

2025

Evidence of Coverage

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**Priority**Medicare<sup>SM</sup> D-SNP (HMO)

offered by Priority Health

January 1, 2025–December 31, 2025

# Your Medicare Health Benefits and Services and Prescription Drug Coverage as a Member of PriorityMedicare D-SNP (HMO)

This booklet gives you the details about your Medicare health care and prescription drug coverage from January 1–December 31, 2025. It explains how to get coverage for the health care services and prescription drugs you need. **This is an important legal document. Please keep it in a safe place.**

## Additional resources

This information is available in a different format, including Braille and large print.

Benefits, premium, deductible, and/or copayments/coinsurance may change on January 1, 2026.

The formulary, pharmacy network, and/or provider network may change at any time. You will receive notice when necessary.

Please contact our Customer Service at 833.939.0983 for additional information. (TTY users should call 711). We're available 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., seven days a week.

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. For more information, please visit the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) website at ***irs.gov/Affordable-Care-Act/Individuals-and-Families***

## About PriorityMedicare D-SNP

Priority Health has D-SNP (HMO) plans with a Medicare contract and a contract with the State Medicaid program. Enrollment in **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO) depends on contract renewal.

This plan, **Priority**Medicare D-SNP, is offered by Priority Health Medicare. (When this Evidence of Coverage says "we," "us," or "our," it means it means Priority Health Medicare. When it says "plan" or "our plan," it means **Priority**Medicare D-SNP.)

## Multi-Language Insert

### 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 833.939.0983. 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 833.939.0983. 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 833.939.0983。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 833.939.0983。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 833.939.0983. 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 833.939.0983. 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 quý vị cần thông dịch viên xin gọi 833.939.0983 sẽ có nhân viên nói tiếng Việt giúp đỡ quý vị. Đây là dịch vụ miễn phí.

**German:** Unser kostenloser Dolmetscherservice beantwortet Ihren Fragen zu unserem Gesundheits- und Arzneimittelplan. Unsere Dolmetscher erreichen Sie unter 833.939.0983. Man wird Ihnen dort auf Deutsch weiterhelfen. Dieser Service ist kostenlos.

**Korean:** 당사는 의료 보험 또는 약품 보험에 관한 질문에 대해 드리고자 무료 통역 서비스를 제공하고 있습니다. 통역 서비스를 이용하려면 전화 833.939.0983 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 833.939.0983. 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 على مترجم فوري، ليس عليك سوى الاتصال بنا على 833.939.0983. سيقوم شخص ما يتحدث العربية بمساعدتك. هذه خدمة مجانية.

**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 833.939.0983 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 833.939.0983. Un nostro incaricato che parla Italianovi fornirà l'assistenza necessaria. È un servizio gratuito.

**Portuguese:** 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, contacte-nos através do número 833.939.0983. 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 833.939.0983. 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 833.939.0983. 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、無料の通訳サービスがあります。通訳をご用命になるには、833.939.0983 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。

**January 1 – December 31, 2025**

## **Evidence of Coverage:**

### **Your Medicare Health Benefits and Services and Prescription Drug Coverage as a Member of PriorityMedicare D-SNP (HMO)**

This document gives you the details about your Medicare health care and prescription drug coverage from January 1 – December 31, 2025. **This is an important legal document. Please keep it in a safe place.**

**For questions about this document, please contact Member Services at 833.939.0983. (TTY users should call 711.) Hours are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week. This call is free.**

This plan, **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (**HMO**), is offered by Priority Health Medicare. (When this *Evidence of Coverage* says “we,” “us,” or “our,” it means Priority Health Medicare. When it says “plan” or “our plan,” it means **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (**HMO**).)

This document is available for free in Spanish. This information is available in a different format, including braille, large print and audio.

Benefits, premiums, deductibles, and/or copayments/coinsurance may change on January 1, 2026.

The formulary, pharmacy network, and/or provider network may change at any time. You will receive notice when necessary. We will notify affected enrollees about changes at least 30 days in advance.

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

- Your plan premium and cost sharing;
- Your medical and prescription drug 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.

**2025 Evidence of Coverage**

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# CHAPTER 1:

*Getting started as a member*

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## **SECTION 1 Introduction**

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<b>Section 1.1</b>	<b>You are enrolled in PriorityMedicare D-SNP (HMO), which is a specialized Medicare Advantage Plan (Special Needs Plan)</b>
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You are covered by both Medicare and Medicaid:

- **Medicare** is 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 (kidney failure).
- **Medicaid** is a joint Federal and state government program that helps with medical costs for certain people with limited incomes and resources. Medicaid coverage varies depending on the state and the type of Medicaid you have. Some people with Medicaid get help paying for their Medicare premiums and other costs. Other people also get coverage for additional services and drugs that are not covered by Medicare.

You have chosen to get your Medicare health care and your prescription drug coverage through our plan, **PriorityMedicare D-SNP (HMO)**. 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.

**PriorityMedicare D-SNP (HMO)** is a specialized Medicare Advantage Plan (a Medicare Special Needs Plan), which means its benefits are designed for people with special health care needs. **PriorityMedicare D-SNP (HMO)** is designed for people who have Medicare and who are also entitled to full assistance from Medicaid.

Because you get assistance from Medicaid with your Medicare Part A and B cost sharing (deductibles, copayments, and coinsurance) you may pay nothing for your Medicare health care services. Michigan Medicaid also provides other benefits to you by covering health care services that are not usually covered under Medicare. You will also receive “Extra Help” from Medicare to pay for the costs of your Medicare prescription drugs. **PriorityMedicare D-SNP (HMO)** will help manage all of these benefits for you, so that you get the health care services and payment assistance that you are entitled to.

**PriorityMedicare D-SNP (HMO)** is run by a non-profit organization. Like all Medicare Advantage Plans, this Medicare Special Needs Plan is approved by Medicare. The plan also has a contract with the Michigan Medicaid program to coordinate your Medicaid benefits. We are pleased to be providing your Medicare health care coverage, including your prescription drug coverage.

**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](http://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 Medicare medical care and prescription drugs. 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 and the prescription drugs available to you as a member of **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO).

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 Member Services.

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

This *Evidence of Coverage* is part of our contract with you about how **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO) covers your care. Other parts of this contract include your enrollment form, the *List of Covered Drugs (Formulary)*, 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 the months in which you are enrolled in **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO) between January 1, 2025, and December 31, 2025.

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 **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO) after December 31, 2025. We can also choose to stop offering the plan in your service area, or to offer it in a different service area, after December 31, 2025.

Medicare (the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) must approve **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO) 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.

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

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### **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

**Chapter 1 Getting started as a member**

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- -- *and* -- You live in our geographic service area (Section 2.3 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 are a United States citizen or are lawfully present in the United States.
- -- *and* -- You meet the special eligibility requirements described below.

**Special eligibility requirements for our plan**

Our plan is designed to meet the needs of people who receive certain Michigan Medicaid benefits. (Medicaid is a joint Federal and state government program that helps with medical costs for certain people with limited incomes and resources.) To be eligible for our plan you must be eligible for Medicare and full Michigan Medicaid benefits (categories listed below):

- Qualified Medicare Beneficiary + (QMB +)
- Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary + (SLMB +)
- Full Benefits Dual Eligible (FBDE)

Please note: If you lose your eligibility but can reasonably be expected to regain eligibility within six-month(s), then you are still eligible for membership in our plan (Chapter 4, Section 2.1 tells you about coverage and cost sharing during a period of deemed continued eligibility).

<b>Section 2.2</b>	<b>What is Medicaid?</b>
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Medicaid is a joint Federal and state government program that helps with medical costs for certain people who have limited incomes and resources. Each state decides what counts as income and resources, who is eligible, what services are covered, and the cost for services. States also can decide how to run their program as long as they follow the Federal guidelines.

In addition, there are programs offered through Medicaid that help people with Medicare pay their Medicare costs, such as their Medicare premiums. These “Medicare Savings Programs” help people with limited income and resources save money each year:

- **Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB):** Helps pay Medicare Part A and Part B premiums, and other cost sharing (like deductibles, coinsurance, and copayments). (Some people with QMB are also eligible for full Medicaid benefits (QMB+).)
- **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.

**Section 2.3 Here is the plan service area for PriorityMedicare D-SNP (HMO)**

**PriorityMedicare D-SNP (HMO)** 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 counties in Michigan:

<b>Michigan Counties</b>		
Alcona	Allegan	Alpena
Antrim	Arenac	Barry
Bay	Benzie	Berrien
Branch	Calhoun	Cass
Charlevoix	Cheboygan	Clare
Clinton	Crawford	Eaton
Emmet	Genesee	Gladwin
Grand Traverse	Gratiot	Hillsdale
Huron	Ingham	Ionia
Iosco	Isabella	Jackson
Kalamazoo	Kalkaska	Kent
Lake	Lapeer	Leelanau
Lenawee	Livingston	Macomb
Manistee	Mason	Mecosta
Midland	Missaukee	Monroe
Montcalm	Montmorency	Muskegon
Newaygo	Oakland	Oceana
Ogemaw	Osceola	Oscoda
Otsego	Ottawa	Presque Isle
Roscommon	Saginaw	St. Clair
St. Joseph	Sanilac	Shiawassee
Tuscola	Van Buren	Washtenaw
Wayne	Wexford	

If you plan to move to a new state, you should also contact your state’s Medicaid office and ask how this move will affect your Michigan Medicaid program benefits. Phone numbers for the Michigan Medicaid program are in Chapter 2, Section 6 of this document.

If you plan to move out of the service area, you cannot remain a member of this plan. Please contact Member Services 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 2.4 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 **PriorityMedicare** D-SNP (HMO) if you are not eligible to remain a member on this basis. **PriorityMedicare** D-SNP (HMO) must disenroll you if you do not meet this requirement.

**SECTION 3 Important membership materials you will receive**

**Section 3.1 Your plan membership card**

While you are a member of our plan, you must use your membership card whenever you get services covered by this plan and for prescription drugs you get at network pharmacies. You should also show the provider your Medicaid card. Here's a sample membership card to show you what yours will look like:

**Priority Health** Plan Year: 2025  
**STANLEY E SAMPLE**  
**ID: 800000000-00**  
Group ID: 10003  
Plan name: PriorityMedicare D-SNP (HMO)  
PCP: \$0 Rx BIN: 003858  
Specialist: \$0 Rx PCN: MD  
Prescription: Yes Rx Group #: PHMEDCR  
Issuer: 80840  
HPID#: 7962405198  
MedicareRx  
Prescription Drug Coverage X

**Customer Service: 833.939.0983 (TTY 711)**  
**8 a.m. to 8 p.m., seven days a week**  
[prioritymedicare.com](http://prioritymedicare.com)  
For mental health, substance abuse benefits and assistance call 800.673.8043.

Important contact information: For prescription reimbursement:  
Delta Dental: 800.330.2732 Priority Health (Medicare Part D)  
EyeMed: 844.366.5127 1231 East Beltline NE, MS1260  
TruHearing: 833.714.5355 Grand Rapids, MI 49525-4501  
SafeRide: 855.932.5418 [priorityhealth.com/rx-claims](http://priorityhealth.com/rx-claims)

For provider claims: Priority Health, P.O. Box 232, Grand Rapids, MI 49501-0232  
Providers: Visit [priorityhealth.com/provider](http://priorityhealth.com/provider) or call 800.942.4765.

CMS H6379-001

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 **PriorityMedicare** D-SNP (HMO) membership 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.

If your plan membership card is damaged, lost, or stolen, call Member Services right away and we will send you a new card.

<b>Section 3.2</b>	<b>The <i>Provider/Pharmacy Directory</i>: Your guide to all providers and pharmacies in the plan's network</b>
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The *Provider/Pharmacy Directory* lists our current network providers and durable medical equipment suppliers and pharmacies.

**Network providers** are the doctors and other health care professionals, medical groups, durable medical equipment suppliers, hospitals, and other health care facilities that have an agreement with us to accept our payment and any plan cost sharing as payment in full.

You must use network providers to get your medical care and services. If you go elsewhere without proper authorization, you will have to pay in full. The only exceptions are emergencies, urgently needed services when the network is not available (that is, in situations when it is unreasonable or not possible to obtain services in network), out-of-area dialysis services, and cases in which **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO) authorizes use of out-of-network providers.

**Network pharmacies** are all of the pharmacies that have agreed to fill covered prescriptions for our plan members. You can use the *Provider/Pharmacy Directory* to find the network pharmacy you want to use. See Chapter 5, Section 2.5 for information on when you can use pharmacies that are not in the plan's network.

If you don't have your copy of the *Provider/Pharmacy Directory*, you can request a copy from Member Services. You can also find this information on our website at [priorityhealth.com/dsnp25](http://priorityhealth.com/dsnp25) or download it from this website. Both Member Services and the website can give you the most up-to-date information about changes in our network providers.

<b>Section 3.3</b>	<b>The plan's List of Covered Drugs (<i>Formulary</i>)</b>
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The plan has a *List of Covered Drugs (Formulary)*. We call it the Drug List for short. It tells which Part D prescription drugs are covered under the Part D benefit included in **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO). The drugs on this list are selected by the plan with the help of a team of doctors and pharmacists. The list must meet requirements set by Medicare. Medicare has approved the **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO) Drug List.

The Drug List also tells you if there are any rules that restrict coverage for your drugs.

We will provide you a copy of the Drug List. The Drug List we provide you includes information for the covered drugs that are most commonly used by our members. However, we cover additional drugs that are not included in the provided Drug List. If one of your drugs is not listed in the Drug List, you should visit our website or contact Member Services to find out if we cover it. To get the most complete and current information about which drugs are covered, you can visit the plan's website ([priorityhealth.com/dsnp25](http://priorityhealth.com/dsnp25)) or call Member Services.



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## **SECTION 4      Your monthly costs for PriorityMedicare D-SNP (HMO)**

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Your costs may include the following:

- Plan Premium (Section 4.1)
- Monthly Medicare Part B Premium (Section 4.2)
- Part D Late Enrollment Penalty (Section 4.3)
- Income Related Monthly Adjusted Amount (Section 4.4)
- Medicare Prescription Payment Plan Amount (Section 4.5)

Medicare Part B and Part D premiums differ for people with different incomes. If you have questions about these premiums, review your copy of *Medicare & You 2025* handbook, the section called *2025 Medicare Costs*. If you need a copy, you can download it from the Medicare website ([www.medicare.gov/medicare-and-you](http://www.medicare.gov/medicare-and-you)). Or, you can order a printed copy by phone at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users call 1-877-486-2048.

<b>Section 4.1      Plan premium</b>
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You do not pay a separate monthly plan premium for **PriorityMedicare** D-SNP (HMO) so long as you maintain full Michigan Medicaid eligibility.

<b>Section 4.2      Monthly Medicare Part B Premium</b>
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### **Many members are required to pay other Medicare premiums**

Some members are required to pay other Medicare premiums. As explained in Section 2 above, in order to be eligible for our plan, you must maintain your eligibility for the Michigan Medicaid as well as have both Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B. For most **PriorityMedicare** D-SNP (HMO) members, Michigan Medicaid pays for your Part A premium (if you don't qualify for it automatically) and for your Part B premium.

**If Medicaid is not paying your Medicare premiums for you, you must continue to pay 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.

<b>Section 4.3      Part D Late Enrollment Penalty</b>
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Because you are dually-eligible, the LEP doesn't apply to you as long as you maintain your dually-eligible status, but if you lose your dually-eligible status, you may incur an LEP. The Part D late enrollment penalty is an additional premium that must be paid for Part D coverage if at any time after your initial enrollment period is over, there is a period of 63 days or more in a row

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when you did not have Part D or other creditable prescription drug coverage. Creditable prescription drug coverage is coverage that meets Medicare's minimum standards since it is expected to pay, on average, at least as much as Medicare's standard prescription drug coverage. The cost of the late enrollment penalty depends on how long you went without Part D or other creditable prescription drug coverage. You will have to pay this penalty for as long as you have Part D coverage.

You **will not** have to pay it if:

- You receive "Extra Help" from Medicare to pay for your prescription drugs.
- You have gone less than 63 days in a row without creditable coverage.
- You have had creditable drug coverage through another source such as a former employer, union, TRICARE, or Veterans Health Administration (VA). Your insurer or your human resources department will tell you each year if your drug coverage is creditable coverage. This information may be sent to you in a letter or included in a newsletter from the plan. Keep this information because you may need it if you join a Medicare drug plan later.
  - **Note:** Any notice must state that you had creditable prescription drug coverage that is expected to pay as much as Medicare's standard prescription drug plan pays.
  - **Note:** The following are *not* creditable prescription drug coverage: prescription drug discount cards, free clinics, and drug discount websites.

**Medicare determines the amount of the penalty.** Here is how it works:

- First, count the number of full months that you delayed enrolling in a Medicare drug plan, after you were eligible to enroll. Or count the number of full months you did not have creditable prescription drug coverage, if the break in coverage was 63 days or more. The penalty is 1% for every month that you did not have creditable coverage. For example, if you go 14 months without coverage, the penalty will be 14%.
  - Then Medicare determines the amount of the average monthly premium for Medicare drug plans in the nation from the previous year. For 2025, this average premium amount is \$36.78.
  - To calculate your monthly penalty, you multiply the penalty percentage and the average monthly premium and then round it to the nearest 10 cents. In the example here, it would be 14% times \$36.78, which equals \$5.1492. This rounds to \$5.10. This amount would be added to **the monthly premium for someone with a Part D late enrollment penalty.**

There are three important things to note about this monthly Part D late enrollment penalty:

- First, **the penalty may change each year**, because the average monthly premium can change each year.

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- Second, **you will continue to pay a penalty** every month for as long as you are enrolled in a plan that has Medicare Part D drug benefits, even if you change plans.
- Third, if you are under 65 and currently receiving Medicare benefits, the Part D late enrollment penalty will reset when you turn 65. After age 65, your Part D late enrollment penalty will be based only on the months that you don't have coverage after your initial enrollment period for aging into Medicare.

**If you disagree about your Part D late enrollment penalty, you or your representative can ask for a review.** Generally, you must request this review **within 60 days** from the date on the first letter you receive stating you have to pay a late enrollment penalty. However, if you were paying a penalty before joining our plan, you may not have another chance to request a review of that late enrollment penalty.

**Important:** Do not stop paying your Part D late enrollment penalty while you're waiting for a review of the decision about your late enrollment penalty. If you do, you could be disenrolled for failure to pay your plan premiums.

<b>Section 4.4</b>	<b>Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount</b>
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Some members may be required to pay an extra charge, known as the Part D Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount, also known as IRMAA. The extra charge is figured out using your modified adjusted gross income as reported on your IRS tax return from two years ago. If this amount is above a certain amount, you'll pay the standard premium amount and the additional IRMAA. For more information on the extra amount you may have to pay based on your income, visit <https://www.medicare.gov/drug-coverage-part-d/costs-for-medicare-drug-coverage/monthly-premium-for-drug-plans>.

If you have to pay an extra amount, Social Security, not your Medicare plan, will send you a letter telling you what that extra amount will be. The extra amount will be withheld from your Social Security, Railroad Retirement Board, or Office of Personnel Management benefit check, no matter how you usually pay your plan premium, unless your monthly benefit isn't enough to cover the extra amount owed. If your benefit check isn't enough to cover the extra amount, you will get a bill from Medicare. **You must pay the extra amount to the government. It cannot be paid with your monthly plan premium. If you do not pay the extra amount, you will be disenrolled from the plan and lose prescription drug coverage.**

If you disagree about paying an extra amount, you can ask Social Security to review the decision. To find out more about how to do this, contact Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

<b>Section 4.5</b>	<b>Medicare Prescription Payment Plan Amount</b>
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If you're participating in the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan, each month you'll pay your plan premium (if you have one) and you'll get a bill from your health or drug plan for your prescription drugs (instead of paying the pharmacy). Your monthly bill is based on what you owe

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for any prescriptions you get, plus your previous month's balance, divided by the number of months left in the year.

Chapter 2, Section 7 tells more about the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan. If you disagree with the amount billed as part of this payment option, you can follow the steps in Chapter 9 to make a complaint or appeal.

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**SECTION 5 More information about your monthly premium**

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<b>Section 5.1 Can we change your monthly plan premium during the year?</b>
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**No.** We are not allowed to change the amount we charge for the plan's monthly plan premium during the year. If the monthly plan premium changes for next year we will tell you in September and the change will take effect on January 1.

However, in some cases, you may be able to stop paying a late enrollment penalty, if owed. Or need to start paying a late enrollment penalty. This could happen if you become eligible for the "Extra Help" program or if you lose your eligibility for the "Extra Help" program during the year.

- If you currently pay the Part D late enrollment penalty and become eligible for "Extra Help" during the year, you would be able to stop paying your penalty.
- If you lose "Extra Help", you may be subject to the late enrollment penalty if you go 63 days or more in a row without Part D or other creditable prescription drug coverage.

You can find out more about the "Extra Help" program in Chapter 2, Section 7.

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**SECTION 6 Keeping your plan membership record up to date**

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Your membership record has information from your enrollment form, including your address and telephone number. It shows your specific plan coverage including your Primary Care Provider (PCP).

The doctors, hospitals, pharmacists, and other providers in the plan's network need to have correct information about you. **These network providers use your membership record to know what services and drugs are covered and the cost-sharing amounts for you.** 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 Michigan 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 or out-of-network hospital or emergency room
- If your designated responsible party (such as a caregiver or medical power of attorney) 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 Member Services.

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.

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## **SECTION 7      How other insurance works with our plan**

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### **Other insurance**

Medicare requires that we collect information from you about any other medical or drug insurance coverage that you have. That's because we must coordinate any other coverage you have with your benefits under our plan. This is called **Coordination of Benefits**.

Once each year, we will send you a letter that lists any other medical or drug insurance coverage that we know about. Please read over this information carefully. If it is correct, you don't need to do anything. If the information is incorrect, or if you have other coverage that is not listed, please call Member Services. You may need to give your plan member ID number to your other insurers (once you have confirmed their identity) so your bills are paid correctly and on time.

When you have other insurance (like employer group health coverage), there are rules set by Medicare that decide whether our plan or your other insurance pays first. The insurance that pays first is called the primary payer and pays up to the limits of its coverage. The one that pays second, called the secondary payer, only pays if there are costs left uncovered by the primary coverage. The secondary payer may not pay all of the uncovered costs. If you have other insurance, tell your doctor, hospital, and pharmacy.

These rules apply for employer or union group health plan coverage:

- If you have retiree coverage, Medicare pays first.
- If your group health plan coverage is based on your or a family member's current employment, who pays first depends on your age, the number of people employed by your employer, and whether you have Medicare based on age, disability, or End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD):
  - If you're under 65 and disabled and you or your family member is still working, your group health plan pays first if the employer has 100 or more employees or at least one employer in a multiple employer plan that has more than 100 employees.
  - If you're over 65 and you or your spouse or domestic partner is still working, your group health plan pays first if the employer has 20 or more employees or at least one employer in a multiple employer plan that has more than 20 employees.
- If you have Medicare because of ESRD, your group health plan will pay first for the first 30 months after you become eligible for Medicare.

These types of coverage usually pay first for services related to each type:

- No-fault insurance (including automobile insurance)
- Liability (including automobile insurance)
- Black lung benefits
- Workers' compensation

Michigan Medicaid and TRICARE never pay first for Medicare-covered services. They only pay after Medicare and/or employer group health plans have paid.

# CHAPTER 2:

*Important phone numbers  
and resources*

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## **SECTION 1      PriorityMedicare D-SNP (HMO) contacts** **(how to contact us, including how to reach Member Services)**

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### **How to contact our plan’s Member Services**

For assistance with claims, billing, or member card questions, please call or write to **PriorityMedicare D-SNP (HMO) Member Services**. We will be happy to help you.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Member Services – Contact Information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	833.939.0983 Calls to this number are free. 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week Member Services also has free language interpreter services available for non-English speakers.
<b>TTY</b>	711 Calls to this number are free. 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week
<b>FAX</b>	616.942.0995
<b>WRITE</b>	Customer Service Department, MS 1115 Priority Health Medicare 1231 East Beltline Ave. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49525 <i>MedicareCS@priorityhealth.com</i>
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<i>priorityhealth.com/dsnp25</i>

### **How to contact us when you are asking for a coverage decision or appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs**

A coverage decision is a decision we make about your benefits and coverage or about the amount we will pay for your medical services or Part D prescription drugs. 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 or Part D prescription drugs, see Chapter 9 (*What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)*).



<b>Method</b>	<b>Coverage Decisions For Medical Care – Contact Information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	833.939.0983 Calls to this number are free, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week.
<b>TTY</b>	711 Calls to this number are free, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week.
<b>FAX</b>	888.647.6152
<b>WRITE</b>	Health Management Department, MS 1255 Priority Health Medicare 1231 East Beltline Ave. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49525
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<i>priorityhealth.com/dsnp25</i>

<b>Method</b>	<b>Coverage Decisions for Part D Prescription Drugs – Contact Information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	833.939.0983 Calls to this number are free, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week.
<b>TTY</b>	711 Calls to this number are free, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week.
<b>FAX</b>	877.974.4411
<b>WRITE</b>	Medicare Part D, MS 1260 Priority Health Medicare 1231 East Beltline Ave. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49525
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<i>priorityhealth.com/dsnp25</i>

<b>Method</b>	<b>Appeals For Medical Care – Contact Information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	833.939.0983 Calls to this number are free, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week.
<b>TTY</b>	711 Calls to this number are free, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week.
<b>FAX</b>	616.975.8827

<b>WRITE</b>	Appeals Coordinator, MS 1150 Priority Health Medicare 1231 East Beltline Ave. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49525
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<i>priorityhealth.com/dsnp25</i>

<b>Method</b>	<b>Appeals for Part D Prescription Drugs – Contact Information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	833.939.0983 Calls to this number are free, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week.
<b>TTY</b>	711 Calls to this number are free, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week.
<b>FAX</b>	877.974.4411
<b>WRITE</b>	Part D Appeal Coordinator, MS 1260 Priority Health Medicare 1231 East Beltline Ave. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49525
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<i>priorityhealth.com/dsnp25</i>

**How to contact us when you are making a complaint about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs**

You can make a complaint about us or one of our network providers or pharmacies, 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 or Part D prescription drugs, see Chapter 9 (*What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)*).

<b>Method</b>	<b>Complaints About Medical Care or Part D prescription drugs – Contact Information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	833.939.0983 Calls to this number are free, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week.
<b>TTY</b>	711 Calls to this number are free, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week.
<b>FAX</b>	Medical: 616.975.8827 Part D: 877.974.4411

<b>WRITE</b>	Medicare Grievance Coordinator, MS 1150 Priority Health Medicare 1231 East Beltline Ave. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49525
<b>MEDICARE WEBSITE</b>	You can submit a complaint about <b>PriorityMedicare D-SNP</b> directly to Medicare. To submit an online complaint to Medicare, go to <a href="http://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx">www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx</a> .

**Where to send a request asking us to pay our share of the cost for medical care or a drug 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 7 (*Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs*).

**Please note:** If you send us a payment request and we deny any part of your request, you can appeal our decision. See Chapter 9 (*What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)*) for more information.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Payment Requests for Medical Care – Contact Information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	833.939.0983 Calls to this number are free, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week.
<b>TTY</b>	711 Calls to this number are free, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week.
<b>FAX</b>	616.942.0995
<b>WRITE</b>	Customer Service Department, MS 1115 Priority Health Medicare 1231 East Beltline Ave. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49525
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<a href="http://priorityhealth.com/dsnp25">priorityhealth.com/dsnp25</a>

<b>Method</b>	<b>Payment Requests for Part D Prescription Drugs – Contact Information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	833.939.0983 Calls to this number are free, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week.
<b>TTY</b>	711 Calls to this number are free, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week.
<b>FAX</b>	616.975.8867
<b>WRITE</b>	Medicare Part D, MS 1260 Priority Health Medicare 1231 East Beltline Ave. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49525
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<i>priorityhealth.com/dsnp25</i>

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

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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.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Medicare – Contact Information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	1-800-MEDICARE, or 1-800-633-4227 Calls to this number are free. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
<b>TTY</b>	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.
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<u><a href="http://www.Medicare.gov">www.Medicare.gov</a></u> 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 style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Medicare Eligibility Tool:</b> Provides Medicare eligibility status information.</li><li>• <b>Medicare Plan Finder:</b> 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 <i>estimate</i> of what your out-of-pocket costs might be in different Medicare plans.</li></ul>

Method	Medicare – Contact Information
<b>WEBSITE (continued)</b>	<p>You can also use the website to tell Medicare about any complaints you have about <b>Priority</b>Medicare D-SNP (HMO):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Tell Medicare about your complaint:</b> You can submit a complaint about <b>Priority</b>Medicare D-SNP (HMO) directly to Medicare. To submit a complaint to Medicare, go to <a href="http://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.</li></ul> <p>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, 7 days a week. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.)</p>

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

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

Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP) 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.

Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP) 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. Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP) 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.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP) – Contact Information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	800.803.7174 or dial 211
<b>WRITE</b>	MMAP 6015 W St Joseph Hwy Ste. 103, Lansing MI 48917
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<i>mmapinc.org</i>

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## **SECTION 4      Quality Improvement Organization**

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There is a designated Quality Improvement Organization for serving Medicare beneficiaries in each state. For Michigan, the Quality Improvement Organization is called Livanta LLC.

Livanta LLC 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 LLC is an independent organization. It is not connected with our plan.

You should contact Livanta LLC 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.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Livanta LLC (Michigan’s Quality Improvement Organization) – Contact Information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	888.524.9900 Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. local time Weekend/holidays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. local time
<b>TTY</b>	888.985.8775 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
<b>WRITE</b>	Livanta LLC, BFCC-QIO Program 10820 Guilford Road, Suite 202 Annapolis Junction, MD 20701-1105
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<i>www.livanta.com</i>

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## **SECTION 5      Social Security**

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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.

Social Security is also responsible for determining who has to pay an extra amount for their Part D drug coverage because they have a higher income. If you got a letter from Social Security telling you that you have to pay the extra amount and have questions about the amount or if your income went down because of a life-changing event, you can call Social Security to ask for reconsideration.

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

<b>Method</b>	<b>Social Security – Contact Information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	1-800-772-1213 Calls to this number are free. Available 8:00 am to 7:00 pm, Monday through Friday. You can use Social Security’s automated telephone services to get recorded information and conduct some business 24 hours a day.
<b>TTY</b>	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 8:00 am to 7:00 pm, Monday through Friday.
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<a href="http://www.ssa.gov">www.ssa.gov</a>



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## **SECTION 6 Michigan Medicaid**

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The Michigan Medicaid program is a joint Federal and state government program that helps with medical costs for certain people with limited incomes and resources.

In addition, there are programs offered through Medicaid that help people with Medicare pay their Medicare costs, such as their Medicare premiums. These “Medicare Savings Programs” help people with limited income and resources save money each year:

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

If you have questions about the assistance you get from Medicaid, contact Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Michigan Department of Health and Human Services – Contact Information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	517.241.3740 Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
<b>TTY</b>	844.578.6563  Hearing impaired callers may contact the Michigan Relay Center at 711 and ask for the number above.  This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
<b>WRITE</b>	Michigan Department of Health and Human Services 333 S. Grand Ave. P.O. Box 30195 Lansing, Michigan 48909
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<i>michigan.gov/mdhhs</i>

The MI Health Link Ombudsman helps people enrolled in Michigan Medicaid with service or billing problems. They can help you file a grievance or appeal with our plan.

<b>Method</b>	<b>MI Health Link Ombudsman – Contact Information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	888.746.6456 Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
<b>TTY</b>	711
<b>WRITE</b>	<i>help@MHLO.org</i>
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<i>mhlo.org/</i>

The Michigan Long Term Care Ombudsman Program helps people get information about nursing homes and resolve problems between nursing homes and residents or their families.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Michigan Long Term Care Ombudsman Program – Contact Information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	866.485.9393 Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
<b>TTY</b>	711
<b>WRITE</b>	15851 S. US 27, Suite 73 Lansing, MI 48906
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<i>mltcop.org/</i>

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## **SECTION 7      Information about programs to help people pay for their prescription drugs**

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The Medicare.gov website (<https://www.medicare.gov/basics/costs/help/drug-costs>) provides information on how to lower your prescription drug costs. For people with limited incomes, there are also other programs to assist, described below.

## Medicare's "Extra Help" Program

Because you are eligible for Michigan Medicaid, you qualify for and are getting "Extra Help" from Medicare to pay for your prescription drug plan costs. You do not need to do anything further to get this "Extra Help."

If you have questions about "Extra Help," call:

- 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week;
- The Social Security Office at 1-800-772-1213, between 8 am and 7 pm, Monday through Friday. TTY users should call 1-800-325-0778; or
- Your State Medicaid Office (See Section 6 of this chapter for contact information).

