The payments you made in Original Medicare do not count.

Example 2: You made 12 or fewer consecutive payments for the item in Original Medicare and then joined our plan. You were in our plan but did not obtain ownership while in our plan. You then go back to Original Medicare. You will have to make 13 consecutive new payments to own the item once you join Original Medicare again. All previous payments (whether to our plan or to Original Medicare) do not count.

#### Section 7.2 Rules for oxygen equipment, supplies, and maintenance

#### What oxygen benefits are you entitled to?

If you qualify for Medicare oxygen equipment coverage Network Health Prime will cover:

- Rental of oxygen equipment
- Delivery of oxygen and oxygen contents
- Tubing and related oxygen accessories for the delivery of oxygen and oxygen contents
- Maintenance and repairs of oxygen equipment

If you leave Network Health Prime or no longer medically require oxygen equipment, then the oxygen equipment must be returned.

#### What happens if you leave your plan and return to Original Medicare?

Original Medicare requires an oxygen supplier to provide you services for five years. During the first 36 months you rent the equipment. The remaining 24 months the supplier provides the equipment and maintenance (you are still responsible for the copayment for oxygen). After five years you may choose to stay with the same company or go to another company. At this point, the five-year cycle begins again, even if you remain with the same company, requiring you to pay copayments for the first 36 months. If you join or leave our plan, the five-year cycle starts over.

## **CHAPTER 4:**

Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)

#### SECTION 1 Understanding your out-of-pocket costs for covered services

This chapter provides a Medical Benefits Chart that lists your covered services and shows how much you will pay for each covered service as a member of Network Health Prime. Later in this chapter, you can find information about medical services that are not covered. It also explains limits on certain services.

#### Section 1.1 Types of out-of-pocket costs you may pay for your covered services

The only type of out-of-pocket costs you have in our plan is your yearly deductible. The **deductible** is the amount you must pay for medical services before our plan begins to pay its share. (Section 1.2 tells you more about your yearly deductible.)

#### Section 1.2 Your yearly deposit and yearly plan deductible

Our plan makes a yearly deposit into your medical savings account. The plan also has a deductible that you must meet before the plan pays for your covered services. The table below provides more information about the deposit and deductible.

#### **Deposit and Deductible Amounts**

Deposit/Deductible	Amount
Yearly Deposit	\$1,500
This is the amount that Medicare deposits into your medical savings account. You can use the money in your account to pay	This is how much the plan deposits in your medical savings account.
your health care costs, including health care costs that aren't covered by Medicare. (But only funds used to pay for Medicare Part A and Part B services will count toward your yearly deductible.)	For members who join after January 1, 2024, this amount may be adjusted (pro-rated) for the number of months remaining in the year.
Yearly Deductible	\$5,100
This is the amount you have to pay out-of-pocket for covered Medicare Part A and Part B services before the plan will pay for your covered services.	This is how much you must pay for your Part A and Part B services before the plan will pay for your covered services.
Until you have paid the deductible amount, you must pay the full cost of your covered services. Once you meet your deductible, the plan will pay 100 percent of the costs for covered Part A and Part B services for the rest of the calendar year.	For members who join after January 1, 2024, this amount may be adjusted (pro-rated) for the number of months remaining in the year.

#### Section 1.3 Our plan does not allow providers to balance bill you

As a member of Network Health Prime, an important protection for you is that, once you meet your deductible, we don't allow providers to bill you for any additional charges for services covered under our plan (called **balance billing**). This protection applies even if we pay less than the provider charges for a service and even if there is a dispute and we don't pay certain provider charges.

## SECTION 2 Use the *Medical Benefits Chart* to find out what is covered and how much you will pay

#### Section 2.1 Your medical benefits and costs as a member of the plan

The Medical Benefits Chart on the following pages lists the services Network Health Prime covers and what you pay out-of-pocket for each service. The services listed in the Medical Benefits Chart are covered only when the following coverage requirements are met:

- Your Medicare-covered services must be provided according to the coverage guidelines established by Medicare.
- Your services (including medical care, services, supplies, equipment, and Part B prescription drugs) must be medically necessary. *Medically necessary* means that the services, supplies, or drugs are needed for the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of your medical condition and meet accepted standards of medical practice.
- No prior authorization, prior notification, or referral is required as a condition of coverage when medically necessary, plan-covered services are provided to our members.

Other important things to know about our coverage:

- Like all Medicare health plans, we cover everything that Original Medicare covers. For some of these benefits, you pay *more* in our plan than you would in Original Medicare. For others, you pay *less*. (If you want to know more about the coverage and costs of Original Medicare, look in your *Medicare & You 2024* handbook. View it online at www.Medicare.gov or ask for a copy by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, seven days a week. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.)
- If Medicare adds coverage for any new services during 2024, either Medicare or our plan will cover those services.



You will see this apple next to the preventive services in the benefits chart.

#### **Medical Benefits Chart**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services
Abdominal aortic aneurysm screening  A one-time screening ultrasound for people at risk. The plan only covers this screening if you have certain risk factors and if you get a referral for it from your physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist.	Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.  After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.

# What you must pay when you get these services

### Acupuncture for chronic low back pain

Covered services include:

Up to 12 visits in 90 days are covered for Medicare beneficiaries under the following circumstances:

For the purpose of this benefit, chronic low back pain is defined as:

- lasting 12 weeks or longer;
- nonspecific, in that it has no identifiable systemic cause (i.e., not associated with metastatic, inflammatory, infectious disease, etc.);
- not associated with surgery; and
- not associated with pregnancy.

An additional eight sessions will be covered for those patients demonstrating an improvement. No more than 20 acupuncture treatments may be administered annually.

Treatment must be discontinued if the patient is not improving or is regressing.

**Provider Requirements:** 

Physicians (as defined in 1861(r)(1) of the Social Security Act (the Act) may furnish acupuncture in accordance with applicable state requirements.

Physician assistants (PAs), nurse practitioners (NPs)/clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) (as identified in 1861(aa)(5) of the Act), and auxiliary personnel may furnish acupuncture if they meet all applicable state requirements and have:

- a masters or doctoral level degree in acupuncture or Oriental Medicine from a school accredited by the Accreditation Commission on Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ACAOM); and,
- a current, full, active, and unrestricted license to practice acupuncture in a State, Territory, or Commonwealth (i.e. Puerto Rico) of the United States, or District of Columbia.

Auxiliary personnel furnishing acupuncture must be under the appropriate level of supervision of a physician, PA, or NP/CNS required by our regulations at 42 CFR §§ 410.26 and 410.27.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

o You decline the ambulance ride

symptoms are not emergent

You take the ambulance, and it is determined your

### What you must pay when you get Services that are covered for you these services Ambulance services Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of Covered ambulance services, whether for an emergency or the Medicare-approved amount. non-emergency situation, include fixed wing, rotary wing After you meet your deductible, you and ground ambulance services, to the nearest appropriate facility that can provide care only if they are furnished to a pay \$0 for Medicare-covered member whose medical condition is such that other means of services. transportation could endanger the person's health or if authorized by the plan. If the covered ambulance services are not for an emergency situation, it should be documented that the member's condition is such that other means of transportation could endanger the person's health and that transportation by ambulance is medically required. Medicare will only cover ambulance services to the nearest appropriate medical facility that can provide the care you need. If you choose to be transported to a facility that is farther away, Medicare's payment will be based on the charge to the closest appropriate facility. The ambulance benefit is a transport benefit. If 911 is contacted and an ambulance is sent to transport you, you may be held liable for payment in these situations:

### What you must pay when you get these services



# **Annual wellness visit**

If you've had Part B for longer than 12 months, you can get an Annual wellness visit to develop or update a personalized prevention plan based on your current health and risk factors. This is covered once every 12 months.

**Note**: Your first Annual wellness visit can't take place within 12 months of your Welcome to Medicare preventive visit. However, you don't need to have had a Welcome to Medicare visit to be covered for annual wellness visits after you've had Part B for 12 months.

**Note:** If you also are treated or monitored for an existing medical condition during the visit when you receive the preventive service, a copayment will apply for the care received for the existing medical condition.

**Note:** Your Annual physical exam differs from your Annual wellness visit. For more information about what type of exam you are receiving please discuss this with your personal doctor. Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.



### **Bone mass measurement**

For qualified individuals (generally, this means people at risk of losing bone mass or at risk of osteoporosis), the following services are covered every 24 months or more frequently if medically necessary: procedures to identify bone mass, detect bone loss, or determine bone quality, including a physician's interpretation of the results.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.



### **Breast cancer screening (mammograms)**

Covered services include:

- One baseline mammogram between the ages of 35 and 39
- One screening mammogram every 12 months for women aged 40 and older
- Clinical breast exams once every 24 months
- 2D and 3D mammograms

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

you are of childbearing age and have had an abnormal Pap test within the past three years: one

Pap test every 12 months

### What you must pay when you get Services that are covered for you these services Cardiac rehabilitation services Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of Comprehensive programs of cardiac rehabilitation services that the Medicare-approved amount. include exercise, education and counseling are covered for members who meet certain conditions with a doctor's order. The After you meet your deductible, you plan also covers intensive cardiac rehabilitation programs that pay \$0 for Medicare-covered are typically more rigorous or more intense than cardiac services. rehabilitation programs. For more information on Peripheral Arterial Disease (PAD) rehabilitation see Supervised exercise therapy benefit in this chart. Until you meet your yearly Cardiovascular disease risk reduction visit (therapy for deductible, you pay up to 100% of cardiovascular disease) the Medicare-approved amount. We cover one visit per year with your primary care doctor to help After you meet your deductible, you lower your risk for cardiovascular disease. During this visit, your pay \$0 for Medicare-covered doctor may discuss aspirin use (if appropriate), check your blood services. pressure and give you tips to make sure you're eating healthy. 🍑 Cardiovascular disease testing Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of Blood tests for the detection of cardiovascular disease (or the Medicare-approved amount. abnormalities associated with an elevated risk of cardiovascular After you meet your deductible, you disease) once every five years (60 months). pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services. Until you meet your yearly Cervical and vaginal cancer screening deductible, you pay up to 100% of Covered services include: the Medicare-approved amount. • For all women: Pap tests and pelvic exams are After you meet your deductible, you covered once every 24 months pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services. If you are at high risk of cervical or vaginal cancer or

### What you must pay when you get Services that are covered for you these services Chiropractic services Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of Covered services include: the Medicare-approved amount. • We cover **only** manual manipulation of the spine to After you meet your deductible, you correct subluxation (a displacement or misalignment pay \$0 for Medicare-covered of a joint or body part) if you get it from a services. chiropractor or other qualified provider. We do not cover maintenance chiropractic care, you are responsible for 100% of the cost of maintenance chiropractic care



# Colorectal cancer screening

The following screening tests are covered:

- Colonoscopy has no minimum or maximum age limitation and is covered once every 120 months (10 years) for patients not at high risk, or 48 months after a previous flexible sigmoidoscopy for patients who are not at high risk for colorectal cancer, and once every 24 months for high risk patients after a previous screening colonoscopy or barium enema.
- Flexible sigmoidoscopy for patients 45 years and older. Once every 120 months for patients not at high risk after the patient received a screening colonoscopy. Once every 48 months for high risk patients from the last flexible sigmoidoscopy or barium enema.
- Screening fecal-occult blood tests for patients 45 years and older. Once every 12 months.
- Multitarget stool DNA for patients 45 to 85 years of age and not meeting high risk criteria. Once every 3 years.
- Blood-based Biomarker Tests for patients 45 to 85 years of age and not meeting high risk criteria. Once every 3 years.
- Barium Enema as an alternative to colonoscopy for patients at high risk and 24 months since the last screening barium enema or the last screening colonoscopy.
- Barium Enema as an alternative to flexible sigmoidoscopy for patient not at high risk and 45 years or older. Once at least 48 months following the last screening barium enema or screening flexible sigmoidoscopy.

Colorectal cancer screening tests include a follow-up screening colonoscopy after a Medicare covered non-invasive stool-based colorectal cancer screening test returns a positive result.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

### What you must pay when you get these services



# Depression screening

We cover one screening for depression per year. The screening must be done in a primary care setting that can provide followup treatment and/or referrals.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.



# Diabetes screening

We cover this screening (includes fasting glucose tests) if you have any of the following risk factors: high blood pressure (hypertension), history of abnormal cholesterol and triglyceride levels (dyslipidemia), obesity or a history of high blood sugar (glucose). Tests may also be covered if you meet other requirements, like being overweight and having a family history of diabetes.

Based on the results of these tests, you may be eligible for up to two diabetes screenings every 12 months.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.

### Diabetes self-management training, diabetic services and supplies

For all people who have diabetes (insulin and non-insulin users). Covered services include:

- Supplies to monitor your blood glucose: Accu-Chek or OneTouch blood glucose monitor, Accu-Chek or OneTouch blood glucose test strips, covered lancet devices and lancets, and covered glucose-control solutions for checking the accuracy of test strips and monitors.
- For people with diabetes who have severe diabetic foot disease: One pair per calendar year of therapeutic custom-molded shoes (including inserts provided with such shoes) and two additional pairs of inserts, or one pair of depth shoes and three pairs of inserts (not including the non-customized removable inserts provided with such shoes). Coverage includes fitting.
- Diabetes self-management training is covered under certain conditions.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

# Services that are covered for you Diabetes self-management training, diabetic services and supplies (continued) Note: Preferred supplies for your continuous glucose monitoring device are also covered. Preferred devices are eligible FreeStyle Libre and Dexcom.

# What you must pay when you get these services

### Durable medical equipment (DME) and related supplies

(For a definition of durable medical equipment, see Chapter 10 of this document as well as Chapter 3, Section 7.)

Covered items include, but are not limited to: wheelchairs, crutches, powered mattress systems, diabetic supplies, hospital beds ordered by a provider for use in the home, IV infusion pumps, speech generating devices, oxygen equipment, nebulizers and walkers.

We cover all medically necessary DME covered by Original Medicare. If our supplier in your area does not carry a particular brand or manufacturer, you may ask them if they can special order it for you. The most recent list of suppliers is available on our website at networkhealth.com.

**Note**: As a newly enrolled member under a current durable medical equipment rental agreement, you will need to start your 13-month rental over unless you can provide proof of rental documentation from your durable medical equipment supplier. For more information, please contact our member experience team.

To acquire ownership for certain types of durable medical equipment, the plan will pay the fee schedule amounts on a monthly rental basis, not to exceed a period of continuous use of 13 months. In the tenth month of rental, you may be given a purchase option. In some cases, as a member of Network Health Prime, some rented durable medical equipment items such as oxygen equipment may not be eligible for ownership, no matter how many copayments you make for the item while a member of our plan. The plan will make monthly rental payments for up to 36 months during a period of continuous use. However, for oxygen equipment, once the 36-month payment cap has been reached, the supplier retains ownership of the equipment. Title of the equipment does not transfer to you.

Additionally, the supplier who received payment for the 36<sup>th</sup> rental month must continue to provide the oxygen equipment and contents until the reasonable useful lifetime of the equipment has been reached (five years) or as long as you have a medical need for the oxygen. If you still need the equipment - you meet the medical necessity for the oxygen - after the five-year reasonable useful lifetime of the equipment has been reached, a new capped rental period may begin.

If you have questions about your medical costs or have received DME when you travel, please call our member experience team.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.

Your cost sharing for Medicare oxygen equipment coverage is \$0 after you meet your deductible.

### What you must pay when you get these services

### Emergency care

Emergency care refers to services that are:

- Furnished by a provider qualified to furnish emergency services, and
- Needed to evaluate or stabilize an emergency medical condition.

A medical emergency is when you, or any other prudent layperson with an average knowledge of health and medicine, believe that you have medical symptoms that require immediate medical attention to prevent loss of life (and, if you are a pregnant woman, loss of an unborn child), loss of a limb or loss of function of a limb. The medical symptoms may be an illness, injury, severe pain, or a medical condition that is quickly getting worse.

You may get covered emergency medical care whenever you need it, anywhere in the United States or its territories.

**Note**: Medicare Part B generally doesn't pay for selfadministered drugs (SADs) or over-the-counter (OTC) medications that you receive in the emergency room.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.

### **Hearing services**

Diagnostic hearing and balance evaluations performed by your provider to determine if you need medical treatment are covered as outpatient care when furnished by a physician, audiologist or other qualified provider.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.



# HIV screening

For people who ask for an HIV screening test or who are at increased risk for HIV infection, we cover:

• One screening exam every 12 months

For women who are pregnant, we cover:

• Up to three screening exams during a pregnancy

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

# What you must pay when you get these services

### Home health agency care

Prior to receiving home health services, a doctor must certify that you need home health services and will order home health services to be provided by a home health agency. You must be homebound, which means leaving home is a major effort.

Covered services include, but are not limited to:

- Part-time or intermittent skilled nursing and home health aide services (To be covered under the home health care benefit, your skilled nursing and home health aide services combined must total fewer than eight hours per day and 35 hours per week.)
- Physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy
  - Physical, occupational and speech therapy services provided by an outpatient provider while you are receiving any home care services are not covered unless the home care agency agrees to cover the cost of the outpatient therapies
- Medical and social services
- Medical equipment and supplies

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.

### Home infusion therapy

Home infusion therapy involves the intravenous or subcutaneous administration of drugs or biologicals to an individual at home. The components needed to perform home infusion include the drug (for example, antivirals, immune globulin), equipment (for example, a pump), and supplies (for example, tubing and catheters).

Covered services include, but are not limited to:

- Professional services, including nursing services, furnished in accordance with the plan of care
- Patient training and education not otherwise covered under the durable medical equipment benefit
- Remote monitoring
- Monitoring services for the provision of home infusion therapy and home infusion drugs furnished by a qualified home infusion therapy supplier

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

# What you must pay when you get these services

### Hospice care

You are eligible for the hospice benefit when your doctor and the hospice medical director have given you a terminal prognosis certifying that you're terminally ill and have six months or less to live if your illness runs its normal course. You may receive care from any Medicare-certified hospice program. Your plan is obligated to help you find Medicare-certified hospice programs in the plan's service area, including those the MA organization owns, controls, or has a financial interest in.

When you enroll in a Medicarecertified hospice program, your hospice services and your Part A and Part B services related to your terminal prognosis are paid for by Original Medicare, not Network Health Prime.

Covered services include:

- Drugs for symptom control and pain relief
- Short-term respite care
- Home care

When you are admitted to a hospice you have the right to remain in your plan; if you chose to remain in your plan you must continue to pay plan premiums.

For hospice services and for services that are covered by Medicare Part A or B and are related to your terminal prognosis: Original Medicare (rather than our plan) will pay your hospice provider for your hospice services and any Part A and Part B services related to your terminal prognosis. While you are in the hospice program, your hospice provider will bill Original Medicare for the services that Original Medicare pays for. You will be billed Original Medicare cost sharing.

<u>For services that are not related to your terminal prognosis</u>: You pay your plan cost-sharing amount for these services.

**Note:** If you need non-hospice care (care that is not related to your terminal prognosis), you should contact us to arrange the services.