If you believe that you are paying an incorrect cost-sharing amount when you get your prescription at a pharmacy, our plan has a process for you to either request assistance in obtaining evidence of your proper copayment level, or, if you already have the evidence, to provide this evidence to us.

- The plan will first check the CMS system for an updated Low Income Subsidy (LIS) status. If the CMS system does not indicate an LIS status, the plan will require one of the following:
  - A copy of your Medicaid card;
  - A copy of a state document containing Medicaid status;
  - Other documentation provided by the State showing Medicaid status such as a letter;
  - Remittance from an institution showing Medicaid payments; or
  - A copy of a state document confirming Medicaid payment to a facility.

You should send your documentation to the plan within 10 to 14 days after you have contacted us regarding the discrepancy in your LIS status.

- When we receive the evidence showing your copayment level, we will update our system so that you can pay the correct copayment when you get your next prescription at the pharmacy. If you overpay your copayment, we will reimburse you. Either we will forward a check to you in the amount of your overpayment or we will offset future copayments. If the pharmacy hasn't collected a copayment from you and is carrying your copayment as a debt owed by you, we may make the payment directly to the pharmacy. If a state paid on your behalf, we may make payment directly to the state. Please contact Member Services if you have questions.

**Chapter 2 Important phone numbers and resources**

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**What if you have Extra Help and coverage from a State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program (SPAP)?**

Many states and the U.S. Virgin Islands offer help paying for prescriptions, drug plan premiums and/or other drug costs. If you are enrolled in a State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program (SPAP), Medicare's Extra Help pays first.

**What if you have Extra Help and coverage from an AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)?****What is the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)?**

The AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) helps ADAP-eligible individuals living with HIV/AIDS have access to life-saving HIV medications. Medicare Part D prescription drugs that are also on the ADAP formulary qualify for prescription cost-sharing assistance through the Michigan HIV/AIDS Drug Assistance Program (MIDAP).

**Note:** To be eligible for the ADAP operating in your State, individuals must meet certain criteria, including proof of State residence and HIV status, low income as defined by the State, and uninsured/under-insured status. If you change plans, please notify your local ADAP enrollment worker so you can continue to receive assistance. For information on eligibility criteria, covered drugs, or how to enroll in the program, please call 888.826.6565.

**State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs**

Many states have State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs that help some people pay for prescription drugs based on financial need, age, medical condition, or disabilities. Each state has different rules to provide drug coverage to its members.

In Michigan, the State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program is Michigan Drug Assistance Program (MIDAP).

<b>Method</b>	<b>Michigan Drug Assistance Program (MIDAP) – Contact Information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	888.826.6565 Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
<b>WRITE</b>	Michigan Department of Health and Human Services P.O. Box 30727 Lansing, MI 48909
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<i>medicare.gov/plan-compare/#/pharmaceutical-assistance-program/states</i>

## The Medicare Prescription Payment Plan

The Medicare Prescription Payment Plan is a new payment option that works with your current drug coverage, and it can help you manage your drug costs by spreading them across **monthly payments that vary throughout the year** (January – December). **This payment option might help you manage your expenses, but it doesn't save you money or lower your drug costs.** “Extra Help” from Medicare and help from your SPAP and ADAP, for those who qualify, is more advantageous than participation in the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan. All members are eligible to participate in this payment option, regardless of income level, and all Medicare drug plans and Medicare health plans with drug coverage must offer this payment option. Contact us or visit Medicare.gov to find out if this payment option is right for you.

Method	The Medicare Prescription Payment Plan – Contact Information
<b>CALL</b>	1.866.845.1803 Call hours are 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
<b>TTY</b>	1.800.716.3231 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking. Calls to this number are free. Our hours are 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
<b>WRITE</b>	Express Scripts Medicare Prescription Payment Plan PO Box 2 Saint Louis, MO 63166 This address is only to be used for general inquiries. Additional addresses will be provided for the paper election forms and for the payment process.
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<a href="https://www.express-scripts.com/mppp">https://www.express-scripts.com/mppp</a>

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## SECTION 8 How to contact the Railroad Retirement Board

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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.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Railroad Retirement Board – Contact Information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	1-877-772-5772 Calls to this number are free. You may speak with a RRB representative 9:00 am to 3:00 pm Monday- Friday except for federal holidays.
<b>TTY</b>	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.
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<u><a href="http://rrb.gov/">rrb.gov/</a></u>

# CHAPTER 3:

*Using the plan for your medical  
and other covered services*

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

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This chapter explains what you need to know about using the plan to get your medical care and other services 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 and other services are 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*).

<b>Section 1.1      What are network providers and covered services?</b>
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- **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.
- **Network providers** are the doctors and other health care professionals, medical groups, hospitals, and other health care facilities that have an agreement with us to accept our payment and your cost-sharing amount as payment in full. We have arranged for these providers to deliver covered services to members in our plan. The providers in our network bill us directly for care they give you. When you see a network provider, you pay nothing or only your share of the cost for covered services.
- **Covered services** include all the medical care, health care services, supplies, equipment, and Prescription Drugs that are covered by our plan. Your covered services for medical care are listed in the benefits chart in Chapter 4. Your covered services for prescription drugs are discussed in Chapter 5.

<b>Section 1.2      Basic rules for getting your medical care and other services covered by the plan</b>
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As a Medicare health plan, **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO) must cover all services covered by Original Medicare and may offer other services in addition to those covered under Original Medicare and may offer other services in addition to those covered under Original Medicare (reference benefits chart in Chapter 4, 2.1).

**Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO) 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.



**Chapter 3 Using the plan for your medical and other covered services**

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- **You have a network primary care provider (a PCP) who is providing and overseeing your care.** As a member of our plan, you must choose a network PCP (for more information about this, see Section 2.1 in this chapter).
  - Your network PCP may recommend other providers in the plan’s network such as specialists, hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, or home health care agencies. This is called giving you a referral. For more information about this, see Section 2.3 of this chapter.
  - Referrals from your PCP are not required.
- **You must receive your care from a network provider** (for more information about this, see Section 2 in this chapter). In most cases, care you receive from an out-of-network provider (a provider who is not part of our plan’s network) will not be covered. This means that you will have to pay the provider in full for the services furnished. *Here are three exceptions:*
  - The plan covers emergency care or urgently needed services that you get from an out-of-network provider. For more information about this, and to see what emergency or urgently needed services means, see Section 3 in this chapter.
  - If you need medical care that Medicare requires our plan to cover but there are no specialists in our network that provide this care, you can get this care from an out-of-network provider as if you got the care from a network provider. **Prior authorization needs to be obtained from Priority Health Medicare before seeking care.** In this situation, we will cover these services as if you got the care from a network provider. For information about getting approval to see an out-of-network doctor, see Section 2.4 in this chapter.
  - The plan covers kidney dialysis services that you get at a Medicare-certified dialysis facility when you are temporarily outside the plan’s service area or when your provider for this service is temporarily unavailable or inaccessible. The cost sharing you pay the plan for dialysis can never exceed the cost sharing in Original Medicare. If you are outside the plan’s service area and obtain the dialysis from a provider that is outside the plan’s network, your cost sharing cannot exceed the cost sharing you pay in-network. However, if your usual in-network provider for dialysis is temporarily unavailable and you choose to obtain services inside the service area from a provider outside the plan’s network, the cost sharing for the dialysis may be higher.

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**SECTION 2 Use providers in the plan's network to get your medical care and other services**

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<b>Section 2.1</b>	<b>You must choose a Primary Care Provider (PCP) to provide and oversee your care</b>
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**What is a PCP and what does the PCP do for you?**

When you become a member of **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO), your first step is to choose a primary care provider (PCP). Your PCP may be a family practitioner, a general practitioner, an internal medicine physician, an obstetrician/gynecologist, a nurse practitioner and/or a physician assistant working in a primary care setting who meets state requirements and is trained to give you basic medical care in a primary care setting. Your PCP is your partner in helping you stay healthy and will help you learn how to take control of your health. Because he or she knows your health history, you can get the care you need when you need it.

Your PCP is able to help arrange or coordinate your services, including checking or consulting with other providers about your care and how it is going. If you need certain types of covered services or supplies, you may obtain a recommendation from your PCP to see a specialist or other provider. This may include x-rays, laboratory tests, therapies, care from doctors who are specialists, hospital admissions, and follow-up care. In some cases, your PCP will need to get prior authorization (prior approval) from us. See Chapter 4 for details on the services that require prior authorization. When your PCP provides and coordinates your medical care, you should have all of your past medical records sent to your PCP's office.

**How do you choose your PCP?**

Finding an In-Network PCP can be done online or by contacting member services. A PCP can be searched through the Find-a-Doctor tool at [priorityhealth.com/dsnp25](http://priorityhealth.com/dsnp25) and then updated through your member portal. If you have been accepted as a patient and cannot update your PCP online, contact Member Services for further assistance.

**Changing your PCP**

You may change your PCP for any reason, at any time. Also, it's possible that your PCP might leave our plan's network of providers and you would have to find a new PCP.

To change your PCP, please contact Customer Service or make your PCP change online through your member account at [priorityhealth.com/dsnp25](http://priorityhealth.com/dsnp25). You will find a list of PCPs to choose from on our website at [priorityhealth.com/dsnp25](http://priorityhealth.com/dsnp25). If you need a hard copy of our list of PCPs, or if you need help choosing a PCP, please contact Member Services. When you make a request to change your PCP, we will make the change immediately.

When a provider is termed with Priority Health, members are reassigned to a new provider. We will do our best to reassign within the same office if possible and if not, they will be reassigned

**Chapter 3 Using the plan for your medical and other covered services**

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to a new provider within a 30-mile radius of the member's home. Members will be notified of their assigned provider change by mailed letter.

<b>Section 2.2</b>	<b>What kinds of medical care and other services can you get without a referral from your PCP?</b>
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You can get the services listed below without getting approval in advance from your PCP.

- Routine women's health care, which includes breast exams, screening mammograms (x-rays of the breast), Pap tests, and pelvic exams.
- Flu shots (or vaccines), COVID-19 vaccinations, Hepatitis B vaccinations, pneumonia vaccinations and certain other vaccinations (as defined by Medicare).
- Emergency services from network providers or from out-of-network providers.
- Urgently needed plan-covered services, which are services requiring immediate medical attention that are not emergencies, provided you are temporarily outside the service area of the plan, or it is unreasonable given your time, place, and circumstances to obtain this service from network providers with whom the plan contracts. Examples of urgently needed services are unforeseen medical illnesses and injuries or unexpected flare-ups of existing conditions. However, medically necessary routine provider visits, such as annual checkups, are not considered urgently needed even if you are outside the service area of the plan or the plan network is temporarily unavailable.
- Kidney dialysis services that you get at a Medicare-certified dialysis facility when you are temporarily outside the plan's service area. If possible, please call Member Services before you leave the service area so we can help arrange for you to have maintenance dialysis while you are away.

<b>Section 2.3</b>	<b>How to get care from specialists and other network providers</b>
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A specialist is a doctor who provides health care services for a specific disease or part of the body. There are many kinds of specialists. Here are a few examples:

- Oncologists care for patients with cancer
- Cardiologists care for patients with heart conditions
- Orthopedists care for patients with certain bone, joint, or muscle conditions

**How to access specialists and other network providers**

- You may ask your PCP to recommend specialists and other network providers, or you may search them out on your own. If you are uncertain as to whether the provider

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participates with our plan, call Member Services (phone numbers are on the back of this document) or go to [priorityhealth.com/dsnp25](http://priorityhealth.com/dsnp25) and use our Find a Doctor tool.

Prior authorization requirements may apply for some services. See Chapter 4, Section 2.1, for details about the services that require prior authorization. Prior authorization decisions are made by Priority Health Medicare and other delegated entities. To obtain prior authorization, your provider should contact Priority Health Medicare. You may contact Member Services to learn more about prior authorization requirements and how to ask for prior authorization of a service.

It is important to know what Medicare will or will not cover. Be sure to ask your provider if a service is covered. Providers should tell you verbally when Medicare does not cover a service.

**What if a specialist or another network provider leaves our plan?**

We may make changes to the hospitals, doctors, and specialists (providers) that are part of your plan during the year. If your doctor or specialist leaves your plan you have certain rights and protections that are summarized below:

- Even though our network of providers may change during the year, Medicare requires that we furnish you with uninterrupted access to qualified doctors and specialists.
- We will notify you that your provider is leaving our plan so that you have time to select a new provider.
  - If your primary care or behavioral health provider leaves our plan, we will notify you if you have seen that provider within the past three years.
  - If any of your other providers leave our plan, we will notify you if you are assigned to the provider, currently receive care from them, or have seen them within the past three months.
- We will assist you in selecting a new qualified in-network provider that you may access for continued care.
- If you are currently undergoing medical treatment or therapies with your current provider, you have the right to request, and we will work with you to ensure, that the medically necessary treatment or therapies you are receiving continues.
- We will provide you with information about the different enrollment periods available to you and options you may have for changing plans.
- We will arrange for any medically necessary covered benefit outside of our provider network, but at in-network cost sharing, when an in-network provider or benefit is unavailable or inadequate to meet your medical needs.
- If you find out your doctor or specialist is leaving your plan, please contact us so we can assist you in finding a new provider to manage your care.
- If you believe we have not furnished you with a qualified provider to replace your previous provider or that your care is not being appropriately managed, you have the

**Chapter 3 Using the plan for your medical and other covered services**

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right to file a quality-of-care complaint to the QIO, a quality-of-care grievance to the plan, or both. Please see Chapter 9.

<b>Section 2.4</b>	<b>How to get care from out-of-network providers</b>
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Here are some important things to know about using out-of-network providers:

- The plan covers ambulance, emergency or urgently needed care from out-of-network providers. You do not need prior approval from the plan for out-of-network emergency care, even if you are in the service area. If you are experiencing an emergency, go to the nearest hospital. You also do not need prior approval for out-of-network urgent care services if you are out of the service area or not near an in-network facility.
- The plan covers kidney dialysis services when you are outside the plan's service area for a short time. You can get these services at a Medicare-certified dialysis facility.
- If you need care that our in-network providers cannot give to you, you can get the care from an out-of-network provider. In most situations you must receive prior approval from the plan before receiving care from out-of-network providers. Either you or your provider can make the request. In this situation, if you receive prior approval from the plan, we will cover the care as if you received it from an in-network provider. To learn about getting approval to see an out-of-network provider, please contact Member Services.

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<b>SECTION 3</b>	<b>How to get services when you have an emergency or urgent need for care or during a disaster</b>
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<b>Section 3.1</b>	<b>Getting care if you have a medical emergency</b>
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**What is a medical emergency and what should you do if you have one?**

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 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 or a referral first from your PCP. You do not need to use a network doctor.

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You may get covered emergency medical care whenever you need it, anywhere in the United States or its territories, as well as worldwide emergency and urgent care coverage, 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 us at 833.939.0983 (TTY 711) from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week so we can help.

**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. Your doctors will continue to treat you until your doctors contact us and make plans for additional care. Your follow-up care will be covered by our plan. If your emergency care is provided by out-of-network providers, we will try to arrange for network providers to take over your care as soon as your medical condition and the circumstances allow.

**What if it wasn't a medical emergency?**

Sometimes it can be hard to know if you have a medical emergency. For example, you might go in for emergency care – thinking that your health is in serious danger – and the doctor may say that it wasn't a medical emergency after all. If it turns out that it was not an emergency, as long as you reasonably thought your health was in serious danger, we will cover your care.

However, after the doctor has said that it was *not* an emergency, we will cover additional care *only* if you get the additional care in one of these two ways:

- You go to a network provider to get the additional care.
- *or* – The additional care you get is considered urgently needed services and you follow the rules for getting this urgent care (for more information about this, see Section 3.2 below).

<b>Section 3.2</b>	<b>Getting care when you have an urgent need for services</b>
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**What are urgently needed services?**

A plan-covered service requiring immediate medical attention that is not an emergency is an urgently needed service if either you are temporarily outside the service area of the plan, or it is

**Chapter 3 Using the plan for your medical and other covered services**

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unreasonable given your time, place, and circumstances to obtain this service from network providers with whom the plan contracts. Examples of urgently needed services are unforeseen medical illnesses and injuries, or unexpected flare-ups of existing conditions. However, medically necessary routine provider visits, such as annual checkups, are not considered urgently needed even if you are outside the service area of the plan or the plan network is temporarily unavailable.

When an urgent (non-emergent) situation arises and services are needed, go to an urgent care center. You may also contact your primary care provider (PCP) for direction. Your PCP may see you in his/her office or suggest you go to a participating urgent care center to be treated. Some hospitals have urgent care centers which you can access. You may also contact Member Services.

Our plan covers emergency medical care and urgently needed services worldwide. You are also covered for urgently needed services and emergency medical care anywhere in the United States.

<b>Section 3.3</b>	<b>Getting care during a disaster</b>
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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: [priorityhealth.com/dsnp25](http://priorityhealth.com/dsnp25) for information on how to obtain needed care during a disaster.

If you cannot use a network provider during a disaster, your plan will allow you to obtain care from out-of-network providers at in-network cost sharing. If you cannot use a network pharmacy during a disaster, you may be able to fill your prescription drugs at an out-of-network pharmacy. Please see Chapter 5, Section 2.5 for more information.

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<b>SECTION 4</b>	<b>What if you are billed directly for the full cost of your services?</b>
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<b>Section 4.1</b>	<b>You can ask us to pay our share of the cost for covered services</b>
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If you have paid more than your plan cost sharing for covered services, or if you have received a bill for the full cost of covered medical services, go to Chapter 7 (*Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs*) for information about what to do.

**Section 4.2      What should you do if services are not covered by our plan?**

**Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO) 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. Once a benefit limit has been reached any further service beyond the limit will not count toward your out-of-pocket maximum.

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

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**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 or your PCP. 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 requiring coverage with evidence development (NCDs-CED)



**Chapter 3 Using the plan for your medical and other covered services**

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and investigational device exemption (IDE) studies 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.*

<b>Section 5.2</b>	<b>When you participate in a clinical research study, who pays for what?</b>
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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. However, you are required to submit documentation showing how much cost sharing you paid. Please see Chapter 7 for more information for submitting requests for payments.

*Here's an example of how the cost sharing works:* Let's say that you have a lab test that costs \$100 as part of the research study. Let's also say that your share of the costs for this test is \$20 under Original Medicare, but the test would be \$10 under our plan's benefits. In this case, Original Medicare would pay \$80 for the test, and you would pay the \$20 copay required under Original Medicare. You would then notify your plan that you received a qualified clinical trial service and submit documentation such as a provider bill to the plan. The plan would then directly pay you \$10. Therefore, your net payment is \$10, the same amount you would pay under our plan's benefits. Please note that in order to receive payment from your plan, you must submit documentation to your plan such as a provider bill.

After Medicare has paid its share of the cost for these services, our plan will pay the rest. Like for all covered services, you will pay nothing for the covered services you get in the clinical research study.

**Chapter 3 Using the plan for your medical and other covered services**

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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](http://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, 7 days a week. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048. 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.
- Items and services customarily provided by the research sponsors free-of-charge for any enrollee in the trial.

**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](http://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, 7 days a week. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

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

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<b>Section 6.1</b>	<b>What is a religious non-medical health care institution?</b>
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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).

<b>Section 6.2</b>	<b>Receiving Care from a Religious Non-Medical Health Care Institution</b>
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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 conditions apply:
  - You must have a medical condition that would allow you to receive covered services for inpatient hospital care or skilled nursing facility care.
  - – *and* – You must get approval in advance from our plan before you are admitted to the facility or your stay will not be covered.

Refer to the benefits chart in Chapter 4, Section 2.1, Medical benefits chart, under Inpatient care for information about cost share. You have unlimited hospital days for this benefit.

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

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**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 **Priority**Medicare D-SNP, however, you may acquire ownership of certain rented durable medical equipment items while a member of our plan after 13 consecutive payments. Call Member Services 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. You will have to make 13 payments to our plan before owning the item.

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 **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO) will cover:

- Rental of oxygen equipment
- Delivery of oxygen and oxygen contents

**Chapter 3 Using the plan for your medical and other covered services**

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

If you leave **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO) 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)*

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

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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 **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO). Later in this chapter, you can find information about medical services that are not covered. It also explains limits on certain services.

<b>Section 1.1                      You pay nothing for your covered services with full Medicaid coverage</b>
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Because you get assistance from the Michigan Medicaid program, you pay nothing for your covered services as long as you follow the plans' rules for getting your care. (See Chapter 3 for more information about the plans' rules for getting your care.)

To understand the payment information we give you in this chapter (which applies when you lose full Medicaid coverage), you need to know about the types of out-of-pocket costs you may pay for your covered services.

- **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 plan deductible.)
- **Copayment** is the fixed amount you pay each time you receive certain medical services. You pay a copayment at the time you get the medical service. (The Medical Benefits Chart in Section 2 tells you more about your copayments.)
- **Coinsurance** is the percentage you pay of the total cost of certain medical services. You pay a coinsurance at the time you get the medical service. (The Medical Benefits Chart in Section 2 tells you more about your coinsurance.)

<b>Section 1.2                      What is your plan deductible?</b>
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If you are eligible for Medicare cost-sharing assistance under Medicaid, you have no deductible. Michigan Medicaid qualifications are outlined in Chapter 1, section 2.

If you lose full Medicaid eligibility and are in the six-month grace period, your Part A deductible is \$1,800 and your Part B deductible is \$420. Until you have paid the deductible amount, you must pay the full cost of your covered services. Once you have paid your deductible, we will begin to pay our share of the costs for covered medical services and you will pay your share for the rest of the calendar year.

The Part B deductible does not apply to some services. This means that we will pay our share of the costs for these services even if you haven't paid your deductible yet. The Part B deductible does not apply to the following services:

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

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- Acupuncture
- Ambulance stabilization when there is no transport
- Annual preventive physical exam
- Blood services
- Caregiver support services
- Chiropractic services
- Dental services (non-Medicare covered preventive and comprehensive)
- Diabetic self-management training
- Diabetic services and supplies
- Durable Medical Equipment (including insulin)
- Emergency care
- Enhanced disease management services
- Glaucoma screening (annual)
- Health and wellness education programs
- Health education
- Hearing services (Non-Medicare covered routine hearing services)
- Home health agency care
- Home infusion therapy
- In-home safety assessment services
- Initial Medicare-covered hospice consultation
- Inpatient stay: covered services received in a hospital or SNF during a non-covered inpatient stay
- Kidney disease education services
- Nutrition education
- One Pass<sup>®</sup> (fitness)
- Opioid treatment program services Outpatient mental health care (group and individual)
- Outpatient substance use disorder services
- Personal Emergency Response System (PERS)
- Preventive services (Medicare-covered)
- Primary care provider (PCP) and specialist visits
- PriorityFlex
- Podiatry (Medicare and non-Medicare covered)
- Post discharge in-home medication reconciliation
- Prosthetic and orthotic devices and related supplies
- Routine vision care (non-Medicare covered exam, retinal imaging and eyewear)
- Rural health clinic visits
- Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF)
- Telemonitoring services
- Transportation
- Urgently needed services (Medicare-covered and worldwide)
- Virtual care



**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

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**Section 1.3                      What is the most you will pay for covered medical services?**

**Note:** Because our members also get assistance from Medicaid, very few members ever reach this out-of-pocket maximum. If you are eligible for Medicare cost-sharing assistance under Medicaid, you are not responsible for paying any out-of-pocket costs toward the maximum out-of-pocket amount for covered Part A and Part B services.

Because you are enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan, there is a limit on the amount you have to pay out-of-pocket each year for medical services that are covered by our plan. This limit is called the maximum out-of-pocket (MOOP) amount for medical services. For calendar year 2025 this amount is \$9,350.

The amounts you pay for deductibles, copayments and coinsurance for covered services count toward this maximum out-of-pocket amount. The amounts you pay for your Part D prescription drugs do not count toward your maximum out-of-pocket amount. In addition, amounts you pay for some services do not count toward your maximum out-of-pocket amount. These services are marked with an asterisk in the Medical Benefits Chart. If you reach the maximum out-of-pocket amount of \$9,350, you will not have to pay any out-of-pocket costs for the rest of the year for covered services. However, you must continue to pay the Medicare Part B premium (unless your Part B premium is paid for you by Medicaid or another third party).

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

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**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 **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO) covers and what you pay out of pocket for each service. Part D prescription drug coverage is in Chapter 5. 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.
- For new enrollees, your MA coordinated care plan must provide a minimum 90-day transition period, during which time the new MA plan may not require prior

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

authorization for any active course of treatment, even if the course of treatment was for a service that commenced with an out-of-network provider.

- You receive your care from a network provider. In most cases, care you receive from an out-of-network provider will not be covered unless it is emergent or urgent care or unless your plan or a network provider has given you a referral. This means that you will have to pay the provider in full for the services furnished.
- You have a primary care provider (a PCP) who is providing and overseeing your care.
- Some of the services listed in the Medical Benefits Chart are covered *only* if your doctor or other network provider gets approval in advance (sometimes called prior authorization) from us. Covered services that need approval in advance are marked in the Medical Benefits Chart by the checkmark symbol and a footnote in the Medical Benefits Chart.
- Covered services that need approval in advance to be covered as in-network services are marked **by the checkmark symbol and a footnote** in the Medical Benefits Chart.

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION REFERENCE CHART	
Prior authorization is required for the following:	Look for this service in the Medical Benefits Chart below for details:
Artificial intervertebral disc	Outpatient hospital Outpatient surgery
Bariatric surgery	Outpatient hospital Outpatient surgery
Blepharoplasty	Outpatient hospital Outpatient surgery
Bone-anchored hearing aid	Outpatient hospital Outpatient surgery
Bronchial thermoplasty	Outpatient hospital Outpatient surgery
Cardiac procedures (such as but not limited to, transcatheter procedures, peripheral revascularization, coronary or non-coronary angioplasty or stenting, coronary artery bypass grafting)	Outpatient hospital Outpatient surgery Physician/practitioner services (specialist) Durable medical equipment (DME) (wearable)
Cochlear implants	Outpatient hospital Outpatient surgery
Computed Tomography Angiography (CTA)	Outpatient diagnostic test/therapeutic services
Computerized Tomography (CT) scan	Outpatient diagnostic test/therapeutic services
Continuous glucose monitors (CGM)	Durable medical equipment (DME)
Cosmetic and reconstructive surgery	Outpatient hospital Outpatient surgery

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Dental services (Medicare-covered)	Outpatient hospital Outpatient surgery Physician/practitioner services (specialist)
Durable medical equipment (DME) item(s) that cost more than \$1,000	Durable medical equipment (DME)
Durable medical equipment (DME) rentals	Durable medical equipment (DME)
Electroencephalogram (EEG)	Outpatient diagnostic tests/therapeutic services Outpatient hospital
Experimental or investigational services	Outpatient hospital Outpatient surgery
Fixed winged air transportation	Ambulance
Gender reassignment surgery	Outpatient hospital Outpatient surgery
Genetic testing	Outpatient diagnostic test/therapeutic services
Home health services	Home health agency care
Home infusion therapy	Home infusion therapy
Implanted cardiac devices	Outpatient hospital Outpatient surgery Physician/practitioner services (specialist)
Infusion pumps (implantable)	Outpatient hospital Outpatient surgery
Injectable drugs	Medicare Part B prescription drugs
Inpatient hospital care (elective)	Inpatient hospital care
Inpatient mental health care admissions (elective)	Inpatient mental health care
Insulin pumps	Durable medical equipment (DME)
Magnetic Resonance Angiography (MRA)	Outpatient diagnostic test/therapeutic services
Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)	Outpatient diagnostic test/therapeutic services
Nuclear cardiology studies	Outpatient diagnostic test/therapeutic services

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Orthopedic procedures (such as but not limited to, joint arthroplasties, joint arthroscopies, laminectomies and related decompression procedures, shoulder repairs, vertebral fusions and associated procedures)	Outpatient hospital Outpatient surgery Physician/practitioner services (specialist)
Parenteral/enteral feedings	Prosthetic devices
Partial hospitalization	Partial hospitalization
Positron Emission Tomography (PET) scan	Outpatient diagnostic tests/therapeutic services
Prosthetics and orthotics item(s) that cost more than \$1,000	Prosthetic devices
Radical prostatectomy	Outpatient hospital Outpatient surgery
Radiofrequency catheter ablation for back pain	Outpatient hospital Outpatient surgery
Radiation oncology procedures (such as but not limited to, intensity-modulated radiation therapy (IMRT), neutron beam radiotherapy (NBRT), proton beam radiotherapy (PBRT), stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS), stereotactic body radiation therapy (SBRT)	Outpatient hospital Outpatient surgery
Skilled nursing facility admissions	Skilled nursing facility (SNF) care
Sleep studies (except in-home)	Outpatient diagnostic tests/therapeutic services
Stimulators	Durable medical equipment (DME)
Stimulators (implanted)	Outpatient hospital Outpatient surgery
Transcatheter heart procedures	Outpatient hospital Outpatient surgery

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Transcranial magnetic stimulation	Outpatient hospital Outpatient surgery Physician/practitioner services (specialist)
Transplant surgery and transplant evaluation(except corneal transplants)	Inpatient hospital care Outpatient hospital Outpatient surgery
Transplant evaluations (except corneal transplant evaluations)	Physician/practitioner services (specialist)
Varicose Vein Treatment (such as but not limited to endovascular ablations, sclerotherapy, endovenous ablation, stab phlebectomy and ligation of veins)	Outpatient hospital Outpatient surgery Physician/practitioner services (specialist)

## Other important things to know about our coverage:

- You are covered by both Medicare and Michigan Medicaid. Medicare covers health care and prescription drugs. Medicaid covers your cost sharing for Medicare services, including deductibles, copayments, and coinsurance. Medicaid also covers services Medicare does not cover, like long-term care.
- Like all Medicare health plans, we cover everything that Original Medicare covers. (If you want to know more about the coverage and costs of Original Medicare, look in your *Medicare & You 2025* handbook. View it online at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) or ask for a copy by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.)
- For all preventive services that are covered at no cost under Original Medicare, we also cover the service at no cost to you.
- If Medicare adds coverage for any new services during 2025, either Medicare or our plan will cover those services.
- If you are within our plan's six-month period of deemed continued eligibility (the grace period), we will continue to provide all Medicare Advantage plan-covered Medicare benefits. However, during this period, we will not pay the Medicare cost sharing for which the state would otherwise be liable had you not lost your Medicaid eligibility.

**If you are eligible for Medicare cost-sharing assistance under Michigan Medicaid, you do not pay anything for the services listed in the Benefits Chart, as long as you meet the coverage requirements described above.**

## Important Benefit Information for Enrollees Who Qualify for “Extra Help”:

- If you receive “Extra Help” to pay your Medicare prescription drug program costs, such as premiums, deductibles, and coinsurance, you may be eligible for other targeted supplemental benefits and/or targeted reduced cost sharing.

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

- For further detail, please go to the Value Based Insurance Design (VBID) row in the Medical Benefits Chart below.



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



You will see this check mark when a benefit requires a prior authorization.



You will see this star next to benefits that our plan offers above and beyond what Original Medicare covers.



You will see an asterisk on services that do not apply to your maximum out-of-pocket amount.


**Medical Benefits Chart**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p> <b>Abdominal aortic aneurysm screening</b></p> <p>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.</p>	There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for members eligible for this preventive screening.	
<p><b>Acupuncture for chronic low back pain</b></p> <p><b>Medicare-Covered services include:</b></p> <p>Up to 12 visits in 90 days are covered for Medicare beneficiaries under the following circumstances:</p> <p>For the purpose of this benefit, chronic low back pain is defined as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• lasting 12 weeks or longer;</li> <li>• nonspecific, in that it has no identifiable systemic cause (i.e., not</li> </ul>	<p>\$0 copay for each Medicare-covered acupuncture service.</p>	<p>\$0 copay for each non-Medicare covered routine acupuncture visit, up to 6 visits each year.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**



Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Acupuncture for chronic low back pain (continued)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>associated with metastatic, inflammatory, infectious disease, etc.);</li> <li>• not associated with surgery; and</li> <li>• not associated with pregnancy.</li> </ul> <p>An additional eight sessions will be covered for those patients demonstrating an improvement for the diagnosis of chronic low back pain only. No more than 20 acupuncture treatments may be administered annually.</p> <p>Office visits related to Medicare-covered acupuncture services are not covered.</p> <p>Treatment must be discontinued if the patient is not improving or is regressing.</p> <p>Provider Requirements:</p> <p>Physicians (as defined in 1861(r)(1) of the Social Security Act (the Act)) may furnish acupuncture in accordance with applicable state requirements.</p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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,</li> </ul>		

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**



Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Acupuncture for chronic low back pain (continued)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> </ul> <p>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.</p> <p> <b>Non-Medicare covered routine acupuncture visits include:</b></p> <p>Routine acupuncture visits (up to 6 visits) for other conditions, such as; headaches, anxiety, sleep issues, osteoarthritis, chemotherapy side effects and respiratory disorders.</p>		
<p><b>Allergy shots and serum</b></p> <p>You are covered for allergy shots and Medicare-covered Part B serum (antigen) when medically necessary.</p> <p>A specialist copayment/coinsurance may apply, see “Physician/Practitioner services, including doctor’s office visits.”</p> <p><b>Note:</b> For Medicare-covered allergy testing, see “Outpatient diagnostic tests and therapeutic services and supplies.”</p>	<p>\$0 copay for each Medicare-covered Part B drug obtained in a provider's office.</p>	<p>After your deductible is met, you pay 20% of the total cost.</p>





**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Ambulance services</b>                      Covered ambulance services, whether for an emergency or non-emergency situation, include fixed wing, rotary wing, and ground ambulance services, to the nearest appropriate facility that can provide care only if they are furnished to a member whose medical condition is such that other means of 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.</p> <p> We cover ambulance services not resulting in a transport to a facility if you are stabilized at your home or other location. This service is not covered outside of the U.S. and its territories.</p> <p> Emergent ambulance services furnished outside the U.S. and its territories are covered when furnished in connection with an emergent transport. Payment is made for necessary ambulance services that meet the other coverage requirements of the Medicare program and are furnished in connection with an emergent facility.</p>	<p>\$0 copay for each one-way Medicare-covered ambulance transport.</p> <p>\$0 copay for each non-Medicare-covered ambulance stabilization when there is no transport.</p>	<p>After your deductible is met, you pay 35% of the total cost for each one-way Medicare-covered ambulance transport.</p> <p>\$0 copay for each non-Medicare covered ambulance stabilization when there is no transport.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>


**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p>✓ <i>Prior authorization may apply, see page 54 for more information.</i></p>		
<p> <b>Annual preventive physical exam</b></p> <p>Because you are a member of this plan, if the purpose of the appointment is your scheduled annual exam, you will not be charged for the office visit no matter how much is discussed. This is an opportunity for you and your physician to talk about any concerns or questions you may have. The exam includes measurement of height, weight, body mass index, blood pressure, visual acuity screening and other routine measurements.</p> <p>The annual preventive physical exam DOES NOT include lab tests and immunizations. See “Outpatient diagnostic tests and therapeutic services and supplies” and “Immunizations” for cost share.</p>	<p>\$0 copay for an annual preventive physical exam.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	
<p> <b>Annual wellness visit</b></p> <p>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 calendar year.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Your first annual wellness visit can’t take place within 12 months of your <i>Welcome to Medicare</i> preventive visit.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the annual wellness visit.</p>	




**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Annual wellness visit (continued)</b>                      However, you don't need to have had a <i>Welcome to Medicare</i> visit to be covered for annual wellness visits after you've had Part B for 12 months.</p> <p> Like the annual preventive physical exam, you will not be charged for the office visit no matter how much is discussed with your physician.</p> <p>The annual wellness visit DOES NOT include lab tests and immunizations. See "Outpatient diagnostic tests and therapeutic services and supplies" and "Immunizations" for cost share.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Your first annual wellness visit can't take place within 12 months of your <i>Welcome to Medicare</i> preventive visit. However, you don't need to have had a <i>Welcome to Medicare</i> visit to be covered for annual wellness visits after you've had Part B for 12 months.</p>		
<p> <b>Bone mass measurement</b>                      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.</p>		There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for Medicare-covered bone mass measurement.


**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p> <b>Breast cancer screening (mammograms)</b></p> <p>Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One baseline mammogram for women between the ages of 35 and 39</li> <li>• One screening mammogram every 12 months for women age 40 and older</li> <li>• Clinical breast exams once every 24 months</li> </ul> <p>A <b>breast cancer screening mammogram</b> (2D or 3D) is done when you have no signs or symptoms (asymptomatic) of breast disease.</p> <p>A <b>diagnostic mammogram</b> is done when you do have signs or symptoms of breast disease, a personal history of breast cancer or personal history of biopsy-proven benign breast disease. If you have a lump removed and sent to the lab for testing, this is considered diagnostic, regardless of whether you have a screening mammogram or a diagnostic mammogram. See "Outpatient diagnostic tests and therapeutic services and supplies."</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for covered screening mammograms.</p>	
<p><b>Cardiac rehabilitation services</b></p> <p>Comprehensive programs of cardiac rehabilitation services that include exercise, education, and counseling are covered for members who meet certain conditions with a doctor's order. The plan also covers intensive cardiac rehabilitation programs that are typically</p>	<p>\$0 copay for each Medicare-covered cardiac rehabilitation service and intensive cardiac rehabilitation service.</p>	<p>After your deductible is met, you pay 35% of the total cost for each Medicare-covered cardiac rehabilitation service and intensive cardiac rehabilitation service.</p>



**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
more rigorous or more intense than cardiac rehabilitation programs.		
 <b>Cardiovascular disease risk reduction visit (therapy for cardiovascular disease)</b> We cover one visit per year with your primary care doctor to help lower your risk for cardiovascular disease. During this visit, your doctor may discuss aspirin use (if appropriate), check your blood pressure, and give you tips to make sure you're eating healthy.	There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the intensive behavioral therapy cardiovascular disease preventive benefit.	
 <b>Cardiovascular disease testing</b> Blood tests for the detection of cardiovascular disease (or abnormalities associated with an elevated risk of cardiovascular disease) once every 5 years (60 months).	There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for cardiovascular disease testing that is covered once every 5 years.	
 <b>Caregiver support services*</b> Caregiver support services provided by Carallel®. There is no cost to you to use this benefit. Caregiver support services are available to all Priority Health members and their families.  Carallel's Care Advocates provide support and research on topics like health insurance, emotional support, stress management, housing and transportation, and guidance on financial matters and legal concerns.	\$0 copay for the caregiver' support benefit. Benefit covers caregiver training and support for caregivers including support services (counseling, navigation, and support), digital coaching, and education for enrollees and their caregivers.  Deductible does not apply.	

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p>Carallel offers online tools and resources that provide personalized support tailored to your unique situation.</p> <p>Sign up for Carallel’s caregiver support services by calling 1-877-715-7872, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday. TTY users call 711.</p> <p>Sign up online at <a href="http://app.carallel.com/priorityhealth">http://app.carallel.com/priorityhealth</a></p>		
<p> <b>Cervical and vaginal cancer screening</b></p> <p>Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For all women: Pap tests and pelvic exams are covered once every 24 months.</li> <li>• If you are at high risk of cervical or vaginal cancer or you are of childbearing age and have had an abnormal Pap test within the past 3 years: one Pap test every 12 months.</li> <li>• Human Papillomavirus (HPV) tests (as part of a PAP test) once every 5 years if you are aged 30-65 years and asymptomatic.</li> </ul>		There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for Medicare-covered preventive Pap and pelvic exams.
<p><b>Chiropractic services</b></p> <p>Covered services include:</p> <p>Medicare-covered manual manipulation of the spine to correct subluxation. Office visits and x-ray related to a Medicare-covered service are not covered.</p>		<p>\$0 copay for each Medicare-covered service.</p> <p>\$0 copay for each non-Medicare covered routine visit, up to 24 each year.</p> <p>\$0 copay for non-Medicare covered routine x-ray services performed once per year by a chiropractor.</p>

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
 <p>Non-Medicare covered routine visits can be used for conditions including but not limited to, back pain, neck pain, and headaches.</p>		
 <p><b>Colorectal cancer screening</b> The following screening tests are covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Screening fecal-occult blood tests for patients 45 years and older. Once every 12 months.</li> <li>• Multitarget stool DNA for patients 45 to 85 years of age and not meeting high risk criteria. Once every 3 years.</li> <li>• Blood-based Biomarker Tests for patients 45 to 85 years of age and not meeting high risk criteria. Once every 3 years.</li> <li>• Barium Enema as an alternative to colonoscopy for patients at high risk</li> </ul>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for a Medicare-covered colorectal cancer screening exam.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for a Medicare-covered colorectal cancer screening exam.</p> <p>If your doctor finds and removes a polyp or other tissue during the colonoscopy or flexible sigmoidoscopy, the screening exam becomes a diagnostic exam, which you will pay 35% of the total cost for these services.</p> <p>Deductible does apply.</p>

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**


Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Colorectal cancer screening (continued)</b> and 24 months since the last screening barium enema or the last screening colonoscopy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barium Enema as an alternative to flexible sigmoidoscopy for patients not at high risk and 45 years or older. Once at least 48 months following the last screening barium enema or screening flexible sigmoidoscopy.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Screenings for medical bowel irregularities, issues or symptoms (bleeding, etc.), previous polyps, or follow-up for a positive Cologuard or other non-invasive test are all considered Diagnostic Colonoscopies, therefore cost share may apply. Please see ‘Outpatient Surgery’ and ‘Outpatient Diagnostic Tests &amp; Therapeutic Services &amp; Supplies (Labs/Pathology)’ benefits.</li> </ul> <p>A <b>screening colonoscopy</b> is a procedure to find colon polyps, cancer, or other colorectal related conditions in individuals with no signs or symptoms. A screening colonoscopy can become a diagnostic colonoscopy during the procedure itself, if that occurs see “Outpatient surgery, including services provided at hospital outpatient facilities and ambulatory surgical centers” or</p>		






**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Colorectal cancer screening (continued)</b></p> <p>“Outpatient diagnostic tests and therapeutic services and supplies” for cost share.</p> <p>A <b>diagnostic colonoscopy</b> is performed in order to explain symptoms identified by your physician (for example, blood in stools, change in bowel movements, iron deficiency due to anemia, persistent abdominal pain, etc.), because you’ve had a previous colonoscopy that resulted in removal of polyps, or other colorectal related conditions. If your physician orders a diagnostic colonoscopy see “Outpatient surgery, including services provided at hospital outpatient facilities and ambulatory surgical centers” or “Outpatient diagnostic tests and therapeutic services and supplies” for cost share.</p>		
<p><b>Dental services</b></p> <p><b>Medicare-covered dental services:</b></p> <p>In general, preventive dental services (such as cleaning, routine dental exams, and dental x-rays) are not covered by Original Medicare. However, Medicare currently pays for dental services in a limited number of circumstances, specifically when that service is an integral part of specific treatment of a beneficiary's primary medical condition. Some examples include reconstruction of the jaw following fracture or injury, tooth extractions done in preparation for radiation treatment for cancer involving</p>	<p>\$0 copay for Medicare-covered surgical procedures performed by a physician/practitioner in a provider’s office.</p> <p>\$0 copay for each Medicare- covered visit with a specialist.</p> <p>\$0 copay for each Medicare-covered ambulatory surgical center or outpatient hospital facility visit.</p>	<p>After your deductible is met, you pay:</p> <p>35% of the total cost for Medicare-covered surgical procedures performed by a physician/practitioner in a provider’s office.</p> <p>\$0 for each Medicare-covered visit with a specialist.</p>

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p>the jaw, or oral exams preceding kidney transplantation.</p> <p>✓ <i>Prior authorization may apply, see page 54 for more information.</i></p>		<p>Deductible does not apply.</p> <p>After your deductible is met, you pay 35% of the total cost for each Medicare-covered ambulatory surgical center or outpatient hospital facility visit.</p>
<p> <b>Non-Medicare covered dental services*</b></p> <p>In-network (participating) dentists are those in Delta Dental’s Medicare Advantage PPO network.</p> <p>You can find participating dentists by calling 800.330.2732 (TTY users should call 711), Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. or search online at <a href="http://deltadentalmi.com/Find-a-Dentist">deltadentalmi.com/Find-a-Dentist</a>. When accessing Delta Dental’s online Dentist Directory, you must select the link labeled Delta Dental Medicare Advantage PPO.</p> <p>For additional details about your dental benefits, go to <a href="http://priorityhealth.com/dsnp25">priorityhealth.com/dsnp25</a> to view your certificate of coverage (COC).</p>	<p>\$0 copay for two preventive dental exams per year*</p> <p>\$0 copay for two cleanings (regular or periodontal maintenance) per year*</p> <p>\$0 copay for one fluoride treatment per year</p> <p>\$0 copay for one set (up to 4 films in a single visit) of bitewing x-rays per year*</p> <p>\$0 copay for one brush biopsy per year*</p> <p>\$0 for periapical radiographs, as needed*</p> <p>\$0 for radiographs (full-mouth or panoramic x-rays) once every 24 months*</p> <p>\$0 for two periodontal maintenance cleanings (two total each year)*</p> <p>\$1,500 annual maximum on all covered dental services*</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
 <b>Depression screening</b> We cover one screening for depression per year. The screening must be done in a primary care setting that can provide follow-up treatment and/or referrals.	There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for an annual depression screening visit.	
 <b>Diabetes screening</b> 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. You may be eligible for up to two diabetes screenings every 12 months following the date of your most recent diabetes screening test.	There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the Medicare covered diabetes screening tests.	
 <b>Diabetes self-management training, diabetic services and supplies</b> For all people who have diabetes (insulin and non-insulin users). Covered services include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supplies to monitor your blood glucose: Blood glucose monitor, blood glucose test strips, lancet devices and lancets, and glucose-control solutions for checking the accuracy of test strips and monitors.</li> <li>For people with diabetes who have severe diabetic foot disease: One pair</li> </ul>	\$0 copay for Medicare-covered diabetes self-management training.  \$0 copay for diabetic services and supplies. Diabetic test strips are limited to JJHCS and Bayer products when dispensed by a retail pharmacy or mail-order pharmacy.	\$0 copay for Medicare-covered diabetes self-management training.  You pay 20% of the total cost for diabetic services and supplies. Diabetic test strips are limited to JJHCS and Bayer products when dispensed by a retail pharmacy or mail-order pharmacy.


**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Diabetes self-management training, diabetic services and supplies (continued)</b></p> <p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diabetes self-management training is covered under certain conditions.</li> </ul> <p>For other diabetic equipment and supplies (for example; insulin pumps and continuous glucose monitors (CGM)) see ‘Durable medical equipment and related supplies.’</p>	<p>\$0 copay for all other diabetic test strips when obtained through a DME supplier. We recommend obtaining diabetic supplies through a participating DME supplier for a seamless coordination of your Medicare and Medicaid benefits.</p> <p>Our preferred mail-order pharmacy, Express Scripts, does not have the ability to coordinate benefits with both Medicare and Medicaid so you may need to work with your Medicaid plan to pick up any remaining balances.</p>	<p>You pay 20% of the total cost for all other diabetic test strips when obtained through a DME supplier, deductible does not apply. We recommend obtaining diabetic supplies through a participating DME supplier for a seamless coordination of your Medicare and Medicaid benefits.</p> <p>Our preferred mail-order pharmacy, Express Scripts, does not have the ability to coordinate benefits with both Medicare and Medicaid so you may need to work with your Medicaid plan to pick up any remaining balances. Deductible does not apply.</p>



**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Durable medical equipment (DME) and related supplies</b> (For a definition of durable medical equipment, see Chapter 12 as well as Chapter 3, Section 7 of this document.)</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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 <a href="http://priorityhealth.com/dsnp25">priorityhealth.com/dsnp25</a>.</p> <p>We also follow Medicare rules related to criteria for coverage of Medicare-covered items or supplies. For some equipment Medicare requires a certain amount of usage in order to continue a rental (for example, CPAP, etc.). If you do not meet the Medicare requirements for usage, you may not be able to continue the rental of this device. You must obtain DME &amp; related supplies from a licensed DME provider.</p> <p>Please see Chapter 3, Section 7.2 for additional details around oxygen equipment.</p>	<p>\$0 copay for Medicare-covered equipment and supplies.</p> <p>Your cost sharing for Medicare oxygen equipment coverage is the cost you pay for durable medical equipment, every month.</p> <p>Your cost sharing will not change after being enrolled for 36 months. You will continue to be charged a cost share for oxygen, but not the machine rental.</p> <p>If prior to enrolling in <b>Priority</b>Medicare D-SNP you had made 36 months of rental payment for oxygen equipment coverage, your cost sharing in <b>Priority</b>Medicare D-SNP is the cost you pay for durable medical equipment.</p>	<p>You pay 20% of the total cost for Medicare-covered equipment and supplies.</p> <p>Your cost sharing for Medicare oxygen equipment coverage is the cost you pay for durable medical equipment, every month.</p> <p>Your cost sharing will not change after being enrolled for 36 months. You will continue to be charged a cost share for oxygen, but not the machine rental.</p> <p>If prior to enrolling in <b>Priority</b>Medicare D-SNP you had made 36 months of rental payment for oxygen equipment coverage, your cost sharing in <b>Priority</b>Medicare D-SNP is the cost you pay for durable medical equipment.</p>


**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p>✓ <i>Prior authorization may apply, see page 54 for more information.</i></p>		Deductible does not apply.
<p><b>Emergency care</b></p> <p>Emergency care refers to services that are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Furnished by a provider qualified to furnish emergency services, and</li> <li>• Needed to evaluate or stabilize an emergency medical condition.</li> </ul> <p>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.</p> <p>Cost sharing for necessary emergency services furnished out-of-network is the same as for such services furnished in-network.</p> <p>For information on observation, see “Outpatient hospital observation”.</p> <p> You have emergency care coverage in the United States and worldwide.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If you get Part D Medicare-covered self-administered drugs in an emergency room setting, they may be covered under</p>	<p>\$0 copay for each Medicare- covered emergency room visit.</p> <p>You do not pay this amount if you are admitted to the hospital within 24 hours for the same condition.</p>	<p>\$110 copay for each Medicare- covered emergency room visit.</p> <p>\$0 copay for worldwide emergency care coverage when outside of the United States.</p> <p>You do not pay this amount if you are admitted to the hospital within 24 hours for the same condition.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**


Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p>your prescription drug benefit on this plan. See Chapter 6, Section 7, for more information on what happens when you get a Part D drug in a medical setting.</p>		
<p> <b>Enhanced disease management services</b></p> <p>Our care management assists members in finding community resources and programs to achieve maximum physical or mental functioning when identified with the following as needing enhanced disease management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chronic conditions who are identified as needing enhanced disease management</li> <li>• Hospitalization for a complication of a condition or disease and are identified as having moderate to high risk for readmission</li> <li>• Discharge from an inpatient psychiatric setting for a Behavioral Health condition</li> <li>• High opioid utilization patterns</li> <li>• Chronic kidney disease</li> <li>• Advanced stages of a chronic disease state. (CHF, COPD, Oncology, Diabetes, CKD)</li> </ul>	<p>\$0 copay for these services.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	
<p> <b>Health and wellness education programs</b></p> <p>These programs are focused on health conditions such as COPD, CHF, diabetes, and kidney disease. Physical and</p>	<p>\$0 copay for these services.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p>mental/behavioral support is available to ensure members are connected with the appropriate programs/benefit offerings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhanced disease management</li> <li>• Fitness (One Pass<sup>®</sup>) *</li> <li>• Health education*</li> <li>• In-home safety assessment</li> <li>• Nutritional education</li> <li>• Personal Emergency Response System (PERS)*</li> <li>• Post-discharge in-home medication reconciliation</li> <li>• Telemonitoring</li> </ul> <p>For more information, please refer to the individual program listed in this medical benefits chart.</p>		
<p> <b>Health education*</b></p> <p>Health education includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to Teledoc Health Mental Health for online emotional support during challenging times. Sign up for an account that includes interactive activities, coping tools and other resources, including practice skills and inspirational community support at <a href="http://priorityhealth.com/mentalhealth">priorityhealth.com/mentalhealth</a>.</li> <li>• ThinkHealth – your online resource for tips on healthy living, information on health care trends and health insurance education, go to <a href="http://thinkhealth.priorityhealth.com">thinkhealth.priorityhealth.com</a>.</li> </ul>	<p>\$0 copay for these services.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	





**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communications to help you understand your plan benefits and get the care you need.</li> <li>• Programs to help you prevent and/or manage your condition(s).</li> <li>• Access to a personalized online hub with information and tools tailored to your specific health and wellbeing needs - physical, mental, and financial. You can achieve your health goals with a fun and engaging experience that delivers powerful resources, right at your fingertips.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Hearing services</b></p> <p><b>Medicare-covered hearing services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<p>\$0 copay for each Medicare- covered diagnostic hearing exam with a primary care provider.</p> <p>\$0 copay for each Medicare- covered diagnostic hearing exam with a specialist.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	
<p> <b>Non-Medicare covered routine hearing services*:</b></p> <p>Up to two hearing aids (one per ear every two years). Benefit is limited to TruHearing-branded Advanced Aids, which come in various styles and colors. You must see a TruHearing provider to use this benefit. Call 1-833-714-5355 to schedule an appointment (for TTY, dial 711).</p>	<p><b><u>Covered services with a TruHearing provider:</u></b></p> <p>\$0 copay for one routine hearing exam every year.*</p> <p>\$0 per hearing aid for Advanced Aids, 1 per ear every 2 years.*</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Non-Medicare covered routine hearing services* (continued):</b>                      Hearing aid purchase includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First year of follow-up provider visits</li> <li>• 60-day trial period</li> <li>• 3-year extended warranty</li> <li>• 80 batteries per aid for non-rechargeable models</li> </ul> <p>Benefit does not include or cover any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over-the-counter (OTC) hearing aids</li> <li>• Hearing aid accessories</li> <li>• Additional provider visits</li> <li>• Additional batteries; batteries when a rechargeable hearing aid is purchased</li> <li>• Hearing aids that are not TruHearing-branded Advanced Aids</li> <li>• Costs associated with loss &amp; damage warranty claims</li> <li>• Costs associated with excluded items are the responsibility of the member and not covered by the plan.</li> </ul> <p>To access your benefits, you must contact TruHearing first to schedule an appointment with a TruHearing provider. Just call 833.714.5355 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday.</p> <p>For additional details about your hearing benefits, go to <i>priorityhealth.com/dsnp25</i> to view your certificate of coverage (COC).</p>		

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p> <b>Hepatitis C screening</b></p> <p>Medicare covers a screening test one time if you meet one or more of these conditions and if ordered by your doctor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High risk because you use or have used illicit injection drugs.</li> <li>• Received a blood transfusion before 1992.</li> <li>• Born between 1945-1965.</li> <li>• If you're at high risk, Medicare covers yearly screenings.</li> </ul>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for members eligible for Medicare-covered preventive Hepatitis C screening.</p>	
<p> <b>HIV screening</b></p> <p>For people who ask for an HIV screening test or who are at increased risk for HIV infection, we cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One screening exam every 12 months</li> </ul> <p>For women who are pregnant, we cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to three screening exams during a pregnancy</li> </ul>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for members eligible for Medicare-covered preventive HIV screening.</p>	
<p><b>Home health agency care</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>Covered services include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Part-time or intermittent skilled nursing and home health aide services (To be covered under the home health care benefit, your skilled nursing and</li> </ul>	<p>\$0 copay for each Medicare- covered service.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Home health agency care (continued)</b></p> <p>home health aide services combined must total fewer than 8 hours per day and 35 hours per week)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy</li> <li>• Medical and social services</li> <li>• Medical equipment and supplies (including supplies customarily used in small quantities during the course of home health care)</li> </ul> <p>Note: Medical supplies ordered by a physician such as DME equipment are not covered under the home health benefit. See “Durable medical equipment and related supplies” for details.</p> <p>✓ <i>Prior authorization may apply, see page 54 for more information.</i></p>		
<p><b>Home infusion services</b></p> <p>Home infusion services 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).</p> <p>Covered services include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professional services, including nursing services, furnished in accordance with the plan of care</li> </ul>	<p>\$0 copay for home infusion supplies, services, and drugs.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Home infusion services (continued)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patient training and education not otherwise covered under the durable medical equipment benefit</li> <li>• Remote monitoring</li> <li>• Monitoring services for the provision of home infusion therapy and home infusion drugs furnished by a qualified home infusion therapy supplier</li> <li>• This benefit includes supplies/services associated with home infusion drugs. Only drugs listed in the formulary with the "HI" designation are covered under this home infusion services benefit. Cost share will apply for all other drugs administered in the home setting, see "Medicare Part B prescription drugs."</li> </ul> <p>✓ <i>Prior authorization may apply, see page 54 for more information.</i></p>		
<p><b>Hospice care</b></p> <p>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 6 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. Your hospice doctor</p>	<p>When you enroll in a Medicare-certified 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 <b>Priority</b>Medicare D-SNP (HMO).</p> <p>\$0 copay for the initial Medicare-covered hospice consultation.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	


**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Hospice care (continued)</b></p> <p>can be a network provider or an out-of-network provider.</p> <p>Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drugs for symptom control and pain relief</li> <li>• Short-term respite care</li> <li>• Home care</li> </ul> <p><u>For hospice services and for services that are covered by Medicare Part A or B and are related to your terminal prognosis:</u> Original Medicare (rather than our plan) will pay your hospice provider for your hospice 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.</p> <p><u>For services that are covered by Medicare Part A or B and are not related to your terminal prognosis:</u> If you need non-emergency, non-urgently needed services that are covered under Medicare Part A or B and that are not related to your terminal prognosis, your cost for these services depends on whether you use a provider in our plan’s network and follow plan rules (such as if there is a requirement to obtain prior authorization).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you obtain the covered services from a network provider and follow plan rules for obtaining service, you only pay the plan cost-sharing amount for in-network services.</li> </ul>		

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**



Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Hospice care (continued)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you obtain the covered services from an out-of-network provider, you pay the cost sharing under Fee-for-Service Medicare (Original Medicare)</li> </ul> <p>For services that are covered by <u>PriorityMedicare D-SNP (HMO)</u> but are <u>not covered by Medicare Part A or B</u>: <b>PriorityMedicare D-SNP (HMO)</b> will continue to cover plan-covered services that are not covered under Part A or B whether or not they are related to your terminal prognosis. You pay your plan cost-sharing amount for these services.</p> <p><u>For drugs that may be covered by the plan’s Part D benefit</u>: If these drugs are unrelated to your terminal hospice condition you pay cost sharing. If they are related to your terminal hospice condition, then you pay Original Medicare cost sharing. Drugs are never covered by both hospice and our plan at the same time. For more information, please see Chapter 5, Section 9.3 (<i>What if you’re in Medicare-certified hospice</i>).</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If you need non-hospice care (care that is not related to your terminal prognosis), you should contact us to arrange the services.</p> <p>Our plan covers hospice consultation services for a terminally ill person who hasn’t elected the hospice benefit.</p>		

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**


Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p> <b>Immunizations</b></p> <p>Covered Medicare Part B services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pneumonia vaccines</li> <li>• Flu/influenza shots (or vaccines), once each flu/influenza season in the fall and winter, with additional flu/influenza shots (or vaccines) if medically necessary</li> <li>• Hepatitis B vaccines if you are at high or intermediate risk of getting Hepatitis B</li> <li>• COVID-19 vaccines</li> <li>• Other vaccines if you are at risk and they meet Medicare Part B coverage rules</li> </ul> <p>We also cover most other adult vaccines under our Part D prescription drug benefit. Refer to Chapter 6, Section 8 for additional information.</p> <p>Vaccines covered under our Part D prescription drug benefit should be obtained, if possible, at a vaccine network pharmacy, which are indicated with a “v” in the <i>Provider/Pharmacy Directory</i>. Our plan covers most Part D vaccines at no cost to you. Call Member Services for more information. Examples of routine vaccines covered under our Part D benefit include shingles vaccine (Zoster/Shingrix) and Tetanus (Td/Tdap).</p> <p>When a Part D Medicare-covered immunization is received in a provider’s office or outpatient setting you will pay the cost of the immunization and</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the pneumonia, influenza, and Hepatitis B, and COVID-19 vaccines.</p>	



**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
administration to the provider. We will reimburse you as described in Chapter 6, Section 8.		
 <b>In-home safety assessment services</b>  An in-home safety assessment will be performed by a health care provider if you do not qualify for one under original Medicare’s home health benefit. The assessment will focus on both medical & behavioral hazards, such as your risk for falls or injuries and how to prevent them and identify and/or modify home hazards throughout your home	\$0 copay for these services.  Deductible does not apply.	
<b>Inpatient hospital care</b> 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.   There is no limit to the number of days covered by the plan.  Covered services include but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Semi-private room (or a private room if medically necessary)</li> <li>• Meals including special diets</li> <li>• Regular nursing services</li> </ul>	For each Medicare-covered hospital admission/stay you pay a \$0 copay.  If you get inpatient care at an out-of-network hospital after your emergency condition is stabilized, your cost is the cost sharing you would pay at a network hospital.	For each Medicare-covered hospital admission/stay you pay:  \$1,800 per stay (Part A deductible)  \$0 copay for additional hospital days after the Part A deductible is met.