 Our plan covers hospice consultation services (one time only) for a terminally ill person who hasn't elected the hospice benefit.

### What you must pay when you get these services



# **i** Immunizations

Covered Medicare Part B services include:

- Pneumonia vaccine
- Flu shots, once each flu season in the fall and winter, with additional flu shots if medically necessary
- Hepatitis B vaccine if you are at high or intermediate risk of getting hepatitis B
- COVID-19 vaccine
- Other vaccines if you are at risk and they meet Medicare Part B coverage rules such as tetanus, or tetanus diphtheria and pertussis or tetanus and diphtheria, when related to the treatment of an injury or direct exposure to a disease or condition.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.

### Inpatient hospital care

Includes inpatient acute, inpatient rehabilitation, long-term care hospitals and other types of inpatient hospital services. Inpatient hospital care starts the day you are formally admitted to the hospital with a doctor's order. The day before you are discharged is your last inpatient day.

Covered services include but are not limited to:

- Semi-private room (or a private room if medically necessary)
- Meals including special diets
- Regular nursing services
- Costs of special care units (such as intensive care or coronary care units)
- Drugs and medications
- Lab tests
- X-rays and other radiology services
- Necessary surgical and medical supplies
- Use of appliances, such as wheelchairs
- Operating and recovery room costs
- Physical, occupational and speech language therapy
- Inpatient substance abuse services

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

What you must pay when you get these services

### **Inpatient hospital care (continued)**

Under certain conditions, the following types of transplants are covered: corneal, kidney, kidneypancreatic, heart, liver, lung, heart/lung, bone marrow, stem cell, and intestinal/multivisceral. If you need a transplant, we will arrange to have your case reviewed by a Medicare-approved transplant center that will decide whether you are a candidate for a transplant. Transplant providers may be local or outside of the service area. If our in-network transplant services are outside the community pattern of care, you may choose to go locally as long as the local transplant providers are willing to accept the Original Medicare rate. If Network Health Prime provides the transplant services at a location outside the pattern of care for transplants in your community and you choose to obtain transplants at this distant location, we will arrange or pay for appropriate lodging and transportation costs for you and a companion. Facilities located within the service area and in the Madison or Milwaukee metropolitan areas are considered within the normal community patterns of care. Indiana University Health is also considered in the normal community patterns of care for intestinal transplants only.

Transportation and lodging are covered up to \$5,000 each plan year.

- Only travel and lodging expenses incurred during the period that begins with the first date of service for the transplant and ending 180 days after the transplant are covered.
- Lodging reimbursement is limited to the United States General Services Administration per diem rate.
- Mileage reimbursement is limited to the Internal Revenue Service medical rate.
- Only the following types of travel expenses are reimbursable: auto mileage, economy class airfare, train fare, parking, tolls and shuttle/bus fare.

**Note:** Only the cost of transportation between the member's residence located in Network Health Prime's service area to the designated transplant facility and between the lodging facility and transplant facility is reimbursable. You will be reimbursed for traveling and lodging only if all these criteria are met:

What you must pay when you get these services

### **Inpatient hospital care (continued)**

 You submit all necessary documentation (such as receipts, lodging verification, etc.) to this address:

Network Health Medicare Advantage Plans PO Box 120 1570 Midway Pl. Menasha, WI 54952

- You receive services outside the community pattern of care. Which excludes facilities located within the service area, Madison or Milwaukee metropolitan area. For intestinal transplants, Indiana University Health is considered in the normal community patterns of care.
- Blood including storage and administration.
   Coverage of whole blood and packed red cells begins only with the fourth pint of blood that you need you must either pay the costs for the first three pints of blood you get in a calendar year or have the blood donated by you or someone else. All other components of blood are covered beginning with the first pint used
- Physician services

**Note:** To be inpatient, your provider must write an order to admit you formally as an inpatient of the hospital. You are inpatient starting the day you are formally admitted to the hospital with a doctor's order and the day before you are discharged is your last inpatient day. For example, if you arrive at the hospital at 10 a.m., your first midnight is that night, this counts as one full day. From that midnight on, each midnight will be a day as an inpatient. If you are discharged before midnight on your last day, then that day does not count toward the total days.

If you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an outpatient. If you are not sure if you are an inpatient or an outpatient, you should ask the hospital staff.

You can also find more information in a Medicare fact sheet called *Are You a Hospital Inpatient or Outpatient? If You Have Medicare – Ask!* This fact sheet is available on the Web at

# What you must pay when you get these services

### **Inpatient hospital care (continued)**

https://www.medicare.gov/sites/default/files/2021-10/11435-Inpatient-or-Outpatient.pdf or by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users call 1-877-486-2048. You can call these numbers for free, 24 hours a day, seven days a week

### Inpatient services in a psychiatric hospital

Covered services include mental health care services that require a hospital stay. You get up to 190 days in an inpatient psychiatric hospital in a lifetime. The 190-day limit does not apply to mental health services provided in a psychiatric unit of a general hospital. Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.

### Inpatient stay: Covered services received in a hospital or skilled nursing facility during a non-covered inpatient stay

If you have exhausted your inpatient benefits or if the inpatient stay is not reasonable and necessary, we will not cover your inpatient stay. However, in some cases, we will cover certain services you receive while you are in the hospital or the skilled nursing facility (SNF). Covered services include, but are not limited to:

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

- Physician services
- Diagnostic tests (like lab tests)
- X-ray, radium, and isotope therapy including technician materials and services
- Surgical dressings
- Splints, casts and other devices used to reduce fractures and dislocations
- Prosthetics and orthotics devices (other than dental)
  that replace all or part of an internal body organ
  (including contiguous tissue), or all or part of the
  function of a permanently inoperative or
  malfunctioning internal body organ, including
  replacement or repairs of such devices
- Leg, arm, back, and neck braces; trusses, and artificial legs, arms, and eyes including adjustments, repairs, and replacements required because of breakage, wear, loss, or a change in the patient's physical condition
- Physical therapy, speech therapy and occupational therapy

### What you must pay when you get these services



# Medical nutrition therapy

This benefit is for people with diabetes, renal (kidney) disease (but not on dialysis), or after a kidney transplant when ordered by your doctor.

We cover three hours of one-on-one counseling services during your first year that you receive medical nutrition therapy services under Medicare (this includes our plan, any other Medicare Advantage plan, or Original Medicare), and two hours each year after that. If your condition, treatment, or diagnosis changes, you may be able to receive more hours of treatment with a physician's order. A physician must prescribe these services and renew their order yearly if your treatment is needed into the next calendar year.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.



# Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program (MDPP)

MDPP services will be covered for eligible Medicare beneficiaries under all Medicare health plans.

MDPP is a structured health behavior change intervention that provides practical training in long-term dietary change, increased physical activity and problem-solving strategies for overcoming challenges to sustaining weight loss and a healthy lifestyle.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.

### Medicare Part B prescription drugs

These drugs are covered under Part B of Original Medicare. Members of our plan receive coverage for these drugs through our plan. Covered drugs include:

- Drugs that usually aren't self-administered by the patient and are injected or infused while you are getting physician, hospital outpatient, or ambulatory surgical center services
- Insulin furnished through an item of durable medical equipment (such as a medically necessary insulin pump)
- Other drugs you take using durable medical equipment (such as nebulizers) that were authorized by the plan

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.

Insulin cost sharing is the lesser of 20% or \$35 per one-month supply.

What you must pay when you get these services

### Medicare Part B prescription drugs (continued)

- Clotting factors you give yourself by injection if you have hemophilia
- Immunosuppressive drugs, if you were enrolled in Medicare Part A at the time of the organ transplant
- Injectable osteoporosis drugs, if you are homebound, have a bone fracture that a doctor certifies was related to post-menopausal osteoporosis, and cannot self-administer the drug
- Antigens
- Certain oral anti-cancer drugs that contain the same active ingredient and are used for the same indications as the injectable dose form that would be administered in a provider setting. For example, Busulfan (Myleran), Capecitabine (Xeloda), Cyclophosphamide (Cytoxan), Etoposide (Vepesid), Melphalan (Alkeran), Methotrexate for oncology and Temozolomide (Temodar)
- Anti-nausea drugs
- Certain drugs for home dialysis, including heparin, the antidote for heparin when medically necessary, topical anesthetics, and erythropoiesis-stimulating agents (such as Epogen<sup>®</sup>, Procrit<sup>®</sup>, Epoetin Alfa, Aranesp<sup>®</sup> or Darbepoetin Alfa)
- Intravenous Immune Globulin for the home treatment of primary immune deficiency diseases

# Obesity screening and therapy to promote sustained weight loss

If you have a body mass index of 30 or more, we cover intensive counseling to help you lose weight. This counseling is covered if you get it in a primary care setting, where it can be coordinated with your comprehensive prevention plan. Talk to your primary care doctor or practitioner to find out more.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

# What you must pay when you get these services

### **Opioid treatment program services**

Members of our plan with opioid use disorder (OUD) can receive coverage of services to treat OUD through an Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) which includes the following services:

- U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved opioid agonist and antagonist medication-assisted treatment (MAT) medications.
- Dispensing and administration of MAT medications (if applicable)
- Substance use counseling
- Individual and group therapy
- Toxicology testing
- Intake activities
- Periodic assessments

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.

# Outpatient diagnostic tests and therapeutic services and supplies

Covered services include, but are not limited to:

- X-rays
- Radiation (radium and isotope) therapy including technician materials and supplies
- Surgical supplies, such as dressings
- Splints, casts and other devices used to reduce fractures and dislocations
- Laboratory tests
- Blood including storage and administration.
   Coverage of whole blood and packed red cells begins only with the fourth pint of blood that you need you must either pay the costs for the first three pints of blood you get in a calendar year or have the blood donated by you or someone else. All other components of blood are covered beginning with the first pint used
- Diagnostic mammograms
- Other outpatient diagnostic tests

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

# What you must pay when you get these services

### **Outpatient hospital observation**

Observation services are hospital outpatient services given to determine if you need to be admitted as an inpatient or can be discharged.

For outpatient hospital observation services to be covered, they must meet the Medicare criteria and be considered reasonable and necessary. Observation services are covered only when provided by the order of a physician or another individual authorized by state licensure law and hospital staff bylaws to admit patients to the hospital or order outpatient tests.

**Note:** Unless the provider has written an order to admit you as an inpatient to the hospital, you are an outpatient and pay the cost-sharing amounts for outpatient hospital services. Even if you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an outpatient. If you are not sure if you are an outpatient, you should ask the hospital staff.

**Note**: Medicare Part B generally doesn't pay for self-administered drugs (SADs) or over-the-counter (OTC) medications that you receive in an outpatient setting. If you are enrolled in a Medicare drug plan (Part D) or have other prescription drug coverage, self-administered drugs may be eligible for coverage under that plan. Please refer to that plan's coverage for details.

You can also find more information in a Medicare fact sheet called *Are You a Hospital Inpatient or Outpatient? If You Have Medicare – Ask!* This fact sheet is available on the Web at https://www.medicare.gov/sites/default/files/2021-10/11435-Inpatient-or-Outpatient.pdf or by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users call 1-877-486-2048. You can call these numbers for free, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

# What you must pay when you get these services

### **Outpatient hospital services**

We cover medically-necessary services you get in the outpatient department of a hospital for diagnosis or treatment of an illness or injury.

Covered services include, but are not limited to:

- Services in an emergency department or outpatient clinic, such as observation services or outpatient surgery
- Laboratory and diagnostic tests billed by the hospital
- Mental health care, including care in a partialhospitalization program, if a doctor certifies that inpatient treatment would be required without it
- X-rays and other radiology services billed by the hospital
- Medical supplies such as splints and casts
- Certain drugs and biologicals that you can't give yourself

**Note:** Unless the provider has written an order to admit you as an inpatient to the hospital, you are an outpatient. Even if you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an outpatient. If you are not sure if you are an outpatient, you should ask the hospital staff.

You can also find more information in a Medicare fact sheet called *Are You a Hospital Inpatient or Outpatient? If You Have Medicare – Ask!* This fact sheet is available on the Web at https://www.medicare.gov/sites/default/files/2021-10/11435-Inpatient-or-Outpatient.pdf or by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users call 1-877-486-2048. You can call these numbers for free, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.

### Outpatient mental health care

Covered services include:

Mental health services provided by a state-licensed psychiatrist or doctor, clinical psychologist, clinical social worker, clinical nurse specialist, licensed professional counselor (LPC), licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT), nurse practitioner (NP), physician assistant (PA) or other Medicare-qualified mental health care professional as allowed under applicable state laws.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

### What you must pay when you get Services that are covered for you these services **Outpatient rehabilitation services** Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of Covered services include: physical therapy, occupational therapy the Medicare-approved amount. and speech language therapy. After you meet your deductible, you Outpatient rehabilitation services are provided in various pay \$0 for Medicare-covered outpatient settings, such as hospital outpatient departments, services. independent therapist offices, and Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (CORFs). Until you meet your yearly Outpatient substance abuse services deductible, you pay up to 100% of Outpatient mental health care - Medicare covers mental health the Medicare-approved amount. services on an outpatient basis by either a doctor, clinical psychologist, clinical social worker, clinical nurse specialist or After you meet your deductible, you physician assistant in an office setting, clinic or hospital pay \$0 for Medicare-covered outpatient department. services. Medicare covers substance abuse treatment in an outpatient treatment center if the center has agreed to participate in the Medicare program. Outpatient surgery, including services provided at hospital Until you meet your yearly outpatient facilities and ambulatory surgical centers deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

**Note:** If you are having surgery in a hospital facility, you should check with your provider about whether you will be an inpatient or outpatient. Unless the provider writes an order to admit you as an inpatient to the hospital, you are an outpatient. Even if you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an outpatient.

Medicare Part B generally doesn't pay for self-administered drugs (SADs) or over-the-counter (OTC) medications that you receive in an outpatient setting. If you are enrolled in a Medicare drug plan (Part D) or have other prescription drug coverage, self-administered drugs may be eligible for coverage under that plan. Please refer to that plan's coverage for details.

# Services that are covered for you What you must pay when you get these services Partial hospitalization services and intensive outpatient Until you meet your yearly

Partial hospitalization is a structured program of active psychiatric treatment provided as a hospital outpatient service or by a community mental health center, that is more intense than the care received in your doctor's or therapist's office and is an alternative to inpatient hospitalization.

Intensive outpatient service is a structured program of active behavioral (mental) health therapy treatment provided in a hospital outpatient department, a community mental health center, a Federally qualified health center, or a rural health clinic that is more intense than the care received in your doctor's or therapist's office but less intense than partial hospitalization. Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.

# Physician/Practitioner services, including doctor's office visits

Covered services include:

services

- Medically-necessary medical care or surgery services furnished in a physician's office, certified ambulatory surgical center, hospital outpatient department, or any other location
- Consultation, diagnosis, and treatment by a specialist
- Basic hearing and balance exams performed by your PCP or specialist, if your doctor orders it to see if you need medical treatment
- Telehealth services for monthly end-stage renal diseaserelated visits for home dialysis members in a hospitalbased or critical access hospital-based renal dialysis center, renal dialysis facility, or the member's home
- Telehealth services to diagnose, evaluate, or treat symptoms of a stroke regardless of your location
- Telehealth services for members with a substance use disorder or co-occurring mental health disorder, regardless of their location

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

What you must pay when you get these services

# Physician/Practitioner services, including doctor's office visits (continued)

- Telehealth services for diagnosis, evaluation, and treatment of mental health disorders if:
  - You have an in-person visit within six months prior to your first telehealth visit
  - You have an in-person visit every 12 months while receiving these telehealth services
  - Exceptions can be made to the above for certain circumstances
- Telehealth services for mental health visits provided by Rural Health Clinics and Federally Qualified Health Centers
- Virtual check-ins (for example, by phone or video chat) with your doctor for 5-10 minutes **if:** 
  - O You're not a new patient and
  - The check-in isn't related to an office visit in the past seven days and
  - o The check-in doesn't lead to an office visit within 24 hours or the soonest available appointment
- Evaluation of video and/or images you send to your doctor, and interpretation and follow-up by your doctor within 24 hours if:
  - O You're not a new patient and
  - The evaluation isn't related to an office visit in the past seven days **and**
  - The evaluation doesn't lead to an office visit within
     24 hours or the soonest available appointment
- Consultation your doctor has with other doctors by phone, internet, or electronic health record
- Second opinion prior to surgery
- Non-routine dental care (covered services are limited to surgery of the jaw or related structures, setting fractures of the jaw or facial bones, extraction of teeth to prepare the jaw for radiation treatments of neoplastic cancer disease, or services that would be covered when provided by a physician)

**Note:** Medicare-covered Practitioner/Provider services received through telehealth will be covered the same as if you visited your provider in-person. Telehealth services (excluding behavioral health and dermatology) received from our partner, MDLIVE, are considered Medicare-covered Practitioner/Provider services.

### What you must pay when you get these services

### **Podiatry services**

Covered services include:

- Diagnosis and the medical or surgical treatment of injuries and diseases of the feet (such as hammer toe or heel spurs)
- Routine foot care for members with certain medical conditions affecting the lower limbs
- Routine foot care services are considered medically necessary once in 60 days. More frequent services are considered not medically necessary

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.



# Prostate cancer screening exams

For men age 50 and older, covered services include the following once every 12 months:

- Digital rectal exam
- Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) test

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.

### Prosthetic devices and related supplies

Devices (other than dental) that replace all or part of a body part or function. These include but are not limited to: colostomy bags and supplies directly related to colostomy care, pacemakers, braces, prosthetic shoes, artificial limbs, and breast prostheses (including a surgical brassiere after a mastectomy). Includes certain supplies related to prosthetic devices, and repair and/or replacement of prosthetic devices. Also includes some coverage following cataract removal or cataract surgery – see Vision Care later in this section for more detail.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.

### Pulmonary rehabilitation services

Comprehensive programs of pulmonary rehabilitation are covered for members who have moderate to very severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and an order for pulmonary rehabilitation from the doctor treating the chronic respiratory disease.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

### What you must pay when you get these services



# Screening and counseling to reduce alcohol misuse

We cover one alcohol misuse screening for adults with Medicare (including pregnant women) who misuse alcohol but aren't alcohol dependent.

If you screen positive for alcohol misuse, you can get up to four brief face-to-face counseling sessions per year (if you're competent and alert during counseling) provided by a qualified primary care doctor or practitioner in a primary care setting.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.

### Screening for lung cancer with low dose computed tomography (LDCT)

For qualified individuals, a LDCT is covered every 12 months.

Eligible members are: people aged 50 - 77 years who have no signs or symptoms of lung cancer, but who have a history of tobacco smoking of at least 20 pack-years and who currently smoke or have quit smoking within the last 15 years, who receive a written order for LDCT during a lung cancer screening counseling and shared decision-making visit that meets the Medicare criteria for such visits and be furnished by a physician or qualified non-physician practitioner.