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Inpatient hospital care (continued)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Costs of special care units (such as intensive care or coronary care units)</li> <li>• Drugs and medications</li> <li>• Lab tests</li> <li>• X-rays and other radiology services</li> <li>• Necessary surgical and medical supplies</li> <li>• Use of appliances, such as wheelchairs</li> <li>• Operating and recovery room costs</li> <li>• Physical, occupational, and speech language therapy</li> <li>• Inpatient substance use disorder services</li> <li>• Blood - including storage and administration. Coverage of whole blood and packed red cells (as well as other components of blood).</li> </ul> <p> Coverage begins with the first pint of blood that you need.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under certain conditions, the following types of transplants are covered: corneal, kidney, kidney-pancreatic, 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</li> </ul>		


**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Inpatient hospital care (continued)</b></p> <p>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 <b>Priority</b>Medicare D-SNP (HMO) provides 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.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> To be an inpatient, your provider must write an order to admit you formally as an inpatient of the hospital. Even 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.</p> <p>You can also find more information in a Medicare fact sheet called <i>Medicare Hospital Benefits</i>. This fact sheet is available on the Web at <a href="https://es.medicare.gov/publications/11435-Medicare-Hospital-Benefits.pdf">https://es.medicare.gov/publications/11435-Medicare-Hospital-Benefits.pdf</a> 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, 7 days a week.</p> <p>✓ <i>Prior authorization may apply, see page 54 for more information.</i></p>		


**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Inpatient services in a psychiatric hospital</b></p> <p>Covered services include mental health care services that require a hospital stay. There is a 190-day lifetime limit for inpatient services in a psychiatric hospital. The 190-day limit does not apply to inpatient mental health services provided in a psychiatric unit of a general hospital.</p> <p>Call our Behavioral Health department at 800.673.8043 with questions.</p> <p>✓ <i>Prior authorization may apply, see page 54 for more information.</i></p>	<p>For each Medicare-covered hospital admission/stay you pay \$0.</p>	<p>For each Medicare-covered hospital admission/stay you pay:</p> <p>\$1,800 copay per stay (Part A deductible)</p> <p>\$0 copay for additional hospital days (after Part A deductible has been met).</p>
<p><b>Inpatient stay: Covered services received in a hospital or SNF during a non-covered inpatient stay</b></p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physician services</li> <li>• Diagnostic tests (like lab tests)</li> <li>• X-ray, radium, and isotope therapy including technician materials and services</li> <li>• Surgical dressings</li> <li>• Splints, casts and other devices used to reduce fractures and dislocations</li> </ul>	<p>\$0 copay for Medicare-covered services received from the inpatient facility.</p> <p>\$0 copay for Medicare-covered prosthetic devices and supplies received from the inpatient facility or an outpatient provider when implanted as part of a surgery.</p> <p>\$0 copay for all other Medicare-covered prosthetic devices and supplies and Medicare-covered DME received from an outpatient provider.</p>	<p>\$0 copay for Medicare-covered services received from the inpatient facility.</p> <p>\$0 copay for Medicare-covered prosthetic devices and supplies received from the inpatient facility or an outpatient provider when implanted as part of a surgery.</p> <p>You pay 20% of the total cost for each Medicare-covered prosthetic devices and supplies and Medicare-covered</p>

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Inpatient stay: Covered services received in a hospital or SNF during a non-covered inpatient stay (continued)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Physical therapy, speech therapy, and occupational therapy</li> </ul> <p>✓ <i>Prior authorization may apply, see page 54 for more information</i></p>		<p>DME received from an outpatient provider.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>
<p> <b>Medical nutrition therapy</b></p> <p>This benefit is for people with diabetes, renal (kidney) disease (but not on dialysis), or after a kidney transplant when ordered by your doctor.</p> <p>We cover 3 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 2 hours each year after that. If your condition,</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for members eligible for Medicare-covered medical nutrition therapy services.</p>	

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
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.		
 <b>Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program (MDPP)</b> 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.	There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the MDPP benefit.	
<b>Medicare Part B prescription drugs</b> 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Insulin furnished through an item of durable medical equipment (such as a medically necessary insulin pump)</li> <li>• Other drugs you take using durable medical equipment (such as</li> </ul>	<b>Part B chemotherapy/ radiation:</b>  \$0 copay for each Medicare- covered Part B drug.  <b>Part B drugs obtained in a provider’s office or outpatient setting:</b>  \$0 copay for each Medicare-covered Part B drug.	<b>Part B chemotherapy/ radiation:</b>  After your deductible is met, you pay 20% of the total cost for each Medicare-covered Part B drug. <b>Part B drugs obtained in a provider's office or outpatient setting:</b>  After your deductible is met, you pay 20%

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Medicare Part B prescription drugs (continued)</b></p> <p>nebulizers) that were authorized by the plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Alzheimer’s drug, Leqembi®, (generic name lecanemab), which is administered intravenously. In addition to medication costs, you may need additional scans and tests before and/or during treatment that could add to your overall costs. Talk to your doctor about what scans and tests you may need as part of your treatment</li> <li>• Clotting factors you give yourself by injection if you have hemophilia</li> </ul> <p>Step therapy may be required for Part B drugs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transplant/Immunosuppressive Drugs: Medicare covers transplant drug therapy if Medicare paid for your organ transplant. You must have Part A at the time of the covered transplant, and you must have Part B at the time you get immunosuppressive drugs. Keep in mind, Medicare drug coverage (Part D) covers immunosuppressive drugs if Part B doesn't cover them</li> <li>• 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</li> </ul>	<p><b>Part B drugs obtained at a plan pharmacy/mail order:</b></p> <p>\$0 copay for each Medicare-covered Part B drug.</p>	<p>of the total cost for each Medicare-covered Part B drug.</p> <p><b>Part B drugs obtained at a plan pharmacy/mail order:</b></p> <p>After your deductible is met, you pay 20% of the total cost for each Medicare-covered Part B drug.</p> <p>You will pay 20% of the total cost for Medicare Part B insulin drugs. Insulin administered through an item of durable medical equipment (such as insulin pumps or continuous glucose monitors (CGM)) will be capped at \$35. You will pay 20% up to \$35 and will never pay more than \$35 for a one-month supply.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**


Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Medicare Part B prescription drugs (continued)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some Antigens: Medicare covers antigens if a doctor prepares them and a properly instructed person (who could be you, the patient) gives them under appropriate supervision</li> <li>• Certain oral anti-cancer drugs: Medicare covers some oral cancer drugs you take by mouth if the same drug is available in injectable form or the drug is a prodrug (an oral form of a drug that, when ingested, breaks down into the same active ingredient found in the injectable drug) of the injectable drug. As new oral cancer drugs become available, Part B may cover them. If Part B doesn't cover them, Part D does</li> <li>• Oral anti-nausea drugs: Medicare covers oral anti-nausea drugs you use as part of an anti-cancer chemotherapeutic regimen if they're administered before, at, or within 48 hours of chemotherapy or are used as a full therapeutic replacement for an intravenous anti-nausea drug</li> <li>• Certain oral End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) drugs if the same drug is available in injectable form and the Part B ESRD benefit covers it</li> <li>• Calcimimetic medications under the ESRD payment system, including the intravenous medication Parsabiv<sup>®</sup>, and the oral medication Sensipar<sup>®</sup></li> </ul>		





**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Medicare Part B prescription drugs (continued)</b></p> <p>Certain drugs for home dialysis, including heparin, the antidote for heparin, when medically necessary, and topical anesthetics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Erythropoiesis-stimulating agents: Medicare covers erythropoietin by injection if you have End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) or you need this drug to treat anemia related to certain other conditions (such as Epogen<sup>®</sup>, Procrit<sup>®</sup>, Retacrit<sup>®</sup>, Epoetin Alfa, Aranesp<sup>®</sup>, Darbepoetin Alfa, Mircera<sup>®</sup>, or Methoxy polyethylene glycol-epoetin beta)</li> <li>Intravenous Immune Globulin for the home treatment of primary immune deficiency diseases</li> <li>Parenteral and enteral nutrition (intravenous and tube feeding)</li> </ul> <p>The following link will take you to a list of Part B Drugs that may be subject to Step Therapy:  <a href="http://priorityhealth.com/DrugInfo">priorityhealth.com/DrugInfo</a>. Click on Medicare Part B prior authorization criteria.</p> <p>We also cover some vaccines under our Part B and most adult vaccines under our Part D prescription drug benefit.</p> <p>Chapter 5 explains the Part D prescription drug benefit, including rules you must follow to have prescriptions covered. What you pay for your Part D prescription</p>		

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p>drugs through our plan is explained in Chapter 6.</p> <p>✓ <i>Prior authorization may apply, see page 54 for more information.</i></p>		
<p> <b>Nutrition education</b></p> <p>A dietitian who will work to prevent and treat illness and promote a healthy lifestyle by recommending healthy eating habits and will address a person’s overall health through diet and nutrition. A nutritionist will provide a total of 12 individual or group sessions individual nutrition assessments, counseling, and education by phone or in person, which would include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide nutrition education materials to promote prevention, disease management, and healthy living</li> <li>• Apply appropriate behavioral and adult learning theories to develop, present, and educate members, providers, and staff on nutrition topics</li> <li>• Work closely with care management, pharmacy, and other medical support staff to assist with member care planning</li> <li>• Participate as a member of ICT as needed</li> <li>• Maintain knowledge of the latest advances and research on various health/nutrition topics</li> </ul>	<p>\$0 copay for 12 individual or group sessions visits with a nutritionist.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	


**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Act as a resource for Priority Health providers, health networks and community partners</li> </ul> <p>For people with diabetes, renal (kidney) disease or after a kidney transplant, see “Medical Nutrition Therapy.”</p>		
 <b>Obesity screening and therapy to promote sustained weight loss</b> <p>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.</p>		There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for preventive obesity screening and therapy.
 <b>One Pass® (Fitness)*</b> <p>Discover the joy of whole-body health. At One Pass, we’re on a mission to make fitness engaging for everyone. One Pass can help you reach your fitness goals, while finding new passions along the way. Find a routine that’s right for you when working out at home.</p> <p>One Pass includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Live, digital fitness classes and on-demand workouts.</li> <li>Home fitness kit (1 per plan year)</li> </ul> <p><b>How to get started</b></p>		<p>\$0 copay for One Pass® digital fitness benefit. *</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>One Pass® (Fitness)* (continued)</b>                      Getting started with One Pass is simple:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Go to <i>YourOnePass.com</i></li> <li>• Click “Get started” and follow prompts.</li> <li>• Get your One Pass member code on the dashboard page. Your One Pass member code is a single code that allows you to access online fitness vendors.</li> </ul> <p>You may also call 866.756.9732 Monday – Friday from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. EST to access your One Pass member code.</p>		
<p><b>Opioid treatment program services</b>                      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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved opioid agonist and antagonist medication-assisted treatment (MAT) medications</li> <li>• Dispensing and administration of MAT medications (if applicable)</li> <li>• Substance use disorder counseling</li> <li>• Individual and group therapy</li> <li>• Toxicology testing</li> <li>• Intake activities</li> <li>• Periodic assessments</li> </ul>	<p>\$0 copay for Medicare-covered opioid treatment services.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	

## Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Outpatient diagnostic tests and therapeutic services and supplies</b></p> <p>Covered services include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• X-rays</li> <li>• Radiation (radium and isotope) therapy including technician materials and supplies.</li> <li>• Surgical supplies, such as dressings</li> <li>• Splints, casts and other devices used to reduce fractures and dislocations</li> <li>• Laboratory tests</li> <li>• Blood - including storage and administration. Coverage of whole blood and packed red cells (as well as other components of blood)</li> </ul> <p> Coverage begins with the first pint of blood that you need.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other outpatient diagnostic tests (for example: allergy testing, genetic testing, sleep studies)</li> <li>• Diagnostic radiology services (for example: MRI, CT)</li> </ul> <p>✓ <i>Prior authorization may apply, see page 54 for more information.</i></p>	<p><b>Outpatient X-rays and ultrasounds</b></p> <p>\$0 copay per day, per provider, for Medicare-covered x-ray and ultrasound services.</p> <p><b>Radiation therapy</b></p> <p>\$0 copay per day, per provider, for Medicare-covered, radiation therapy services.</p> <p><b>Lab Services</b></p> <p>\$0 copay per day, per provider, for Medicare-covered lab services.</p> <p><b>Pathology</b></p> <p>\$0 copay per day, per provider, for Medicare-covered pathology services.</p> <p><b>Diagnostic tests and procedures</b></p> <p>\$0 copay per day, per provider, for diagnostic procedures and tests.</p> <p><b>Diagnostic radiology</b></p>	<p><b>Outpatient X-rays and ultrasounds</b></p> <p>After your deductible is met, you pay 35% of the total cost for Medicare-covered x-ray and ultrasound services.</p> <p><b>Radiation therapy</b></p> <p>After your deductible is met, you pay 20% of the total cost for Medicare-covered, radiation therapy services.</p> <p><b>Lab Services</b></p> <p>After your deductible is met, you pay: 35% of the total cost for Medicare-covered lab services.</p> <p><b>Pathology</b></p> <p>After your deductible is met, you pay 35% of the total cost for Medicare-covered pathology services.</p> <p><b>Diagnostic tests and procedures</b></p> <p>After your deductible is met, you pay 35% of the total cost for</p>

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
	<p>\$0 copay per provider, per day, for Medicare-covered diagnostic radiology services (such as MRIs and CT scans).</p> <p><b>Medical supplies</b> \$0 copay for Medicare-covered surgical supplies, splints, casts, and other devices.</p> <p><b>Blood services</b> \$0 copay for blood.</p>	<p>diagnostic procedures and tests.</p> <p><b>Diagnostic radiology</b> After your deductible is met, you pay 35% of the total cost for Medicare-covered diagnostic radiology services (such as MRIs and CT scans).</p> <p><b>Medical supplies</b> You pay 20% of the total cost for Medicare-covered surgical supplies, splints, casts and other devices. Deductible does not apply.</p> <p><b>Blood services</b> \$0 copay for blood. Deductible does not apply.</p>
<p><b>Outpatient hospital observation</b> Observation services are hospital outpatient services given to determine if you need to be admitted as an inpatient or can be discharged.</p> <p>For outpatient hospital observation services to be covered, they must meet the Medicare criteria and be considered reasonable and necessary. Observation</p>	<p>\$0 copay for Medicare-covered observation services, including all services received.</p>	<p>After your deductible is met, you pay 35% of the total cost for Medicare-covered observation services, including all services received.</p>

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Outpatient Hospital Observation (continued)</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> 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.</p> <p>You can also find more information in a Medicare fact sheet called <i>Medicare Hospital Benefits</i>. This fact sheet is available on the Web at <a href="https://es.medicare.gov/publications/11435-Medicare-Hospital-Benefits.pdf">https://es.medicare.gov/publications/11435-Medicare-Hospital-Benefits.pdf</a> 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, 7 days a week.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If you get Part D Medicare-covered self-administered drugs in an outpatient setting, they may be covered under your prescription drug benefit on this plan. See Chapter 6, Section 7 for more information on what happens when you get a Part D drug in a medical setting.</p>		

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Outpatient hospital services</b></p> <p>We cover medically-necessary services you get in the outpatient department of a hospital for diagnosis or treatment of an illness or injury.</p> <p>Covered services include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Services in an emergency department or outpatient clinic, such as observation services or outpatient surgery</li> <li>• Laboratory and diagnostic tests billed by the hospital</li> <li>• Mental health care, including care in a partial-hospitalization program, if a doctor certifies that inpatient treatment would be required without it</li> <li>• X-rays and other radiology services billed by the hospital</li> <li>• Medical supplies such as splints and casts</li> <li>• Certain drugs and biologicals that you can't give yourself</li> <li>• Wound care services</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> 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.</p> <p>You can also find more information in a Medicare fact sheet called <i>Medicare</i></p>	<p>\$0 for Medicare-covered outpatient hospital services.</p>	<p>After your deductible is met, you pay 35% of the total cost for Medicare- covered outpatient hospital services.</p>



**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Outpatient hospital services (continued)</b></p> <p><i>Hospital Benefits.</i> This fact sheet is available on the Web at <a href="https://es.medicare.gov/publications/11435-Medicare-Hospital-Benefits.pdf">https://es.medicare.gov/publications/11435-Medicare-Hospital-Benefits.pdf</a> 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, 7 days a week.</p> <p>For information on services provided in a rural health clinic, see “Rural Health Clinic” within this Medical Benefits Chart.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If you get Part D Medicare-covered self-administered drugs in an outpatient setting, they may be covered under your prescription drug benefit on this plan. See Chapter 6, Section 7, for more information on what happens when you get a Part D drug in a medical setting.</p> <p>✓ <i>Prior authorization may apply, see page 54 for more information.</i></p>		
<p><b>Outpatient mental health care</b></p> <p>Covered services include:</p> <p>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-</p>	<p>\$0 copay for each Medicare- covered individual visit.</p> <p>\$0 copay for each Medicare- covered group visit.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Outpatient mental health care (continued)</b></p> <p>qualified mental health care professional as allowed under applicable state laws.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If you get Part D Medicare-covered self-administered drugs in an outpatient setting, they may be covered under your prescription drug benefit on this plan. See Chapter 6, Section 7 for more information on what happens when you get a Part D drug in a medical setting.</p> <p>Please see "<b>Virtual care</b>" in this medical benefits chart for information on what services are covered.</p>		
<p><b>Outpatient rehabilitation services</b></p> <p>Covered services include: physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech language therapy.</p> <p>Outpatient rehabilitation services are provided in various outpatient settings, such as hospital outpatient departments, independent therapist offices, and Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (CORFs).</p>	<p>\$0 copay per day for Medicare-covered physical therapy services.</p> <p>\$0 copay per day for Medicare-covered occupational therapy services.</p> <p>\$0 copay per day for Medicare-covered speech language therapy services</p>	<p>After your deductible is met, you pay 35% of the total cost for Medicare-covered outpatient rehabilitation services.</p>


**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Outpatient substance use disorder services</b></p> <p>Medically necessary services to treat alcohol or drug abuse are covered when provided in an outpatient setting (i.e., provider office, clinic, or hospital outpatient department).</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If you get Part D Medicare-covered self-administered drugs in an outpatient setting, they may be covered under your prescription drug benefit on this plan. See Chapter 6, Section 7 for more information on what happens when you get a Part D drug in a medical setting.</p>	<p>\$0 copay for each Medicare-covered individual visit.</p> <p>\$0 copay for each Medicare-covered group visit.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	
<p><b>Outpatient surgery, including services provided at hospital outpatient facilities and ambulatory surgical centers</b></p> <p>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 and pay the cost-sharing amounts for outpatient surgery. Even if you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an outpatient.</p> <p>If you are not sure if you are an outpatient or under observation, you should ask the hospital staff.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> 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</p>	<p>\$0 copay for each Medicare-covered ambulatory surgical center visit.</p> <p>\$0 copay for each Medicare-covered outpatient hospital facility visit.</p>	<p>After your deductible is met, you pay 35% of the total cost for Medicare-covered ambulatory surgical center and outpatient hospital facility visits.</p>

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Outpatient surgery, including services provided at hospital outpatient facilities and ambulatory surgical centers (continued)</b></p> <p>an inpatient to the hospital, you are an outpatient and pay the cost-sharing amounts for outpatient surgery. 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 or under observation, you should ask the hospital staff.</p> <p>Note: If you get Part D Medicare-covered self-administered drugs in an outpatient setting, they may be covered under your prescription drug benefit on this plan. See Chapter 6, Section 7 for more information on what happens when you get a Part D drug in a medical setting.</p> <p>Pre-surgical education is recommended for new elective implantable cardioverter defibrillators (ICDs) with or without biventricular pacing, total hip replacement, total knee replacement, and spinal surgeries. The education is an interactive, online program for members to fully understand their elective procedures, the risks and complications, and what they can do before and after surgery for optimal results.</p> <p>✓ <i>Prior authorization may apply, see page 54 for more information.</i></p>		


**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Partial hospitalization services and intensive outpatient services</b></p> <p><i>Partial hospitalization</i> 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, therapist’s, licensed marriage and family therapist’s (LMFT), or licensed professional counselor’s office and is an alternative to inpatient hospitalization.</p> <p><i>Intensive outpatient service</i> 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, therapist’s, licensed marriage and family therapist’s (LMFT), or licensed professional counselor’s office but less intense than partial hospitalization.</p> <p>Call our Behavioral Health department at 800.673.8043 with questions.</p> <p>✓ <i>Prior authorization may apply, see page 54 for more information.</i></p>	<p>\$0 copay per day for Medicare- covered partial hospitalization or intensive outpatient services.</p>	<p>After your deductible is met, you pay 35% of the total cost for Medicare- covered partial hospitalization or intensive outpatient services.</p>
<p> <b>Personal Emergency Response System (PERS)*</b></p> <p>We cover a personal emergency response system (PERS) to provide you with direct access of care in the event of an</p>	<p>\$0 copay for the personal emergency response system (PERS) device and services. *</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	



**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p>emergency and to support your social determinants of health needs. This benefit package includes in-home or Mobile GPS equipment, installation support, onboarding welcome call, 24/7 monitoring, and member services that include social care.</p> <p>Please contact your Care Manager at 833.939.0983 to take advantage of this benefit or to receive more information.</p>		
<p><b>Physician/Practitioner services, including doctor’s office visits</b></p> <p>Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medically necessary medical care or surgery services furnished in a physician’s office, certified ambulatory surgical center, hospital outpatient department, or any other location</li> <li>• Consultation, diagnosis, and treatment by a specialist</li> <li>• Basic hearing and balance exams performed by your specialist, if your doctor orders it to see if you need medical treatment</li> <li>• If you’re living with a long-term illness and want to talk to a physician about getting relief from the symptoms and physical and mental stress, visit a palliative care physician.</li> <li>• Second opinion prior to surgery</li> </ul> <p>Please see "<b>Virtual care</b>" in this medical benefits chart for information on what</p>	<p>\$0 copay for each Medicare-covered primary care (PCP) or specialty office visit.</p> <p>\$0 copay for each Medicare-covered specialty office visit.</p> <p>\$0 copay for surgical procedures performed by a physician/practitioner in a PCP or specialists office.</p> <p>\$0 copay for each urgently needed Medicare-covered visit in a physician’s office after hours.</p>	<p>\$0 copay for each Medicare-covered primary care (PCP) or specialty office visit. Deductible does not apply.</p> <p>After your deductible is met, you pay 35% of the total cost for surgical procedures performed by a physician/practitioner in a PCP or specialists office.</p> <p>35% of the total cost but no more than a \$45 copay, for each Medicare-covered urgently needed service. Deductible does not apply.</p>

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p>virtual physician/practitioner visits are covered.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> To determine if your provider is a PCP or a Specialist, see Chapter 3, Section 2.1 (You must choose a Primary Care Provider (PCP) to provide and oversee your medical care).</p> <p>✓ <i>Prior authorization may apply, see page 54 for more information.</i></p>		
<p><b>Podiatry services</b></p> <p><b>Medicare-covered services include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diagnosis and the medical or surgical treatment of injuries and diseases of the feet (such as hammer toe or heel spurs).</li> <li>• Routine foot care for members (limit of 6 nail debridement and 6 callous removal visits per plan year) with certain medical conditions affecting the lower limbs.</li> </ul> <p>In addition to the Medicare-covered benefits listed above, this plan also covers non-Medicare covered podiatry services:</p> <p> <b>Non-Medicare covered routine podiatry services:</b></p> <p>You may self-refer for 6 routine visits/services each year, such as nail debridement or callous removal, whether or not you have a medical condition affecting your lower limbs.</p>	<p><b>Medicare-covered podiatry services:</b></p> <p>\$0 copay for each visit.</p> <p>\$0 copay for nail debridement &amp; callous removal, for members with specific conditions affecting the lower limbs.</p> <p><b>Non-Medicare covered routine podiatry services:</b></p> <p>(up to 6 visits/services):</p> <p>\$0 copay for each visit.</p> <p>\$0 copay for nail debridement or callous removal visits.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**


Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p> <b>Post discharge in-home medication reconciliation</b></p> <p>Immediately following a medical or behavioral hospitalization or SNF inpatient stay, a qualified health care provider, in cooperation with your physician, will review/reconcile a complete medication regimen. They will ensure new medications are obtained and discontinued medications are discarded. Medication reconciliation may be done in the home with a goal of eliminating side effects and interactions that could result in illness or injury.</p>	<p>\$0 copay for post discharge in-home medication reconciliation services.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	
<p> <b>PriorityFlex*</b></p> <p>If you have LIS/Extra Help, you qualify for PriorityFlex. There are three ways you can use your PriorityFlex card to buy over-the-counter (OTC) items and home and bathroom safety device and modification items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Order Online.</b> View and purchase products online anytime at <i>PriorityHealth.com/shopOTC</i> or by downloading the Priority Health OTC app.</li> <li><b>Shop in-store.</b> Shop at Meijer, Kroger, CVS, Walgreens, Walmart and other participating stores near you. You can search for participating store locations online anytime at <i>PriorityHealth.com/shopOTC</i> or by downloading the Priority Health OTC app and using the Find A Store tool.</li> </ol>	<p>\$70 per month to use on OTC, home and bathroom safety devices and modifications, healthy food and produce, meal delivery, pest control services and select utilities.*</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	



**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>PriorityFlex* (continued)</b></p> <p>3. <b>Call for delivery.</b> Call 833.415.4380 (TTY 711) Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. EST to place an order after reviewing the items in your OTC catalog. Have your product names, OTC benefit card number, and shipping information available.</p> <p>To shop for healthy food and produce you may purchase these items from participating retail locations which can be found at <i>PriorityHealth.com/OTC</i> or by downloading the Priority Health OTC app and using the Find A Store tool. Use the Barcode Scanning tool to check item eligibility prior to making a purchase. Meal delivery and pest control services can be purchased by going to <i>PriorityHealth.com/shopOTC</i> or by using the Priority Health OTC mobile app. Pest control services will be scheduled with a verified service provider in your area. To pay for utility bills (phone, internet, gas, electric, septic, trash, water, sewer) you can pay as you would with any other MasterCard. For a list of participating service providers visit <i>PriorityHealth.com/OTC</i>. Please note, when making a payment for your utility provider using your PriorityFlex benefit it is important to only submit a payment for the amount available on your card. You can check your card balance at anytime online at <i>PriorityHealth.com/shopOTC</i> or by downloading the Priority Health OTC</p>		


**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>PriorityFlex* (continued)</b>                      app. You may be required to pay your remaining utility bill balance with an alternative personal form of payment. Your unused PriorityFlex allowance does not rollover. Allowances expire at the end of each month.</p> <p><b>NOTE:</b> In the event you had to pay out-of-pocket to purchase an OTC item, reimbursement is available to you. Log into your priority health account at <a href="http://PriorityHealth.com/shopOTC">PriorityHealth.com/shopOTC</a> or through the Priority Health OTC app and complete the reimbursement form found under Make A Reimbursement. To be eligible for reimbursement, the item purchased must be an eligible OTC item and you have available funds in your OTC balance. All reimbursements must be submitted within 90 days of purchase date and include a picture of the receipt.</p>		
<p> <b>Prostate cancer screening exams</b>                      For men age 50 and older, covered services include the following - once every 12 months:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digital rectal exam</li> <li>• Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) test</li> </ul> <p>You get a PSA screening if you have no signs or symptoms (asymptomatic) of prostate cancer or related prostate conditions. If you've had a previous PSA that was elevated or are being treated for conditions which may lead to prostate cancer which include but are not limited</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for an annual PSA test.</p> <p>\$0 copay for an annual Medicare-covered digital rectal exam.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	


**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
to prostatitis (inflammation of the prostate) or benign prostatic hyperplasia (enlargement of the prostate), or have had prostate cancer, your PSA test may be considered diagnostic. See “Outpatient diagnostic tests and therapeutic services and supplies.”		
<p><b>Prosthetic and orthotic devices and related supplies</b></p> <p>Devices (other than dental) that replace all or part of a body part or function. These include but are not limited to testing, fitting, or training in the use of prosthetic and orthotic devices; as well as: 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 and orthotic devices, and repair and/or replacement of prosthetic and orthotic devices. Also includes some coverage following cataract removal or cataract surgery – see <b>Vision Care</b> later in this section for more detail.</p> <p>✓ <i>Prior authorization may apply, see page 54 for more information</i></p>	<p>\$0 copay for devices implanted as part of a surgery in an ambulatory surgery center or outpatient hospital facility.</p> <p>\$0 copay for all other Medicare- covered prosthetic devices and supplies.</p>	<p>You pay 20% of the total cost for Medicare-covered devices and supplies. Deductible does not apply.</p>
<p><b>Pulmonary rehabilitation services</b></p> <p>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</p>	<p>\$0 copay for each Medicare- covered pulmonary rehabilitation service.</p>	<p>After your deductible is met, you pay 35% of the total cost for each Medicare-covered pulmonary rehabilitation service.</p>


**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
from the doctor treating the chronic respiratory disease.		
 <b>Screening and counseling to reduce alcohol misuse</b> 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 4 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.	There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the Medicare-covered screening and counseling to reduce alcohol misuse preventive benefit.	
<b>Rural Health Clinic</b> Rural health clinics are located in non-urbanized areas. These clinics offer outpatient primary care and preventive health services to people in medically underserved or shortage areas. The following lab tests are provided at rural health clinics, see " <i>Outpatient diagnostic tests and therapeutic services and supplies</i> " for cost share, within this Medical Benefits Chart: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stick or tablet chemical urine exam or both</li> <li>• Hemoglobin or hematocrit</li> <li>• Blood sugar</li> <li>• Occult blood stool specimens exam</li> <li>• Pregnancy tests</li> </ul>	\$0 copay for each rural health clinic visit. Deductible does not apply.	

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary culturing to send to a certified laboratory</li> </ul>		
<p> <b>Screening for lung cancer with low dose computed tomography (LDCT)</b></p> <p>For qualified individuals, a LDCT is covered every 12 months.</p> <p><b>Eligible members are:</b> 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 an 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.</p> <p><i>For LDCT lung cancer screenings after the initial LDCT screening:</i> the member must receive an 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.</p>		There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the Medicare covered counseling and shared decision-making visit or for the LDCT.



**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p> <b>Screening for sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and counseling to prevent STIs</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the Medicare-covered screening for STIs and counseling for STIs preventive benefit.</p>	
<p><b>Services to treat kidney disease</b></p> <p>Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Outpatient dialysis treatments (including dialysis treatments when</li> </ul>	<p>\$0 copay for Medicare-covered kidney disease education services.</p> <p>\$0 copay for each Medicare-covered renal dialysis service with an in- network provider or when you are outside of the plan's service area.</p>	<p>\$0 copay for Medicare-covered kidney disease education services. Deductible does not apply.</p> <p>After your deductible is met, you pay 20% of the total cost for each Medicare-covered renal dialysis</p>

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Services to treat kidney disease (continued)</b></p> <p>temporarily out of the service area, as explained in Chapter 3, or when your provider for this service is temporarily unavailable or inaccessible)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inpatient dialysis treatments (if you are admitted as an inpatient to a hospital for special care)</li> <li>• Self-dialysis training (includes training for you and anyone helping you with your home dialysis treatments)</li> <li>• Home dialysis equipment and supplies</li> <li>• 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)</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>		<p>service with an in-network provider or when you are outside of the plan's service area.</p>
<p><b>Skilled nursing facility (SNF) care</b></p> <p>(For a definition of skilled nursing facility care, see Chapter 12 of this document. Skilled nursing facilities are sometimes called SNFs.)</p> <p>Covered up to 100 days per benefit period (based on medical and rehab necessity determined prior to admission and on an ongoing basis).</p>	<p>For Medicare-covered SNF stays, you pay:</p> <p>\$0 copay per day, days 1-20.</p> <p>\$0 copay per day, days 21-100.</p>	<p>For Medicare-covered SNF stays, you pay:</p> <p>\$0 copay per day, days 1-20.</p> <p>\$214 copay per day, days 21-100.</p>

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**


Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Skilled nursing facility (SNF) care (continued)</b></p> <p> <b>No prior hospital stay is required</b></p> <p>Covered services include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Semiprivate room (or a private room if medically necessary)</li> <li>• Meals, including special diets</li> <li>• Skilled nursing services</li> <li>• Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy</li> <li>• 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.)</li> <li>• Blood - including storage and administration. Coverage of whole blood and packed red cells (as well as other components of blood)</li> </ul> <p> Coverage begins with the first pint of blood that you need.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical and surgical supplies ordinarily provided by SNFs</li> <li>• Laboratory tests ordinarily provided by SNFs</li> <li>• X-rays and other radiology services ordinarily provided by SNFs</li> <li>• Use of appliances such as wheelchairs ordinarily provided by SNFs</li> <li>• Physician/Practitioner services</li> </ul>		<p>Deductible does not apply.</p>




**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Skilled nursing facility (SNF) care (continued)</b></p> <p>Generally, you will get your SNF care from network facilities. However, under certain conditions listed below, you may be able to get your care from a facility that isn't a network provider, if the facility accepts our plan's amounts for payment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A nursing home or continuing care retirement community where you were living right before you went to the hospital (as long as it provides skilled nursing facility care)</li> <li>• A SNF where your spouse or domestic partner is living at the time you leave the hospital</li> </ul> <p>†A benefit period starts the day you go into a skilled nursing facility. The benefit period ends when you go for 60 days in a row without skilled nursing care. If you go into a skilled nursing facility after one benefit period has ended, a new benefit period begins. There is no limit to the number of benefit periods you can have.</p> <p>✓ <i>Prior authorization may apply, see page 54 for more information.</i></p>		


**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p> <b>Smoking and tobacco use cessation (counseling to stop smoking or tobacco use)</b></p> <p><u>If you use tobacco, but do not have signs or symptoms of tobacco-related disease:</u> 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.</p> <p><u>If you use tobacco and have been diagnosed with a tobacco-related disease or are taking medicine that may be affected by tobacco:</u> 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.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the Medicare-covered smoking and tobacco use cessation preventive benefits.</p>	
<p><b>Supervised Exercise Therapy (SET)</b></p> <p>SET is covered for members who have symptomatic peripheral artery disease (PAD).</p> <p>Up to 36 sessions over a 12-week period are covered if the SET program requirements are met.</p> <p>The SET program must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consist of sessions lasting 30-60 minutes, comprising a therapeutic exercise-training program for PAD in patients with claudication</li> <li>• Be conducted in a hospital outpatient setting or a physician’s office.</li> </ul>	<p>\$0 copay for each Medicare- covered SET visit.</p>	<p>After your deductible is met, you pay 35% of the total cost for each Medicare-covered SET visit.</p>


**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be delivered by qualified auxiliary personnel necessary to ensure benefits exceed harms, and who are trained in exercise therapy for PAD.</li> <li>• Be under the direct supervision of a physician, physician assistant, or nurse</li> <li>• practitioner/clinical nurse specialist who must be trained in both basic and advanced life support techniques.</li> </ul> <p>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.</p>		
 <p><b>Telemonitoring services</b></p> <p>We developed telemonitoring services to complement our disease management program and to target those chronic conditions prevalent in our most vulnerable population. Priority Health’s telemonitoring services are available to members diagnosed with heart failure, uncontrolled diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary dysfunction (COPD), cardiovascular conditions, and hypertension. We provide members with specially adapted equipment, telecommunications, and technology to monitor health conditions across a distance.</p>	<p>\$0 copay for telemonitoring services.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p> <b>Transportation*</b></p> <p>We cover 30 one-way trips every year to health-related locations to take you to and from health-related locations such as network providers and pharmacies when provided by our designated transportation provider. Each one-way trip is limited to 100 miles. Rides may be provided by rideshare services, van, medical transport, and mileage reimbursement for plan-approved, health-related rides as determined by our transportation partner.</p> <p>To schedule a ride or find out how many rides you have left for the year (ride balance), please call 1.855.932.5418 (TTY 711), 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Rides must be scheduled at least 48 hours before your pick-up time. Rides scheduled with less than 48 hours in advance will be subject to availability.</p> <p><i>You must cancel rides at least 3 hours before the scheduled pick-up time. If not, the ride will be deducted from your annual ride balance.</i></p> <p>Members may coordinate their own ride with a driver of their choosing (family, friend, neighbor, etc.) and utilize mileage reimbursement. Submitting mileage reimbursement can be done in two ways:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mail a paper form, found at <a href="http://priorityhealth.com/member/forms">priorityhealth.com/member/forms</a> within 90 days after your ride</li> </ol>	<p>\$0 copay for 30 non-emergency one-way trips to or from health-related locations per year. *</p> <p>The transportation benefit includes 30 one-way trips per year, up to 100 miles max per one-way trip.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p>2. Submit a digital form through your member account by logging in at <i>member.priorityhealth.com</i></p>		
<p><b>Urgently needed services</b>                      A plan-covered service requiring immediate medical attention that is not an emergency is an urgently needed service if either you are temporarily outside the service area of the plan, or even if you are inside the service area of the plan, it is unreasonable given your time, place, and circumstances to obtain this service from network providers with whom the plan contracts. Your plan must cover urgently needed services and only charge you in-network cost sharing. Examples of urgently needed services are unforeseen medical illnesses and injuries, or unexpected flare-ups of existing conditions. However, medically necessary routine provider visits, such as annual checkups, are not considered urgently needed even if you are outside the service area of the plan or the plan network is temporarily unavailable.</p> <p> You have coverage for urgently needed services in the United States and worldwide.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If you get Part D Medicare-covered self-administered drugs in an outpatient setting, they may be covered under your prescription drug benefit on this plan. See Chapter 6, Section 7 for more information</p>	<p>\$0 copay for each Medicare-covered urgent care provider visit.</p>	<p>You pay 35% of the total cost, up to \$45 maximum for Medicare-covered urgently needed service.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p> <p>\$0 copay for worldwide urgently needed services when outside of the United States.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p> <p>Urgently needed care services cost sharing is waived if you are admitted to the hospital within 24 hours for the same condition.</p>