For LDCT lung cancer screenings after the initial LDCT screening: the member must receive a written order for LDCT lung cancer screening, which may be furnished during any appropriate visit with a physician or qualified non-physician practitioner. If a physician or qualified non-physician practitioner elects to provide a lung cancer screening counseling and shared decision-making visit for subsequent lung cancer screenings with LDCT, the visit must meet the Medicare criteria for such visits.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

# What you must pay when you get these services

# Screening for sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and counseling to prevent STIs

We cover sexually transmitted infection (STI) screenings for chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, and hepatitis B. These screenings are covered for pregnant women and for certain people who are at increased risk for an STI when the tests are ordered by a primary care provider. We cover these tests once every 12 months or at certain times during pregnancy.

We also cover up to two individual 20 to 30 minute, face-to-face high-intensity behavioral counseling sessions each year for sexually active adults at increased risk for STIs. We will only cover these counseling sessions as a preventive service if they are provided by a primary care provider and take place in a primary care setting, such as a doctor's office.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.

### Services to treat kidney disease

Covered services include:

- Kidney disease education services to teach kidney care and help members make informed decisions about their care. For members with stage IV chronic kidney disease when referred by their doctor, we cover up to six sessions of kidney disease education services per lifetime
- Outpatient dialysis treatments
- Inpatient dialysis treatments (if you are admitted as an inpatient to a hospital for special care)
- Self-dialysis training (includes training for you and anyone helping you with your home dialysis treatments)
- Home dialysis equipment and supplies
- Certain home support services (such as, when necessary, visits by trained dialysis workers to check on your home dialysis, to help in emergencies, and check your dialysis equipment and water supply)

Certain drugs for dialysis are covered under your Medicare Part B drug benefit. For information about coverage for Part B Drugs, please go to the section, *Medicare Part B prescription drugs*.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

# What you must pay when you get these services

### Skilled nursing facility (SNF) care

(For a definition of skilled nursing facility care, see Chapter 10 of this document. Skilled nursing facilities are sometimes called SNFs.)

Covered services include but are not limited to:

- Semiprivate room (or a private room if medically necessary)
- Meals, including special diets
- Skilled nursing services
- Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy
- Drugs administered to you as part of your plan of care (This includes substances that are naturally present in the body, such as blood clotting factors.)
- Blood including storage and administration.

  Coverage of whole blood and packed red cells begins only with the fourth pint of blood that you need you must either pay the costs for the first three pints of blood you get in a calendar year or have the blood donated by you or someone else. All other components of blood are covered beginning with the first pint used
- Medical and surgical supplies ordinarily provided by skilled nursing facilities
- Laboratory tests ordinarily provided by skilled nursing facilities
- X-rays and other radiology services ordinarily provided by skilled nursing facilities
- Use of appliances such as wheelchairs ordinarily provided by skilled nursing facilities
- Physician/Practitioner services

You are covered for up to 100 days per admission.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

# What you must pay when you get these services

# Smoking and tobacco use cessation (counseling to stop smoking or tobacco use)

If you use tobacco, but do not have signs or symptoms of tobacco-related disease: We cover two counseling quit attempts within a 12-month period as a preventive service with no cost to you. Each counseling attempt includes up to four face-to-face visits.

If you use tobacco and have been diagnosed with a tobaccorelated disease or are taking medicine that may be affected by tobacco: We cover cessation counseling services. We cover two counseling quit attempts within a 12-month period, however, you will pay the applicable cost sharing. Each counseling attempt includes up to four face-to-face visits. Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.

### **Supervised exercise therapy (SET)**

SET is covered for members who have symptomatic peripheral artery disease (PAD) and a referral for PAD from the physician responsible for PAD treatment.

Up to 36 sessions over a 12-week period are covered if the SET program requirements are met.

The SET program must:

- Consist of sessions lasting 30-60 minutes, comprising a therapeutic exercise-training program for PAD in patients with claudication
- Be conducted in a hospital outpatient setting or a physician's office
- Be delivered by qualified auxiliary personnel necessary to ensure benefits exceed harms, and who are trained in exercise therapy for PAD
- Be under the direct supervision of a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner/clinical nurse specialist who must be trained in both basic and advanced life support techniques

SET may be covered beyond 36 sessions over 12 weeks for an additional 36 sessions over an extended period of time if deemed medically necessary by a health care provider.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

# What you must pay when you get these services

### **Urgently needed services**

Urgently needed services are provided to treat a non-emergency, unforeseen medical illness, injury, or condition that requires immediate medical care but, given your circumstances, it is not possible, or it is unreasonable, to obtain services from innetwork providers. If it is unreasonable given your circumstances to immediately obtain the medical care from a network provider, then your plan will cover the urgently needed services from a provider out-of-network. Services must be immediately needed and medically necessary. Examples of urgently needed services that the plan must cover out-of-network occur if: You are temporarily outside the service area of the plan and require medically needed immediate services for an unforeseen condition but it is not a medical emergency; or it is unreasonable given your circumstances to immediately obtain the medical care from an in-network provider.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.



### Vision care

Covered services include:

- Outpatient physician services for the diagnosis and treatment of diseases and injuries of the eye, including treatment for age-related macular degeneration. Original Medicare doesn't cover routine eye exams (eye refractions) for eyeglasses/contacts
- For people who are at high risk of glaucoma, we will cover one glaucoma screening each year. People at high risk of glaucoma include: people with a family history of glaucoma, people with diabetes, African-Americans who are age 50 and older, and Hispanic Americans who are 65 or older
- For people with diabetes, screening for diabetic retinopathy is covered once per year
- One pair of eyeglasses or contact lenses after each cataract surgery that includes insertion of an intraocular lens. (If you have two separate cataract operations, you cannot reserve the benefit after the first surgery and purchase two eyeglasses after the second surgery.) Corrective lenses/frames and replacements needed after a cataract removal without a lens implant are not covered. Tinting, scratch

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

What you must pay when you get these services

### Vision care (continued)

protection or other enhancements to the eyewear are also not covered.

**Note:** Only the conventional intraocular lens is covered with either the blade or laser removal of a cataract. Insertion of lenses to correct vision are not covered.

**Note:** Eye refractions performed in conjunction with Medicarecovered eye exams are not covered.



# Welcome to Medicare preventive visit

The plan covers the one-time **Welcome to Medicare** preventive visit. The visit includes a review of your health, as well as education and counseling about the preventive services you need (including certain screenings and shots), and referrals for other care if needed.

> **Important:** We cover the **Welcome to Medicare** preventive visit only within the first 12 months you have Medicare Part B. When you make your appointment, let your doctor's office know you would like to schedule your Welcome to Medicare preventive visit.

Until you meet your yearly deductible, you pay up to 100% of the Medicare-approved amount.

After you meet your deductible, you pay \$0 for Medicare-covered services.

### Section 2.2 Extra optional supplemental benefits you can buy

Our plan offers some extra benefits that are not covered by Original Medicare and not included in your benefits package. These extra benefits are called **Optional Supplemental Benefits**. If you want these optional supplemental benefits, you must sign up for them and you may have to pay an additional premium for them. The optional supplemental benefits described in this section are subject to the same appeals process as any other benefits.

As a member of the plan, you have the option to purchase an optional supplemental dental benefit package. You may elect this option upon your initial enrollment into the plan, during the Annual Enrollment Period, Open Enrollment Period or during a Special Election Period, if you qualify for one. This optional supplemental benefit cannot be combined with any other dental benefits that may be offered on your plan. The optional supplemental dental benefit is only available if you are enrolled in Network Health Prime. If you terminate your Network Health Prime policy or lose eligibility, your supplemental dental benefit will also terminate. The monthly premium for the optional supplemental dental benefit in 2024 is \$42. This is in addition to your Medicare Parts A and/or B premium, if applicable. The deductible and coinsurance for the covered services do not apply toward your out-of-pocket maximum described in Chapter 4. Dental services are administered by Delta Dental ("administrator"). Your supplemental dental coverage will be effective on the date your Network Health Prime coverage becomes effective.

Your optional supplemental dental benefits will continue if you move to another Network Health Medicare Advantage Plan that offers this benefit, unless you choose to end the benefit.

You may end your optional supplemental dental benefits by giving us written notice that you'd like to end your coverage. Written notice must be sent or faxed to the below address:

Network Health Insurance Corporation Attn: Medicare Enrollment Services 1570 Midway Pl. Menasha, WI 54952 Fax to 920-720-1933

Note: You may be balance billed if you receive services from an out-of-network dentist. Please visit medicareadvantage.deltadentalwi.com to find an in-network dentist.

Your coverage of supplemental dental benefits will end on the last day of the month following our receipt of your request to end coverage or the date you request that your coverage ends, if later. If you have paid a premium in advance, your premium will be refunded for any unused months.

If you end coverage for supplemental dental benefits and later wish to re-enroll, you will need to wait until the next Annual Enrollment Period.

You may cancel your enrollment for supplemental dental benefits verbally or in writing prior to your effective date. After the effective date of your supplemental dental benefits, you will need to submit your request in writing.

### What you pay for these Additional services you can purchase services **Dental Optional Supplemental Benefit** Monthly Premium: \$42 The dental optional supplemental benefit package is available for an Annual Maximum: \$1,000 additional monthly premium of \$42. Included are the following Comprehensive Deductible: services: \$100 Non-Medicare-covered preventive dental services In-Network Routine dental exams and cleanings twice a year 0% of the cost for non-Fluoride treatments once a year Medicare-covered preventive Bitewing x-rays once a year and diagnostic dental services. Non-Medicare-covered comprehensive dental services 50% of the cost for non-Medicare-covered basic and Emergency palliative treatment major dental services. Restorative services Endodontics **Out-of-Network** Periodontics 20% of the cost for non-Extractions Medicare covered preventive Prosthodontics and diagnostic dental services. Oral Surgery 50% of the cost for non-Relines and repairs to bridges and dentures Medicare covered basic and Up to \$1,000 annual maximum benefit applies to both in- and out-ofmajor dental services. network services received for non-Medicare-covered dental services. If you receive services from a dentist that does not participate in Delta Dental's Medicare Advantage Network you will be responsible for the difference between Delta Dental's payment and the amount charged by the non-participating dentist. Please contact our member experience team (phone numbers located in the back of this document) with any questions. To view the certificate of coverage for the dental optional supplemental benefit, visit networkhealth.com/medicare/plan-materials or contact the member experience team. Please contact our member experience team (phone numbers located in the back of this document) with any questions.

### SECTION 3 What services are not covered by the plan?

### Section 3.1 Services we do *not* cover (exclusions)

This section tells you what services are *excluded* from Medicare coverage and therefore, are not covered by this plan.

The chart below lists services and items that either are not covered under any condition or are covered only under specific conditions.

If you get services that are excluded (not covered), you must pay for them yourself except under the specific conditions listed below. Even if you receive the excluded services at an emergency facility, the excluded services are still not covered and our plan will not pay for them. The only exception is if the service is appealed and decided upon appeal to be a medical service that we should have paid for or covered because of your specific situation. (For information about appealing a decision we have made to not cover a medical service, go to Chapter 7, Section 5.3 in this document.)

Services not covered by Medicare	Not covered under any condition	Covered only under specific conditions
Acupuncture		Acupuncture for chronic low back pain. Please refer to the Medical Benefits Chart for additional information.
Cosmetic surgery or procedures		Covered in cases of an accidental injury or for improvement of the functioning of a malformed body member.  Covered for all stages of reconstruction for a breast after a mastectomy, as well as for the unaffected breast to produce a symmetrical appearance.
Custodial care	Not covered under any condition	
Custodial care is personal care that does not require the continuing attention of trained medical or paramedical personnel, such as care that helps you with activities of daily living, such as bathing or dressing.	·	
Elective or voluntary enhancement procedures or services (including weight loss, hair growth, sexual performance, athletic performance, cosmetic purposes, anti-aging and mental performance) except when medically necessary.	Not covered under any condition	
Experimental medical and surgical procedures, equipment and medications.		May be covered by Original Medicare under a Medicare-approved clinical research study or by our plan.
Experimental procedures and items are those items and procedures determined by Original Medicare to not be generally accepted by the medical community.		(See Chapter 3, Section 5 for more information on clinical research studies.)

Services not covered by Medicare	Not covered under any condition	Covered only under specific conditions
Fees charged for care by your immediate relatives or members of your household.	Not covered under any condition	
Full-time nursing care in your home.	Not covered under any condition	
Home-delivered meals	Not covered under any condition	
Homemaker services including basic household assistance, such as light housekeeping or light meal preparation.	Not covered under any condition	
Maintenance chiropractic care	Not covered under any condition	
Naturopath services (uses natural or alternative treatments).	Not covered under any condition	
Non-routine dental care		Dental care required to treat illness or injury may be covered as inpatient or outpatient care.
Orthopedic shoes or supportive devices for the feet		Shoes that are part of a leg brace and are included in the cost of the brace. Orthopedic or therapeutic shoes for people with diabetic foot disease.
Outpatient prescription drugs including drugs for treatment of sexual dysfunction, including erectile dysfunction, impotence and anorgasmy or hyporgasmy	Not covered under any condition	
Personal items in your room at a hospital or a skilled nursing facility, such as a telephone or a television.	Not covered under any condition	
Prescriptions or refill of prescriptions because of theft, damage or loss of prescription or drugs.	Not covered under any condition	
Private duty nurses.	Not covered under any condition	
Private room in a hospital.		Covered only when medically necessary.
Residential AODA or mental health treatment.	Not covered under any condition	
Reversal of sterilization procedures and/or non-prescription contraceptive supplies.	Not covered under any condition	

Services not covered by Medicare	Not covered under any condition	Covered only under specific conditions
Routine dental care, such as cleanings, fillings or dentures.	any condition	Additional comprehensive dental coverage is available. (See Chapter 4, Section 2.2 for more information on a dental optional supplemental benefit.)
Routine foot care		Some limited coverage provided according to Medicare guidelines (e.g., if you have diabetes).
Routine hearing exams, hearing aids, or exams to fit hearing aids.	Not covered under any condition	
Routine vision examinations, eyeglasses, refractive eye surgeries including but not limited to radial keratotomy, LASIK surgery and other low vision aids.		Eye exam and one pair of eyeglasses (or contact lenses) are covered for people after cataract surgery. Please refer to the Vision care benefit in the Medical Benefits Chart for additional information.
Services considered not reasonable and necessary, according to Original Medicare standards	Not covered under any condition	
Services provided to veterans in Veterans Affairs (VA) facilities. However, when emergency services are received at VA hospital and the VA cost sharing is more than the cost sharing under our plan, we will reimburse veterans for the difference. Members are still responsible for our cost-sharing amounts.	Not covered under any condition	
Surgical treatment for morbid obesity, except when it is considered medically necessary and covered under Original Medicare.		Covered only when medically necessary and covered under Original Medicare.

# **CHAPTER 5:**

Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services

## Chapter 5 Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services

## SECTION 1 Situations in which you should send us a bill you have received for your covered services

When you receive care, you should ask the provider to bill the plan for your services. We will look at the bill and decide whether the services should be covered and will let you know who should pay for them.

If you receive a bill for an item or services, you should send the bill to us. Here are some situations in which you should send a bill to us:

#### When you get a bill for an item or services even though you haven't yet met your deductible

Before you reach your deductible, you must pay the full cost of your covered services. Even though you are responsible for the cost, you should still send the bill to us before you pay it so we can make sure you have been billed the correct amount. After you pay a bill, you should send us a copy of the bill and your payment so that we can count your expenses towards your deductible.

#### . When you get a bill for an item or services after you have met your deductible

After you meet the deductible, the plan will pay for your covered services. If you receive a bill, you should not pay it – you should submit it with a payment request to us. We will look at the bill and decide whether the services should be covered. If we decide they should be covered and you have not paid the bill, we will pay the provider directly. If we decide they should be covered and you have already paid the bill, we will mail you your reimbursement.

• After you meet your deductible, you don't have to pay anything for services covered by our plan. We do not allow providers to add additional separate charges, called *balance billing*. This protection applies even if we pay the provider less than the provider charges for a service and even if there is a dispute and we don't pay certain provider charges. For more information about *balance billing*, go to Chapter 4, Section 1.3.

#### If you are retroactively enrolled in our plan

Sometimes a person's enrollment in the plan is retroactive. (Retroactive means that the first day of their enrollment has already passed. The enrollment date may even have occurred last year.)

If you were retroactively enrolled in our plan and you paid out-of-pocket for any of your covered services after your enrollment date, you can ask us to pay you back for our share of the costs. You will need to submit paperwork such as receipts and bills for us to handle the reimbursement.

Please call our member experience team for additional information about how to ask us to pay you back and deadlines for making your request. (Phone numbers for our member experience team are printed on the back cover of this document.)

## Chapter 5 Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services

When you send us a request for payment (or a request to count your expenses toward your deductible), we are making a *coverage decision*. This means that if we deny your request, you can appeal our decision. Chapter 7 of this document (*What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)*) has information about how to make an appeal.

## SECTION 2 How to ask us to pay a bill or to count your expenses toward your deductible

When you want us to pay a bill or to pay you back for a bill you have already paid, send us a request for payment, along with your bill and documentation of any payment you have made. Even if you haven't met your deductible for the year, you should still send us your bill and documentation of your payment so we can count your expenses toward your deductible. It's a good idea to make a copy of your bill and receipts for your records.

To make sure you are giving us all the information we need to make a decision, you can fill out our claim form to make your request for payment.

- You don't have to use the form, but it will help us process the information faster.
- Either download a copy of the form from our website (networkhealth.com) or call our member experience team and ask for the form.

Mail your request for payment together with any bills or paid receipts to us at this address:

#### For Medical Claims:

Network Health Medicare Advantage Plans PO Box 568 1570 Midway Pl. Menasha, WI 54952

#### For Part B Prescription Claims

Express Scripts P.O. Box 14711 Lexington, KY 40512-4718

You must submit your medical claim to us within 12 months and your prescription drug claims within 36 months of the date you received the service, item or drug.

Contact our member experience team if you have any questions. If you don't know what you should have paid, or you receive bills and you don't know what to do about those bills, we can help. You can also call if you want to give us more information about a request for payment you have already sent to us.

## Chapter 5 Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services

#### SECTION 3 We will consider your request and say yes or no

## Section 3.1 We check to see whether we should cover the service and how much we owe

When we receive your request for payment, we will let you know if we need any additional information from you. Otherwise, we will consider your request and make a coverage decision.

- If we decide that the medical care is covered and you followed all the rules for getting the care, we will pay for our share of the cost.
  - o If you have met your yearly deductible and have already paid for the service, we will mail your reimbursement to you.
  - o If you have met your yearly deductible and have *not* paid for the service yet, we will mail the payment directly to the provider.
  - o If you haven't met your deductible yet, we will tell you how much you should be billed by the provider.
- If we decide that the medical care is *not* covered, or you did *not* follow all the rules, we will not pay for our share of the cost. Instead, we will send you a letter that explains the reasons why we are not sending the payment you have requested and your rights to appeal that decision.

## Section 3.2 If we tell you that we will not pay for all or part of the medical care, you can make an appeal

If you think we have made a mistake in turning down your request or you don't agree with the amount we are paying, you can make an appeal. If you make an appeal, it means you are asking us to change the decision we made when we turned down your request for payment or when we turned down your request to count medical expenses you have paid (either with money from your MSA account or out-of-pocket) toward the plan deductible. You may also appeal if you believe that, prior to meeting the deductible, you have been required to pay more for a service than the Medicare allowable amount.

For the details on how to make this appeal, go to Chapter 7 of this document (*What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)*). The appeals process is a formal process with detailed procedures and important deadlines. If making an appeal is new to you, you will find it helpful to start by reading Section 4 of Chapter 7. Section 4 is an introductory section that explains the process for coverage decisions and appeals and gives definitions of terms such as appeal. Then after you have read Section 4, you can go to Section 5.3 to learn how to make an appeal about getting paid back for a medical service.

## CHAPTER 6: Your rights and responsibilities

# SECTION 1 Our plan must honor your rights and cultural sensitivities as a member of the plan Section 1.1 We must provide information in a way that works for you and consistent with your cultural sensitivities (in languages other than English, in braille, in large print, or other alternate formats, etc.)

Our plan is required to ensure that all services, both clinical and non-clinical, are provided in a culturally competent manner and are accessible to all enrollees, including those with limited English proficiency, limited reading skills, hearing incapacity, or those with diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds. Examples of how a plan may meet these accessibility requirements include, but are not limited to provision of translator services, interpreter services, teletypewriters or TTY (text telephone or teletypewriter phone) connection.

Our plan has free interpreter services available to answer questions from non-English speaking members. We can also give you information in braille, in large print, or other alternate formats at no cost; if you need it. We are required to give you information about the plan's benefits in a format that is accessible and appropriate for you. To get information from us in a way that works for you, please call our member experience team.

Our plan is required to give female enrollees the option of direct access to a women's health specialist within the network for women's routine and preventive health care services.

If providers in the plan's network for a specialty are not available, it is the plan's responsibility to locate specialty providers outside the network who will provide you with the necessary care. In this case, you will only pay in-network cost sharing. If you find yourself in a situation where there are no specialists in the plan's network that cover a service you need, call the plan for information on where to go to obtain this service at in-network cost sharing.

If you have any trouble getting information from our plan in a format that is accessible and appropriate for you, seeing a women's health specialist or finding a network specialist, please call to file a grievance with the discrimination complaints coordinator. You may also file a complaint with Medicare by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) or directly with the Office for Civil Rights 1-800-368-1019 or TTY 1-800-537-7697.

## Section 1.2 You have a right to be treated with respect, with recognition of your dignity and a right to privacy

You will be treated with courtesy and kindness. You will be treated equally, and we will listen to you. Your choices, as well as rights to privacy will be honored.

#### Section 1.3 We must ensure that you get timely access to your covered services

You may seek care from any provider in the United States who is eligible to provide services under Original Medicare. You should always (except possibly in emergencies) show the provider your MSA plan membership card.

You do not need a referral or prior approval from the plan to receive covered services.

If you think that you are not getting your medical care within a reasonable amount of time, Chapter 7 tells what you can do.

#### Section 1.4 We must protect the privacy of your personal health information

Federal and state laws protect the privacy of your medical records and personal health information. We protect your personal health information as required by these laws.

- Your *personal health information* includes the personal information you gave us when you enrolled in this plan as well as your medical records and other medical and health information.
- You have rights related to your information and controlling how your health information is used. We give you a written notice, called a **Notice of Privacy Practice**, that tells about these rights and explains how we protect the privacy of your health information.

#### How do we protect the privacy of your health information?

- We make sure that unauthorized people don't see or change your records.
- Except for the circumstances noted below, if we intend to give your health information to anyone who isn't providing your care or paying for your care, we are required to get written permission from you or someone you have given legal power to make decisions for you first.
- There are certain exceptions that do not require us to get your written permission first. These exceptions are allowed or required by law.
  - We are required to release health information to government agencies that are checking on quality of care.
  - o Because you are a member of our plan through Medicare, we are required to give Medicare your health information. If Medicare releases your information for research or other uses, this will be done according to Federal statutes and regulations; typically, this requires that information that uniquely identifies you not be shared.

#### You can see the information in your records and know how it has been shared with others

You have the right to look at your medical records held by the plan, and to get a copy of your records. We are allowed to charge you a fee for making copies. You also have the right to ask us to make additions or corrections to your medical records. If you ask us to do this, we will work with your health care provider to decide whether the changes should be made.

You have the right to know how your health information has been shared with others for any purposes that are not routine.

If you have questions or concerns about the privacy of your personal health information, please call our member experience team.

Network Health Insurance Corporation is committed to protecting the privacy of your confidential health information. This includes all oral, written and electronic protected health information across the organization. We are required by law to:

- Maintain the privacy and security of your protected health information.
- Follow the duties and privacy practices described in this notice and give you a copy of it.
- Follow either federal or state law, whichever is more protective of your privacy rights.
- Let you know promptly if a breach occurs which may have compromised the privacy or security of your information.
- Abide by the terms of our Notice of Privacy Practices.

We are committed to ensuring your health information is used responsibly by our organization. We may use and disclose your health information without your written authorization for payment, treatment, health care operations or other instances where written authorization is not required by law. In instances where written authorization is required, we will obtain written authorization before using or disclosing information about you. You may choose to revoke your authorization at any time by notifying us in writing of your decision. This means we will no longer be able to use or disclose health information about you for the reasons covered by your written authorization, but we will be unable to take back any disclosures we have already made based on your prior written authorization consent.

For a full copy of the Notice of Privacy Practices please visit our website at networkhealth.com or call our member experience team to request a copy. If you would like to exercise one or more of your rights regarding your health information, please call our member experience team (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this document).

If you are concerned that your privacy rights may have been violated, or you disagree with a decision we made about your rights to your health information, you may contact the Privacy Officer at 800-378-5234. You may also send a written complaint to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights. Network Health cannot and will not require you to waive the right to file a complaint as a condition of receiving benefits or services or retaliate against you for filing a complaint with us or with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

## Section 1.5 We must give you information about the plan, the organization and your covered services

As a member of Network Health Prime, you have the right to get several kinds of information from us.

If you want any of the following kinds of information, please call our member experience team:

- **Information about our plan.** This includes, for example, information about the plan's financial condition.
- Information about your coverage and the rules you must follow when using your coverage. Chapters 3 and 4 provide information regarding medical services.
- Information about why something is not covered and what you can do about it. Chapter 7 provides information on asking for a written explanation on why a medical service is not covered or if your coverage is restricted. Chapter 7 also provides information on asking us to change a decision, also called an appeal.

## Section 1.6 We must support your right to participate with practitioners to make decisions about your care

## You have the right to know your treatment options and participate in decisions about your health care

You have the right to get full information from your doctors and other health care providers. Your providers must explain your medical condition and your treatment choices in a way that you can understand.

You also have the right to participate fully in decisions about your health care. To help you make decisions with your doctors about what treatment is best for you, your rights include the following:

- To know about all of your choices. You have the right to be told about all of the treatment options that are recommended for your condition, no matter what they cost or whether they are covered by our plan.
- To know about the risks. You have the right to be told about any risks involved in your care. You must be told in advance if any proposed medical care or treatment is part of a research experiment. You always have the choice to refuse any experimental treatments.
- The right to say no. You have the right to refuse any recommended treatment. This includes the right to leave a hospital or other medical facility, even if your doctor advises you not to leave. Of course, if you refuse treatment, you accept full responsibility for what happens to your body as a result.

## You have the right to give instructions about what is to be done if you are not able to make medical decisions for yourself

Sometimes people become unable to make health care decisions for themselves due to accidents or serious illness. You have the right to say what you want to happen if you are in this situation. This means that, *if* you want to, you can:

- Fill out a written form to give someone the legal authority to make medical decisions for you if you ever become unable to make decisions for yourself.
- **Give your doctors written instructions** about how you want them to handle your medical care if you become unable to make decisions for yourself.

The legal documents that you can use to give your directions in advance of these situations are called **advance directives**. There are different types of advance directives and different names for them. Documents called **living will** and **power of attorney for health care** are examples of advance directives.

If you want to use an advance directive to give your instructions, here is what to do:

- **Get the form.** You can get an advance directive form from your lawyer, from a social worker, or from some office supply stores. You can sometimes get advance directive forms from organizations that give people information about Medicare. You can also contact our member experience team to ask for the forms.
- Fill it out and sign it. Regardless of where you get this form, keep in mind that it is a legal document. You should consider having a lawyer help you prepare it.
- Give copies to appropriate people. You should give a copy of the form to your doctor and to the person you name on the form who can make decisions for you if you can't. You may want to give copies to close friends or family members. Keep a copy at home.

If you know ahead of time that you are going to be hospitalized, and you have signed an advance directive, take a copy with you to the hospital.

- The hospital will ask you whether you have signed an advance directive form and whether you have it with you.
- If you have not signed an advance directive form, the hospital has forms available and will ask if you want to sign one.

Remember, it is your choice whether you want to fill out an advance directive (including whether you want to sign one if you are in the hospital). According to law, no one can deny you care or discriminate against you based on whether or not you have signed an advance directive.

#### What if your instructions are not followed?

If you have signed an advance directive, and you believe that a doctor or hospital did not follow the instructions in it, you may file a complaint with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, 1 West Wilson Street, Madison, WI 53703. The telephone number is 1-608-266-1865 (TTY accessible telephone number is 1-800-947-3529).

## Section 1.7 You have the right to make complaints and to ask us to reconsider decisions we have made

If you have any problems, concerns, or complaints and need to request coverage, or make an appeal, Chapter 7 of this document tells what you can do. Whatever you do – ask for a coverage decision, make an appeal, or make a complaint – we are required to treat you fairly.

## Section 1.8 What can you do if you believe you are being treated unfairly or your rights are not being respected?

#### If it is about discrimination, call the Office for Civil Rights

If you believe you have been treated unfairly or your rights have not been respected due to your race, disability, religion, sex, health, ethnicity, creed (beliefs), age, sexual orientation, or national origin, you should call the Department of Health and Human Services' **Office for Civil Rights** at 1-800-368-1019 or TTY 1-800-537-7697 or call your local Office for Civil Rights.

#### Is it about something else?

If you believe you have been treated unfairly or your rights have not been respected, *and* it's *not* about discrimination, you can get help dealing with the problem you are having:

- You can call our member experience team.
- You can **call the SHIP**. For details, go to Chapter 2, Section 3.
- Or, **you can call Medicare** at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, seven days a week (TTY 1-877-486-2048).

#### Section 1.9 How to get more information about your rights

There are several places where you can get more information about your rights:

- You can call our member experience team.
- You can **call the SHIP**. For details, go to Chapter 2, Section 3.

- You can contact **Medicare**.
  - You can visit the Medicare website to read or download the publication *Medicare Rights & Protections*. (The publication is available at: www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/11534-Medicare-Rights-and-Protections.pdf.)
  - o Or, you can call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, seven days a week (TTY 1-877-486-2048).

## Section 1.10 You have the right to make recommendations regarding the organization's member rights and responsibilities policy

You can email your recommendations to Network Health at QI@networkhealth.com and our Quality Health Integration Department will review your proposal and make any necessary changes to Network Health's policy.

#### SECTION 2 You have some responsibilities as a member of the plan

Things you need to do as a member of the plan are listed below. If you have any questions, please call our member experience team.

- Get familiar with your covered services and the rules you must follow to get these covered services. Use this *Evidence of Coverage* to learn what is covered for you and the rules you need to follow to get your covered services.
  - o Chapters 3 and 4 give the details about your medical services.
- If you have any other health insurance coverage in addition to our plan, or separate prescription drug coverage, you are required to tell us. Chapter 1 tells you about coordinating these benefits.
- Tell your doctor and other health care providers that you are enrolled in our plan. Show your plan member ID card whenever you get your medical care.
- Help your doctors and other providers help you by giving them information, asking questions, and following through on your care.
  - To help get the best care, tell your doctors and other health providers about your health problems. Follow the treatment plans and instructions that you and your doctors agree upon.
  - Make sure your doctors know all of the drugs you are taking, including over-the-counter drugs, vitamins, and supplements.
  - o If you have any questions, be sure to ask and get an answer you can understand.
  - Supply information (to the extent possible) the organization, its practitioners and providers need in order to provide care.
  - Understand your health problems and participate in developing mutually agreed-upon treatment goals, to the degree possible.
- **Be considerate.** We expect all our members to respect the rights of other patients. We also expect you to act in a way that helps the smooth running of your doctor's office, hospitals, and other offices.

- Pay what you owe. As a plan member, you are responsible for these payments:
  - You must continue to pay a premium for your Medicare Part B to remain a member of the plan.
  - o Until you meet your yearly deductible, you must pay up to 100 percent of the Medicare-approved amount for your covered Part A and Part B services.
- If you move within our plan service area, we need to know so we can keep your membership record up-to-date and know how to contact you.
- If you move outside of our plan service area, you cannot remain a member of our plan.
- If you move, it is also important to tell Social Security (or the Railroad Retirement Board).

## Section 2.1 Special tax-reporting responsibilities of members of a Medicare MSA plan

Our plan is a Medicare MSA plan. MSA members must file Form 1040, U.S. Individual Income Tax Return, along with Form 8853, *Archer MSAs and Long-Term Care (LTC) Insurance Contracts*, to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for any year that distributions are made from their Medicare MSA account to ensure that they are not taxed on their MSA account withdrawals.

These tax forms must be filed for any year in which a MSA account withdrawal is made even if the member has no taxable income or any other reason for filing Form 1040. MSA account withdrawals for qualified medical expenses are tax-free, while account withdrawals for non-medical expenses are subject to both income tax and a 50 percent tax penalty.

- You will receive a statement (Form 1099-SA) from your MSA trustee reporting your MSA savings account distributions by January 31 each year. The trustee is also required to report this information to the IRS.
  - O You must file tax forms 1040 and 8853 even if you are not otherwise required to file an income tax return in order to avoid owing taxes on MSA account withdrawals.
  - o Form 8853, Archer MSAs and Long-Term Care (LTC) Insurance Contracts, Section B, is the place to report both your Medicare MSA account withdrawals (which the IRS calls distributions) and on your qualified medical expenses for the year.
  - o Form 8853 and Form 8853 Instructions are available at www.irs.gov or from 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676). On the Web, look up forms by number at **Forms**. (**Note:** IRS tax code considers Medicare MSAs as a type of *Archer* MSA, therefore, IRS references to *Archer* MSAs include Medicare MSAs.)
- You must file by April 15 of the following year, unless you request an extension on your tax return.

Information reported to the IRS on MSA account withdrawals for qualified medical expenses is <u>not</u> the same expense information that will count towards your MSA plan deductible. Only Medicare Part A and Part B expenses will count towards your MSA plan deductible. Therefore, you will also want to keep track of your qualified medical expenses that are also Part A and Part B expenses and that will count towards your MSA plan deductible.

#### Helpful MSA-related publications related to tax-reporting requirements

The following are two IRS publications relevant to Medicare MSAs. They are available on the Web at www.irs.gov or from 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800 829-3676). On the Web, look up publications by number at **Publications**.

- IRS Publication 502 (*Medical and Dental Expenses*) defines what types of services generally count as qualified medical expenses for IRS tax purposes.
- IRS Publication 969 (*Health Savings Accounts and Other Tax-Favored Health Plans*) includes information on medical savings accounts, including Medicare MSAs. Publication 969 provides more items and services (in addition to those in Publication 502) that are qualified medical expenses for MSAs.

#### Who to call for more information or for help in preparing your tax return

You may call the IRS toll-free for live telephone assistance from Monday – Friday, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. local time, or you may visit your local IRS office.

• For individuals: 1-800-829-1040

• For people with hearing impairments: 1-800-829-4059 (TDD)

Face-to-Face Assistance: In certain areas, IRS also has local offices. Find your local office at www.irs.gov/help/contact-your-local-irs-office on the Web.

## CHAPTER 7:

What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)

#### **SECTION 1** Introduction

#### Section 1.1 What to do if you have a problem or concern

This chapter explains two types of processes for handling problems and concerns:

- For some problems, you need to use the process for coverage decisions and appeals.
- For other problems, you need to use the **process for making complaints**; also called grievances.

Both of these processes have been approved by Medicare. Each process has a set of rules, procedures, and deadlines that must be followed by us and by you.

The guide in Section 3 will help you identify the right process to use and what you should do.

#### Section 1.2 What about the legal terms?

There are legal terms for some of the rules, procedures, and types of deadlines explained in this chapter. Many of these terms are unfamiliar to most people and can be hard to understand. To make things easier, this chapter:

- Uses simpler words in place of certain legal terms. For example, this chapter generally says making a complaint rather than filing a grievance, coverage decision rather than organization determination, and Independent Review Organization instead of Independent Review Entity.
- It also uses abbreviations as little as possible.

However, it can be helpful – and sometimes quite important – for you to know the correct legal terms. Knowing which terms to use will help you communicate more accurately to get the right help or information for your situation. To help you know which terms to use, we include legal terms when we give the details for handling specific types of situations.

#### SECTION 2 Where to get more information and personalized assistance

We are always available to help you. Even if you have a complaint about our treatment of you, we are obligated to honor your right to complain. Therefore, you should always reach out to our member experience team for help. But in some situations, you may also want help or guidance from someone who is not connected with us. Below are two entities that can assist you.

#### **State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)**

Each state has a government program with trained counselors. The program is not connected with us or with any insurance company or health plan. The counselors at this program can help you understand which process you should use to handle a problem you are having. They can also answer your questions, give you more information, and offer guidance on what to do.

The services of SHIP counselors are free. You will find phone numbers and website URLs in Chapter 2, Section 3 of this document.

#### Medicare

You can also contact Medicare to get help. To contact Medicare:

- You can call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, seven days a week. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.
- You can also visit the Medicare website (www.Medicare.gov).

#### SECTION 3 To deal with your problem, which process should you use?

If you have a problem or concern, you only need to read the parts of this chapter that apply to your situation. The guide that follows will help.

#### Is your problem or concern about your benefits or coverage?

This includes problems about whether medical care (medical items, services and/or Part B prescription drugs) are covered or not, the way they are covered, and problems related to payment for medical care.

Yes.

Go on to the next section of this chapter, Section 4, A guide to the basics of coverage decisions and appeals.

No.

Skip ahead to Section 9 at the end of this chapter: How to make a complaint about quality of care, waiting times, customer service or other concerns.

#### **COVERAGE DECISIONS AND APPEALS**

#### SECTION 4 A guide to the basics of coverage decisions and appeals

#### Section 4.1 Asking for coverage decisions and making appeals: the big picture

Coverage decisions and appeals deal with problems related to your benefits and coverage for your medical care (services, items and Part B prescription drugs, including payment). To keep things simple, we generally refer to medical items, services and Medicare Part B prescription drugs as **medical care**. You use the coverage decision and appeals process for issues such as whether something is covered or not and the way in which something is covered.