**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
on what happens when you get a Part D drug in a medical setting.		
<p><b>Value-Based Insurance Design (VBID) Model</b></p> <p>If you receive LIS/Extra Help you are eligible for additional benefits because your plan participates in the Value-Based Insurance Design (VBID) Model.</p> <p>You will receive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A monthly allowance to use on OTC, home and bathroom safety devices and modifications, healthy food and produce, meal delivery, pest control services and select utilities. See PriorityFlex* above, in this medical benefits chart in chapter 4 for more information.</li> <li>• \$0* cost-share for Part D covered drugs. See chapter 6 for more information.</li> </ul>	<p>\$70 PriorityFlex allowance per month with no rollover*</p> <p>\$0 Part D cost-share*</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	
<p><b>Virtual care</b> (also referred to as telehealth services, virtual check-ins or eVisits)</p> <p>Members have the option to receive health care services in places like your home from the following providers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary care providers (PCPs)</li> <li>• Specialists</li> <li>• Behavioral health providers</li> </ul> <p>Covered telehealth services include virtual visits, evaluations, communication via telephone, or video (computer, smart phone, tablet, online patient portal). Ask</p>	<p>\$0 copay for virtual visits.</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**


Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Virtual care (continued)</b>                      one of our network providers if they can do virtual visits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Telehealth services for monthly end-stage renal disease-related visits for home dialysis members in a hospital-based or critical access hospital-based renal dialysis center, renal dialysis facility, or the member’s home</li> <li>• Telehealth services to diagnose, evaluate, or treat symptoms of a stroke, regardless of your location.</li> <li>• Telehealth services for members with a substance use disorder or co-occurring mental health disorder, regardless of their location.</li> <li>• Telehealth services for diagnosis, evaluation, and treatment of mental health disorders if:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You have an in-person visit within 6 months prior to your first telehealth visit.</li> <li>• You have an in-person visit every 12 months while receiving these telehealth services.</li> <li>• Exceptions can be made to the above for certain circumstances.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Telehealth services for mental health visits provided by Rural Health Clinics and Federally Qualified Health Centers                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The check-in doesn’t lead to an office visit within 24 hours or the soonest available appointment.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**


Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Virtual care (continued)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Virtual check-ins (for example, by phone or video chat) with your doctor for 5-10 minutes if:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You're not a new patient and</li> <li>The check-in isn't related to an office visit in the past 7 days.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Evaluation of video and/or images you send to your doctor, and interpretation and follow-up by your doctor within 24 hours if:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You're not a new patient and</li> <li>The evaluation isn't related to an office visit in the past 7 days and</li> <li>The evaluation doesn't lead to an office visit within 24 hours or the soonest available appointment.</li> <li>Consultation your doctor has with other doctors by phone, internet, or electronic health record</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
<p> <b>Vision care</b></p> <p>Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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</li> <li>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</li> </ul>	<p><b>Medicare-covered vision care</b></p> <p>\$0 copay for each eye exam to diagnose and treat diseases and conditions of the eye.</p> <p>\$0 copay for an annual glaucoma screening.</p> <p>\$0 copay for annual diabetic retinopathy screening.</p> <p>\$0 copay for one pair of eyeglasses or contact lenses after cataract surgery.</p>	



**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p><b>Vision care (continued)</b>                      glaucoma, people with diabetes, African Americans who are age 50 and older, and Hispanic Americans who are 65 or older</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For people with diabetes, screening for diabetic retinopathy is covered once per year</li> <li>• 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.)</li> </ul>	Deductible does not apply.	
<p> <b>Non-Medicare covered routine vision care:*</b></p> <p>You must use an EyeMed “Select” provider for routine coverage including; routine exam, retinal imaging and eyewear allowance.</p> <p>Routine visits billed with a diagnosis are subject to the Medicare-covered eye exam cost-share listed above.</p> <p>Call 844.366.5127 to locate a provider, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. or visit <i>eyemed.com</i> and select “Find an eye doctor” then choose the “Select” network to search for a provider.</p> <p>For additional details about your EyeMed benefits, go to <i>priorityhealth.com/dsnp25</i> to view your certificate of coverage (COC).</p>	<p><b><u>Covered services with an EyeMed “Select” provider:</u></b></p> <p>\$0 copay for one non-Medicare covered routine vision exam, including dilation and refraction as necessary. *</p> <p>\$0 copay for one non-Medicare covered retinal imaging. *</p> <p>\$200 allowance for non-Medicare covered eyewear. *</p> <p>Deductible does not apply.</p>	

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these services	
	When you have full Medicaid Coverage	When you lose full Medicaid Coverage (six-month grace period)
<p> <b>Welcome to Medicare preventive visit</b></p> <p>The plan covers the one-time <i>Welcome to Medicare</i> 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 (or vaccines)), and referrals for other care if needed.</p> <p><b>Important:</b> We cover the <i>Welcome to Medicare</i> 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 <i>Welcome to Medicare</i> preventive visit.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the <i>Welcome to Medicare</i> preventive visit.</p>	

**SECTION 3 What services are covered outside of PriorityMedicare D-SNP (HMO)?**

**Section 3.1 Services *not* covered by PriorityMedicare D-SNP (HMO)**

All services covered by Original Medicare are also covered by our plan. For services that are not covered by **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO) but are available through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (Michigan Medicaid), please see your Medicaid Member Handbook.

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)****SECTION 4 What services are not covered by the plan?****Section 4.1 Services *not* covered by the plan (exclusions)**

This section tells you what services are excluded.

The chart below describes some services and items that aren't covered by the plan under any conditions or are covered by the plan 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 9, Section 6.3 in this document.)

<b>Services not covered by Medicare</b>	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	<b>Covered only under specific conditions</b>
<b>Acupuncture</b>		Routine acupuncture services covered under your plan are described in Chapter 4, Section 2.1 of the Medical Benefits Chart.
<b>Assistive listening devices - including but not limited to telephone amplifiers and alerting devices</b>	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	
<b>Beds – mattresses, oscillating, bed baths (home type), boards, lifter (elevator), lounges (power or manual)</b>	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	
<b>Blood Glucose Analyzers - reflectance colorimeter</b>	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

<b>Services not covered by Medicare</b>	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	<b>Covered only under specific conditions</b>
<b>Cosmetic surgery or procedures</b>		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.
<b>Custodial care</b> –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.	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	
<b>Drugs (Part B under your medical benefit)</b> - (non-chemotherapy and biologicals) used for conditions not approved by Food and Drug Administration (FDA), such as biomedical hormones, and not covered under Medicare.	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	
<b>Drugs (Part D under your prescription drug benefit)</b> - purchased from or obtained while in another country including those obtained on a cruise ship that are considered self-administered. These are considered non-FDA approved.	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

<b>Services not covered by Medicare</b>	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	<b>Covered only under specific conditions</b>
<p><b>Experimental medical and surgical procedures, equipment and medications.</b></p> <p>Experimental procedures and items are those items and procedures determined by Original Medicare to not be generally accepted by the medical community.</p>		<p>May be covered by Original Medicare under a Medicare-approved clinical research study or by our plan.</p> <p>(See Chapter 3, Section 5 for more information on clinical research studies.)</p>
<p><b>Fees charged for care by your immediate relatives or members of your household.</b></p>	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	
<p><b>Full-time nursing care in your home.</b></p>	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	
<p><b>Home-delivered meals</b></p>		<p>May be covered under your PriorityFlex allowance.</p> <p>See Chapter 4, Section 2.1, Medical Benefits Chart.</p>
<p><b>Homemaker services</b> including basic household assistance, such as light housekeeping or light meal preparation.</p>	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	
<p><b>Knee walker</b></p>	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	
<p><b>Lab tests</b> - not medically necessary under Medicare coverage criteria.</p> <p><i>Discuss labs with your physician to find out if covered or call Member Services for more information.</i></p>	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	
<p><b>Lift Chair</b> – chair/recliner portion is not covered</p>		<p>The lifting mechanism of a lift chair may be covered if determined by Priority Health to meet medical necessity criteria.</p>

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

<b>Services not covered by Medicare</b>	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	<b>Covered only under specific conditions</b>
<b>Long-term care</b> - see Chapter 12, <i>Definitions of important words</i> , for long-term care	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	
<b>Massage therapy</b> - performed by a massage therapist	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	
<b>Medical necessity</b> - services considered not reasonable and medically necessary, according to the standards of Original Medicare, see Chapter 9, about obtaining a coverage decision	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	
<b>Naturopath services</b> (uses natural or alternative treatments).	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	
<b>Orthopedic shoes</b> or supportive devices for the feet		<p>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.</p> <p>May be covered under your PriorityFlex allowance and/or under your diabetes self-management training, diabetic services, and supplies benefit for people who have severe diabetic foot disease. See Chapter 4, Section 2.1, Medical Benefits Chart.</p>
<b>Personal items</b> in your room at a hospital or a skilled nursing facility, such as a telephone or a television.	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

<b>Services not covered by Medicare</b>	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	<b>Covered only under specific conditions</b>
<b>Physical exams and other services</b> - required by third parties such as obtaining or maintaining employment or participation in employee programs, required for insurance or licensing, requested sports physicals, or on court order or required for parole or probation.	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	
<b>Precluded providers</b> - services from providers who appear on the CMS Preclusion List. see Chapter 12, <i>Definitions of important words</i> , for CMS Preclusion List.	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	
<b>Pre-operative testing and visits</b> - including but not limited to labs, x-rays, EKGs, EEGs, cardiac monitoring, and physician office visits that are performed strictly for pre-operative clearance when no underlying medical condition exists for testing or visit.		Covered only when the testing or office visit is related to an underlying medical condition.
<b>Private duty nurses</b>	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	
<b>Private room in a hospital.</b>		Covered only when medically necessary.
<b>Residential Treatment</b> - whose main purpose is to remove the member from his/her environment to prevent the reoccurrence of a condition such as but not limited to eating disorders, alcohol addiction, etc.	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	

**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

<b>Services not covered by Medicare</b>	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	<b>Covered only under specific conditions</b>
<b>Reversal of sterilization</b> procedures and/or non-prescription contraceptive supplies.	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	
<b>Routine foot care</b>		Some limited coverage provided according to Medicare guidelines (e.g., if you have diabetes).
<b>Structural modifications</b> - including but not limited to ramps, doorways, elevators and stairway elevators	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	
<b>Temporomandibular Joint Syndrome (TMJ)</b>	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	
<b>Transportation</b> – including commercial or private air transport, car, taxi, bus, gurney van, and wheelchair van even if it is the only way to travel to a network provider.		Transportation services covered under your plan are described in Chapter 4, Section 2.1 of the Medical Benefits Chart.
<b>VA</b> - services provided to veterans in Veterans Affairs (VA) facilities	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	
<b>Vision (services)</b> – Radial keratotomy and keratoplasty to treat refractive defects, laser astigmatism correction, LASIK or LASEK surgery and other low vision aids. Nonconventional intraocular lenses (IOLs) following cataract surgery (for example a presbyopia-correcting IOL)	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	



**Chapter 4 Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

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<b>Services not covered by Medicare</b>	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	<b>Covered only under specific conditions</b>
<b>War related</b> - items or services needed whether due or related to injuries caused by war or an act of war are not covered.	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	
<b>Wigs</b>	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	

# CHAPTER 5:

*Using the plan's coverage for Part  
D prescription drugs*



### **How can you get information about your drug costs if you're receiving "Extra Help" with your Part D prescription drug costs?**

Most of our members qualify for and are getting "Extra Help" from Medicare to pay for their prescription drug plan costs. If you are in the "Extra Help" program, **some information in this Evidence of Coverage about the costs for Part D prescription drugs may not apply to you.** We sent you a separate insert, called the *Evidence of Coverage Rider for People Who Get "Extra Help" Paying for Prescription Drugs* (also known as the Low-Income Subsidy Rider or the LIS Rider), which tells you about your drug coverage. If you don't have this insert, please call Member Services and ask for the LIS Rider. (Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this document.)

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## **SECTION 1 Introduction**

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This chapter **explains rules for using your coverage for Part D drugs.** Please see Chapter 4 for Medicare Part B drug benefits and hospice drug benefits.

In addition to the drugs covered by Medicare, some prescription drugs are covered for you under your Medicaid benefits. You can learn about your Medicaid drug coverage by calling your Medicaid plan's Member Services.

<b>Section 1.1 Basic rules for the plan's Part D drug coverage</b>
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The plan will generally cover your drugs as long as you follow these basic rules:

- You must have a provider (a doctor, dentist, or other prescriber) write you a prescription which must be valid under applicable state law.
- Your prescriber must not be on Medicare's Exclusion or Preclusion Lists.
- You generally must use a network pharmacy to fill your prescription. (See Section 2 in this chapter.) Or you can fill your prescription through the plan's mail-order service.
- Your drug must be on the plan's *List of Covered Drugs (Formulary)* (we call it the Drug List for short). (See Section 3 in this chapter.)
- Your drug must be used for a medically accepted indication. A "medically accepted indication" is a use of the drug that is either approved by the Food and Drug Administration or supported by certain references. (See Section 3 in this chapter for more information about a medically accepted indication.)
- Your drug may require approval before we will cover it. (See Section 4 in this chapter for more information about restrictions on your coverage.)

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## **SECTION 2**                      **Fill your prescription at a network pharmacy or through the plan's mail-order service**

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<b>Section 2.1</b> <b>Use a network pharmacy</b>
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In most cases, your prescriptions are covered *only* if they are filled at the plan's network pharmacies. (See Section 2.5 for information about when we would cover prescriptions filled at out-of-network pharmacies.)

A network pharmacy is a pharmacy that has a contract with the plan to provide your covered prescription drugs. The term covered drugs means all of the Part D prescription drugs that are on the plan's Drug List.

<b>Section 2.2</b> <b>Network pharmacies</b>
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### **How do you find a network pharmacy in your area?**

To find a network pharmacy, you can look in your *Provider/Pharmacy Directory*, visit our website ([priorityhealth.com/dsnp25](http://priorityhealth.com/dsnp25)), and/or call Member Services.

You may go to any of our network pharmacies.

### **What if the pharmacy you have been using leaves the network?**

If the pharmacy you have been using leaves the plan's network, you will have to find a new pharmacy that is in the network. To find another pharmacy in your area, you can get help from Member Services or use the *Provider/Pharmacy Directory*. You can also find information on our website at [priorityhealth.com/dsnp25](http://priorityhealth.com/dsnp25).

### **What if you need a specialized pharmacy?**

Some prescriptions must be filled at a specialized pharmacy. Specialized pharmacies include:

- Pharmacies that supply drugs for home infusion therapy.
- Pharmacies that supply drugs for residents of a long-term care (LTC) facility. Usually, a LTC facility (such as a nursing home) has its own pharmacy. If you have any difficulty accessing your Part D benefits in an LTC facility, please contact Member Services.
- Pharmacies that serve the Indian Health Service / Tribal / Urban Indian Health Program (not available in Puerto Rico). Except in emergencies, only Native Americans or Alaska Natives have access to these pharmacies in our network.
- Pharmacies that dispense drugs that are restricted by the FDA to certain locations or that require special handling, provider coordination, or education on their use. To locate a

**Chapter 5 Using the plan's coverage for Part D prescription drugs**

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specialized pharmacy, look in your *Provider/Pharmacy Directory* [priorityhealth.com/dsnp25](http://priorityhealth.com/dsnp25) or call Member Services.

<b>Section 2.3</b>	<b>Using the plan's mail-order service</b>
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Our plan's mail-order service allows you to order **up to a 90-day supply** with the exception of specialty drugs.

To get order forms and information about filling your prescriptions by mail, call Member Services or visit our website at [priorityhealth.com/dsnp25](http://priorityhealth.com/dsnp25). If you use a mail-order pharmacy that is not in the plan's network, your prescription will not be covered.

Usually, a mail-order pharmacy order will be delivered to you in no more than 14 days. However, sometimes your mail-order may be delayed. If your order does not arrive before you run out of medication, please call Member Services in order to get permission to obtain up to a 30-day supply of your prescription from a local network retail pharmacy.

**New prescriptions the pharmacy receives directly from your doctor's office.**

The pharmacy will automatically fill and deliver new prescriptions it receives from health care providers, without checking with you first, if either:

- You used mail-order services with this plan in the past, or
- You sign up for automatic delivery of all new prescriptions received directly from health care providers. You may request automatic delivery of all new prescriptions at any time by calling the Member Services number on the back of your card.

If you receive a prescription automatically by mail that you do not want, and you were not contacted to see if you wanted it before it shipped, you may be eligible for a refund.

If you used mail order in the past and do not want the pharmacy to automatically fill and ship each new prescription, please contact us by calling the Member Services number on the back of your card.

If you have never used our mail-order delivery and/or decide to stop automatic fills of new prescriptions, the pharmacy will contact you each time it gets a new prescription from a health care provider to see if you want the medication filled and shipped immediately. It is important that you respond each time you are contacted by the pharmacy, to let them know whether to ship, delay, or cancel the new prescription.

**Refills on mail-order prescriptions.** For refills of your drugs, you have the option to sign up for an automatic refill program. Under this program we will start to process your next refill automatically when our records show you should be close to running out of your drug. The pharmacy will contact you prior to shipping each refill to make sure you need more medication, and you can cancel scheduled refills if you have enough of your medication or if your medication has changed.

## Chapter 5 Using the plan's coverage for Part D prescription drugs

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If you choose not to use our auto-refill program but still want the mail-order pharmacy to send you your prescription, please contact your pharmacy 14 days before your current prescription will run out. This will ensure your order is shipped to you in time.

To opt out of our program that automatically prepares mail-order refills, please contact us by calling the Member Services number on the back of your card.

If you receive a refill automatically by mail that you do not want, you may be eligible for a refund.

### Section 2.4 How can you get a long-term supply of drugs?

The plan offers two ways to get a long-term supply (also called an extended supply) of maintenance drugs on our plan's Drug List. (Maintenance drugs are drugs that you take on a regular basis, for a chronic or long-term medical condition.)

1. Some retail pharmacies in our network allow you to get a long-term supply of maintenance drugs. Your *Provider/Pharmacy Directory* [priorityhealth.com/dsnp25](http://priorityhealth.com/dsnp25) tells you which pharmacies in our network can give you a long-term supply of maintenance drugs. You can also call Member Services for more information.
2. You may also receive maintenance drugs through our mail-order program. Please see Section 2.3 for more information.

### Section 2.5 When can you use a pharmacy that is not in the plan's network?

#### Your prescription may be covered in certain situations

Generally, we cover drugs filled at an out-of-network pharmacy *only* when you are not able to use a network pharmacy. To help you, we have network pharmacies outside of our service area where you can get your prescriptions filled as a member of our plan. **Please check first with Member Services** to see if there is a network pharmacy nearby. You may be required to pay the difference between what you pay for the drug at the out-of-network pharmacy and the cost that we would cover at an in-network pharmacy.

Here are the circumstances when we would cover prescriptions filled at an out-of-network pharmacy:

- If you are unable to obtain a covered drug in a timely manner within the service area because there are no network pharmacies within a reasonable driving distance that provide 24-hour service.
- If you are trying to fill a prescription drug that is not regularly stocked at an accessible network retail or mail-order pharmacy (including high-cost and unique drugs).

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- If you get a vaccine or other Medicare Part D-covered drug in a provider office or outpatient facility that is not covered under Medicare Part B (e.g., emergency room, urgent care setting, etc.). See Chapter 6, Section 8 for further information.
- 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.

**How do you ask for reimbursement from the plan?**

If you must use an out-of-network pharmacy, you will generally have to pay the full cost (rather than your normal cost share) at the time you fill your prescription. You can ask us to reimburse you for our share of the cost. (Chapter 7, Section 2 explains how to ask the plan to pay you back.)

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**SECTION 3 Your drugs need to be on the plan's Drug List**

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<b>Section 3.1</b>	<b>The Drug List tells which Part D drugs are covered</b>
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The plan has a *List of Covered Drugs (Formulary)*. In this *Evidence of Coverage*, we call it **the Drug List for short**.

The drugs on this list are selected by the plan with the help of a team of doctors and pharmacists. The list meets Medicare's requirements and has been approved by Medicare.

The Drug List includes the drugs covered under Medicare Part D. In addition to the drugs covered by Medicare, some prescription drugs are covered for you under your Medicaid benefits. You can learn about your Medicaid drug coverage by calling your Medicaid plan's Member Services.

We will generally cover a drug on the plan's Drug List as long as you follow the other coverage rules explained in this chapter and the drug is used for a medically accepted indication. A medically accepted indication is a use of the drug that is *either*:

- Approved by the Food and Drug Administration for the diagnosis or condition for which it is being prescribed, or
- Supported by certain references, such as the American Hospital Formulary Service Drug Information and the Micromedex DRUGDEX Information System.

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The Drug List includes brand name drugs, generic drugs, and biological products (which may include biosimilars).

A brand name drug is a prescription drug that is sold under a trademarked name owned by the drug manufacturer. Biological products are drugs that are more complex than typical drugs. On the Drug List, when we refer to drugs, this could mean a drug or a biological product.

A generic drug is a prescription drug that has the same active ingredients as the brand name drug. Biological products have alternatives that are called biosimilars. Generally, generics and biosimilars work just as well as the brand name or original biological product and usually cost less. There are generic drug substitutes available for many brand name drugs and biosimilar alternatives for some original biological products. Some biosimilars are interchangeable biosimilars and, depending on state law, may be substituted for the original biological product at the pharmacy without needing a new prescription, just like generic drugs can be substituted for brand name drugs.

See Chapter 12 for definitions of the types of drugs that may be on the Drug List.

**What is *not* on the Drug List?**

You can learn about your Medicaid drug coverage by calling your Medicaid plan's customer service.

The plan does not cover all prescription drugs.

- In some cases, the law does not allow any Medicare plan to cover certain types of drugs. (For more information about this, see Section 7.1 in this chapter.)
- In other cases, we have decided not to include a particular drug on the Drug List. In some cases, you may be able to obtain a drug that is not on the Drug List. (For more information, please see Chapter 9.)

**Section 3.2 How can you find out if a specific drug is on the Drug List?**

You have 4 ways to find out:

1. Check the most recent Drug List we provided electronically. (Please note: The "Drug List" we provide includes information for the covered drugs that are most commonly used by our members. However, we cover additional drugs that are not included in the provided "Drug List." If one of your drugs is not listed in the "Drug List," you should visit our website or contact Member Services to find out if we cover it.)
2. Visit the plan's website ([priorityhealth.com/dsnp25](http://priorityhealth.com/dsnp25)). The Drug List on the website is always the most current.
3. Call Member Services to find out if a particular drug is on the plan's Drug List or to ask for a copy of the list.



**Chapter 5 Using the plan's coverage for Part D prescription drugs**

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4. Use the plan's "Real-Time Benefit Tool" (<https://member.priorityhealth.com/login> or by calling Member Services). With this tool you can search for drugs on the Drug List to see an estimate of what you will pay and if there are alternative drugs on the Drug List that could treat the same condition.

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**SECTION 4** **There are restrictions on coverage for some drugs**

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**Section 4.1** **Why do some drugs have restrictions?**

For certain prescription drugs, special rules restrict how and when the plan covers them. A team of doctors and pharmacists developed these rules to encourage you and your provider to use drugs in the most effective way. To find out if any of these restrictions apply to a drug you take or want to take, check the Drug List.

If a safe, lower-cost drug will work just as well medically as a higher-cost drug, the plan's rules are designed to encourage you and your provider to use that lower-cost option.

Please note that sometimes a drug may appear more than once in our Drug List. This is because the same drugs can differ based on the strength, amount, or form of the drug prescribed by your health care provider, and different restrictions or cost sharing may apply to the different versions of the drug (for instance, 10 mg versus 100 mg; one per day versus two per day; tablet versus liquid).

**Section 4.2** **What kinds of restrictions?**

The sections below tell you more about the types of restrictions we use for certain drugs.

**If there is a restriction for your drug, it usually means that you or your provider will have to take extra steps in order for us to cover the drug.** Contact Member Services to learn what you or your provider would need to do to get coverage for the drug. **If you want us to waive the restriction for you, you will need to use the coverage decision process and ask us to make an exception.** We may or may not agree to waive the restriction for you. (See Chapter 9.)

**Getting plan approval in advance**

For certain drugs, you or your provider need to get approval from the plan before we will agree to cover the drug for you. This is called **prior authorization**. This is put in place to ensure medication safety and help guide appropriate use of certain drugs. If you do not get this approval, your drug might not be covered by the plan.

**Chapter 5 Using the plan's coverage for Part D prescription drugs**

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**Trying a different drug first**

This requirement encourages you to try less costly but usually just as effective drugs before the plan covers another drug. For example, if Drug A and Drug B treat the same medical condition and Drug A is less costly, the plan may require you to try Drug A first. If Drug A does not work for you, the plan will then cover Drug B. This requirement to try a different drug first is called **step therapy**.

**Quantity limits**

For certain drugs, we limit how much of a drug you can get each time you fill your prescription. For example, if it is normally considered safe to take only one pill per day for a certain drug, we may limit coverage for your prescription to no more than one pill per day.

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**SECTION 5**                      **What if one of your drugs is not covered in the way you'd like it to be covered?**

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<b>Section 5.1</b>	<b>There are things you can do if your drug is not covered in the way you'd like it to be covered</b>
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There are situations where there is a prescription drug you are taking, or one that you and your provider think you should be taking, that is not on our formulary or is on our formulary with restrictions. For example:

- The drug might not be covered at all. Or maybe a generic version of the drug is covered but the brand name version you want to take is not covered.
- The drug is covered, but there are extra rules or restrictions on coverage for that drug, as explained in Section 4.
- There are things you can do if your drug is not covered in the way that you'd like it to be covered. **If your drug is not on the Drug List or if your drug is restricted, go to Section 5.2 to learn what you can do.**

<b>Section 5.2</b>	<b>What can you do if your drug is not on the Drug List or if the drug is restricted in some way?</b>
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If your drug is not on the Drug List or is restricted, here are options:

- You may be able to get a temporary supply of the drug.
- You can change to another drug.
- You can request an exception and ask the plan to cover the drug or remove restrictions from the drug.

## **You may be able to get a temporary supply**

Under certain circumstances, the plan must provide a temporary supply of a drug that you are already taking. This temporary supply gives you time to talk with your provider about the change.

To be eligible for a temporary supply, the drug you have been taking **must no longer be on the plan's Drug List OR is now restricted in some way.**

- **If you are a new member**, we will cover a temporary supply of your drug during the first **90 days** of your membership in the plan.
- **If you were in the plan last year**, we will cover a temporary supply of your drug during the first **90 days** of the calendar year.
- This temporary supply will be for a maximum of 30 days. If your prescription is written for fewer days, we will allow multiple fills to provide up to a maximum of 30 days of medication. The prescription must be filled at a network pharmacy. (Please note that the long-term care pharmacy may provide the drug in smaller amounts at a time to prevent waste.)
- **For those members who have been in the plan for more than 90 days and reside in a long-term care facility and need a supply right away:**

We will cover one 31-day emergency supply of a particular drug, or less if your prescription is written for fewer days. This is in addition to the above temporary supply.
- Per CMS regulations, **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO) provides members experiencing a level-of-care change with a transition supply of at least 30 days of medication unless the prescription is written for fewer days.

For questions about a temporary supply, call Member Services.

**During the time when you are using a temporary supply of a drug, you should talk with your provider to decide what to do when your temporary supply runs out. You have two options:**

### **1) You can change to another drug**

Talk with your provider about whether there is a different drug covered by the plan that may work just as well for you. You can call Member Services to ask for a list of covered drugs that treat the same medical condition. This list can help your provider find a covered drug that might work for you.

## **2) You can ask for an exception**

**You and your provider can ask the plan to make an exception and cover the drug in the way you would like it covered.** If your provider says that you have medical reasons that justify asking us for an exception, your provider can help you request an exception. For example, you can ask the plan to cover a drug even though it is not on the plan's Drug List. Or you can ask the plan to make an exception and cover the drug without restrictions.

If you are a current member and a drug you are taking will be removed from the formulary or restricted in some way for next year, we will tell you about any change prior to the new year. You can ask for an exception before next year and we will give you an answer within 72 hours after we receive your request (or your prescriber's supporting statement). If we approve your request, we will authorize the coverage before the change takes effect.

**If you and your provider want to ask for an exception, Chapter 9, Section 7.4 tells you what to do.** It explains the procedures and deadlines that have been set by Medicare to make sure your request is handled promptly and fairly.

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## **SECTION 6                      What if your coverage changes for one of your drugs?**

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<b>Section 6.1                      The Drug List can change during the year</b>
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Most of the changes in drug coverage happen at the beginning of each year (January 1). However, during the year, the plan can make some changes to the Drug List. For example, the plan might:

- **Add or remove drugs from the Drug List.**
- **Add or remove a restriction on coverage for a drug.**
- **Replace a brand name drug with a generic version of the drug.**
- **Replace an original biological product with an interchangeable biosimilar version of the biological product.**

We must follow Medicare requirements before we change the plan's Drug List.

See Chapter 12 for definitions of the drug types discussed in this chapter.

## **Section 6.2 What happens if coverage changes for a drug you are taking?**

### **Information on changes to drug coverage**

When changes to the Drug List occur, we post information on our website about those changes. We also update our online Drug List regularly. This section describes the types of changes we may make to the Drug List and when you will get direct notice if changes were made for a drug that you are taking.

### **Changes we may make to the Drug List that affect you during the current plan year**

- **Adding new drugs to the Drug List and immediately removing or making changes to a like drug on the Drug List.**
  - When adding a new version of a drug to the Drug List, we may immediately remove a like drug from the Drug List, move the like drug to a different cost-sharing tier, add new restrictions, or both. The new version of the drug will be with the same or fewer restrictions.
  - We will make these immediate changes only if we are adding a new generic version of a brand name or adding certain new biosimilar versions of an original biological product that was already on the Drug List.
  - We may make these changes immediately and tell you later, even if you are taking the drug that we are removing or making changes to. If you are taking the like drug at the time we make the change, we will tell you about any specific change we made.
- **Adding drugs to the Drug List and removing or making changes to a like drug on the Drug List with advance notice.**
  - When adding another version of a drug to the Drug List, we may remove a like drug from the Drug List, move it to a different cost-sharing tier, add new restrictions, or both. The version of the drug that we add will be with the same or fewer restrictions.
  - We will make these changes only if we are adding a new generic version of a brand name drug or adding certain new biosimilar versions of an original biological product that was already on the Drug List.
  - We will tell you at least 30 days before we make the change or tell you about the change and cover a 30-day fill of the version of the drug you are taking.

**Chapter 5 Using the plan's coverage for Part D prescription drugs**

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- **Removing unsafe drugs and other drugs on the Drug List that are withdrawn from the market.**
- Sometimes a drug may be deemed unsafe or taken off the market for another reason. If this happens, we may immediately remove the drug from the Drug List. If you are taking that drug, we will tell you after we make the change.
- **Making other changes to drugs on the Drug List.**
  - We may make other changes once the year has started that affect drugs you are taking. For example, we may make changes based on FDA boxed warnings or new clinical guidelines recognized by Medicare.
  - We will tell you at least 30 days before we make these changes or tell you about the change and cover an additional 30-day fill of the drug you are taking.

If we make any of these changes to any of the drugs you are taking, talk with your prescriber about the options that would work best for you, including changing to a different drug to treat your condition, or requesting a coverage decision to satisfy any new restrictions on the drug you are taking. You or your prescriber can ask us for an exception to continue covering the drug or version of the drug you have been taking. For more information on how to ask for a coverage decision, including an exception, see Chapter 9.