#### Asking for coverage decisions prior to receiving benefits

A coverage decision is a decision we make about your benefits and coverage or about the amount we will pay for your medical care. For example, your plan network doctor makes a (favorable) coverage decision for you whenever you receive medical care from him or her or if your network doctor refers you to a medical specialist. You or your doctor can also contact us and ask for a coverage decision if your doctor is unsure whether we will cover a particular medical service or refuses to provide medical care you think that you need. In other words, if you want to know if we will cover medical care before you receive it, you can ask us to make a coverage decision for you. In limited circumstances a request for a coverage decision will be dismissed, which means we won't review the request. Examples of when a request will be dismissed include if the request is incomplete, if someone makes the request on your behalf but isn't legally authorized to do so or if you ask for your request to be withdrawn. If we dismiss a request for a coverage decision, we will send a notice explaining why the request was dismissed and how to ask for a review of the dismissal.

We are making a coverage decision for you whenever we decide what is covered for you and how much we pay. In some cases, we might decide medical care is not covered or is no longer covered by Medicare for you. If you disagree with this coverage decision, you can make an appeal.

#### Making an appeal

If we make a coverage decision, whether before or after a benefit is received, and you are not satisfied, you can **appeal** the decision. An appeal is a formal way of asking us to review and change a coverage decision we have made. Under certain circumstances, which we discuss later, you can request an expedited or **fast appeal** of a coverage decision. Your appeal is handled by different reviewers than those who made the original decision.

When you appeal a decision for the first time, this is called a Level 1 appeal. In this appeal, we review the coverage decision we made to check to see if we were properly following the rules. When we have completed the review, we give you our decision.

In limited circumstances an appeal request will be dismissed, which means we won't review the request. Examples of when a request will be dismissed include if the request is incomplete, if someone makes the request on your behalf but isn't legally authorized to do so or if you ask for your request to be withdrawn. If we dismiss a request for a Level 1 appeal, we will send a notice explaining why the request was dismissed and how to ask for a review of the dismissal.

If we say no to all or part of your Level 1 appeal for medical care, your appeal will automatically go on to a Level 2 appeal conducted by an independent review organization that is not connected to us.

- You do not need to do anything to start a Level 2 appeal. Medicare rules require we automatically send your appeal for medical care to Level 2 if we do not fully agree with your Level 1 appeal.
- See Section 5.4 of this chapter for more information about Level 2 appeals.

If you are not satisfied with the decision at the Level 2 appeal, you may be able to continue through additional levels of appeal (Section 8 in this chapter explains the Level 3, 4, and 5 appeals processes).

## Section 4.2 How to get help when you are asking for a coverage decision or making an appeal

Here are resources if you decide to ask for any kind of coverage decision or appeal a decision:

- You can call our member experience team.
- You can get free help from your State Health Insurance Assistance Program.
- Your doctor can make a request for you. If your doctor helps with an appeal past Level 2, they will need to be appointed as your representative. Please call our member experience team and ask for the *Appointment of Representative* form. (The form is also available on Medicare's website at www.cms.gov/Medicare/CMS-Forms/CMS-Forms/downloads/cms1696.pdf or on our website at networkhealth.com.
  - For medical care or Part B prescription drugs, your doctor can request a coverage decision or a Level 1 appeal on your behalf. If your appeal is denied at Level 1, it will be automatically forwarded to Level 2.
- You can ask someone to act on your behalf. If you want to, you can name another person to act for you as your *representative* to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal.
  - o If you want a friend, relative, or another person to be your representative, call our member experience team and ask for the *Appointment of Representative* form. (The form is also available on Medicare's website at <a href="https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/CMS-Forms/CMS-Forms/downloads/cms1696.pdf">www.cms.gov/Medicare/CMS-Forms/CMS-Forms/downloads/cms1696.pdf</a> or on our website at <a href="https://www.cms.gov/medicare/CMS-Forms/CMS-Forms/downloads/cms1696.pdf">networkloads/cms1696.pdf</a> or on our website at <a href="https://www.cms.gov/medicare/CMS-Forms/cms">networkloads/cms1696.pdf</a> or on our website at <a href="https://www.cms.gov/medicare/CMS-Forms/cms">networkloads/cms1696.pdf</a> or on our website at <a href="https://www.cms.gov/medicare/CMS-Forms/cms">networkloads/cms1696.pdf</a> or on our website at <a href="https://www.cms.gov/medicare/cms">networkloads/cms1696.pdf</a> or on our website at <a href="https://www.cms.gov/medicare/cms

of your care

## Chapter 7 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)

- O While we can accept an appeal request without the form, we cannot begin or complete our review until we receive it. If we do not receive the form within 44 calendar days after receiving your appeal request (our deadline for making a decision on your appeal), your appeal request will be dismissed. If this happens, we will send you a written notice explaining your right to ask the Independent Review Organization to review our decision to dismiss your appeal.
- You also have the right to hire a lawyer. You may contact your own lawyer or get the name of a lawyer from your local bar association or other referral service. There are also groups that will give you free legal services if you qualify. However, you are not required to hire a lawyer to ask for any kind of coverage decision or appeal a decision.

#### Section 4.3 Which section of this chapter gives the details for <u>your</u> situation?

There are three different situations that involve coverage decisions and appeals. Since each situation has different rules and deadlines, we give the details for each one in a separate section:

- Section 5 of this chapter: Your medical care: How to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal
- Section 6 of this chapter: How to ask us to cover a longer inpatient hospital stay if you think the doctor is discharging you too soon
- Section 7 of this chapter: How to ask us to keep covering certain medical services if you think your coverage is ending too soon (*Applies only to these services*: home health care, skilled nursing facility care, and Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services)

If you're not sure which section you should be using, please call our member experience team. You can also get help or information from government organizations such as your SHIP.

## SECTION 5 Your medical care: How to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal of a coverage decision Section 5.1 This section tells what to do if you have problems getting coverage for medical care or if you want us to pay you back for our share of the cost

This section is about your benefits for medical care. These benefits are described in Chapter 4 of this document: *Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)*. In some cases, different rules apply to a request for a Part B prescription drug. In those cases, we will explain how the rules for Part B prescription drugs are different from the rules for medical items and services.

This section tells what you can do if you are in any of the five following situations:

- 1. You are not getting certain medical care you want, and you believe that this care is covered by our plan. Ask for a coverage decision. Section 5.2.
- 2. Our plan will not approve the medical care your doctor or other medical provider wants to give you, and you believe that this care is covered by the plan. Ask for a coverage decision. Section 5.2.
- 3. You have received medical care that you believe should be covered by the plan, but we have said we will not pay for this care. **Make an appeal. Section 5.3.**
- 4. You have received and paid for medical care that you believe should be covered by the plan, and you want to ask our plan to reimburse you for this care. **Send us the bill. Section 5.5.**
- 5. You are being told that coverage for certain medical care you have been getting that we previously approved will be reduced or stopped, and you believe that reducing or stopping this care could harm your health. **Make an appeal. Section 5.3.**

Note: If the coverage that will be stopped is for hospital care, home health care, skilled nursing facility care, or Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services, you need to read Sections 6 and 7 of this Chapter. Special rules apply to these types of care.

#### Section 5.2 Step-by-step: How to ask for a coverage decision

#### **Legal Terms**

When a coverage decision involves your medical care, it is called an organization determination.

A fast coverage decision is called an **expedited determination**.

#### Step 1: Decide if you need a standard coverage decision or a fast coverage decision.

A standard coverage decision is usually made within 14 days or 72 hours for Part B drugs. A fast coverage decision is generally made within 72 hours, for medical services, or 24 hours for Part B drugs. In order to get a fast coverage decision, you must meet two requirements:

- You may *only ask* for coverage for medical care items and/or services (not requests for payment for items and/or services already received).
- You can get a fast coverage decision *only* if using the standard deadlines could *cause serious harm* to your health or hurt your ability to function.
- If your doctor tells us that your health requires a fast coverage decision, we will automatically agree to give you a fast coverage decision.

- If you ask for a fast coverage decision on your own, without your doctor's support, we will decide whether your health requires that we give you a fast coverage decision. If we do not approve a fast coverage decision, we will send you a letter that:
  - o Explains that we will use the standard deadlines.
  - o Explains if your doctor asks for the fast coverage decision, we will automatically give you a fast coverage decision.
  - Explains that you can file a *fast complaint* about our decision to give you a standard coverage decision instead of the fast coverage decision you requested.

#### Step 2: Ask our plan to make a coverage decision or fast coverage decision

Start by calling, writing, or faxing our plan to make your request for us to authorize or provide coverage for the medical care you want. You, your doctor, or your representative can do this. Chapter 2 has contact information.

#### Step 3: We consider your request for medical care coverage and give you our answer.

For standard coverage decisions we use the standard deadlines.

This means we will give you an answer within 14 calendar days after we receive your request for a medical item or service. If your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug, we will give you an answer within 72 hours after we receive your request.

- **However,** if you ask for more time, or if we need more information that may benefit you we can take up to 14 more days if your request is for a medical item or service. If we take extra days, we will tell you in writing. We can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.
- If you believe we should *not* take extra days, you can file a *fast complaint*. We will give you an answer to your complaint as soon as we make the decision. (The process for making a complaint is different from the process for coverage decisions and appeals. See Section 9 of this chapter for information on complaints.)

#### For Fast Coverage decisions we use an expedited timeframe

A fast coverage decision means we will answer within 72 hours if your request is for a medical item or service. If your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug, we will answer within 24 hours.

- **However**, if you ask for more time, or if we need more information that may benefit you **we can take up to 14 more days**. If we take extra days, we will tell you in writing. We can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.
- If you believe we should *not* take extra days, you can file a *fast complaint*. (See Section 9 of this chapter for information on complaints.) We will call you as soon as we make the decision.
- If our answer is no to part or all of what you requested, we will send you a written statement that explains why we said no.

#### Step 4: If we say no to your request for coverage for medical care, you can appeal.

• If we say no, you have the right to ask us to reconsider this decision by making an appeal. This means asking again to get the medical care coverage you want. If you make an appeal, it means you are going on to Level 1 of the appeals process.

#### Section 5.3 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 appeal

#### **Legal Terms**

An appeal to the plan about a medical care coverage decision is called a plan reconsideration.

A fast appeal is also called an **expedited reconsideration**.

#### Step 1: Decide if you need a standard appeal or a fast appeal.

A standard appeal is usually made within 30 days or seven days for Part B drugs. A fast appeal is generally made within 72 hours.

- If you are appealing a decision we made about coverage for care that you have not yet received, you and/or your doctor will need to decide if you need a *fast appeal*. If your doctor tells us that your health requires a *fast appeal*, we will give you a fast appeal.
- The requirements for getting a *fast appeal* are the same as those for getting a *fast coverage* decision in Section 5.2 of this chapter.

#### Step 2: Ask our plan for an appeal or a fast appeal

- If you are asking for a standard appeal, submit your standard appeal in writing. You may also ask for an appeal by calling us. Chapter 2 has contact information.
- If you are asking for a fast appeal, make your appeal in writing or call us. Chapter 2 has contact information.
- You must make your appeal request within 60 calendar days from the date on the written notice we sent to tell you our answer on the coverage decision. If you miss this deadline and have a good reason for missing it, you must explain the reason your appeal is late in writing. We may give you more time to make your appeal. Examples of good cause may include a serious illness that prevented you from contacting us or if we provided you with incorrect or incomplete information about the deadline for requesting an appeal.

You can ask for a copy of the information regarding your medical decision. You and your doctor may add more information to support your appeal.

#### Step 3: We consider your appeal and we give you our answer.

- When our plan is reviewing your appeal, we take a careful look at all of the information. We check to see if we were following all the rules when we said no to your request.
- We will gather more information if needed, possibly contacting you or your doctor.

#### Deadlines for a fast appeal

- For fast appeals, we must give you our answer within 72 hours after we receive your appeal. We will give you our answer sooner if your health requires us to.
  - O However, if you ask for more time, or if we need more information that may benefit you, we can take up to 14 more calendar days if your request is for a medical item or service. If we take extra days, we will tell you in writing. We can't take extra time if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.
  - o If we do not give you an answer within 72 hours (or by the end of the extended time period if we took extra days), we are required to automatically send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an Independent Review Organization. Section 5.4 explains the Level 2 appeal process.
- If our answer is yes to part or all of what you requested, we must authorize or provide the coverage we have agreed to provide within 72 hours after we receive your appeal.
- If our answer is no to part or all of what you requested, we will send you our decision in writing and automatically forward your appeal to the Independent Review Organization for a Level 2 appeal. The Independent Review Organization will notify you in writing when it receives your appeal.

#### Deadlines for a standard appeal

- For standard appeals, we must give you our answer within 30 calendar days after we receive your appeal. If your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug you have not yet received, we will give you our answer within seven calendar days after we receive your appeal. We will give you our decision sooner if your health condition requires us to.
  - O However, if you ask for more time, or if we need more information that may benefit you, we can take up to 14 more calendar days if your request is for a medical item or service. If we take extra days to make the decision, we will tell you in writing. We can't take extra time if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.
  - o If you believe we should *not* take extra days, you can file a *fast complaint*. When you file a fast complaint, we will give you an answer to your complaint within 24 hours. (See Section 9 of this chapter for information on complaints.)
  - o If we do not give you an answer by the deadline (or by the end of the extended time period), we will send your request to a Level 2 appeal, where an Independent Review Organization will review the appeal. Section 5.4 explains the Level 2 appeal process.
- If our answer is yes to part or all of what you requested, we must authorize or provide the coverage within 30 calendar days if your request is for a medical item or service, or within seven calendar days if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.
- If our plan says no to part or all of your appeal, we will automatically send your appeal to the Independent Review Organization for a Level 2 appeal.

#### Section 5.4 Step-by-step: How a Level 2 appeal is done

#### **Legal Term**

The formal name for the Independent Review Organization is the **Independent Review Entity.** It is sometimes called the **IRE**.

The Independent Review Organization is an independent organization hired by Medicare. It is not connected with us and is not a government agency. This organization decides whether the decision we made is correct or if it should be changed. Medicare oversees its work.

#### **Step 1:** The Independent Review Organization reviews your appeal.

- We will send the information about your appeal to this organization. This information is called your case file. You have the right to ask us for a copy of your case file.
- You have a right to give the Independent Review Organization additional information to support your appeal.
- Reviewers at the Independent Review Organization will take a careful look at all of the information related to your appeal.

#### If you had a fast appeal at Level 1, you will also have a fast appeal at Level 2

- For the *fast appeal* the review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 appeal **within** 72 hours of when it receives your appeal.
- However, if your request is for a medical item or service and the Independent Review Organization needs to gather more information that may benefit you, it can take up to 14 more calendar days.
   The Independent Review Organization can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.

#### If you had a standard appeal at Level 1, you will also have a standard appeal at Level 2

- For the *standard appeal* if your request is for a medical item or service, the review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 appeal **within 30 calendar days** of when it receives your appeal. If your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug, the review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 appeal **within seven calendar days** of when it receives your appeal.
- However, if your request is for a medical item or service and the Independent Review Organization
  needs to gather more information that may benefit you, it can take up to 14 more calendar days.
  The Independent Review Organization can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for
  a Medicare Part B prescription drug.

#### Step 2: The Independent Review Organization gives you their answer.

The Independent Review Organization will tell you its decision in writing and explain the reasons for it.

- If the review organization says yes to part or all of a request for a medical item or service, we must authorize the medical care coverage within 72 hours or provide the service within 14 calendar days after we receive the decision from the review organization for standard requests. For expedited requests, we have 72 hours from the date we receive the decision from the review organization.
- If the review organization says yes to part or all of a request for a Medicare Part B prescription drug, we must authorize or provide the Part B prescription drug within 72 hours after we receive the decision from the review organization for standard requests. For expedited requests we have 24 hours from the date we receive the decision from the review organization.
- If this organization says no to part or all of your appeal, it means they agree with us that your request (or part of your request) for coverage for medical care should not be approved. (This is called *upholding the decision or turning down your appeal*.) In this case, the Independent Review Organization will send you a letter:
  - o Explaining its decision.
  - Notifying you of the right to a Level 3 appeal if the dollar value of the medical care coverage
    meets a certain minimum. The written notice you get from the Independent Review
    Organization will tell you the dollar amount you must meet to continue the appeals process.
  - o Telling you how to file a Level 3 appeal.

## <u>Step 3:</u> If your case meets the requirements, you choose whether you want to take your appeal further.

- There are three additional levels in the appeals process after Level 2 (for a total of five levels of appeal). If you want to go to a Level 3 appeal the details on how to do this are in the written notice you get after your Level 2 appeal.
- The Level 3 appeal is handled by an Administrative Law Judge or attorney adjudicator. Section 8 in this chapter explains the Level 3, 4, and 5 appeals processes.

## Section 5.5 What if you are asking us to pay you for our share of a bill you have received for medical care?

Chapter 5 describes when you may need to ask for reimbursement or to pay a bill you have received from a provider. It also tells how to send us the paperwork that asks us for payment.

#### Asking for reimbursement is asking for a coverage decision from us

If you send us the paperwork asking for reimbursement, you are asking for a coverage decision. To make this decision, we will check to see if the medical care you paid for is covered. We will also check to see if you followed all the rules for using your coverage for medical care.

- If we say yes to your request: If the medical care is covered and you followed all the rules, we will send you the payment for our share of the cost within 60 calendar days after we receive your request. If you haven't paid for the medical care, we will send the payment directly to the provider.
- If we say no to your request: If the medical care is *not* covered, or you did *not* follow all the rules, we will not send payment. Instead, we will send you a letter that says we will not pay for the medical care and the reasons why

If you do not agree with our decision to turn you down, you can make an appeal. If you make an appeal, it means you are asking us to change the coverage decision we made when we turned down your request for payment.

To make this appeal, follow the process for appeals that we describe in Section 5.3. For appeals concerning reimbursement, please note:

- We must give you our answer within 60 calendar days after we receive your appeal. If you are asking us to pay you back for medical care you have already received and paid for, you are not allowed to ask for a fast appeal.
- If the Independent Review Organization decides we should pay, we must send you or the provider the payment within 30 calendar days. If the answer to your appeal is yes at any stage of the appeals process after Level 2, we must send the payment you requested to you or to the provider within 60 calendar days.

## SECTION 6 How to ask us to cover a longer inpatient hospital stay if you think you are being discharged too soon

When you are admitted to a hospital, you have the right to get all of your covered hospital services that are necessary to diagnose and treat your illness or injury.

During your covered hospital stay, your doctor and the hospital staff will be working with you to prepare for the day when you will leave the hospital. They will help arrange for care you may need after you leave.

- The day you leave the hospital is called your **discharge date**.
- When your discharge date is decided, your doctor or the hospital staff will tell you.
- If you think you are being asked to leave the hospital too soon, you can ask for a longer hospital stay and your request will be considered.

## Section 6.1 During your inpatient hospital stay, you will get a written notice from Medicare that tells about your rights

Within two days of being admitted to the hospital, you will be given a written notice called *An Important Message from Medicare about Your Rights*. Everyone with Medicare gets a copy of this notice. If you do not get the notice from someone at the hospital (for example, a caseworker or nurse), ask any hospital employee for it. If you need help, please call our member experience team or 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, seven days a week (TTY 1-877-486-2048).

- 1. Read this notice carefully and ask questions if you don't understand it. It tells you:
  - Your right to receive Medicare-covered services during and after your hospital stay, as ordered by your doctor. This includes the right to know what these services are, who will pay for them, and where you can get them.
  - Your right to be involved in any decisions about your hospital stay.
  - Where to report any concerns you have about the quality of your hospital care.
  - Your right to **request an immediate review** of the decision to discharge you if you think you are being discharged from the hospital too soon. This is a formal, legal way to ask for a delay in your discharge date so that we will cover your hospital care for a longer time.
- 2. You will be asked to sign the written notice to show that you received it and understand your rights.
  - You or someone who is acting on your behalf will be asked to sign the notice.
  - Signing the notice shows *only* that you have received the information about your rights. The notice does not give your discharge date. Signing the notice **does** *not* **mean** you are agreeing on a discharge date.
- **3. Keep your copy** of the notice handy so you will have the information about making an appeal (or reporting a concern about quality of care) if you need it.
  - If you sign the notice more than two days before your discharge date, you will get another copy before you are scheduled to be discharged.
  - To look at a copy of this notice in advance, you can call our member experience team or 1-800 MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, seven days a week. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048. You can also see the notice online at www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/BNI/HospitalDischargeappealNotices.

## Section 6.2 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 appeal to change your hospital discharge date

If you want to ask for your inpatient hospital services to be covered by us for a longer time, you will need to use the appeals process to make this request. Before you start, understand what you need to do and what the deadlines are.

- Follow the process.
- Meet the deadlines.
- Ask for help if you need it. If you have questions or need help at any time, please call our member experience team. Or call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program, a government organization that provides personalized assistance.

During a Level 1 appeal, the Quality Improvement Organization reviews your appeal. It checks to see if your planned discharge date is medically appropriate for you.

The **Quality Improvement Organization** is a group of doctors and other health care professionals paid by the Federal government to check on and help improve the quality of care for people with Medicare. This includes reviewing hospital discharge dates for people with Medicare. These experts are not part of our plan.

## <u>Step 1</u>: Contact the Quality Improvement Organization for your state and ask for an immediate review of your hospital discharge. You must act quickly.

#### How can you contact this organization?

• The written notice you received (*An Important Message from Medicare About Your Rights*) tells you how to reach this organization. Or find the name, address, and phone number of the Quality Improvement Organization for your state in Chapter 2.

#### Act quickly:

- To make your appeal, you must contact the Quality Improvement Organization *before* you leave the hospital and **no later than midnight the day of your discharge.** 
  - o **If you meet this deadline**, you may stay in the hospital *after* your discharge date *without* paying for it while you wait to get the decision from the Quality Improvement Organization.
  - o **If you do** *not* **meet this deadline**, and you decide to stay in the hospital after your planned discharge date, *you may have to pay all of the costs* for hospital care you receive after your planned discharge date.
- If you miss the deadline for contacting the Quality Improvement Organization, and you still wish to appeal, you must make an appeal directly to our plan instead. For details about this other way to make your appeal, see Section 6.4.

Once you request an immediate review of your hospital discharge the Quality Improvement Organization will contact us. By noon of the day after we are contacted we will give you a **Detailed Notice of Discharge**. This notice gives your planned discharge date and explains in detail the reasons why your doctor, the hospital, and we think it is right (medically appropriate) for you to be discharged on that date.

You can get a sample of the **Detailed Notice of Discharge** by calling our member experience team or 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, seven days a week. (TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.) Or you can see a sample notice online at www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/BNI/HospitalDischargeappealNotices

## <u>Step 2:</u> The Quality Improvement Organization conducts an independent review of your case.

- Health professionals at the Quality Improvement Organization (the reviewers) will ask you (or your representative) why you believe coverage for the services should continue. You don't have to prepare anything in writing, but you may do so if you wish.
- The reviewers will also look at your medical information, talk with your doctor, and review information that the hospital and we have given to them.

• By noon of the day after the reviewers told us of your appeal, you will get a written notice from us that gives your planned discharge date. This notice also explains in detail the reasons why your doctor, the hospital, and we think it is right (medically appropriate) for you to be discharged on that date.

## <u>Step 3:</u> Within one full day after it has all the needed information, the Quality Improvement Organization will give you its answer to your appeal.

#### What happens if the answer is yes?

- If the review organization says *yes*, we must keep providing your covered inpatient hospital services for as long as these services are medically necessary.
- You will have to keep paying your share of the costs (such as deductibles or copayments, if these apply). In addition, there may be limitations on your covered hospital services.

#### What happens if the answer is no?

- If the review organization says *no*, they are saying that your planned discharge date is medically appropriate. If this happens, **our coverage for your inpatient hospital services will end** at noon on the day *after* the Quality Improvement Organization gives you its answer to your appeal.
- If the review organization says *no* to your appeal and you decide to stay in the hospital, then **you** may have to pay the full cost of hospital care you receive after noon on the day after the Quality Improvement Organization gives you its answer to your appeal.

## Step 4: If the answer to your Level 1 appeal is no, you decide if you want to make another appeal

• If the Quality Improvement Organization has said *no* to your appeal, *and* you stay in the hospital after your planned discharge date, then you can make another appeal. Making another appeal means you are going on to Level 2 of the appeals process.

## Section 6.3 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 2 appeal to change your hospital discharge date

During a Level 2 appeal, you ask the Quality Improvement Organization to take another look at their decision on your first appeal. If the Quality Improvement Organization turns down your Level 2 appeal, you may have to pay the full cost for your stay after your planned discharge date.

#### Step 1: Contact the Quality Improvement Organization again and ask for another review

• You must ask for this review **within 60 calendar days** after the day the Quality Improvement Organization said *no* to your Level 1 appeal. You can ask for this review only if you stay in the hospital after the date that your coverage for the care ended.

#### Step 2: The Quality Improvement Organization does a second review of your situation

• Reviewers at the Quality Improvement Organization will take another careful look at all of the information related to your appeal.

## <u>Step 3:</u> Within 14 calendar days of receipt of your request for a Level 2 appeal, the reviewers will decide on your appeal and tell you their decision.

#### If the review organization says yes:

- We must reimburse you for our share of the costs of hospital care you have received since noon on
  the day after the date your first appeal was turned down by the Quality Improvement Organization.
   We must continue providing coverage for your inpatient hospital care for as long as it is
  medically necessary.
- You must continue to pay your share of the costs and coverage limitations may apply.

#### If the review organization says no:

- It means they agree with the decision they made on your Level 1 appeal. This is called *upholding the decision*.
- The notice you get will tell you in writing what you can do if you wish to continue with the review process.

## <u>Step 4:</u> If the answer is no, you will need to decide whether you want to take your appeal further by going on to Level 3

- There are three additional levels in the appeals process after Level 2 (for a total of five levels of appeal). If you want to go to a Level 3 appeal, the details on how to do this are in the written notice you get after your Level 2 appeal decision.
- The Level 3 appeal is handled by an Administrative Law Judge or attorney adjudicator. Section 8 in this chapter tells more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

## Section 6.4 What if you miss the deadline for making your Level 1 appeal to change your hospital discharge date?

#### **Legal Term**

A fast review (or fast appeal) is also called an **expedited appeal**.

#### You can appeal to us instead

As explained above, you must act quickly to start your Level 1 appeal of your hospital discharge date. If you miss the deadline for contacting the Quality Improvement Organization, there is another way to make your appeal.

If you use this other way of making your appeal, the first two levels of appeal are different.

#### Step-by-Step: How to make a Level 1 Alternate Appeal

#### Step 1: Contact us and ask for a fast review.

• **Ask for a fast review**. This means you are asking us to give you an answer using the *fast* deadlines rather than the *standard* deadlines. Chapter 2 has contact information.

## <u>Step 2:</u> We do a fast review of your planned discharge date, checking to see if it was medically appropriate.

• During this review, we take a look at all of the information about your hospital stay. We check to see if your planned discharge date was medically appropriate. We see if the decision about when you should leave the hospital was fair and followed all the rules.

#### Step 3: We give you our decision within 72 hours after you ask for a fast review.

- If we say yes to your appeal, it means we have agreed with you that you still need to be in the hospital after the discharge date. We will keep providing your covered inpatient hospital services for as long as they are medically necessary. It also means that we have agreed to reimburse you for our share of the costs of care you have received since the date when we said your coverage would end. (You must pay your share of the costs and there may be coverage limitations that apply.)
- If we say no to your appeal, we are saying that your planned discharge date was medically appropriate. Our coverage for your inpatient hospital services ends as of the day we said coverage would end.
  - o If you stayed in the hospital *after* your planned discharge date, then **you may have to pay the full cost** of hospital care you received after the planned discharge date.

## <u>Step 4:</u> If we say *no* to your appeal, your case will *automatically* be sent on to the next level of the appeals process.

#### Step-by-Step: Level 2 Alternate Appeal Process

#### Legal Term

The formal name for the Independent Review Organization is the **Independent Review Entity.** It is sometimes called the **IRE**.

The Independent Review Organization is an independent organization hired by Medicare. It is not connected with our plan and is not a government agency. This organization decides whether the decision we made is correct or if it should be changed. Medicare oversees its work.

#### Step 1: We will automatically forward your case to the Independent Review Organization.

• We are required to send the information for your Level 2 appeal to the Independent Review Organization within 24 hours of when we tell you that we are saying no to your first appeal. (If you think we are not meeting this deadline or other deadlines, you can make a complaint. Section 9 of this chapter tells how to make a complaint.)

## <u>Step 2:</u> The Independent Review Organization does a fast review of your appeal. The reviewers give you an answer within 72 hours.

- Reviewers at the Independent Review Organization will take a careful look at all of the information related to your appeal of your hospital discharge.
- If this organization says yes to your appeal, then we must pay you back for our share of the costs of hospital care you received since the date of your planned discharge. We must also continue the plan's coverage of your inpatient hospital services for as long as it is medically necessary. You must continue to pay your share of the costs. If there are coverage limitations, these could limit how much we would reimburse or how long we would continue to cover your services.
- If this organization says *no* to your appeal, it means they agree that your planned hospital discharge date was medically appropriate.
  - The written notice you get from the Independent Review Organization will tell how to start a Level 3 appeal with the review process, which is handled by an Administrative Law Judge or attorney adjudicator.

## <u>Step 3:</u> If the Independent Review Organization turns down your appeal, you choose whether you want to take your appeal further.

- There are three additional levels in the appeals process after Level 2 (for a total of five levels of appeal). If reviewers say no to your Level 2 appeal, you decide whether to accept their decision or go on to Level 3 appeal.
- Section 8 in this chapter tells more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

# SECTION 7 How to ask us to keep covering certain medical services if you think your coverage is ending too soon Section 7.1 This section is only about three services: Home health care, skilled nursing facility care, and Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services

When you are getting covered home health services, skilled nursing care, or rehabilitation care (Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility), you have the right to keep getting your services for that type of care for as long as the care is needed to diagnose and treat your illness or injury.

When we decide it is time to stop covering any of the three types of care for you, we are required to tell you in advance. When your coverage for that care ends, we will stop paying our share of the cost for your care.

If you think we are ending the coverage of your care too soon, you can appeal our decision. This section tells you how to ask for an appeal.

#### Section 7.2 We will tell you in advance when your coverage will be ending

#### **Legal Term**

**Notice of Medicare Non-Coverage.** It tells you how you can request a **fast-track appeal.** Requesting a fast-track appeal is a formal, legal way to request a change to our coverage decision about when to stop your care.

- 1. You receive a notice in writing at least two days before our plan is going to stop covering your care. The notice tells you:
  - The date when we will stop covering the care for you.
  - How to request a *fast track appeal* to request us to keep covering your care for a longer period of time.
- 2. You, or someone who is acting on your behalf, will be asked to sign the written notice to show that you received it. Signing the notice shows *only* that you have received the information about when your coverage will stop. Signing it does <u>not</u> mean you agree with the plan's decision to stop care.

## Section 7.3 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 appeal to have our plan cover your care for a longer time

If you want to ask us to cover your care for a longer period of time, you will need to use the appeals process to make this request. Before you start, understand what you need to do and what the deadlines are:

- Follow the process.
- Meet the deadlines.
- Ask for help if you need it. If you have questions or need help at any time, please call our member experience team. Or call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program, a government organization that provides personalized assistance.

During a Level 1 appeal, the Quality Improvement Organization reviews your appeal. It decides if the end date for your care is medically appropriate.

The **Quality Improvement Organization** is a group of doctors and other health care experts paid by the Federal government to check on and help improve the quality of care for people with Medicare. This includes reviewing plan decisions about when it's time to stop covering certain kinds of medical care. These experts are not part of our plan.

## <u>Step 1:</u> Make your Level 1 appeal: contact the Quality Improvement Organization and ask for a *fast-track appeal*. You must act quickly.

#### How can you contact this organization?

• The written notice you received (*Notice of Medicare Non*-Coverage) tells you how to reach this organization. Or find the name, address, and phone number of the Quality Improvement Organization for your state in Chapter 2.

#### Act quickly:

- You must contact the Quality Improvement Organization to start your appeal by noon of the day before the effective date on the Notice of Medicare Non-Coverage.
- If you miss the deadline for contacting the Quality Improvement Organization, and you still wish to file an appeal, you must make an appeal directly to us instead. For details about this other way to make your appeal, see Section 7.5.

## Step 2: The Quality Improvement Organization conducts an independent review of your case.

#### **Legal Term**

**Detailed Explanation of Non-Coverage.** Notice that provides details on reasons for ending coverage.

#### What happens during this review?

- Health professionals at the Quality Improvement Organization (the reviewers) will ask you, or your representative, why you believe coverage for the services should continue. You don't have to prepare anything in writing, but you may do so if you wish.
- The review organization will also look at your medical information, talk with your doctor, and review information that our plan has given to them.
- By the end of the day the reviewers tell us of your appeal, you will get the **Detailed Explanation of** Non-Coverage from us that explains in detail our reasons for ending our coverage for your
   services.

## <u>Step 3:</u> Within one full day after they have all the information they need, the reviewers will tell you their decision.

#### What happens if the reviewers say yes?

- If the reviewers say yes to your appeal, then we must keep providing your covered services for as long as it is medically necessary.
- You will have to keep paying your share of the costs (such as deductibles or copayments, if these apply). There may be limitations on your covered services.

#### What happens if the reviewers say no?

• If the reviewers say no, then your coverage will end on the date we have told you.

• If you decide to keep getting the home health care, or skilled nursing facility care, or Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services *after* this date when your coverage ends, then **you will have to pay the full cost** of this care yourself.

## Step 4: If the answer to your Level 1 appeal is no, you decide if you want to make another appeal.

• If reviewers say *no* to your Level 1 appeal – <u>and</u> you choose to continue getting care after your coverage for the care has ended – then you can make a Level 2 appeal.

## Section 7.4 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 2 appeal to have our plan cover your care for a longer time

During a Level 2 appeal, you ask the Quality Improvement Organization to take another look at the decision on your first appeal. If the Quality Improvement Organization turns down your Level 2 appeal, you may have to pay the full cost for your home health care, or skilled nursing facility care, or Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services *after* the date when we said your coverage would end.

#### Step 1: Contact the Quality Improvement Organization again and ask for another review.

• You must ask for this review **within 60 days** after the day when the Quality Improvement Organization said *no* to your Level 1 appeal. You can ask for this review only if you continued getting care after the date that your coverage for the care ended.

#### Step 2: The Quality Improvement Organization does a second review of your situation.

• Reviewers at the Quality Improvement Organization will take another careful look at all of the information related to your appeal.

## <u>Step 3:</u> Within 14 days of receipt of your appeal request, reviewers will decide on your appeal and tell you their decision.

#### What happens if the review organization says yes?

- We must reimburse you for our share of the costs of care you have received since the date when we said your coverage would end. We must continue providing coverage for the care for as long as it is medically necessary.
- You must continue to pay your share of the costs and there may be coverage limitations that apply.

#### What happens if the review organization says no?

- It means they agree with the decision made to your Level 1 appeal.
- The notice you get will tell you in writing what you can do if you wish to continue with the review process. It will give you the details about how to go on to the next level of appeal, which is handled by an Administrative Law Judge or attorney adjudicator.

### <u>Step 4:</u> If the answer is no, you will need to decide whether you want to take your appeal further.

- There are three additional levels of appeal after Level 2, for a total of five levels of appeal. If you want to go on to a Level 3 appeal, the details on how to do this are in the written notice you get after your Level 2 appeal decision.
- The Level 3 appeal is handled by an Administrative Law Judge or attorney adjudicator. Section 8 in this chapter tells more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

#### Section 7.5 What if you miss the deadline for making your Level 1 appeal?

#### You can appeal to us instead

As explained above, you must act quickly to contact the Quality Improvement Organization to start your first appeal (within a day or two, at the most). If you miss the deadline for contacting this organization, there is another way to make your appeal. If you use this other way of making your appeal, *the first two levels of appeal are different*.

#### Step-by-Step: How to make a Level 1 Alternate Appeal

#### **Legal Term**

A fast review (or fast appeal) is also called an **expedited appeal**.

#### Step 1: Contact us and ask for a fast review.

• **Ask for a fast review**. This means you are asking us to give you an answer using the *fast* deadlines rather than the *standard* deadlines. Chapter 2 has contact information.

### Step 2: We do a fast review of the decision we made about when to end coverage for your services.

• During this review, we take another look at all of the information about your case. We check to see if we were following all the rules when we set the date for ending the plan's coverage for services you were receiving.

#### Step 3: We give you our decision within 72 hours after you ask for a fast review.

- If we say yes to your appeal, it means we have agreed with you that you need services longer and will keep providing your covered services for as long as they are medically necessary. It also means that we have agreed to reimburse you for our share of the costs of care you have received since the date when we said your coverage would end. (You must pay your share of the costs and there may be coverage limitations that apply.)
- If we say no to your appeal, then your coverage will end on the date we told you and we will not pay any share of the costs after this date.

• If you continued to get home health care, or skilled nursing facility care, or Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services *after* the date when we said your coverage would end, then **you will have to pay the full cost** of this care.

## <u>Step 4:</u> If we say *no* to your fast appeal, your case will *automatically* go on to the next level of the appeals process.

#### Legal Term

The formal name for the Independent Review Organization is the **Independent Review Entity.** It is sometimes called the **IRE**.

#### Step-by-Step: Level 2 Alternate Appeal Process

During the Level 2 appeal, the **Independent Review Organization** reviews the decision we made to your *fast appeal*. This organization decides whether the decision should be changed. **The Independent Review Organization is an independent organization that is hired by Medicare**. This organization is not connected with our plan and it is not a government agency. This organization is a company chosen by Medicare to handle the job of being the Independent Review Organization. Medicare oversees its work.

#### Step 1: We automatically forward your case to the Independent Review Organization.

• We are required to send the information for your Level 2 appeal to the Independent Review Organization within 24 hours of when we tell you that we are saying no to your first appeal. (If you think we are not meeting this deadline or other deadlines, you can make a complaint. Section 9 of this chapter tells how to make a complaint.)