**Changes to the Drug List that do not affect you during the current plan year**

We may make certain changes to the Drug List that are not described above. In these cases, the change will not apply to you if you are taking the drug when the change is made; however, these changes will likely affect you starting January 1 of the next plan year if you stay in the same plan.

In general, changes that will not affect you during the current plan year are:

- We put a new restriction on the use of your drug.
- We remove your drug from the Drug List.

If any of these changes happen for a drug you are taking (except for market withdrawal, a generic drug replacing a brand name drug, or other change noted in the sections above), the change won't affect your use or what you pay as your share of the cost until January 1 of the next year.

We will not tell you about these types of changes directly during the current plan year. You will need to check the Drug List for the next plan year (when the list is available during the open enrollment period) to see if there are any changes to the drugs you are taking that will impact you during the next plan year.

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## **SECTION 7**                      **What types of drugs are *not* covered by the plan?**

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<b>Section 7.1</b> <b>Types of drugs we do not cover</b>
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This section tells you what kinds of prescription drugs are **excluded**. This means Medicare does not pay for these drugs.

If you appeal and the requested drug is found not to be excluded under Part D, we will pay for or cover it. (For information about appealing a decision, go to Chapter 9.) If the drug is excluded, you must pay for it yourself.

Here are three general rules about drugs that Medicare drug plans will not cover under Part D:

- Our plan's Part D drug coverage cannot cover a drug that would be covered under Medicare Part A or Part B.
- Our plan cannot cover a drug purchased outside the United States or its territories.
- Our plan cannot cover *off-label* use of a drug when the use is not supported by certain references, such as the American Hospital Formulary Service Drug Information and the Micromedex DRUGDEX Information System. Off-label use is any use of the drug other than those indicated on a drug's label as approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

In addition, by law, the following categories of drugs listed below are not covered by Medicare. However, some of these drugs may be covered for you under your Medicaid drug coverage. Please contact your state Medicaid program to determine what drug coverage may be available to you. (You can find phone numbers and contact information for Medicaid in Chapter 2, Section 6.)

- Non-prescription drugs (also called over-the-counter drugs)
- Drugs used to promote fertility
- Drugs used for the relief of cough or cold symptoms
- Drugs used for cosmetic purposes or to promote hair growth
- Prescription vitamins and mineral products, except prenatal vitamins and fluoride preparations
- Drugs used for the treatment of sexual or erectile dysfunction
- Drugs used for treatment of anorexia, weight loss, or weight gain

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- Outpatient drugs for which the manufacturer seeks to require that associated tests or monitoring services be purchased exclusively from the manufacturer as a condition of sale

**If you are receiving “Extra Help”** to pay for your prescriptions, the “Extra Help” program will not pay for the drugs not normally covered. However, if you have drug coverage through Medicaid, your state Medicaid program may cover some prescription drugs not normally covered in a Medicare drug plan. Please contact your state Medicaid program to determine what drug coverage may be available to you. (You can find phone numbers and contact information for Medicaid in Chapter 2, Section 6.)

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**SECTION 8 Filling a prescription**

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**Section 8.1 Provide your membership information**

To fill your prescription, provide your plan membership information, which can be found on your membership card, at the network pharmacy you choose. The network pharmacy will automatically bill the plan for our share of the costs of your drug. You will need to pay the pharmacy *your* share of the cost when you pick up your prescription.

**Section 8.2 What if you don't have your membership information with you?**

If you don't have your plan membership information with you when you fill your prescription, you or the pharmacy can call the plan to get the necessary information, or you can ask the pharmacy to look up your plan enrollment information.

If the pharmacy is not able to get the necessary information, **you may have to pay the full cost of the prescription when you pick it up.** (You can then **ask us to reimburse you** for our share. See Chapter 7, Section 2 for information about how to ask the plan for reimbursement.)

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**SECTION 9 Part D drug coverage in special situations**

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**Section 9.1 What if you're in a hospital or a skilled nursing facility for a stay that is covered by the plan?**

If you are admitted to a hospital or to a skilled nursing facility for a stay covered by the plan, we will generally cover the cost of your prescription drugs during your stay. Once you leave the hospital or skilled nursing facility, the plan will cover your prescription drugs as long as the drugs meet all of our rules for coverage described in this Chapter.



**Section 9.2 What if you're a resident in a long-term care (LTC) facility?**

Usually, a long-term care (LTC) facility (such as a nursing home) has its own pharmacy or uses a pharmacy that supplies drugs for all of its residents. If you are a resident of an LTC facility, you may get your prescription drugs through the facility's pharmacy or the one it uses, as long as it is part of our network.

Check your *Pharmacy Directory* [priorityhealth.com/dsnp25](http://priorityhealth.com/dsnp25) to find out if your LTC facility's pharmacy or the one that it uses is part of our network. If it isn't, or if you need more information or assistance, please contact Member Services. If you are in an LTC facility, we must ensure that you are able to routinely receive your Part D benefits through our network of LTC pharmacies.

**What if you're a resident in a long-term care (LTC) facility and need a drug that is not on our Drug List or is restricted in some way?**

Please refer to Section 5.2 about a temporary or emergency supply.

**Section 9.3 What if you're in Medicare-certified hospice?**

Hospice and our plan do not cover the same drug at the same time. If you are enrolled in Medicare hospice and require certain drugs (e.g., anti-nausea drugs, laxatives, pain medication or anti-anxiety drugs) that are not covered by your hospice because it is unrelated to your terminal illness and related conditions, our plan must receive notification from either the prescriber or your hospice provider that the drug is unrelated before our plan can cover the drug. To prevent delays in receiving these drugs that should be covered by our plan, ask your hospice provider or prescriber to provide notification before your prescription is filled.

In the event you either revoke your hospice election or are discharged from hospice, our plan should cover your drugs as explained in this document. To prevent any delays at a pharmacy when your Medicare hospice benefit ends, bring documentation to the pharmacy to verify your revocation or discharge.

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**SECTION 10 Programs on drug safety and managing medications**

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**Section 10.1 Programs to help members use drugs safely**

We conduct drug use reviews for our members to help make sure that they are getting safe and appropriate care.

**Chapter 5 Using the plan's coverage for Part D prescription drugs**

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We do a review each time you fill a prescription. We also review our records on a regular basis. During these reviews, we look for potential problems such as:

- Possible medication errors
- Drugs that may not be necessary because you are taking another similar drug to treat the same condition
- Drugs that may not be safe or appropriate because of your age or gender
- Certain combinations of drugs that could harm you if taken at the same time
- Prescriptions for drugs that have ingredients you are allergic to
- Possible errors in the amount (dosage) of a drug you are taking
- Unsafe amounts of opioid pain medications

If we see a possible problem in your use of medications, we will work with your provider to correct the problem.

<b>Section 10.2</b>	<b>Drug Management Program (DMP) to help members safely use their opioid medications</b>
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We have a program that helps make sure members safely use prescription opioids and other frequently abused medications. This program is called a Drug Management Program (DMP). If you use opioid medications that you get from several prescribers or pharmacies, or if you had a recent opioid overdose, we may talk to your prescribers to make sure your use of opioid medications is appropriate and medically necessary. Working with your prescribers, if we decide your use of prescription opioid or benzodiazepine medications may not be safe, we may limit how you can get those medications. If we place you in our DMP, the limitations may be:

- Requiring you to get all your prescriptions for opioid or benzodiazepine medications from a certain pharmacy(ies)
- Requiring you to get all your prescriptions for opioid or benzodiazepine medications from a certain prescriber(s)
- Limiting the amount of opioid or benzodiazepine medications we will cover for you

If we plan on limiting how you may get these medications or how much you can get, we will send you a letter in advance. The letter will tell you if we limit coverage of these drugs for you, or if you'll be required to get the prescriptions for these drugs only from a specific prescriber or pharmacy. You will have an opportunity to tell us which prescribers or pharmacies you prefer to use, and about any other information you think is important for us to know. After you've had the opportunity to respond, if we decide to limit your coverage for these medications, we will send you another letter confirming the limitation. If you think we made a

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mistake or you disagree with our decision or with the limitation, you and your prescriber have the right to appeal. If you appeal, we will review your case and give you a new decision. If we continue to deny any part of your request related to the limitations that apply to your access to medications, we will automatically send your case to an independent reviewer outside of our plan. See Chapter 9 for information about how to ask for an appeal.

You will not be placed in our DMP if you have certain medical conditions, such as cancer-related pain or sickle cell disease, you are receiving hospice, palliative, or end-of-life care, or live in a long-term care facility.

<b>Section 10.3 Medication Therapy Management (MTM) program to help members manage their medications</b>
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We have a program that can help our members with complex health needs. Our program is called a Medication Therapy Management (MTM) program. This program is voluntary and free. A team of pharmacists and doctors developed the program for us to help make sure that our members get the most benefit from the drugs they take.

Some members who have certain chronic diseases and take medications that exceed a specific amount of drug costs or are in a DMP to help members use their opioids safely, may be able to get services through an MTM program. If you qualify for the program, a pharmacist or other health professional will give you a comprehensive review of all your medications. During the review, you can talk about your medications, your costs, and any problems or questions you have about your prescription and over-the-counter medications. You'll get a written summary which has a recommended to-do list that includes steps you should take to get the best results from your medications. You'll also get a medication list that will include all the medications you're taking, how much you take, and when and why you take them. In addition, members in the MTM program will receive information on the safe disposal of prescription medications that are controlled substances.

It's a good idea to talk to your doctor about your recommended to-do list and medication list. Bring the summary with you to your visit or anytime you talk with your doctors, pharmacists, and other health care providers. Also, keep your medication list up to date and with you (for example, with your ID) in case you go to the hospital or emergency room.

If we have a program that fits your needs, we will automatically enroll you in the program and send you information. If you decide not to participate, please notify us and we will withdraw you. If you have any questions about this program, please contact Member Services.

# CHAPTER 6:

*What you pay for your Part D  
prescription drugs*



## How can you get information about your drug costs if you're receiving "Extra Help" with your Part D prescription drug costs?

Most of our members qualify for and are getting "Extra Help" from Medicare to pay for their prescription drug plan costs. If you are in the "Extra Help" program, **some information in this Evidence of Coverage about the costs for Part D prescription drugs may not apply to you.** We sent you a separate insert, called the *Evidence of Coverage Rider for People Who Get "Extra Help" Paying for Prescription Drugs* (also known as the Low-Income Subsidy Rider or the LIS Rider), which tells you about your drug coverage. If you don't have this insert, please call Member Services and ask for the LIS Rider.

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## SECTION 1 Introduction

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<b>Section 1.1 Use this chapter together with other materials that explain your drug coverage</b>
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This chapter focuses on what you pay for Part D prescription drugs. To keep things simple, we use **drug** in this chapter to mean a Part D prescription drug. As explained in Chapter 5, not all drugs are Part D drugs – some drugs are excluded from Part D coverage by law. Some of the drugs excluded from Part D coverage are covered under Medicare Part A or Part B or under Medicaid.

To understand the payment information, you need to know what drugs are covered, where to fill your prescriptions, and what rules to follow when you get your covered drugs. Chapter 5, Sections 1 through 4 explain these rules. When you use the plan's "Real-Time Benefit Tool" to look up drug coverage (see Chapter 5, Section 3.2), the cost shown is provided in "real time" meaning the cost you see in the tool reflects a moment in time to provide an estimate of the out-of-pocket costs you are expected to pay. You can also obtain information provided by the "Real-Time Benefit Tool" by calling Member Services.

<b>Section 1.2 Types of out-of-pocket costs you may pay for covered drugs</b>
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There are different types of out-of-pocket costs for Part D drugs. The amount that you pay for a drug is called **cost sharing**, and there are three ways you may be asked to pay.

- **Deductible** is the amount you pay for drugs before our plan begins to pay its share.
- **Copayment** is a fixed amount you pay each time you fill a prescription.
- **Coinsurance** is a percentage of the total cost you pay each time you fill a prescription.

### **Section 1.3 How Medicare calculates your out-of-pocket costs**

Medicare has rules about what counts and what does *not* count toward your out-of-pocket costs. Here are the rules we must follow to keep track of your out-of-pocket costs.

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#### **These payments are included in your out-of-pocket costs**

**Your out-of-pocket costs include** the payments listed below (as long as they are for Part D covered drugs and you followed the rules for drug coverage that are explained in Chapter 5):

- The amount you pay for drugs when you are in the following drug payment stages:
  - The Deductible Stage
  - The Initial Coverage Stage
- Any payments you made during this calendar year as a member of a different Medicare prescription drug plan before you joined our plan.

#### **It matters who pays:**

- If you make these payments **yourself**, they are included in your out-of-pocket costs.
- These payments are *also included* in your out-of-pocket costs if they are made on your behalf by **certain other individuals or organizations**. This includes payments for your drugs made by a friend or relative, by most charities, by AIDS drug assistance programs, by a State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program that is qualified by Medicare, employer or union health plans, TRICARE, or by the Indian Health Service. Payments made by Medicare's "Extra Help" Program are also included.

#### **Moving on to the Catastrophic Coverage Stage:**

When you (or those paying on your behalf) have spent a total of \$2,000 in out-of-pocket costs within the calendar year, you will move from the Initial Coverage Stage to the Catastrophic Coverage Stage.

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#### **These payments are not included in your out-of-pocket costs**

Your out-of-pocket costs **do not include** any of these types of payments:

- Drugs you buy outside the United States and its territories.
- Drugs that are not covered by our plan.

- Drugs you get at an out-of-network pharmacy that do not meet the plan's requirements for out-of-network coverage.
- Non-Part D drugs, including prescription drugs covered by Part A or Part B and other drugs excluded from coverage by Medicare.
- Payments you make toward prescription drugs not normally covered in a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan
- Payments for your drugs that are made by the Veterans Health Administration (VA).
- Payments for your drugs made by a third-party with a legal obligation to pay for prescription costs (for example, Workers' Compensation).
- Payments made by drug manufacturers under the Manufacturer Discount Program.

*Reminder:* If any other organization such as the ones listed above pays part or all of your out-of-pocket costs for drugs, you are required to tell our plan by calling Member Services.

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### **How can you keep track of your out-of-pocket total?**

- **We will help you.** The Part D Explanation of Benefits (EOB) report you receive includes the current amount of your out-of-pocket costs. When this amount reaches \$2,000, this report will tell you that you have left the Initial Coverage Stage and have moved on to the Catastrophic Coverage Stage.
- **Make sure we have the information we need.** Section 3.2 tells what you can do to help make sure that our records of what you have spent are complete and up to date.

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## **SECTION 2 What you pay for a drug depends on which drug payment stage you are in when you get the drug**

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<b>Section 2.1 What are the drug payment stages for PriorityMedicare D-SNP (HMO) members?</b>
---

There are three **drug payment stages** for your Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage under **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO). How much you pay depends on what stage you are in when you get a prescription filled or refilled. Details of each stage are in Sections 4 through 6 of this chapter. The stages are:

**Stage 1: Yearly Deductible Stage**

**Stage 2: Initial Coverage Stage**

**Stage 3: Catastrophic Coverage Stage**

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## **SECTION 3 We send you reports that explain payments for your drugs and which payment stage you are in**

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<b>Section 3.1 We send you a monthly summary called the <i>Part D Explanation of Benefits</i> (the Part D EOB)</b>
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Our plan keeps track of the costs of your prescription drugs and the payments you have made when you get your prescriptions filled or refilled at the pharmacy. This way, we can tell you when you have moved from one drug payment stage to the next. In particular, there are two types of costs we keep track of:

- We keep track of how much you have paid. This is called your **Out-of-Pocket Costs**. This includes what you paid when you get a covered Part D drug, any payments for your drugs made by family or friends, and any payments made for your drugs by “Extra Help” from Medicare, employer or union health plans, TRICARE, Indian Health Service, AIDS drug assistance programs, charities, and most State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs (SPAPs).
- We keep track of your **Total Drug Costs**. This is the total of all payments made for your covered Part D drugs. It includes what the plan paid, what you paid, and what other programs or organizations paid for your covered Part D drugs.



If you have had one or more prescriptions filled through the plan during the previous month, we will send you a Part D EOB. The Part D EOB includes:

- **Information for that month.** This report gives the payment details about the prescriptions you have filled during the previous month. It shows the total drug costs, what the plan paid, and what you and others on your behalf paid.
- **Totals for the year since January 1.** This is called year-to-date information. It shows the total drug costs and total payments for your drugs since the year began.
- **Drug price information.** This information will display the total drug price, and information about increases in price from first fill for each prescription claim of the same quantity.
- **Available lower cost alternative prescriptions.** This will include information about other available drugs with lower cost sharing for each prescription claim, if applicable.

### **Section 3.2 Help us keep our information about your drug payments up to date**

To keep track of your drug costs and the payments you make for drugs, we use records we get from pharmacies. Here is how you can help us keep your information correct and up to date:

- **Show your membership card every time you get a prescription filled.** This helps us make sure we know about the prescriptions you are filling and what you are paying.
- **Make sure we have the information we need.** There are times you may pay for the entire cost of a prescription drug. In these cases, we will not automatically get the information we need to keep track of your out-of-pocket costs. To help us keep track of your out-of-pocket costs, give us copies of your receipts **Here are examples of when you should give us copies of your drug receipts:**
  - When you purchase a covered drug at a network pharmacy at a special price or using a discount card that is not part of our plan's benefit
  - When you made a copayment for drugs that are provided under a drug manufacturer patient assistance program
  - Any time you have purchased covered drugs at out-of-network pharmacies or other times you have paid the full price for a covered drug under special circumstances
  - If you are billed for a covered drug, you can ask our plan to pay our share of the cost. For instructions on how to do this, go to Chapter 7, Section 2.
- **Send us information about the payments others have made for you.** Payments made by certain other individuals and organizations also count toward your out-of-pocket costs. For example, payments made by a State Pharmaceutical Assistance

Program, an AIDS drug assistance program (ADAP), the Indian Health Service, and charities count toward your out-of-pocket costs. Keep a record of these payments and send them to us so we can track your costs.

- **Check the written report we send you.** When you receive the *Part D EOB*, look it over to be sure the information is complete and correct. If you think something is missing or you have any questions, please call us at Member Services. The Part D EOB may be available electronically by visiting our website, *express-scripts.com*, or you can request a printed copy be mailed to you by calling Member Services. Be sure to keep these reports.

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## **SECTION 4      During the Deductible Stage, you pay the full cost of your drugs**

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Because most of our members get “Extra Help” with their prescription drug costs, the Deductible Stage does not apply to most members. If you receive “Extra Help,” this payment stage does not apply to you.

Look at the separate insert (the LIS Rider) for information about your deductible amount.

If you do not receive “Extra Help,” the Deductible Stage is the first payment stage for your drug coverage. This stage begins when you fill your first prescription in the year. When you are in this payment stage, **you must pay the full cost of your drugs** until you reach the plan’s deductible amount, which is \$590 for 2025. The deductible doesn’t apply to covered insulin products and most adult Part D vaccines, including shingles, tetanus, and travel vaccines. The **full cost** is usually lower than the normal full price of the drug since our plan has negotiated lower costs for most drugs at network pharmacies.

Once you have paid \$590 for your drugs, you leave the Deductible Stage and move on to the Initial Coverage Stage.

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## **SECTION 5 During the Initial Coverage Stage, the plan pays its share of your drug costs and you pay your share**

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<b>Section 5.1</b>	<b>What you pay for a drug depends on the drug and where you fill your prescription</b>
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During the Initial Coverage Stage, the plan pays its share of the cost of your covered prescription drugs, and you pay your share (your copayment or coinsurance amount). Your share of the cost will vary depending on the drug and where you fill your prescription.

## Your pharmacy choices

How much you pay for a drug depends on whether you get the drug from:

- A network retail pharmacy.
- A pharmacy that is not in the plan’s network. We cover prescriptions filled at out-of-network pharmacies in only limited situations. Please see Chapter 5, Section 2.5 to find out when we will cover a prescription filled at an out-of-network pharmacy.
- The plan’s mail-order pharmacy.

For more information about these pharmacy choices and filling your prescriptions, see Chapter 5 and the plan’s *Provider/Pharmacy Directory* [priorityhealth.com/dsnp25](http://priorityhealth.com/dsnp25).

### Section 5.2 A table that shows your costs for a one-month supply of a drug

During the Initial Coverage Stage, your share of the cost of a covered drug will be either a copayment or coinsurance.

#### Your share of the cost when you get a *one-month* supply of a covered Part D prescription drug:

	<b>Standard retail cost sharing (in-network)</b> (up to a 30-day supply)	<b>Mail-order cost sharing</b> (up to a 30-day supply)	<b>Long-term care (LTC) cost sharing</b> (up to a 31-day supply)	<b>Out-of-network cost sharing</b> (Coverage is limited to certain situations; see Chapter 5 for details.) (up to a 30-day supply)
<b>Tier</b>				
<b>Cost-Sharing (All Covered Drugs)</b>	If you receive “Extra Help” to pay your prescription drugs, you will pay the following for your prescription drug costs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$0 copay</li> </ul> If you do not receive “Extra Help,” you will pay the following for your prescription drug costs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25% of the total drug cost</li> </ul>			

You won’t pay more than \$35 for a one-month supply of each covered insulin product regardless of the cost-sharing tier, even if you haven’t paid your deductible.

Please see Section 8 of this chapter for more information on cost sharing for Part D vaccines.

**Section 5.3**

**If your doctor prescribes less than a full month's supply, you may not have to pay the cost of the entire month's supply**

Typically, the amount you pay for a prescription drug covers a full month's supply. There may be times when you or your doctor would like you to have less than a month's supply of a drug (for example, when you are trying a medication for the first time). You can also ask your doctor to prescribe, and your pharmacist to dispense, less than a full month's supply of your drugs, if this will help you better plan refill dates for different prescriptions.

If you receive less than a full month's supply of certain drugs, you will not have to pay for the full month's supply.

- If you are responsible for coinsurance, you pay a *percentage* of the total cost of the drug. Since the coinsurance is based on the total cost of the drug, your cost will be lower since the total cost for the drug will be lower.
- If you are responsible for a copayment for the drug, you will only pay for the number of days of the drug that you receive instead of a whole month. We will calculate the amount you pay per day for your drug (the daily cost-sharing rate) and multiply it by the number of days of the drug you receive.

**Section 5.4**

**A table that shows your costs for a *long-term* (up to a 90-day) supply of a drug**

For some drugs, you can get a long-term supply (also called an extended supply). A long-term supply is up to a 90-day supply.

The table below shows what you pay when you get a long-term supply of a drug.

**Your share of the cost when you get a *long-term* supply of a covered Part D prescription drug:**

<b>Tier</b>	<b>Standard retail cost sharing (in-network) (up to a 90-day supply)</b>	<b>Mail-order cost sharing (up to a 90-day supply)</b>
<b>Cost-Sharing</b> (All Covered Drugs)	<p>If you receive “Extra Help” to pay your prescription drugs, you will pay the following for your prescription drug costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$0 copay</li> </ul> <p>If you do not receive “Extra Help,” you will pay the following for your prescription drug costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25% of the total drug cost</li> </ul>	

You won’t pay more than \$70 for up to a two-month supply or \$105 for up to a three-month supply of each covered insulin product regardless of the cost-sharing tier, even if you haven’t paid your deductible.

**Section 5.5                      You stay in the Initial Coverage Stage until your out-of-pocket costs for the year reach \$2,000**

You stay in the Initial Coverage Stage until your total out-of-pocket costs reach \$2,000. You then move on to the Catastrophic Coverage Stage.

The *Part D EOB* that you receive will help you keep track of how much you, the plan, and any third parties have spent on your behalf during the year. Not all members will reach the \$2,000 out-of-pocket limit in a year.

We will let you know if you reach this amount. If you do reach this amount, you will leave the Initial Coverage Stage and move on to the Catastrophic Coverage Stage. See Section 1.3 on how Medicare calculates your out-of-pocket costs.

**SECTION 6                      During the Catastrophic Coverage Stage, you pay nothing for your covered Part D drugs**

You enter the Catastrophic Coverage Stage when your out-of-pocket costs have reached the \$2,000 limit for the calendar year. Once you are in the Catastrophic Coverage Stage, you will stay in this payment stage until the end of the calendar year.

- During this payment stage, you pay nothing for your covered Part D drugs.

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## **SECTION 7 Additional benefits information**

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### **What do you pay for other Medicare-Part D drugs in an outpatient setting?**

Medicare Part D drugs are usually considered self-administered drugs. A self-administered drug is one you would normally take on your own either orally, putting it on your skin (topical), injecting subcutaneously, or by inhaling it. You usually get these drugs at a pharmacy. However, there are times when you may also get Medicare-covered Part D self-administered drugs in an outpatient setting (e.g. PCP or specialist office, outpatient facility such as an ambulatory surgery center, outpatient surgery in a hospital, ER, urgent care, etc.).

If you get a Medicare-covered Part D self-administered drug in an outpatient setting you are not covered under your Part B or medical benefit. You are, however, covered under your Part D prescription drug benefit under this plan.

Here's how it works when you get Medicare-covered Part D self-administered drugs provided in an outpatient setting.

You get the Part D covered drug at your doctor's office or in an outpatient setting (for example, outpatient facility, urgent care, ER, etc.).

- When you get the Part D covered drug, you will pay for the entire cost of the drug.
- You can then ask our plan to pay our share of the cost by using the procedures that are described in Chapter 7 of this document (*Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs*).
- You will be reimbursed the amount you paid less your normal copayment for the Part D covered drug less any difference between the amount the doctor or outpatient facility charges and what we normally pay. (If you get Extra Help, we will reimburse you for this difference.)

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## **SECTION 8 Part D Vaccines. What you pay for depends on how and where you get them**

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**Important Message About What You Pay for Vaccines** - Some vaccines are considered medical benefits and are covered under Part B. Other vaccines are considered Part D drugs. You can find these vaccines listed in the plan's Drug List. Our plan covers most adult Part D vaccines at no cost to you, even if you haven't paid your deductible. Refer to your plan's Drug List or contact Member Services for coverage and cost-sharing details about specific vaccines.

There are two parts to our coverage of Part D vaccinations:

- The first part of coverage is the cost of **the vaccine itself**.

- The second part of coverage is for the cost of **giving you the vaccine**. (This is sometimes called the administration of the vaccine.)

Your costs for a Part D vaccination depend on three things:

1. **Whether the vaccine is recommended for adults by an organization called the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).**
  - Most adult Part D vaccinations are recommended by ACIP and cost you nothing.
2. **Where you get the vaccine.**
  - The vaccine itself may be dispensed by a pharmacy or provided by the doctor's office.
3. **Who gives you the vaccine.**
  - A pharmacist or another provider may give the vaccine in the pharmacy. Alternatively, a provider may give it in the doctor's office.

What you pay at the time you get the Part D vaccination can vary depending on the circumstances and what **drug payment stage** you are in.

- Sometimes when you get a vaccination, you have to pay for the entire cost for both the vaccine itself and the cost for the provider to give you the vaccine. You can ask our plan to pay you back for our share of the cost. For most adult Part D vaccines, this means you will be reimbursed the entire cost you paid.
- Other times, when you get a vaccination, you will pay only your share of the cost under your Part D benefit. For most adult Part D vaccines, you will pay nothing.

Below are three examples of ways you might get a Part D vaccine.

*Situation 1:* You get the Part D vaccination at the network pharmacy. (Whether you have this choice depends on where you live. Some states do not allow pharmacies to give certain vaccines.)

- For most adult Part D vaccines, you will pay nothing.
- For other Part D vaccines, you will pay the pharmacy your coinsurance or copayment for the vaccine itself which includes the cost of giving you the vaccine.
- Our plan will pay the remainder of the costs.

*Situation 2:* You get the Part D vaccination at your doctor's office.

- When you get the vaccine, you may have to pay for the entire cost of the vaccine itself and the cost for the provider to give it to you.

- You can then ask our plan to pay our share of the cost by using the procedures that are described in Chapter 7.
- For most adult Part D vaccines, you will be reimbursed the full amount you paid. For other Part D vaccines, you will be reimbursed the amount you paid less any coinsurance or copayment for the vaccine (including administration) and less any difference between the amount the doctor charges and what we normally pay. (If you get “Extra Help,” we will reimburse you for this difference.)

*Situation 3:* You buy the Part D vaccine itself at the network pharmacy, and then take it to your doctor’s office where they give you the vaccine.

- For most adult Part D vaccines, you will pay nothing for the vaccine itself.
- For other Part D vaccines, you will pay the pharmacy your coinsurance or copayment for the vaccine itself.
- When your doctor gives you the vaccine, you may have to pay the entire cost for this service.
- You can then ask our plan to pay our share of the cost by using the procedures described in Chapter 7.
- For most adult Part D vaccines, you will be reimbursed the full amount you paid. For other Part D vaccines, you will be reimbursed the amount you paid less any coinsurance or copayment for the vaccine administration, and less any difference between the amount the doctor charges and what we normally pay. (If you get “Extra Help,” we will reimburse you for this difference.)



## CHAPTER 7:

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

**Chapter 7 Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs**

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**SECTION 1 Situations in which you should ask us to pay for your covered services or drugs**

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Our network providers bill the plan directly for your covered services and drugs. If you get a bill for the full cost of medical care or drugs you have received, you should send this bill to us so that we can pay it. When you send us the bill, we will look at the bill and decide whether the services and drugs should be covered. If we decide they should be covered, we will pay the provider directly.

**If you have already paid for a Medicare service or item covered by the plan**, you can ask our plan to pay you back (paying you back is often called **reimbursing** you). It is your right to be paid back by our plan whenever you've paid more than your share of the cost for medical services or drugs that are covered by our plan. There may be deadlines that you must meet to get paid back. Please see Section 2 of this chapter. When you send us a bill you have already paid, we will look at the bill and decide whether the services or drugs should be covered. If we decide they should be covered, we will pay you back for the services or drugs.

There may also be times when you get a bill from a provider for the full cost of medical care you have received or possibly for more than your share of cost sharing as discussed in this document. First try to resolve the bill with the provider. If that does not work, send the bill to us instead of paying it. We will look at the bill and decide whether the services should be covered. If we decide they should be covered, we will pay the provider directly. If we decide not to pay it, we will notify the provider. You should never pay more than plan-allowed cost-sharing. If this provider is contracted, you still have the right to treatment.

Here are examples of situations in which you may need to ask our plan to pay you back or to pay a bill you have received:

**1. When you've received emergency or urgently needed medical care from a provider who is not in our plan's network**

You can receive emergency or urgently needed services from any provider, whether or not the provider is a part of our network. In these cases, ask the provider to bill the plan.

- If you pay the entire amount yourself at the time you receive the care, ask us to pay you back for our share of the cost. Send us the bill, along with documentation of any payments you have made.
- You may get a bill from the provider asking for payment that you think you do not owe. Send us this bill, along with documentation of any payments you have already made.
  - If the provider is owed anything, we will pay the provider directly.
  - If you have already paid more than your share of the cost for the service, we will determine how much you owed and pay you back for our share of the cost.

**Chapter 7 Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs**

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**2. When a network provider sends you a bill you think you should not pay**

Network providers should always bill the plan directly. But sometimes they make mistakes and ask you to pay more than your share of the cost.

- You only have to pay your cost-sharing amount when you get covered services. We do not allow providers to add additional separate charges, called **balance billing**. This protection (that you never pay more than your cost-sharing amount) 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. We do not allow providers to bill you for covered services. We pay our providers directly, and we protect you from any charges. This is true even if we pay the provider less than the provider charges for a service.
- Whenever you get a bill from a network provider that you think is more than you should pay, send us the bill. We will contact the provider directly and resolve the billing problem.
- If you have already paid a bill to a network provider, but you feel that you paid too much, send us the bill along with documentation of any payment you have made. You should ask us to pay you back for the difference between the amount you paid and the amount you owed under the plan.

**3. If you are retroactively enrolled in our plan**

Sometimes a person's enrollment in the plan is retroactive. (This 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 or drugs 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.

**4. When you use an out-of-network pharmacy to get a prescription filled**

If you go to an out-of-network pharmacy, the pharmacy may not be able to submit the claim directly to us. When that happens, you will have to pay the full cost of your prescription.

Save your receipt and send a copy to us when you ask us to pay you back for our share of the cost. Remember that we only cover out-of-network pharmacies in limited circumstances. See Chapter 5, Section 2.5 for a discussion of these circumstances. We may not pay you back the difference between what you paid for the drug at the out-of-network pharmacy and the amount that we would pay at an in-network pharmacy.

**5. When you pay the full cost for a prescription because you don't have your plan membership card with you**

If you do not have your plan membership card with you, you can ask the pharmacy to call the plan or to look up your plan enrollment information. However, if the pharmacy cannot get the enrollment information they need right away, you may need to pay the full cost of the prescription yourself. Save your receipt and send a copy to us when you ask us to pay you

## Chapter 7 Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs

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back for our share of the cost. We may not pay you back the full cost you paid if the cash price you paid is higher than our negotiated price for the prescription.