# Step 2: The Independent Review Organization does a fast review of your appeal. The reviewers give you an answer within 72 hours.

- Reviewers at the Independent Review Organization will take a careful look at all of the information related to your appeal.
- If this organization says yes to your appeal, then we must pay you back for our share of the costs of care you have received since the date when we said your coverage would end. We must also continue to cover the care for as long as it is medically necessary. You must continue to pay your share of the costs. If there are coverage limitations, these could limit how much we would reimburse or how long we would continue to cover services.
  - If this organization says *no* to your appeal, it means they agree with the decision our plan made to your first appeal and will not change it.
- The notice you get from the Independent Review Organization will tell you in writing what you can do if you wish to go on to a Level 3 appeal.

### <u>Step 3:</u> If the Independent Review Organization says no to your appeal, you choose whether you want to take your appeal further.

- There are three additional levels of appeal after Level 2, for a total of five levels of appeal. If you want to go on to a Level 3 appeal, the details on how to do this are in the written notice you get after your Level 2 appeal decision.
- A Level 3 appeal is reviewed by an Administrative Law Judge or attorney adjudicator. Section 8 in this chapter tells more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

#### SECTION 8 Taking your appeal to Level 3 and beyond

#### Section 8.1 Appeal Levels 3, 4 and 5 for Medical Service Requests

This section may be appropriate for you if you have made a Level 1 appeal and a Level 2 appeal, and both of your appeals have been turned down.

If the dollar value of the item or medical service you have appealed meets certain minimum levels, you may be able to go on to additional levels of appeal. If the dollar value is less than the minimum level, you cannot appeal any further. The written response you receive to your Level 2 appeal will explain how to make a Level 3 appeal.

For most situations that involve appeals, the last three levels of appeal work in much the same way. Here is who handles the review of your appeal at each of these levels.

# Level 3 appeal An Administrative Law Judge or an attorney adjudicator who works for the Federal government will review your appeal and give you an answer.

- If the Administrative Law Judge or attorney adjudicator says yes to your appeal, the appeals process may or may not be over. Unlike a decision at a Level 2 appeal, we have the right to appeal a Level 3 decision that is favorable to you. If we decide to appeal it will go to a Level 4 appeal.
  - o If we decide *not* to appeal, we must authorize or provide you with the medical care within 60 calendar days after receiving the Administrative Law Judge's or attorney adjudicator's decision.
  - If we decide to appeal the decision, we will send you a copy of the Level 4 appeal request with any accompanying documents. We may wait for the Level 4 appeal decision before authorizing or providing the medical care in dispute.
- If the Administrative Law Judge or attorney adjudicator says no to your appeal, the appeals process may or may not be over.
  - o If you decide to accept this decision that turns down your appeal, the appeals process is over.
  - o If you do not want to accept the decision, you can continue to the next level of the review process. The notice you get will tell you what to do for a Level 4 appeal.

**Level 4 appeal** The **Medicare Appeals Council** (Council) will review your appeal and give you an answer. The Council is part of the Federal government.

- If the answer is yes, or if the Council denies our request to review a favorable Level 3 appeal decision, the appeals process may or may not be over. Unlike a decision at Level 2, we have the right to appeal a Level 4 decision that is favorable to you. We will decide whether to appeal this decision to Level 5.
  - o If we decide *not* to appeal the decision, we must authorize or provide you with the medical care within 60 calendar days after receiving the Council's decision.
  - o If we decide to appeal the decision, we will let you know in writing.
- If the answer is no or if the Council denies the review request, the appeals process may or may not be over.
  - o If you decide to accept this decision that turns down your appeal, the appeals process is over.
  - o If you do not want to accept the decision, you may be able to continue to the next level of the review process. If the Council says no to your appeal, the notice you get will tell you whether the rules allow you to go on to a Level 5 appeal and how to continue with a Level 5 appeal.

#### **Level 5 appeal** A judge at the **Federal District Court** will review your appeal.

• A judge will review all of the information and decide *yes* or *no* to your request. This is a final answer. There are no more appeal levels after the Federal District Court.

#### MAKING COMPLAINTS

# SECTION 9 How to make a complaint about quality of care, waiting times, customer service, or other concerns

#### Section 9.1 What kinds of problems are handled by the complaint process?

The complaint process is *only* used for certain types of problems. This includes problems related to quality of care, waiting times and customer service. Here are examples of the kinds of problems handled by the complaint process:

Complaint	Example	
Quality of your medical care	<ul> <li>Are you unhappy with the quality of the care you have received (including care in the hospital)?</li> </ul>	
Respecting your privacy	<ul> <li>Did someone not respect your right to privacy or share confidential information?</li> </ul>	

Complaint	Example
Disrespect, poor customer service, or other negative behaviors	<ul> <li>Has someone been rude or disrespectful to you?</li> <li>Are you unhappy with our member experience team?</li> <li>Do you feel you are being encouraged to leave the plan?</li> </ul>
Waiting times	<ul> <li>Are you having trouble getting an appointment, or waiting too long to get it?</li> <li>Have you been kept waiting too long by doctors or other health professionals? Or by our member experience team or other staff at the plan?</li> <li>Examples include waiting too long on the phone, in the waiting or exam room.</li> </ul>
Cleanliness	• Are you unhappy with the cleanliness or condition of a clinic, hospital, or doctor's office?
Information you get from us	<ul><li>Did we fail to give you a required notice?</li><li>Is our written information hard to understand?</li></ul>
Timeliness (These types of complaints are all related to the timeliness of our actions related to coverage decisions and appeals)	If you have asked for a coverage decision or made an appeal, and you think that we are not responding quickly enough, you can make a complaint about our slowness. Here are examples:
	<ul> <li>You asked us for a fast coverage decision or a fast appeal, and we have said no; you can make a complaint.</li> <li>You believe we are not meeting the deadlines for coverage decisions or appeals; you can make a complaint.</li> <li>You believe we are not meeting deadlines for covering or reimbursing you for certain medical items or services that were approved; you can make a complaint.</li> <li>You believe we failed to meet required deadlines for forwarding your case to the Independent Review Organization; you can make a complaint.</li> </ul>

#### Section 9.2 How to make a complaint

#### **Legal Terms**

- A Complaint is also called a grievance.
- Making a complaint is also called filing a grievance.
- Using the process for complaints is also called using the process for filing a grievance.
- A fast complaint is also called an expedited grievance.

#### Section 9.3 Step-by-step: Making a complaint

#### Step 1: Contact us promptly – either by phone or in writing.

- Usually, calling our member experience team is the first step. If there is anything else you need to do, our member experience team will let you know.
- If you do not wish to call (or you called and were not satisfied), you can put your complaint in writing and send it to us. If you put your complaint in writing, we will respond to your complaint in writing.
- Send your grievance (complaint) in writing to Network Health Medicare Advantage Plans,
- Attn: Appeals and Grievances, PO Box 120, 1570 Midway Pl., Menasha, WI 54952, via fax at 920-720-1832, or phone by calling 800-378-5234 (TTY 800-947-3529).
- If you request a fast coverage determination or appeal and we deny your request, we will call you and send you a letter within 72 hours notifying you that your request will automatically follow the standard grievance and appeals process.
- The **deadline** for making a complaint is 60 calendar days from the time you had the problem you want to complain about.

#### Step 2: We look into your complaint and give you our answer.

- If possible, we will answer you right away. If you call us with a complaint, we may be able to give you an answer on the same phone call.
- Most complaints are answered within 30 calendar days. If we need more information and the delay is in your best interest or if you ask for more time, we can take up to 14 more calendar days (44 calendar days total) to answer your complaint. If we decide to take extra days, we will tell you in writing.
- If you are making a complaint because we denied your request for a fast coverage decision or a fast appeal, we will automatically give you a fast complaint. If you have a fast complaint, it means we will give you an answer within 24 hours.
- If we do not agree with some or all of your complaint or don't take responsibility for the problem you are complaining about, we will include our reasons in our response to you.

# Section 9.4 You can also make complaints about quality of care to the Quality Improvement Organization

When your complaint is about *quality of care*, you also have two extra options:

- You can make your complaint directly to the Quality Improvement Organization.
- The Quality Improvement Organization is a group of practicing doctors and other health care experts paid by the Federal government to check and improve the care given to Medicare patients. Chapter 2 has contact information.

OR

• You can make your complaint to both the Quality Improvement Organization and us at the same time.

#### Section 9.5 You can also tell Medicare about your complaint

You can submit a complaint about Network Health Prime directly to Medicare. To submit a complaint to Medicare, go to <a href="https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx">www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx</a>. You may also call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY/TDD users can call 1-877-486-2048.

# CHAPTER 8: Ending your membership in the plan

#### **SECTION 1** Introduction to ending your membership in our plan

Ending your membership in Network Health Prime may be **voluntary** (your own choice under permitted situations) or **involuntary** (not your own choice):

- You might leave our plan because you have decided that you *want* to leave. Sections 2 and 3 provide information on ending your membership voluntarily.
- There are also limited situations where we are required to end your membership. Section 6 tells you about situations when we must end your membership.

If you are leaving our plan, our plan must continue to provide your medical care and you will continue to pay your cost share until your membership ends.

#### SECTION 2 When can you end your membership in our plan?

#### Section 2.1 You can end your membership during the Annual Enrollment Period

You can end your membership in our plan during the **Annual Enrollment Period** (also known as the *Annual Open Enrollment Period*). In certain situations, you may also be eligible to leave the plan at other times of the year. If this is your first time enrolling in an MSA plan you may cancel this enrollment by December 15, 2023.

- The Annual Enrollment Period is from October 15 to December 7.
- Choose to keep your current coverage or make changes to your coverage for the upcoming year. If you decide to change to a new plan, you can choose any of the following types of plans:
  - Keep your Medicare Savings Account (MSA) plan and enroll in a separate prescription drug plan (or enroll in a new prescription drug plan if you do not currently have one);
  - o Another Medicare health plan, with or without prescription drug coverage;
  - o Original Medicare with a separate Medicare prescription drug plan;

OR

- o Original Medicare without a separate Medicare prescription drug plan.
- Your membership will end in our plan when your new plan's coverage begins on January 1.

# Section 2.2 In certain limited situations, you can end your membership during a Special Enrollment Period

In certain limited situations, members of Network Health Prime may be eligible to end their membership at other times of the year. This is known as a **Special Enrollment Period**.

You may be eligible to end your membership during a Special Enrollment Period if any of the following situations apply to you. These are just examples, for the full list you can contact the plan, call Medicare, or visit the Medicare website (www.Medicare.gov):

- Usually, when you have moved.
- If we violate our contract with you.
- If you are getting care in an institution, such as a nursing home or long-term care (LTC) hospital.
- If you have a change in your Medicaid status. (Please note that people with Medicaid coverage are not eligible to enroll in a Medicare MSA plan.)

The enrollment time periods vary depending on your situation.

**To find out if you are eligible for a Special Enrollment Period,** please call Medicare at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, seven days a week. TTY users call 1-877-486-2048. If you are eligible to end your membership because of a special situation, you can choose to change both your Medicare health coverage and prescription drug coverage. You can choose:

- Another Medicare health plan with or without prescription drug coverage.
- Original Medicare *with* a separate Medicare prescription drug plan (or enroll in a new prescription drug plan if you do not currently have one).

OR

• Original Medicare without a separate Medicare prescription drug plan.

Your membership will usually end on the first day of the month after we receive your request to change your plan.

**If you receive Extra Help from Medicare to pay for your prescription drugs:** If you switch to Original Medicare and do not enroll in a separate Medicare prescription drug plan, Medicare may enroll you in a drug plan, unless you have opted out of automatic enrollment.

# Section 2.3 Where can you get more information about when you can end your membership?

If you have any questions about ending your membership you can:

- Call our member experience team.
- Find the information in the *Medicare & You 2024* handbook.
- Contact **Medicare** at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, seven days a week (TTY 1-877-486-2048).

#### **SECTION 3** What happens if you leave our plan in the middle of the year?

#### Section 3.1 What happens to the money in your account if you leave our plan?

If you leave our plan in the middle of the year, part of the current year's deposit will be refunded to Medicare. The amount recovered and refunded to Medicare depends on the number of months left in the current calendar year. For example, if you get a \$1,200 deposit in your account in January and you leave the plan in March, we will recover \$900 to return to Medicare.

Funds remaining in your account from any previous year belong to you. Recovery applies only to funds deposited into your account for the current year. If you have any questions, please contact our member experience team.

#### SECTION 4 How do you end your membership in our plan?

The table below explains how you should end your membership in our plan during permitted timeframes:

If you would like to switch from our plan to:	This is what you should do:
Another Medicare health plan.	• Enroll in the new Medicare health plan. You will automatically be disenrolled from Network Health Prime when your new plan's coverage begins.
Original Medicare (either with or without a separate Medicare prescription drug plan).	• Send us a written request to disenroll. Contact our member experience team if you need more information on how to do this.
	<ul> <li>You will be disenrolled from Network Health Prime when your coverage in Original Medicare begins.</li> </ul>

**Note:** If you also have creditable prescription drug coverage (e.g., standalone PDP) and disenroll from that coverage, you may have to pay a Part D late enrollment penalty if you join a Medicare drug plan later after going without creditable prescription drug coverage for 63 days or more in a row.

# SECTION 5 Until your membership ends, you must keep getting your medical items and services through our plan

Until your membership ends, and your new Medicare coverage begins, you must continue to get your medical items and services through our plan.

• If you are hospitalized on the day that your membership ends, your hospital stay will be covered by our plan until you are discharged (even if you are discharged after your new health coverage begins).

# SECTION 6 Network Health Prime must end your membership in the plan in certain situations

#### Section 6.1 When must we end your membership in the plan?

#### Network Health Prime must end your membership in the plan if any of the following happen:

- If you no longer have Medicare Part A and Part B.
- If you obtain other insurance (to include supplemental policies) that covers all or part of the annual Medicare MSA deductible such as through insurance primary to Medicare, or retirement health benefits.
- If you obtain Medicaid coverage.
- If you move out of our service area.
- If you are away from our service area for more than six months.
- If you move or take a long trip, call our member experience team to find out if the place you are moving or traveling to is in our plan's area.
- If you become incarcerated (go to prison).
- If you are no longer a United States citizen or lawfully present in the United States.
- If you intentionally give us incorrect information when you are enrolling in our plan and that information affects your eligibility for our plan. (We cannot make you leave our plan for this reason unless we get permission from Medicare first.)
- If you continuously behave in a way that is disruptive and makes it difficult for us to provide medical care for you and other members of our plan. (We cannot make you leave our plan for this reason unless we get permission from Medicare first.)
- If you let someone else use your member ID card to get medical care. (We cannot make you leave our plan for this reason unless we get permission from Medicare first.)
  - o If we end your membership because of this reason, Medicare may have your case investigated by the Inspector General.

#### Where can you get more information?

If you have questions or would like more information on when we can end your membership call our member experience team.

#### Section 6.2 We <u>cannot</u> ask you to leave our plan for any health-related reason

Network Health Prime is not allowed to ask you to leave our plan for any health-related reason.

#### What should you do if this happens?

If you feel that you are being asked to leave our plan because of a health-related reason, call Medicare at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) 24 hours a day, seven days a week (TTY 1-877-486-2048).

# Section 6.3 You have the right to make a complaint if we end your membership in our plan

If we end your membership in our plan, we must tell you our reasons in writing for ending your membership. We must also explain how you can file a grievance or make a complaint (also called a grievance) about our decision to end your membership; see Chapter 7 for how to file a complaint.

# CHAPTER 9: Legal notices

#### SECTION 1 Notice about governing law

The principal law that applies to this *Evidence of Coverage* document is Title XVIII of the Social Security Act and the regulations created under the Social Security Act by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, or CMS. In addition, other Federal laws may apply and, under certain circumstances, the laws of the state you live in. This may affect your rights and responsibilities even if the laws are not included or explained in this document.

#### **SECTION 2** Notice about non-discrimination

We don't discriminate based on race, ethnicity, national origin, color, religion, sex, gender, age, sexual orientation, mental or physical disability, health status, claims experience, medical history, genetic information, evidence of insurability, or geographic location within the service area. All organizations that provide Medicare Advantage plans, like our plan, must obey Federal laws against discrimination, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, all other laws that apply to organizations that get Federal funding, and any other laws and rules that apply for any other reason.

If you want more information or have concerns about discrimination or unfair treatment, please call the Department of Health and Human Services' **Office for Civil Rights** at 1-800-368-1019 (TTY 1-800-537-7697) or your local Office for Civil Rights. You can also review information from the Department of Health and Human Services' Office for Civil Rights at https://www.hhs.gov/ocr/index.html.

If you have a disability and need help with access to care, please call our member experience team. If you have a complaint, such as a problem with wheelchair access, our member experience team can help.

#### **SECTION 3** Notice about Medicare Secondary Payer subrogation rights

We have the right and responsibility to collect for covered Medicare services for which Medicare is not the primary payer. According to CMS regulations at 42 CFR sections 422.108 and 423.462, Network Health Prime, as a Medicare Advantage Organization, will exercise the same rights of recovery that the Secretary exercises under CMS regulations in subparts B through D of part 411 of 42 CFR and the rules established in this section supersede any State laws.

#### SECTION 4 Third Party Liabilities

As a member of Network Health Prime, you agree to assign to Network Health Insurance Corporation all rights and claims against any third party for recovery of medical, surgical or hospital care costs that Network Health Insurance Corporation pays or arranges to pay on your behalf. Network Health Insurance Corporation has the right of subrogation against third parties liable or responsible for medical, surgical or hospital care costs that Network Health Insurance Corporation arranges or pays on your behalf.

As a member of Network Health Prime, you agree to release any medical, surgical or hospital care expenserelated claim you may have against a third party when Network Health Insurance Corporation settles or compromises the claim.

As a member of Network Health Prime, you must notify Network Health Insurance Corporation in writing within 31 days after the start of any legal proceedings against a third party. You may not enter into a proposed settlement, compromise, agreed judgement or release of claims against a third party without Network Health Insurance Corporation's written consent.

As a member of Network Health Prime, you agree to permit Network Health Insurance Corporation to participate or intervene in any legal proceeding against a third party at Network Health Insurance Corporation's own expense.

# CHAPTER 10: Definitions of important words

**Ambulatory Surgical Center** – An Ambulatory Surgical Center is an entity that operates exclusively for the purpose of furnishing outpatient surgical services to patients not requiring hospitalization and whose expected stay in the center does not exceed 24 hours.

**Annual Enrollment Period** – The time period of October 15 until December 7 of each year when members can change their health or drug plans or switch to Original Medicare.

**Appeal** – An appeal is something you do if you disagree with our decision to deny a request for coverage of health care services or payment for services you already received. You may also make an appeal if you disagree with our decision to stop services that you are receiving.

**Balance Billing** — When a provider (such as a doctor or hospital) bills a patient more than the plan's allowed cost-sharing amount. As a member of Network Health Prime, you only have to pay our plan's cost-sharing amounts when you get services covered by our plan. We do not allow providers to *balance bill* or otherwise charge you more than the amount of cost sharing your plan says you must pay.