### 6. When you pay the full cost for a prescription in other situations

You may pay the full cost of the prescription because you find that the drug is not covered for some reason.

- For example, the drug may not be on the plan's Drug List or it could have a requirement or restriction that you didn't know about or don't think should apply to you. If you decide to get the drug immediately, you may need to pay the full cost for it.
- Save your receipt and send a copy to us when you ask us to pay you back. In some situations, we may need to get more information from your doctor in order to pay you back for our share of the cost of the drug. We may not pay you back the full cost you paid if the cash price you paid is higher than our negotiated price for the prescription.

When you send us a request for payment, we will review your request and decide whether the service or drug should be covered. This is called making a **coverage decision**. If we decide it should be covered, we will pay for our share of the cost for the service or drug. If we deny your request for payment, you can appeal our decision. Chapter 9 of this document has information about how to make an appeal.

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## SECTION 2 How to ask us to pay you back or to pay a bill you have received

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You may request us to pay you back by sending us a request in writing. If you send a request in writing, send your bill and documentation of any payment you have made. It's a good idea to make a copy of your bill and receipts for your records. For Medical claims, **you must submit your claim to us within one year** of the date you received the service, item, or drug. For Part D Pharmacy claims, **you must submit your claim to us within three years** of the date you received the drug.

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 ([priorityhealth.com/dsnp25](http://priorityhealth.com/dsnp25)) or call Member Services and ask for the form.

**Chapter 7 Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs**

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

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

ATTN: Priority Health Claims  
Priority Health  
P.O. BOX 232  
Grand Rapids, MI 49501

**For Part D prescription drug claims:** Mail your request for payment together with any bills or receipts to us at this address:

ATTN: Medicare Part D, MS 1260  
Priority Health Medicare  
1231 East Beltline Ave. NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49525

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**SECTION 3 We will consider your request for payment and say yes or no**

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<b>Section 3.1 We check to see whether we should cover the service or drug and how much we owe</b>
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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 or drug is covered and you followed all the rules, we will pay our share of the cost for the service or drug. If you have already paid for the service or drug, we will mail your reimbursement of our share of the cost to you. If you paid the full cost of a drug, you might not be reimbursed the full amount you paid (for example, if you obtained a drug at an out-of-network pharmacy or if the cash price you paid for a drug is higher than our negotiated price). If you have not paid for the service or drug yet, we will mail the payment directly to the provider.
- If we decide that the medical care or drug is *not* covered, or you did *not* follow all the rules, we will not pay for our share of the cost of the care or drug. We will send you a letter explaining the reasons why we are not sending the payment and your rights to appeal that decision.

**Chapter 7 Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs**

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<b>Section 3.2</b>	<b>If we tell you that we will not pay for all or part of the medical care or drug, you can make an appeal</b>
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If you think we have made a mistake in turning down your request for payment or 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. The appeals process is a formal process with detailed procedures and important deadlines. For the details on how to make this appeal, go to Chapter 9 of this document.

# CHAPTER 8:

*Your rights and responsibilities*

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## **SECTION 1      Our plan must honor your rights and cultural sensitivities as a member of the plan**

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<b>Section 1.1</b>	<b>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.)</b>
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Your 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. This document is available for free in Spanish. 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 Member Services.

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, please call to file a grievance with Member Services at 833.939.0983. 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.

<b>Section 1.2</b>	<b>We must ensure that you get timely access to your covered services and drugs</b>
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You have the right to choose a primary care provider (PCP) in the plan's network to provide and arrange for your covered services. You also have the right to go to a women's health specialist (such as a gynecologist) without a referral. We do not require you to get referrals to go to in-network providers.



**Chapter 8 Your rights and responsibilities**

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You have the right to get appointments and covered services from the plan's network of providers *within a reasonable amount of time*. This includes the right to get timely services from specialists when you need that care. You also have the right to get your prescriptions filled or refilled at any of our network pharmacies without long delays.

If you think that you are not getting your medical care or Part D drugs within a reasonable amount of time, Chapter 9 tells what you can do.

**Section 1.3 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 talks 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.
  - Because you are a member of our plan through Medicare, we are required to give Medicare your health information including information about your Part D prescription drugs. 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 at 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 healthcare provider to decide whether the changes should be made.

**Chapter 8 Your rights and responsibilities**

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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 Member Services.

See Chapter 11, Section 7, *Legal Notices*, for our complete privacy policy.

<b>Section 1.4</b>	<b>We must give you information about the plan, its network of providers, and your covered services</b>
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As a member of **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO), you have the right to get several kinds of information from us.

If you want any of the following kinds of information, please call Member Services:

- **Information about our plan.** This includes, for example, information about the plan's financial condition.
- **Information about our network providers and pharmacies.** You have the right to get information about the qualifications of the providers and pharmacies in our network and how we pay the providers in our network.
- **Information about your coverage and the rules you must follow when using your coverage.** Chapters 3 and 4 provide information regarding medical services. Chapters 5 and 6 provide information about Part D prescription drug coverage.
- **Information about why something is not covered and what you can do about it.** Chapter 9 provides information on asking for a written explanation on why a medical service or Part D drug is not covered or if your coverage is restricted. Chapter 9 also provides information on asking us to change a decision, also called an appeal.

<b>Section 1.5</b>	<b>We must support your right to make decisions about your care</b>
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**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*.

**Chapter 8 Your rights and responsibilities**

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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. It also includes being told about programs our plan offers to help members manage their medications and use drugs safely.
- **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. You also have the right to stop taking your medication. Of course, if you refuse treatment or stop taking medication, 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.
- Please note - verification of a plan holder’s inability to make decisions on their own behalf may be required in order to enact non-plan holder decision making ability.

The legal documents that you can use to give your directions in advance in 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 Member Services to ask for the forms.

**Chapter 8 Your rights and responsibilities**

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- **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 Department of Licensing & Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Community and Health Systems - Health Facility Complaints, P.O. Box 30664, Lansing, MI 48909. Phone: 800.882.6006. Fax: 517.335.7167. Email: [BCHS-Complaints@michigan.gov](mailto:BCHS-Complaints@michigan.gov).

<b>Section 1.6</b>	<b>You have the right to make complaints and to ask us to reconsider decisions we have made</b>
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If you have any problems, concerns, or complaints and need to request coverage, or make an appeal, Chapter 9 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.**

<b>Section 1.7</b>	<b>What can you do if you believe you are being treated unfairly or your rights are not being respected?</b>
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**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.

**Chapter 8 Your rights and responsibilities**

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**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 Member Services**.
- 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, 7 days a week (TTY 1-877-486-2048).

<b>Section 1.8</b>	<b>How to get more information about your rights</b>
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There are several places where you can get more information about your rights:

- You can **call Member Services**.
- 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](http://www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/11534-Medicare-Rights-and-Protections.pdf).)
  - Or, you can call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (TTY 1-877-486-2048).

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

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

- **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.
  - Chapters 3 and 4 give the details about your medical services.
  - Chapters 5 and 6 give the details about your Part D prescription drug coverage.
- **If you have any other health insurance coverage or prescription drug coverage in addition to our plan, 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 membership card and your Medicaid card whenever you get your medical care or Part D prescription drugs.

- **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.
  - If you have any questions, be sure to ask and get an answer you can understand.
- **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 your Medicare premiums to remain a member of the plan.
  - For most of your medical services or drugs covered by the plan, you must pay your share of the cost when you get the service or drug if you lose your full Medicaid coverage.
  - If you are required to pay the extra amount for Part D because of your higher income (as reported on your last tax return), you must continue to pay the extra amount directly to the government to remain a member of the plan.
- **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).
- **Help us protect yours and others privacy.**
  - Tell us if you have lost your ID card or it has been stolen to prevent anyone from receiving your Priority Health Medicare benefits.
  - Let us know immediately if you receive information or material intended for others by mistake and cooperate with us in returning this information or materials as soon as possible.

## CHAPTER 9:

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

**Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)**

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**SECTION 1 Introduction**

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

This chapter explains the processes for handling problems and concerns. The process you use to handle your problem depends on two things:

1. Whether your problem is about benefits covered by **Medicare** or **Medicaid**. If you would like help deciding whether to use the Medicare process or the Medicaid process, or both, please contact Member Services.
2. The type of problem you are having:
  - 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.

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 or coverage determination or at-risk 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.



**Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)**

**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 member services 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, 7 days a week. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.
- You can also visit the Medicare website ([www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)).

**You can get help and information from Medicaid**

<b>Method</b>	<b>Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP) – Contact Information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	800.803.7174 or dial 211
<b>WRITE</b>	MMAP 6105 W St. Joseph Hwy, Suite 204 Lansing, MI 48917-4850
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<i><a href="http://mmapinc.org">mmapinc.org</a></i>

<b>Method</b>	<b>Livanta LLC (Michigan’s Quality Improvement Organization) – Contact Information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	888.524.9900, Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. local time  Weekend/holidays 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. local time

## Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)

Method	Livanta LLC (Michigan's Quality Improvement Organization) – Contact Information
TTY	888.985.8775  This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
FAX	855.236.2423
WRITE	Livanta LLC, BFCC-QIO Program 10820 Guilford Road, Suite 202 Annapolis Junction, MD 20701-1105
WEBSITE	<a href="http://www.livanta.com">www.livanta.com</a>

The MI Health Link Ombudsman helps people enrolled in the Michigan Medicaid program with service or billing problems. They can help you file a grievance or appeal with our plan.

Method	MI Health Link Ombudsman – Contact Information
CALL	888.746.6456, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
TTY	711
WRITE	<a href="mailto:help@MHLO.org">help@MHLO.org</a>
WEBSITE	<a href="http://mhlo.org/">mhlo.org/</a>

The Michigan Long Term Care Ombudsman Program helps people get information about nursing homes and resolve problems between nursing homes and residents or their families.

Method	Michigan Long Term Care Ombudsman Program – Contact Information
CALL	866.485.9393, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
TTY	711
WRITE	15851 S. US 27, Suite 73  Lansing, MI 48906
WEBSITE	<a href="http://mltcop.org/">mltcop.org/</a>

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

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Because you have Medicare and get assistance from Medicaid, you have different processes that you can use to handle your problem or complaint. Which process you use depends on whether the problem is about Medicare benefits or Medicaid benefits. If your problem is about a benefit covered by Medicare, then you should use the Medicare process. If your problem is about a benefit covered by Medicaid, then you should use the Medicaid process. If you would like help

## **Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)**

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deciding whether to use the Medicare process or the Medicaid process, please contact Member Services.

The Medicare process and Medicaid process are described in different parts of this chapter. To find out which part you should read, use the chart below.

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### **Is your problem about Medicare benefits or Medicaid benefits?**

If you would like help deciding whether your problem is about Medicare benefits or Medicaid benefits, please contact Member Services.

My problem is about **Medicare** benefits.

Go to the next section of this chapter, **Section 4, Handling problems about your Medicare benefits.**

My problem is about **Medicaid** coverage.

Skip ahead to **Section 12** of this chapter, **Handling problems about your Medicaid benefits.**

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## **PROBLEMS ABOUT YOUR MEDICARE BENEFITS**

### **SECTION 4 Handling problems about your Medicare benefits**

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<b>Section 4.1</b>	<b>Should you use the process for coverage decisions and appeals? Or should you use the process for making complaints?</b>
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If you have a problem or concern, you only need to read the parts of this chapter that apply to your situation. The chart below will help you find the right section of this chapter for problems or complaints about **benefits covered by Medicare.**

**Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)**

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To figure out which part of this chapter will help with your problem or concern about your **Medicare** benefits, use this chart:

**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 5, A guide to the basics of coverage decisions and appeals.**

**No.**

Skip ahead to **Section 11** at the end of this chapter: **How to make a complaint about quality of care, waiting times, customer service, or other concerns.**

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**SECTION 5 A guide to the basics of coverage decisions and appeals**

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<b>Section 5.1</b>	<b>Asking for coverage decisions and making appeals: the big picture</b>
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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, if your plan network doctor refers you to a medical specialist not inside the network, this referral is considered a favorable coverage decision unless either your network doctor can show that you received a standard denial notice for this medical specialist, or the Evidence of Coverage makes it clear that the referred service is never covered under any condition. 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

**Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)**

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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 the 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 and you are not satisfied, whether before or after a benefit is received, 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, a request for a Level 1 appeal 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 6.4** of this chapter for more information about Level 2 appeals for medical care.
- Part D appeals are discussed further in Section 7 of this chapter.

**Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)**

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 10 in this chapter explains the Level 3, 4, and 5 appeals processes).

**Section 5.2 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 us at **Member Services**.
- 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 Member Services 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](http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/CMS-Forms/CMS-Forms/downloads/cms1696.pdf).)
  - For medical care, 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.
  - For Part D prescription drugs, your doctor or other prescriber can request a coverage decision or a Level 1 appeal on your behalf. If your Level 1 appeal is denied your doctor or prescriber can request a Level 2 appeal.
- **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.
  - If you want a friend, relative, or other person to be your representative, call Member Services 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](http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/CMS-Forms/CMS-Forms/downloads/cms1696.pdf).) The form gives that person permission to act on your behalf. It must be signed by you and by the person who you would like to act on your behalf. You must give us a copy of the signed form.
  - 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 before 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.

**Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)**

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**Section 5.3 Which section of this chapter gives the details for your situation?**

There are four 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 6** of this chapter: Your medical care: How to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal
- **Section 7** of this chapter: Your Part D prescription drugs: How to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal
- **Section 8** of this chapter: How to ask us to cover a longer inpatient hospital stay if you think you are being discharged too soon
- **Section 9** 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 Member Services. You can also get help or information from government organizations such as your State Health Insurance Assistance Program.

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**SECTION 6 Your medical care: How to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal of a coverage decision**

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**Section 6.1 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 of your care**

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 6.2.**
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 6.2.**

## Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)

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 6.3.**
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 6.5.**
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 6.3.**

**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 7 and 8 of this Chapter. Special rules apply to these types of care.

<b>Section 6.2</b>	<b>Step-by-step: How to ask for a coverage decision</b>
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<b>Legal Terms</b>
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When a coverage decision involves your medical care, it is called an <b>organization determination</b> .
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A fast coverage decision is called an <b>expedited determination</b> .
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### **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 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:

- Explains that we will use the standard deadlines



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- 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 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 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 11 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 calendar 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 11 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.

**Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)**

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**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.

<b>Section 6.3</b>	<b>Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 appeal</b>
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<b>Legal Terms</b>
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An appeal to the plan about a medical care coverage decision is called a plan <b>reconsideration</b> .
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A fast appeal is also called an <b>expedited reconsideration</b> .
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**Step 1: Decide if you need a standard appeal or a fast appeal.**

**A standard appeal is usually made within 30 calendar days or 7 calendar 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 6.2 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.** 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 65 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, explain the reason your appeal is late when you make your appeal. 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.**

**Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)**

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

- When we are 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.
  - 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.
  - 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 6.4 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 7 calendar days** after we receive your appeal. We will give you our decision sooner if your health condition requires us to.
  - 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 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. When you file a fast complaint, we will give you an answer to your complaint within 24 hours. (See Section 11 of this chapter for information on complaints.)
  - 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 6.4 explains the Level 2 appeal process.

## Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)

- **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 7 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 6.4 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.
- 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.

**Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)**

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- 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 7 calendar days** of when it receives your appeal.
- 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 about its decision in writing and explain the reasons for it.

- If the independent 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 independent review organization's decision for standard requests or provide the service within 72 hours from the date the plan receives the independent review organization's decision for expedited requests.
- If the independent review organization says yes to part or all of a request for a Medicare Part B prescription drug, we must authorize or provide the Medicare Part B prescription drug within 72 hours after we receive the independent review organization's decision for standard requests or within 24 hours from the date we receive the independent review organization's decision for expedited requests.
- **If this organization says no to part or all of your appeal**, it means they agree with our plan 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:
  - Explaining its decision.
  - Notifying you of the right to a Level 3 appeal if the dollar value of the medical care coverage you are requesting 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.
  - Telling you how to file a Level 3 appeal.

**Step 3: 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 10 in this chapter explains the Levels 3, 4, and 5 appeals processes.

**Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)**

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**Section 6.5 What if you are asking us to pay you back for our share of a bill you have received for medical care?****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 a covered service. 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 typically within 30 calendar days, but no later than 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 6.3.** 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.

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**SECTION 7 Your Part D prescription drugs: How to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal**

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**Section 7.1 This section tells you what to do if you have problems getting a Part D drug or you want us to pay you back for a Part D drug**

Your benefits include coverage for many prescription drugs. To be covered, the drug must be used for a medically accepted indication. (See Chapter 5 for more information about a medically accepted indication.) For details about Part D drugs, rules, restrictions, and costs please see

## **Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)**

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Chapters 5 and 6. **This section is about your Part D drugs only.** To keep things simple, we generally say *drug* in the rest of this section, instead of repeating *covered outpatient prescription drug* or *Part D drug* every time. We also use the term Drug List instead of *List of Covered Drugs* or *Formulary*.

- If you do not know if a drug is covered or if you meet the rules, you can ask us. Some drugs require that you get approval from us before we will cover it.
- If your pharmacy tells you that your prescription cannot be filled as written, the pharmacy will give you a written notice explaining how to contact us to ask for a coverage decision.

### **Part D coverage decisions and appeals**

<b>Legal Term</b>
An initial coverage decision about your Part D drugs is called a <b>coverage determination</b> .

A coverage decision is a decision we make about your benefits and coverage or about the amount we will pay for your drugs. This section tells what you can do if you are in any of the following situations:

- Asking to cover a Part D drug that is not on the plan's *List of Covered Drugs*. **Ask for an exception. Section 7.2**
- Asking to waive a restriction on the plan's coverage for a drug (such as limits on the amount of the drug you can get) **Ask for an exception. Section 7.2**
- Asking to get pre-approval for a drug. **Ask for a coverage decision. Section 7.4**
- Pay for a prescription drug you already bought. **Ask us to pay you back. Section 7.4**

If you disagree with a coverage decision we have made, you can appeal our decision.

This section tells you both how to ask for coverage decisions and how to request an appeal.

**Section 7.2 What is an exception?****Legal Terms**

Asking for coverage of a drug that is not on the Drug List is sometimes called asking for a **formulary exception**.

Asking for removal of a restriction on coverage for a drug is sometimes called asking for a **formulary exception**.

Asking to pay a lower price for a covered non-preferred drug is sometimes called asking for a **tiering exception**.

If a drug is not covered in the way you would like it to be covered, you can ask us to make an **exception**. An exception is a type of coverage decision.

For us to consider your exception request, your doctor or other prescriber will need to explain the medical reasons why you need the exception approved. Here are two examples of exceptions that you or your doctor or other prescriber can ask us to make:

1. **Covering a Part D drug for you that is not on our Drug List.** If we agree to cover a drug not on the Drug List, you will need to pay the cost-sharing amount that applies to all of our drugs. You cannot ask for an exception to the cost-sharing amount we require you to pay for the drug.
2. **Removing a restriction for a covered drug.** Chapter 5 describes the extra rules or restrictions that apply to certain drugs on our Drug List.

**Section 7.3 Important things to know about asking for exceptions****Your doctor must tell us the medical reasons**

Your doctor or other prescriber must give us a statement that explains the medical reasons for requesting an exception. For a faster decision, include this medical information from your doctor or other prescriber when you ask for the exception.

Typically, our Drug List includes more than one drug for treating a particular condition. These different possibilities are called **alternative** drugs. If an alternative drug would be just as effective as the drug you are requesting and would not cause more side effects or other health problems, we will generally *not* approve your request for an exception.



## Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)

### We can say yes or no to your request

- If we approve your request for an exception, our approval usually is valid until the end of the plan year. This is true as long as your doctor continues to prescribe the drug for you and that drug continues to be safe and effective for treating your condition.
- If we say no to your request, you can ask for another review of our decision by making an appeal.

<b>Section 7.4</b>	<b>Step-by-step: How to ask for a coverage decision, including an exception</b>
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<b>Legal Term</b>
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A fast coverage decision is called an <b>expedited coverage determination</b> .
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### **Step 1: Decide if you need a standard coverage decision or a fast coverage decision.**

**Standard coverage decisions** are made within **72 hours** after we receive your doctor's statement. **Fast coverage decisions** are made within **24 hours** after we receive your doctor's statement.

*If your health requires it, ask us to give you a fast coverage decision. To get a fast coverage decision, you must meet two requirements:*

- You must be asking for a drug you have not yet received. (You cannot ask for fast coverage decision to be paid back for a drug you have already bought.)
- Using the standard deadlines could cause serious harm to your health or hurt your ability to function.
- **If your doctor or other prescriber tells us that your health requires a fast coverage decision, we will automatically give you a fast coverage decision.**
- **If you ask for a fast coverage decision on your own, without your doctor or prescriber'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:
  - Explains that we will use the standard deadlines.
  - Explains if your doctor or other prescriber asks for the fast coverage decision, we will automatically give you a fast coverage decision.
  - Tells you how you can file a fast complaint about our decision to give you a standard coverage decision instead of the fast coverage decision you requested. We will answer your complaint within 24 hours of receipt.

**Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)**

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**Step 2: Request a standard coverage decision or a 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 can also access the coverage decision process through our website. We must accept any written request, including a request submitted on the *CMS Model Coverage Determination Request Form* which is available on our website [priorityhealth.com/CoverageDetermination](http://priorityhealth.com/CoverageDetermination). Chapter 2 has contact information. To assist us in processing your request, please be sure to include your name, contact information, and information identifying which denied claim is being appealed.

You, your doctor (or other prescriber), or your representative can do this. You can also have a lawyer act on your behalf. Section 4 of this chapter tells how you can give written permission to someone else to act as your representative.

- **If you are requesting an exception, provide the supporting statement**, which is the medical reasons for the exception. Your doctor or other prescriber can fax or mail the statement to us. Or your doctor or other prescriber can tell us on the phone and follow up by faxing or mailing a written statement if necessary.

**Step 3: We consider your request and give you our answer.*****Deadlines for a fast coverage decision***

- We must generally give you our answer **within 24 hours** after we receive your request.
  - For exceptions, we will give you our answer within 24 hours after we receive your doctor's supporting statement. We will give you our answer sooner if your health requires us to.
  - If we do not meet this deadline, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent review organization.
- **If our answer is yes to part or all of what you requested**, we must provide the coverage we have agreed to provide within 24 hours after we receive your request or doctor's statement supporting your request.
- **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. We will also tell you how you can appeal.

***Deadlines for a standard coverage decision about a drug you have not yet received***

- We must generally give you our answer **within 72 hours** after we receive your request.
  - For exceptions, we will give you our answer within 72 hours after we receive your doctor's supporting statement. We will give you our answer sooner if your health requires us to.

## Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)

- If we do not meet this deadline, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent review organization.
- **If our answer is yes to part or all of what you requested, we must provide the coverage we have agreed to provide within 72 hours** after we receive your request or doctor's statement supporting your request.
- **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. We will also tell you how you can appeal.**

### *Deadlines for a standard coverage decision about payment for a drug you have already bought*

- We must give you our answer **within 14 calendar days** after we receive your request.
  - If we do not meet this deadline, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent review organization.
- **If our answer is yes to part or all of what you requested, we are also required to make payment to you within 14 calendar days** after we receive your request.
- **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. We will also tell you how you can appeal.**

### **Step 4: If we say no to your coverage request, you can make an 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 drug coverage you want. If you make an appeal, it means you are going on to Level 1 of the appeals process.

<b>Section 7.5</b>	<b>Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 appeal</b>
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<b>Legal Terms</b>
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<p>An appeal to the plan about a Part D drug coverage decision is called a plan <b>redetermination</b>. A fast appeal is also called an <b>expedited redetermination</b>.</p>
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### **Step 1: Decide if you need a standard appeal or a fast appeal.**

*A standard appeal is usually made within 7 calendar days. A fast appeal is generally made within 72 hours. If your health requires it, ask for a fast appeal.*

- If you are appealing a decision we made about a drug you have not yet received, you and your doctor or other prescriber will need to decide if you need a fast appeal.

## Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)

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- The requirements for getting a fast appeal are the same as those for getting a fast coverage decision in Section 6.4 of this chapter.

### **Step 2: You, your representative, doctor or other prescriber must contact us and make your Level 1 appeal. If your health requires a quick response, you must ask for a fast appeal.**

- **For standard appeals, submit a written request or call us.** Chapter 2 has contact information.
- **For fast appeals either submit your appeal in writing or call us.** Chapter 2 has contact information.
- **We must accept any written request**, including a request submitted on the *CMS Model Redetermination Request Form*, which is available on our website [priorityhealth.com/Appeal](http://priorityhealth.com/Appeal). Please be sure to include your name, contact information, and information regarding your claim to assist us in processing your request.
- **You must make your appeal request within 65 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, explain the reason your appeal is late when you make your appeal. 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 in your appeal and add more information.** 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 we are reviewing your appeal, we take another careful look at all of the information about your coverage request. We check to see if we were following all the rules when we said no to your request. We may contact you or your doctor or other prescriber to get more information.

#### *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.
  - If we do not give you an answer within 72 hours, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent review organization. Section 6.6 explains the Level 2 appeal process.
- **If our answer is yes to part or all of what you requested**, we must 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 a written statement that explains why we said no and how you can appeal our decision.

## **Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)**

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### *Deadlines for a standard appeal for a drug you have not yet received*

- For standard appeals, we must give you our answer **within 7 calendar days** after we receive your appeal. We will give you our decision sooner if you have not received the drug yet and your health condition requires us to do so.
  - If we do not give you a decision within 7 calendar days, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent review organization. Section 7.6 explains the Level 2 appeal process.
- If our answer is yes to part or all of what you requested, we must provide the coverage as quickly as your health requires, but no later than 7 calendar days after we receive your appeal. 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 and how you can appeal our decision.

### *Deadlines for a standard appeal about payment for a drug you have already bought*

- We must give you our answer **within 14 calendar days** after we receive your request.
  - If we do not meet this deadline, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent review organization.
- **If our answer is yes to part or all of what you requested**, we are also required to make payment to you within 30 calendar days after we receive your request.
- **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. We will also tell you how you can appeal.

### **Step 4: If we say no to your appeal, you decide if you want to continue with the appeals process and make *another* appeal.**

- If you decide to make another appeal, it means your appeal is going on to Level 2 of the appeals process.

<b>Section 7.6</b>	<b>Step-by-step: How to make a Level 2 appeal</b>
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<b>Legal Term</b>
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The formal name for the independent review organization is the <b>Independent Review Entity</b> . It is sometimes called the <b>IRE</b> .
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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.

**Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)**

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**Step 1: You (or your representative or your doctor or other prescriber) must contact the independent review organization and ask for a review of your case.**

- If we say no to your Level 1 appeal, the written notice we send you will include **instructions on how to make a Level 2 appeal** with the independent review organization. These instructions will tell who can make this Level 2 appeal, what deadlines you must follow, and how to reach the review organization. If, however, we did not complete our review within the applicable timeframe, or make an unfavorable decision regarding **at-risk** determination under our drug management program, we will automatically forward your claim to the IRE.
- 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.

**Step 2: The independent review organization reviews your appeal.**

Reviewers at the independent review organization will take a careful look at all of the information related to your appeal.

***Deadlines for fast appeal***

- If your health requires it, ask the independent review organization for a fast appeal.
- If the organization agrees to give you a fast appeal, the organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 appeal **within 72 hours** after it receives your appeal request.

***Deadlines for standard appeal***

- For standard appeals, the review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 appeal **within 7 calendar days** after it receives your appeal if it is for a drug you have not yet received. If you are requesting that we pay you back for a drug you have already bought, the review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 appeal **within 14 calendar days** after it receives your request.

**Step 3: The independent review organization gives you their answer.*****For fast appeals:***

- **If the independent review organization says yes to part or all of what you requested**, we must provide the drug coverage that was approved by the review organization **within 24 hours** after we receive the decision from the review organization.

**Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)**

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*For standard appeals:*

- If the independent review organization says yes to part or all of your request for coverage, we must provide the drug coverage that was approved by the review organization within 72 hours after we receive the decision from the review organization.
- If the independent review organization says yes to part or all of your request to pay you back for a drug you already bought, we are required to send payment to you within 30 calendar days after we receive the decision from the review organization.

**What if the review organization says no to your appeal?**

If this organization says no to part or all of your appeal, it means they agree with our decision not to approve your request (or part of your request). (This is called **upholding the decision**. It is also called **turning down your appeal**.) In this case, the independent review organization will send you a letter:

- Explaining its decision.
- Notifying you of the right to a Level 3 appeal if the dollar value of the drug coverage you are requesting meets a certain minimum. If the dollar value of the drug coverage you are requesting is too low, you cannot make another appeal and the decision at Level 2 is final.
- Telling you the dollar value that must be in dispute to continue with the appeals process.

**Step 4: 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 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 10 of this chapter talks more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

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**SECTION 8      How to ask us to cover a longer inpatient hospital stay if you think you are being discharged too soon**

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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**.

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- 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.

<b>Section 8.1</b>	<b>During your inpatient hospital stay, you will get a written notice from Medicare that tells about your rights</b>
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Within two calendar 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 Member Services or 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, 7 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 calendar 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 Member Services or 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, 7 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](http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/BNI/HospitalDischargeappealNotices).



**Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)****Section 8.2 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 Member Services. 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.

**Step 1: 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**.
  - **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.
  - **If you do *not* meet this deadline, contact us.** If 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.

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

**Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)**

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**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 Member Services or 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, 7 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](http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/BNI/HospitalDischargeappealNotices).

**Step 2: 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.

**Step 3: 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.

**Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)**

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**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.

<b>Section 8.3</b>	<b>Step-by-step: How to make a Level 2 appeal to change your hospital discharge date</b>
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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.

**Step 3: 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.
- The notice you get will tell you in writing what you can do if you wish to continue with the review process.

## Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)

**Step 4:** 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 10 of this chapter tells more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

### SECTION 9 How to ask us to keep covering certain medical services if you think your coverage is ending too soon

**Section 9.1** *This section is about three services only:*  
**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 9.2 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 calendar 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.

**Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)**

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- 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 not mean you agree** with the plan's decision to stop care.

<b>Section 9.3</b>	<b>Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 appeal to have our plan cover your care for a longer time</b>
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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 Member Services. 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.

**Step 1: 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, you may still have appeal rights. Contact the Quality Improvement Organization.

## **Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)**

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

<b>Legal Term</b>
<b>Detailed Explanation of Non-Coverage.</b> 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.

### **Step 3: 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 – and you choose to continue getting care after your coverage for the care has ended – then you can make a Level 2 appeal.

<b>Section 9.4</b>	<b>Step-by-step: How to make a Level 2 appeal to have our plan cover your care for a longer time</b>
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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 calendar days** after the day when the Quality Improvement Organization said *no* to your Level 1 appeal. You could 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.

**Step 3: Within 14 calendar 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.

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**Step 4:** 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 10 of this chapter talks more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

## **SECTION 10 Taking your appeal to Level 3 and beyond**

### **Section 10.1 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 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.
  - 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.
  - If you decide to accept this decision that turns down your appeal, the appeals process is over.



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- 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.
  - 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.
  - 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.
  - If you decide to accept this decision that turns down your appeal, the appeals process is over.
  - 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.

**Section 10.2 Appeal Levels 3, 4 and 5 for Part D Drug 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 value of the drug you have appealed meets a certain dollar amount, you may be able to go on to additional levels of appeal. If the dollar amount is less, you cannot appeal any further. The written response you receive to your Level 2 appeal will explain who to contact and what to do to ask for 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.

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

- If the answer is yes, the appeals process is over. We must authorize or provide the drug coverage that was approved by the Administrative Law Judge or attorney adjudicator within 72 hours (24 hours for expedited appeals) or make payment no later than 30 calendar days after we receive the decision.
- If the answer is no, the appeals process *may* or *may not* be over.
  - If you decide to accept this decision that turns down your appeal, the appeals process is over.
  - 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, the appeals process is over. We must authorize or provide the drug coverage that was approved by the Council within 72 hours (24 hours for expedited appeals) or make payment no later than 30 calendar days after we receive the decision.
- If the answer is no, the appeals process *may* or *may not* be over.
  - If you decide to accept this decision that turns down your appeal, the appeals process is over.
  - 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 or denies your request to review the appeal, the notice will tell you whether the rules allow you to go on to a Level 5 appeal. It will also tell you who to contact and what to do next if you choose to continue with your 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.

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**SECTION 11 How to make a complaint about quality of care, waiting times, customer service, or other concerns**


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<b>Section 11.1</b>	<b>What kinds of problems are handled by the complaint process?</b>
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The complaint process is *only* used for certain types of problems. This includes problems related to quality of care, waiting times, and the customer service. Here are examples of the kinds of problems handled by the complaint process.