**Calendar Year** – each successive period of twelve (12) months starting on January 1 and ending on December 31.

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) – The Federal agency that administers Medicare.

**Complaint** – The formal name for *making a complaint* is *filing a grievance*. The complaint process is used *only* for certain types of problems. This includes problems related to quality of care, waiting times, and the customer service you receive. It also includes complaints if your plan does not follow the time periods in the appeal process.

Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) – A facility that mainly provides rehabilitation services after an illness or injury, including physical therapy, social or psychological services, respiratory therapy, occupational therapy and speech-language pathology services, and home environment evaluation services.

**Cost Sharing** – Cost sharing refers to amounts that a member has to pay when services are received. Cost sharing includes any combination of the following three types of payments: (1) any deductible amount a plan may impose before services are covered; (2) any fixed *copayment* amount that a plan requires when a specific service is received; or (3) any *coinsurance* amount, a percentage of the total amount paid for a service, that a plan requires when a specific service is received.

**Covered Services** – The term we use in this EOC to mean all of the health care services and supplies that are covered by our plan.

Creditable Prescription Drug Coverage – Prescription drug coverage (for example, from an employer or union) that is expected to pay, on average, at least as much as Medicare's standard prescription drug coverage. People who have this kind of coverage when they become eligible for Medicare can generally keep that coverage without paying a penalty, if they decide to enroll in Medicare prescription drug coverage later.

**Critical Access Hospital** – A rural acute care facility providing 24-hour emergency services, acute inpatient and swing-bed care.

Custodial Care – Custodial care is personal care provided in a nursing home, hospice, or other facility setting when you do not need skilled medical care or skilled nursing care. Custodial care provided by people who do not have professional skills or training, includes help with activities of daily living like bathing, dressing, eating, getting in or out of a bed or chair, moving around, and using the bathroom. It may also include the kind of health-related care that most people do themselves, like using eye drops. Medicare doesn't pay for custodial care.

**Deductible** – The amount you must pay for health care before our plan pays.

**Disenroll** or **Disenrollment** – The process of ending your membership in our plan.

**Durable Medical Equipment (DME)** – Certain medical equipment that is ordered by your doctor for medical reasons. Examples include walkers, wheelchairs, crutches, powered mattress systems, diabetic supplies, IV infusion pumps, speech generating devices, oxygen equipment, nebulizers, or hospital beds ordered by a provider for use in the home.

Emergency – A medical emergency is when you, or any other prudent layperson with an average knowledge of health and medicine, believe that you have medical symptoms that require immediate medical attention to prevent loss of life (and, if you are a pregnant woman, loss of an unborn child), loss of a limb, or loss of function of a limb, or loss of or serious impairment to a bodily function. The medical symptoms may be an illness, injury, severe pain, or a medical condition that is quickly getting worse.

**Emergency Care** – Covered services that are: 1) provided by a provider qualified to furnish emergency services; and 2) needed to treat, evaluate, or stabilize an emergency medical condition.

**Evidence of Coverage (EOC) and Disclosure Information** – This document, along with your enrollment form and any other attachments, riders, or other optional coverage selected, which explains your coverage, what we must do, your rights, and what you have to do as a member of our plan.

**Grievance** – A type of complaint you make about our plan or providers, including a complaint concerning the quality of your care. This does not involve coverage or payment disputes.

**Home Health Aide** – A person who provides services that do not need the skills of a licensed nurse or therapist, such as help with personal care (e.g., bathing, using the toilet, dressing, or carrying out the prescribed exercises).

**Hospice** – A benefit that provides special treatment for a member who has been medically certified as terminally ill, meaning having a life expectancy of six months or less. We, your plan, must provide you with a list of hospices in your geographic area. If you elect hospice and continue to pay premiums you are still a member of our plan. You can still obtain all medically necessary services as well as the supplemental benefits we offer.

**Hospital Inpatient Stay** – A hospital stay when you have been formally admitted to the hospital for skilled medical services. Even if you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an *outpatient*.

**Initial Enrollment Period** – When you are first eligible for Medicare, the period of time when you can sign up for Medicare Part A and Part B. If you're eligible for Medicare when you turn 65, your Initial Enrollment Period is the 7-month period that begins three months before the month you turn 65, includes the month you turn 65, and ends three months after the month you turn 65.

**Medicaid (or Medical Assistance)** – A joint Federal and State program that helps with medical costs for some people with low incomes and limited resources. State Medicaid programs vary, but most health care costs are covered if you qualify for both Medicare and Medicaid. You cannot be a member of our Medicare Medical Savings Account (MSA) plan if you have Medicaid.

**Medically Necessary** – Services, supplies, or drugs that are needed for the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of your medical condition and meet accepted standards of medical practice. Health care services or supplies are considered medically necessary when they meet these requirements:

- a) Are necessary to identify, diagnose, or treat a bodily injury or illness;
- b) Are consistent with your diagnosis in accord with generally accepted standards of the medical community;
- c) Are provided in the least intense, most cost-effective setting or manner needed for your bodily injury or illness.

**Medicare** – The Federal health insurance program for people 65 years of age or older, some people under age 65 with certain disabilities, and people with End-Stage Renal Disease (generally those with permanent kidney failure who need dialysis or a kidney transplant).

Medicare Advantage (MA) Plan – Sometimes called Medicare Part C. A plan offered by a private company that contracts with Medicare to provide you with all your Medicare Part A and Part B benefits. A Medicare Advantage Plan can be an i) HMO, ii) PPO, a iii) Private Fee-for-Service (PFFS) plan, or a iv) Medicare Medical Savings Account (MSA) plan. Besides choosing from these types of plans, a Medicare Advantage HMO or PPO plan can also be a Special Needs Plan (SNP) In most cases, Medicare Advantage Plans also offer Medicare Part D (prescription drug coverage). These plans are called Medicare Advantage Plans with Prescription Drug Coverage.

**Medicare-Covered Services** – Services covered by Medicare Part A and Part B. All Medicare health plans must cover all of the services that are covered by Medicare Part A and B. The term Medicare-Covered Services does not include the extra benefits, such as vision, dental or hearing, that a Medicare Advantage plan may offer.

**Medicare Health Plan** – A Medicare health plan is offered by a private company that contracts with Medicare to provide Part A and Part B benefits to people with Medicare who enroll in the plan. This term includes all Medicare Advantage Plans, Medicare Cost Plans, Special Needs Plans, Demonstration/Pilot Programs, and Programs of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE).

**Medicare Medical Savings Account (MSA) Plan** – A type of Medicare Advantage Plan that combines a high-deductible health insurance plan with a medical savings account that members can use to pay for their health care costs.

Medigap (Medicare Supplement Insurance) Policy – Medicare supplement insurance sold by private insurance companies to fill gaps in Original Medicare. Medigap policies only work with Original Medicare. (A Medicare Advantage Plan is not a Medigap policy.)

**Member (Member of our Plan, or Plan Member)** – A person with Medicare who is eligible to get covered services, who has enrolled in our plan and whose enrollment has been confirmed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

Member Experience Team (commonly referred to as customer service) – A department within our plan responsible for answering your questions about your membership, benefits, grievances, and appeals.

**Observation Services** – Observation services are hospital outpatient services given to help the doctor decide if the patient needs to be admitted as an inpatient or can be discharged. Observation services may be given in the emergency department or another area of the hospital.

**Optional Supplemental Benefits** – Non-Medicare-covered benefits that can be purchased for an additional premium and are not included in your package of benefits. You must voluntarily elect Optional Supplemental Benefits in order to get them.

**Organization Determination** – A decision our plan makes about whether items or services are covered or how much you have to pay for covered items or services. Organization determinations are called *coverage decisions* in this document.

**Original Medicare** (Traditional Medicare or Fee-for-service Medicare) – Original Medicare is offered by the government, and not a private health plan such as Medicare Advantage Plans and prescription drug plans. Under Original Medicare, Medicare services are covered by paying doctors, hospitals, and other health care providers payment amounts established by Congress. You can see any doctor, hospital, or other health care provider that accepts Medicare. You must pay the deductible. Medicare pays its share of the Medicare-approved amount, and you pay your share. Original Medicare has two parts: Part A (Hospital Insurance) and Part B (Medical Insurance) and is available everywhere in the United States.

Out-of-Pocket Costs – See the definition for cost sharing above. A member's cost-sharing requirement to pay for a portion of services received is also referred to as the member's out-of-pocket cost requirement.

Over-the-Counter (OTC) – Drugs and health-related products that do not need a prescription.

Part C – see Medicare Advantage (MA) Plan.

**Part D** – The voluntary Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Program.

**Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) Plan** – A Preferred Provider Organization plan is a Medicare Advantage Plan that has a network of contracted providers that have agreed to treat plan members for a specified payment amount. A PPO plan must cover all plan benefits whether they are received from network or out-of-network providers. Member cost sharing will generally be higher when plan benefits are received from out-of-network providers. PPO plans have an annual limit on your out-of-pocket costs for services received from network (preferred) providers and a higher limit on your total combined out-of-pocket costs for services from both in-network (preferred) and out-of-network (non-preferred) providers.

**Premium** – The periodic payment to Medicare, an insurance company, or a health care plan for health or prescription drug coverage.

**Primary Care Provider (PCP)** – The doctor or other provider you see first for most health problems. In many Medicare health plans, you must see your primary care provider before you see any other health care provider.

**Prior Authorization** – Approval in advance to get services. As a member of a Medicare Medical Savings Account (MSA) plan, you do not need prior authorization to obtain services. However, you may want to check with us before obtaining services to confirm that the service is covered by the plan.

**Prosthetics and Orthotics** – Medical devices including, but are not limited to, arm, back and neck braces; artificial limbs; artificial eyes; and devices needed to replace an internal body part or function, including ostomy supplies and enteral and parenteral nutrition therapy.

**Qualified Medical Expenses** – Qualified medical expenses are those expenses that would generally qualify for the medical and dental expenses deduction on your income tax return. These expenses are explained in IRS Publication 502, Medical and Dental Expenses.

**Quality Improvement Organization (QIO)** – A group of practicing doctors and other health care experts paid by the Federal government to check and improve the care given to Medicare patients.

**Rehabilitation Services** – These services include physical therapy, speech and language therapy, and occupational therapy.

**Self-Administered Drugs (SADs)** – Medications that you would normally take on your own, such as medications to control blood pressure or diabetes.

**Service Area** – A geographic area where you must live to join a particular health plan. For plans that limit which doctors and hospitals you may use, it's also generally the area where you can get routine (non-emergency) services. The plan must disenroll you if you permanently move out of the plan's service area.

**Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Care** – Skilled nursing care and rehabilitation services provided on a continuous, daily basis, in a skilled nursing facility. Examples of care include physical therapy or intravenous injections that can only be given by a registered nurse or doctor.

**Special Enrollment Period** – A set time when members can change their health or drug plans or return to Original Medicare. Situations in which you may be eligible for a Special Enrollment Period include: if you move outside the service area, if you move into a nursing home, or if we violate our contract with you.

**Special Needs Plan** – A special type of Medicare Advantage Plan that provides more focused health care for specific groups of people, such as those who have both Medicare and Medicaid, who reside in a nursing home, or who have certain chronic medical conditions.

**Supplemental Security Income (SSI)** – A monthly benefit paid by Social Security to people with limited income and resources who are disabled, blind, or age 65 and older. SSI benefits are not the same as Social Security benefits.

**Urgently Needed Services** – Covered services that are not emergency services, provided when the innetwork providers are temporarily unavailable or inaccessible or when the enrollee is out of the service area. For example, you need immediate care during the weekend. Services must be immediately needed and medically necessary.

#### **Network Health Prime Member Experience Team**

Method	Member Experience Team – Contact Information
CALL	800-378-5234
	Calls to this number are free. Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
	Our member experience team also has free language interpreter services available for non-English speakers.
TTY	800-947-3529
	This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
	Calls to this number are free. Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
FAX	920-720-1905
WRITE	Network Health Medicare Advantage Plans
	PO Box 120
	1570 Midway Pl.
	Menasha, WI 54952
WEBSITE	networkhealth.com

#### **Wisconsin SHIP**

Wisconsin SHIP is a state program that gets money from the Federal government to give free local health insurance counseling to people with Medicare.

Method	Contact Information
CALL	1-800-242-1060
WRITE	Wisconsin State Health Insurance Assistance Program 1402 Pankratz Street, Suite 111 Madison, WI 53704-4001
WEBSITE	dhs.wisconsin.gov/benefit-specialists/medicare-counseling.htm

**PRA Disclosure Statement** According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0938-1051. If you have comments or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Attn: PRA Reports Clearance Officer, Mail Stop C4-26-05, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

#### Multi-Language Insert – REQUIRED INFORMATION

#### **Multi-language Interpreter Services**

**English:** We have free interpreter services to answer any questions you may have about our health or drug plan. To get an interpreter, just call us at 800-378-5234 (TTY 800-947-3529). Someone who speaks English/Language can help you. This is a free service.

**Spanish:** Tenemos servicios de intérprete sin costo alguno para responder cualquier pregunta que pueda tener sobre nuestro plan de salud o medicamentos. Para hablar con un intérprete, por favor llame al 800-378-5234 (TTY 800-947-3529). Alguien que hable español le podrá ayudar. Este es un servicio gratuito.

Chinese Mandarin: 我们提供免费的翻译服务,帮助您解答关于健康或药物保险的任何疑问。如果您需要此翻译服务,请致电 800-378-5234 (TTY 800-947-3529)。我们的中文工作人员很乐意帮助您。这是一项免费服务。

Chinese Cantonese: 您對我們的健康或藥物保險可能存有疑問, 為此我們提供免費的翻譯服務。如需翻譯服務, 請致電 800-378-5234 (TTY 800-947-3529)。我們講中文的人員將樂意為您提供幫助。這是一項免費服務。

**Tagalog:** Mayroon kaming libreng serbisyo sa pagsasaling-wika upang masagot ang anumang mga katanungan ninyo hinggil sa aming planong pangkalusugan o panggamot. Upang makakuha ng tagasaling-wika, tawagan lamang kami sa 800-378-5234 (TTY 800-947-3529). Maaari kayong tulungan ng isang nakakapagsalita ng Tagalog. Ito ay libreng serbisyo.

**French:** Nous proposons des services gratuits d'interprétation pour répondre à toutes vos questions relatives à notre régime de santé ou d'assurance-médicaments. Pour accéder au service d'interprétation, il vous suffit de nous appeler au 800-378-5234 (TTY 800-947-3529). Un interlocuteur parlant Français pourra vous aider. Ce service est gratuit.

**Vietnamese:** Chúng tôi có dịch vụ thông dịch miễn phí để trả lời các câu hỏi về chương sức khỏe và chương trình thuốc men. Nếu quí vị cần thông dịch viên xin gọi 800-378-5234 (TTY 800-947-3529) sẽ có nhân viên nói tiếng Việt giúp đỡ quí vị. Đây là dịch vụ miễn phí.

**German:** Unser kostenloser Dolmetscherservice beantwortet Ihren Fragen zu unserem Gesundheits- und Arzneimittelplan. Unsere Dolmetscher erreichen Sie unter 800-378-5234 (TTY 800-947-3529). Man wird Ihnen dort auf Deutsch weiterhelfen. Dieser Service ist kostenlos.

Korean: 당사는 의료 보험 또는 약품 보험에 관한 질문에 답해 드리고자 무료 통역 서비스를 제공하고 있습니다. 통역 서비스를 이용하려면 전화 800-378-5234 (TTY 800-947-3529) 번으로 문의해 주십시오. 한국어를 하는 담당자가 도와 드릴 것입니다. 이 서비스는 무료로 운영됩니다.

**Russian:** Если у вас возникнут вопросы относительно страхового или медикаментного плана, вы можете воспользоваться нашими бесплатными услугами переводчиков. Чтобы воспользоваться услугами переводчика, позвоните нам по телефону 5234-378-800 (ТТҮ 3529-947-800). Вам окажет помощь сотрудник, который говорит по-русски. Данная услуга бесплатная.

Arabic: إننا نقدم خدمات المترجم الفوري المجانية للإجابة عن أي أسئلة تتعلق بالصحة أو جدول الأدوية لدينا. للحصول ينا على سيقوم شخص ما (352-947-900 47-3529 على مترجم فوري، ليس عليك سوى الاتصال بنا على سيقوم شخص ما (47-3529-940-947).

Hindi: हमारे स्वास्थ्य या दवा की योजना के बारे में आपके किसी भी प्रश्न के जवाब देने के लिए हमारे पास मुफ्त दुभाषिया सेवाएँ उपलब्ध हैं. एक दुभाषिया प्राप्त करने के लिए, बस हमें 800-378-5234 (TTY 800-947-3529) पर फोन करें. कोई व्यक्ति जो हिन्दी बोलता है आपकी मदद कर सकता है. यह एक मुफ्त सेवा है.

**Italian:** È disponibile un servizio di interpretariato gratuito per rispondere a eventuali domande sul nostro piano sanitario e farmaceutico. Per un interprete, contattare il numero 800-378-5234 (TTY 800-947-3529). Un nostro incaricato che parla Italianovi fornirà l'assistenza necessaria. È un servizio gratuito.

**Portugués:** Dispomos de serviços de interpretação gratuitos para responder a qualquer questão que tenha acerca do nosso plano de saúde ou de medicação. Para obter um intérprete, contactenos através do número 800-378-5234 (TTY 800-947-3529). Irá encontrar alguém que fale o idioma Português para o ajudar. Este serviço é gratuito.

**French Creole:** Nou genyen sèvis entèprèt gratis pou reponn tout kesyon ou ta genyen konsènan plan medikal oswa dwòg nou an. Pou jwenn yon entèprèt, jis rele nou nan 800-378-5234 (TTY 800-947-3529). Yon moun ki pale Kreyòl kapab ede w. Sa a se yon sèvis ki gratis.

**Polish:** Umożliwiamy bezpłatne skorzystanie z usług tłumacza ustnego, który pomoże w uzyskaniu odpowiedzi na temat planu zdrowotnego lub dawkowania leków. Aby skorzystać z pomocy tłumacza znającego język polski, należy zadzwonić pod numer 800-378-5234 (TTY 800-947-3529). Ta usługa jest bezpłatna.

Japanese: 当社の健康 健康保険と薬品 処方薬プランに関するご質問にお答えするために、無料の通訳サービスがありますございます。通訳をご用命になるには、800-378-5234 (TTY 800-947-3529) にお電話ください。日本語を話す人 者 が支援いたします。これは無料のサー ビスです。

**Hmong:** Peb muaj cov kev pab cuam kws txhais lus pab dawb los teb tej lus nug uas koj muaj hais txog peb li kev noj qab hauv huv los sis lub phiaj xwm tshuaj kho mob. Kom tau txais kws txhais lus pab dawb, tsuas yog hu rau peb ntawm tus xov tooj 800-378-5234 (TTY 800-947-3529). Qee tus neeg uas hais Askiv/Yam Lus koj paub tuaj yeem pab tau rau koj. Qhov no yog kev pab dawb.