<b>Complaint</b>	<b>Example</b>
<b>Quality of your medical care</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are you unhappy with the quality of the care you have received (including care in the hospital)?</li> </ul>
<b>Respecting your privacy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Did someone not respect your right to privacy or share confidential information?</li> </ul>
<b>Disrespect, poor customer service, or other negative behaviors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has someone been rude or disrespectful to you?</li> <li>• Are you unhappy with our Member Services?</li> <li>• Do you feel you are being encouraged to leave the plan?</li> </ul>
<b>Waiting times</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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, pharmacists, or other health professionals? Or by our Member Services or other staff at the plan? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examples include waiting too long on the phone, in the waiting or exam room, or getting a prescription.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Cleanliness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are you unhappy with the cleanliness or condition of a clinic, hospital, or doctor's office?</li> </ul>
<b>Information you get from us</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Did we fail to give you a required notice?</li> <li>• Is our written information hard to understand?</li> </ul>

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Complaint	Example
<p><b>Timeliness</b> (These types of complaints are all related to the <i>timeliness</i> of our actions related to coverage decisions and appeals)</p>	<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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 or drugs 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 11.2 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 11.3 Step-by-step: Making a complaint

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

- **Usually, calling Member Services is the first step.** If there is anything else you need to do, Member Services will let you know.
- **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 submit your grievance.
  - If you want a friend, relative, or other person to be your representative, call Member Services and ask for the *Appointment of Representative* form. (The form is also available

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on Medicare's website at [www.cms.gov/Medicare/CMS-Forms/CMS-Forms/downloads/cms1696.pdf](http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/CMS-Forms/CMS-Forms/downloads/cms1696.pdf).) The form gives that person permission to act on your behalf. It must be signed by you and by the person who you would like to act on your behalf. You must give us a copy of the signed form.

- While we can accept a grievance without the form, we cannot complete our review or resolve the grievance until we receive it. If we do not receive the form within the designated time frame, your grievance will be dismissed. If this happens, we will send you a written notice explaining how you or your valid representative may resubmit the grievance.
- **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.
- For standard grievances, we attempt to resolve concerns during the first point of contact. If this is not possible, then we will attempt to do so within 30 calendar days from the date of receipt of your grievance. We may extend the time frame by up to 14 calendar days if you ask for an extension or if we need additional information and delay our response in your best interest. We are required by CMS to respond to all written grievances in writing.
- You may request an expedited grievance whenever we extend the time frame to make an organization or coverage determination, extend the time frame to make a decision for a reconsideration or redetermination, deny your request for an expedited appeal, or deny your request for an expedited organization determination. If you wish to file an expedited grievance you may contact Member Services at 833.939.0983. For expedited grievances, we respond verbally within 24 hours if the grievance is received orally. If the expedited grievance is received in a written format, we will respond verbally within 24 hours AND in writing within three (3) calendar days after the verbal notification. Please note, if upon review of your expedited grievance request, we see that delaying our decision will not seriously harm you medically, we will not accept the request. We will handle your request according to standard timeframes.
- 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.**

## Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)

- **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 11.4 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 11.5 You can also tell Medicare about your complaint

You can submit a complaint about PriorityMedicare D-SNP (HMO) directly to Medicare. To submit a complaint to Medicare, go to [www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx](http://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx). You may also call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY/TDD users can call 1-877-486-2048.

## PROBLEMS ABOUT YOUR MEDICAID BENEFITS

### SECTION 12 Handling problems about your Michigan Medicaid Program benefits

If you have a complaint, grievance or appeal related to Medicaid covered services, and are:

- Enrolled with Priority Health Medicaid, please call or contact us online:

Method	Priority Health Medicaid – Contact Information
CALL	888.975.8102
	Calls to this number are free.

**Chapter 9 What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)**

<b>Method</b>	<b>Priority Health Medicaid – Contact Information</b>
<b>TTY</b>	888.551.6761  This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking  Calls to this number are free.
<b>HOURS</b>	7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday - Thursday  9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday  8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Saturday
<b>WEBSITE</b>	Send us a secure message through our website at <a href="https://priorityhealth.com">priorityhealth.com</a>

- Enrolled with another carrier for Medicaid, please contact the MDHHS Beneficiary Help line:

<b>Method</b>	<b>MDHHS Beneficiary Help Line – Contact Information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	800.642.3195  Calls to this number are free.
<b>TTY</b>	866.501.5656  Calls to this number are free.
<b>HOURS</b>	8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday - Friday

# CHAPTER 10:

*Ending your membership in the plan*



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## **SECTION 1 Introduction to ending your membership in our plan**

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Ending your membership in **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO) may be **voluntary** (your own choice) 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 you do not choose to leave, but we are required to end your membership. Section 5 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 prescription drugs and you will continue to pay your cost share until your membership ends.

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## **SECTION 2 When can you end your membership in our plan?**

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<b>Section 2.1</b>	<b>You may be able to end your membership because you have Medicare and Medicaid</b>
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- Most people with Medicare can end their membership only during certain times of the year. Because you have Medicaid, you can end your membership in our plan any month of the year. You also have options to enroll in another Medicare plan any month including:
  - Original Medicare *with* a separate Medicare prescription drug plan
  - Original Medicare *without* a separate Medicare prescription drug plan (If you choose this option, Medicare may enroll you in a drug plan, unless you have opted out of automatic enrollment.), or
  - If eligible, an integrated D-SNP that provides your Medicare and most or all of your Medicaid benefits and services in one plan.

**Note:** If you disenroll from Medicare prescription drug coverage and go without creditable prescription drug coverage for a continuous period of 63 days or more, you may have to pay a Part D late enrollment penalty if you join a Medicare drug plan later.

Contact your State Medicaid Office to learn about your Medicaid plan options (telephone numbers are in Chapter 2, Section 6 of this document).

- Other Medicare health plan options are available during the **Annual Enrollment Period**. Section 2.2 tells you more about the Annual Enrollment Period.
- **When will your membership end?** Your membership will usually end on the first day of the month after we receive your request to change your plans. Your enrollment in your new plan will also begin on this day.

<b>Section 2.2</b>	<b>You can end your membership during the Annual Enrollment Period</b>
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You can end your membership during the **Annual Enrollment Period** (also known as the Annual Open Enrollment Period). During this time, review your health and drug coverage and decide about coverage for the upcoming year.

- 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:
  - Another Medicare health plan, with or without prescription drug coverage.
  - Original Medicare *with* a separate Medicare prescription drug plan

*OR*

- 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.

**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.

**Note:** If you disenroll from Medicare prescription drug coverage and go without creditable prescription drug coverage for 63 days or more in a row, you may have to pay a Part D late enrollment penalty if you join a Medicare drug plan later.

<b>Section 2.3</b>	<b>You can end your membership during the Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period</b>
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You have the opportunity to make *one* change to your health coverage during the **Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period**.

- **The annual Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period** is from January 1 to March 31 and also for new Medicare beneficiaries who are enrolled in an MA plan, from the month of entitlement to Part A and Part B until the last day of the 3rd month of entitlement.
- **During the annual Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period** you can:
  - Switch to another Medicare Advantage Plan with or without prescription drug coverage.
  - Disenroll from our plan and obtain coverage through Original Medicare. If you choose to switch to Original Medicare during this period, you can also join a separate Medicare prescription drug plan at that time.

- **Your membership will end** on the first day of the month after you enroll in a different Medicare Advantage plan or we get your request to switch to Original Medicare. If you also choose to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan, your membership in the drug plan will begin the first day of the month after the drug plan gets your enrollment request.

<b>Section 2.4</b>	<b>In certain situations, you can end your membership during a Special Enrollment Period</b>
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In certain situations, you may be eligible to end your 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](http://www.medicare.gov)):

- Usually, when you have moved.
- If you have Medicaid.
- If you are eligible for “Extra Help” with paying for your Medicare prescriptions.
- 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 enroll in the Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE).
- **Note:** If you’re in a drug management program, you may not be able to change plans. Chapter 5, Section 10 tells you more about drug management programs.
- **Note:** Section 2.1 tells you more about the special enrollment period for people with Medicaid.

**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, 7 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* – Original Medicare *without* a separate Medicare prescription drug plan.

**Note:** If you disenroll from Medicare prescription drug coverage and go without creditable prescription drug coverage for 63 days or more in a row, you may have to pay a Part D late enrollment penalty if you join a Medicare drug plan later.

**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.

**Your membership will usually end** on the first day of the month after your request to change your plan is received.

**Note:** Sections 2.1 and 2.2 tell you more about the special enrollment period for people with Medicaid and “Extra Help.”

<b>Section 2.5</b>	<b>Where can you get more information about when you can end your membership?</b>
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If you have any questions about ending your membership you can:

- **Call Member Services.**
- Find the information in the *Medicare & You 2025* handbook.
- Contact **Medicare** at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. (TTY 1-877-486-2048).

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### **SECTION 3      How do you end your membership in our plan?**

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The table below explains how you should end your membership in our plan.

<b>If you would like to switch from our plan to:</b>	<b>This is what you should do:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Another Medicare health plan</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enroll in the new Medicare health plan. Your new coverage will begin on the first day of the following month.</li><li>• You will automatically be disenrolled from <b>PriorityMedicare</b> D-SNP (HMO) when your new plan’s coverage begins.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Original Medicare <i>with</i> a separate Medicare prescription drug plan</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enroll in the new Medicare prescription drug plan. Your new coverage will begin on the first day of the following month.</li><li>• You will automatically be disenrolled from <b>PriorityMedicare</b> D-SNP (HMO) when your new plan’s coverage begins.</li></ul>

<b>If you would like to switch from our plan to:</b>	<b>This is what you should do:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Original Medicare <i>without</i> a separate Medicare prescription drug plan<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 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.</li><li>• If you disenroll from Medicare prescription drug coverage and go 63 days or more in a row without creditable prescription drug coverage, you may have to pay a late enrollment penalty if you join a Medicare drug plan later.</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Send us a written request to disenroll</b> or visit our website to disenroll online. Contact Member Services if you need more information on how to do this.</li><li>• You can also contact <b>Medicare</b>, at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and ask to be disenrolled. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.</li><li>• You will be disenrolled from <b>Priority</b>Medicare D-SNP (HMO) when your coverage in Original Medicare begins.</li></ul>

**Note:** If you disenroll from Medicare prescription drug coverage and go without creditable prescription drug coverage for 63 days or more in a row, you may have to pay a Part D late enrollment penalty if you join a Medicare drug plan later.

For questions about your Michigan Department of Health and Human Services benefits, contact Michigan Department of Health and Human Services: 517.241.3740 (TTY: 844.578.6563)

Hearing impaired callers may contact the Michigan Relay Center at 711 and ask for the number above.) Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.. Ask how joining another plan or returning to Original Medicare affects how you get your Michigan Department of Health and Human Services coverage.

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## **SECTION 4      Until your membership ends, you must keep getting your medical items, services and drugs through our plan**

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Until your membership **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO) ends, and your new Medicare coverage begins, you must continue to get your medical items, services and prescription drugs through our plan.

- **Continue to use our network providers to receive medical care.**
- **Continue to use our network pharmacies *or mail order* to get your prescriptions filled.**

- **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).

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## **SECTION 5      PriorityMedicare D-SNP (HMO) must end your membership in the plan in certain situations**

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<b>Section 5.1      When must we end your membership in the plan?</b>
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**PriorityMedicare D-SNP (HMO) 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 are no longer eligible for Medicaid. As stated in Chapter 1, Section 2.1, our plan is for people who are eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid. You have up to six months to attempt to regain full Medicaid status. If your status isn't regained at the end of the deemed period of continued eligibility, you will be disenrolled. If you are disenrolled you will have three months to choose a new Medicare plan at the time of disenrollment.
- 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 Member Services 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 lie or withhold information about other insurance you have that provides prescription drug coverage.
- 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 membership card to get medical care. (We cannot make you leave our plan for this reason unless we get permission from Medicare first.)
  - If we end your membership because of this reason, Medicare may have your case investigated by the Inspector General.
- If you are required to pay the extra Part D amount because of your income and you do not pay it, Medicare will disenroll you from our plan.

### **Where can you get more information?**

If you have questions or would like more information on when we can end your membership call Member Services.

<b>Section 5.2</b>	<b>We <u>cannot</u> ask you to leave our plan for any health-related reason</b>
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**Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO) 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, 7 days a week (TTY 1-877-486-2048).

<b>Section 5.3</b>	<b>You have the right to make a complaint if we end your membership in our plan</b>
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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 about our decision to end your membership.

# CHAPTER 11:

*Legal notices*



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## **SECTION 1      Notice about governing law**

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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.

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## **SECTION 2      Notice about nondiscrimination**

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**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 us at Member Services. If you have a complaint, such as a problem with wheelchair access, Member Services can help.

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## **SECTION 3      Notice about Medicare Secondary Payer subrogation rights**

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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, **Priority**Medicare D-SNP (HMO), 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.

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## **SECTION 4      Notice about coordinating benefits with Third Party Payers**

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### **Section 4.1 Recovery Rights**

As explained in Chapter 1, Section 7 (“How other insurance works with our plan”), we coordinate benefits with third party payers under rules established by Medicare. We incorporate those Medicare rules into this Evidence of Coverage (see “More Information,” below) to the extent permitted by law. Third-party payers include (but are not limited to) other health plan coverage, liability insurance (such as automobile liability or homeowners insurance), underinsured/uninsured motorist coverage, “Med-Pay” coverage, workers’ compensation plans or insurance, no-fault insurance, self-funded entities that provide such coverage, and any other entity or person who would be a primary payer under the Medicare Secondary Payer provisions. Under the Medicare rules, we have rights to recover amounts we pay for services for which third-party payers are responsible, including amounts third-party payers pay to you.

### **Section 4.2 Subrogation and Reimbursement**

Our recovery rights include a right to subrogation (which means that we can stand in your shoes and sue a third party directly for amounts we pay for services provided to you as a result of an illness or injury) and a right of reimbursement (which means that we have a right to be reimbursed out of any recoveries you will receive or have received from third parties for amounts we pay for services provided to you as a result of an illness or injury). We are entitled to the subrogation and reimbursement rights that Medicare has under the Medicare Secondary Payer provision, to the extent permitted by law. The Social Security Act preempts State laws and State requirements that might otherwise interfere with these rights. Our recovery rights are not limited by stipulations in settlement agreements unless we are a party to the agreement. When we act as a provider of medical services, our recovery will be based on the reasonable value of the benefits provided.

### **Section 4.3 Lien on Proceeds**

We will have a lien on the proceeds of any judgment, settlement, or other reward or recovery you receive from a third party payer to the extent of any payment we made for health care services provided to you that are related to the proceeds. Our lien will be the first priority claim on the proceeds. You must hold the proceeds in trust for us. Transfer of the proceeds to a third party does not defeat our recovery rights if the proceeds were or are intended for your benefit.

### **Section 4.4 Notice of Possible Third-Party Payer**

You must provide us notice as soon as practicable, but in any event within thirty (30) days, of filing a claim with or a legal action against a person or entity that may be a third-party payer with respect to services provided to you as a result of an illness or injury. Your notice must be in writing and explain the basis for the claim.

Send your notice to:

Priority Health  
Medicare Advantage Subrogation Unit, MS 2205

1231 East Beltline NE  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49525

#### **Section 4.5 Cooperation**

You are required, when requested, to acknowledge our recovery rights in writing. Our recovery rights, however, are not dependent upon your acknowledgement. You must tell us as soon as practicable, in writing, about any situation that might involve our rights under this section. You must cooperate with us to help protect our rights under this section. Neither you, nor anyone acting for you, may do anything to harm our rights under this section. We may recover from you expenses we incur because of your failure to cooperate in enforcing our rights under this section.

#### **Section 4.6 More Information**

This Section 4 contains a summary of our rights under the Medicare Secondary Payer provisions. We incorporate the Medicare Secondary Payer provisions into this Evidence of Coverage to the extent permitted by law. For more information, see the Medicare Secondary Payer provisions in § 1862(b) of the Social Security Act (42 C.F.R. § 1395y(b)) and 42 C.F.R. Part 411, subparts B – H

#### **Section 4.7 Definition**

For purposes of this Section 4, “you” means you, your estate, your guardian, or any other person acting on your behalf.

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## **SECTION 5      Notice about Evidence of Coverage – Terms are Binding**

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By enrolling in our plan and accepting benefits under this Evidence of Coverage, you agree to the terms of this Evidence of Coverage, including the terms of this Chapter 11.

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## **SECTION 6      Notice about Coverage Decisions and Appeal Rights**

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If you would like to contest any coverage decision, we make concerning your benefits, including any coverage decision involving the rules for coordinating benefits, you must follow the procedures in Chapter 9, “What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints).”

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## **SECTION 7      Notice of Privacy Practices**

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**This Notice describes how your personal health information (PHI) may be used and shared and how to get access to this information.**

### **Our commitment to you.**

Priority Health and Priority Health Choice, Inc. (known as “Priority Health”) understands the importance of handling PHI with care. We are committed to protecting the privacy of our members' PHI in every setting. State and federal laws require us to make sure your PHI is kept private.

When you enroll with Priority Health or use services provided by a Priority Health plan, your PHI may be released to Priority Health and by Priority Health. Your PHI is shared and used to arrange and oversee your medical care, pay your medical claims and assist in health care operations.

Federal law requires that we provide you with this Notice of Privacy Practices. This Notice states our legal duties and privacy practices regarding your PHI. It also states your legal rights under these laws with respect to the use and sharing of your PHI. Priority Health is required by law to follow the terms of the Notice of Privacy Practices currently in effect. We are also required to notify those affected following a breach of unsecured PHI.

### **The use and sharing of your PHI.**

The sections below describe the ways Priority Health uses and shares your PHI without your written authorization. Your PHI is not shared with anyone who does not have a "need to know" to perform one of the tasks below.

**Treatment.** Priority Health may use and share your PHI to those who are treating you to arrange and oversee your medical care. For example, we may share information about your prescription drugs to your provider to better understand how to give you medical care.

**Payment.** Priority Health may use your PHI or share it to third parties to collect premiums, establish eligibility or pay for your medical care. For example, we may use your PHI when we receive a claim for payment. Your claim tells us what services you received and may include a diagnosis. We may also share your PHI to another health plan company if you are covered under more than one health plan.

**Health care operations.** Priority Health may use or share your PHI to third parties in order to assist in Priority Health's everyday work activities, such as looking at the quality of your care, carrying out utilization review and conducting disease management programs. For example, your PHI, along with other Priority Health members' PHI, may be used by Priority Health's staff to review the quality of care given by health care providers. Priority Health may also use and share your PHI for underwriting, enrollment and other activities related to creating, renewing or replacing a health plan. Priority Health may not, however, use or share genetic information to decide whether we will give you coverage and the price of that coverage.

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Please note that we do not destroy your PHI when you end your coverage with us. It may be necessary to use and share your PHI for the purposes described above even after your coverage ends. Privacy policies and procedures will remain in place to protect against incorrect use or sharing of your PHI.

**To you and your personal representative.** We may share your PHI to you or your personal representative, who is someone who has the legal right to act on your behalf.

**To others involved in your care.** We may, in certain cases, share your PHI to a member of your family, a relative, a close friend or any other person you identify if they are involved in your health care or payment for health care. For example, we may discuss a claim decision with you in the presence of a friend or a relative, unless you object.

If you are not able to tell us your preference, an example being if you are unconscious, we will share your PHI if we believe it is in your best interest. We may also share your PHI when needed to reduce a serious threat to health or safety.

This also applies to the Organized Health Care Arrangement (OHCA) between Priority Health and Corewell Health. Priority Health will share your PHI with Corewell Health for treatment, payment and health care operations purposes. Priority Health reserves the legal right for any individual or the organization to change participation in the OCHA between Priority Health and Corewell Health.

**Other uses and sharing of your PHI without your written authorization.**

Priority Health is allowed or required to share your PHI in other ways, usually in ways that contribute to the public good, such as public health and research. Priority Health may also use or share your PHI:

- When required by law.
  - For law enforcement purposes.
  - When necessary for judicial or administrative proceedings, such as court proceedings.
  - For compliance with workers' compensation requirements, as authorized by applicable law.
  - For various government functions, such as health oversight agencies for activities authorized by law, the Armed Forces for active personnel, to Intelligence Agencies for national security and the Department of State for foreign services reasons, such as security clearance.
  - As necessary for a coroner, medical examiner, law enforcement official or funeral director to carry out their legal duties with respect to a deceased individual or to cadaveric organ, eye or tissue donation and transplant organizations.
- For matters of public interest.
  - Reporting adult abuse, neglect or domestic violence.
  - To prevent a serious threat to an individual or a community's health and safety.
  - Reporting to organ procurement and tissue donation organizations.

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- For public health and safety activities, including disease control and vital statistic reporting, child abuse reporting and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) oversight.
- For research purposes, as long as applicable research privacy standards are met.
- To make a collection of de-identified information, which is PHI that cannot be traced back to you.
- From time to time, we engage with third parties, called business associates, to provide various services for us. Whenever a third party involves the use or sharing of your PHI, we will have a written contract with that third party designed to protect the privacy of your PHI. For example, we may share your PHI with business associates who process claims or conduct disease management programs on our behalf.

**The use and sharing of your PHI with group health plan sponsors.**

*This section of the Notice of Privacy Practices applies only to group health plans.*

Priority Health may share your PHI with the sponsor of your group health plan, usually your employer, about whether you are enrolled or disenrolled in the group health plan. Priority Health may also share summary health information with the sponsor, which is a summary of the amount, type and history of claims paid under the sponsor's group health plan with most identifying information, such as your name, age and address, except for zip code, removed. The sponsor may use this information to obtain premium bids for health plan coverage or to decide whether to modify, amend or end the plan. If the sponsor of your group health plan takes appropriate steps to comply with federal privacy regulations, Priority Health may also share your PHI with the sponsor for the sponsor's administration of the group health plan.

**Other uses and sharing of your PHI by written authorization only.**

Priority Health may not use or share your PHI without your written authorization, except as described in this Notice. You may give us written authorization to use your PHI or to share it with anyone for any purpose. If you give us written authorization, you may take back the written authorization at any time by notifying Priority Health's Compliance department in writing. If you revoke your written authorization, we will no longer use or share your PHI for the reasons covered by your written authorization, but it will not affect any use or sharing of your PHI permitted by the written authorization while it was in effect. We also must obtain your written authorization to sell your PHI to a third party or, in most cases, to use or share your PHI to send you communications about products and services. We do not need your written authorization, however, to send you communications about health-related products or services, as long as the products or services are associated with your coverage or are offered by us.

We will never sell your PHI or use or share it for marketing purposes without your written authorization.

We must receive your written authorization to share psychotherapy notes, except for certain treatment, payment or health care operations activities.

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A parent, legal guardian or properly named patient advocate may represent you and provide or revoke written authorization to use or share your PHI if you are not able to. Court documents may be required to verify this authority.

**Potential impact of other applicable laws.**

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) generally does not preempt or override other laws that give people greater privacy protections. Therefore, if any state or federal privacy law requires us to provide you with more privacy protections, we are obligated to comply with that law in addition to HIPAA.

**Our policies and procedures.**

We have policies and procedures in place that protect the privacy of your PHI.

- Every employee receives training when they are hired and on an annual basis.
- Every employee must acknowledge that they understand they are required to keep member's PHI private. They also learn about the actions the company will take if the privacy policies are not followed.
- Priority Health has strict control of access to electronic and paper information specific to members. Only those users authorized with a password have access to electronic information. Paper information is stored in secure locations. Access is only given to those who need it to manage care for members or for administrative purposes.

**Your legal rights regarding your PHI.**

You have the following legal rights:

**Legal right to inspect and copy.** You have the legal right to look at and get a copy of your PHI that may be used to make decisions about your care and payment for your care as long as we maintain them. There are limited cases in which we may deny your request to inspect and copy these records. If you are denied access to your PHI, you may request that the denial be reviewed. If you request a copy of the information, we may charge a fee for the cost of copying, mailing and other costs regarding your request.

To inspect and copy your PHI, contact Priority Health's Compliance department.

**Legal right to correct your health and claims record.**

You have the legal right to request that Priority Health amend any of your PHI that we use to make decisions about you. Generally, Priority Health will not amend these records if we did not create them, or we determine that they are accurate and complete. To request that we amend your PHI, you must write to Priority Health's Compliance department and include a reason to support the change.

**Chapter 11 Legal notices**

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**Legal right to know an accounting of disclosures.** You have the legal right to request an accounting of disclosures, which is a list of times we shared your PHI for 6 years prior to the date of your request. The accounting of disclosures will not include times when PHI was shared:

- To carry out treatment, payment or health care operations.
- To you or your personal representative.
- To anyone you have given written authorization.
- For national security or intelligence purposes.
- To correctional institutions or to law enforcement, as described in this Notice.
- As part of a limited data set, which is a collection of your PHI that does not directly identify you.

Your request should indicate in what way you want the list, such as on paper or electronically. The first list you request within 12 months will be free. We may charge you for the costs of providing additional lists. We will notify you of the cost and you can choose to withdraw or modify your request at that time before we charge you any fees.

**Legal right to request restrictions.** You have the legal right to request a limit on your PHI that we use or share. We are not required by law to agree to your request. If we do agree to your request for restriction, we will comply with it unless your PHI is needed to provide emergency treatment. To request restrictions, you must make your request in writing to Priority Health's Compliance department. In your request, you must tell us:

- What PHI you want to limit.
- Whether you want to limit our use, sharing or both.
- To whom you want the limits to apply.

Priority Health will notify you, either in writing or by phone, when we receive your request and of any restrictions to which we agree.

**Legal right to request confidential communications.** You may request that Priority Health communicate with you through other ways or to a different location. For example, you might want us to send your PHI, such as Explanation of Benefits (EOB) and other claim information, to a different address. Priority Health will agree to your request if you clearly state in writing that communicating with you without using other ways or a different location could endanger you. Priority Health will accommodate your request if it is reasonable, specifies the other ways or different location and permits us to collect premiums and pay claims.

To request confidential communications, you must make your request in writing to Priority Health's Compliance department.

**Legal right to a paper copy of this Notice.** You have the legal right to a paper copy of Priority Health's current Notice of Privacy Practices upon request. To obtain a paper copy of this Notice,



please call our Customer Service department. Otherwise, you may also print a copy of this Notice from our website at [priorityhealth.com](http://priorityhealth.com)

**Complaints.**

If you believe your privacy rights have been broken, you may file a complaint with Priority Health and/or the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). To file a complaint with Priority Health, please call or send a written explanation of the issue to Priority Health's privacy department. You will not be retaliated against for filing a complaint.

**Our responsibilities.**

Priority Health has the following responsibilities:

- We are required by law to maintain the privacy and security of your PHI.
- We will let you know promptly if a breach occurs that may have compromised the privacy or security of your PHI.
- We must follow the duties and privacy practices described in this Notice and give you a copy of it.
- We will not use or share your PHI other than as described here unless you tell us we can in writing. If you tell us we can, you may change your mind at any time. Let us know in writing if you change your mind.

**Changes to this Notice.**

Priority Health has the right to change our privacy practices and the terms of this Notice at any time. Any changes to our Notice of Privacy Practices will be effective for all PHI that we maintain, including PHI regardless of when it was created or received. We will provide a copy of the new Notice, or information about the changes to our privacy practices and how to obtain the new Notice, in our next annual mailing to members who are then covered by one of our health plans. The new Notice will also be available upon request and posted on our website.

**Contact information.**

If you have questions about how your PHI may be used and shared and how to get access to this information, please contact Priority Health's Privacy department.

For any other questions or concerns, please contact Priority Health's Compliance department.

**Priority Health Compliance Department:**

Priority Health Compliance Department  
1231 East Beltline NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49525  
616.942.0954  
800.942.0954

**Priority Health Privacy Department:**

Priority Health  
Chief Privacy Officer  
100 Michigan Street NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
616.486.4113

This Notice is effective: September 1, 2019

# CHAPTER 12:

*Definitions of important words*

**Chapter 12 Definitions of important words**

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**Allowed Amount** – The maximum amount the plan will pay providers for covered services or supplies.

**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.

**Appeal** – An appeal is something you do if you disagree with our decision to deny a request for coverage of health care services or prescription drugs or payment for services or drugs you already received. You may also make an appeal if you disagree with our decision to stop services that you are receiving.

**Benefit Period** – The way that Original Medicare measures your use of hospital and skilled nursing facility (SNF) services. A benefit period begins the day you go into a hospital or skilled nursing facility. The benefit period ends when you have not received any inpatient hospital care (or skilled care in a SNF) for 60 days in a row. If you go into a hospital or a skilled nursing facility after one benefit period has ended, a new benefit period begins. There is no limit to the number of benefit periods.

**Biological Product** – A prescription drug that is made from natural and living sources like animal cells, plant cells, bacteria, or yeast. Biological products are more complex than other drugs and cannot be copied exactly, so alternative forms are called biosimilars. (See also “**Original Biological Product**” and “**Biosimilar.**”)

**Biosimilar** – A biological product that is very similar, but not identical, to the original biological product. Biosimilars are as safe and effective as the original biological product. Some biosimilars may be substituted for the original biological product at the pharmacy without needing a new prescription (See “**Interchangeable Biosimilar.**”)

**Brand Name Drug** – A prescription drug that is manufactured and sold by the pharmaceutical company that originally researched and developed the drug. Brand name drugs have the same active-ingredient formula as the generic version of the drug. However, generic drugs are manufactured and sold by other drug manufacturers and are generally not available until after the patent on the brand name drug has expired.

**Catastrophic Coverage Stage** – The stage in the Part D Drug Benefit that begins when you (or other qualified parties on your behalf) have spent \$2,000 for Part D covered drugs during the covered year. During this payment stage, you pay nothing for your covered Part D drugs.

**Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)** – The Federal agency that administers Medicare.

**Chronic-Care Special Needs Plan** – C-SNPs are SNPs that restrict enrollment to MA eligible individuals who have one or more severe or disabling chronic conditions, as defined under 42 CFR 422.2, including restricting enrollment based on the multiple commonly co-morbid and clinically linked condition groupings specified in 42 CFR 422.4(a)(1)(iv).

**Chapter 12 Definitions of important words**

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**Coinsurance** – An amount you may be required to pay, expressed as a percentage (for example 20%) as your share of the cost for services or prescription drugs after you pay any deductibles.

**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.

**Copayment (or copay)** – An amount you may be required to pay as your share of the cost for a medical service or supply, like a doctor’s visit, hospital outpatient visit, or a prescription drug. A copayment is a set amount (for example \$10), rather than a percentage.

**Cost Sharing** – Cost sharing refers to amounts that a member has to pay when services or drugs are received. Cost sharing includes any combination of the following three types of payments: (1) any deductible amount a plan may impose before services or drugs are covered; (2) any fixed copayment amount that a plan requires when a specific service or drug is received; or (3) any coinsurance amount, a percentage of the total amount paid for a service or drug that a plan requires when a specific service or drug is received.

**Coverage Determination** – A decision about whether a drug prescribed for you is covered by the plan and the amount, if any, you are required to pay for the prescription. In general, if you bring your prescription to a pharmacy and the pharmacy tells you the prescription isn’t covered under your plan, that isn’t a coverage determination. You need to call or write to your plan to ask for a formal decision about the coverage. Coverage determinations are called coverage decisions in this document.

**Covered Drugs** – The term we use to mean all of the prescription drugs covered by our plan.

**Covered Services** – The term we use 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.

**Chapter 12 Definitions of important words**

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**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.

**Daily cost-sharing rate** – A daily cost-sharing rate may apply when your doctor prescribes less than a full month's supply of certain drugs for you and you are required to pay a copayment. A daily cost-sharing rate is the copayment divided by the number of days in a month's supply. Here is an example: If your copayment for a one-month supply of a drug is \$30, and a one-month's supply in your plan is 30 days, then your "daily cost-sharing rate" is \$1 per day.

**Deductible** – The amount you must pay for health care or prescriptions before our plan pays.

**Disenroll or Disenrollment** – The process of ending your membership in our plan.

**Dispensing Fee** – A fee charged each time a covered drug is dispensed to pay for the cost of filling a prescription, such as the pharmacist's time to prepare and package the prescription.

**"Drug List"** – See Formulary.

**Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans (D-SNP)** – A type of plan that enrolls individuals who are entitled to both Medicare (Title XVIII of the Social Security Act) and medical assistance from a state plan under Medicaid (Title XIX). States cover some or all Medicare costs, depending on the state and the individual's eligibility.

**Dually Eligible Individuals** – A person who is eligible for Medicare and Medicaid coverage.

**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.

**Chapter 12 Definitions of important words**

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**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.

**Exception** – A type of coverage decision that, if approved, allows you to get a drug that is not on our formulary (a formulary exception), or get a non-preferred drug at a lower cost-sharing level (a tiering exception). You may also request an exception if our plan requires you to try another drug before receiving the drug you are requesting, if our plan requires a prior authorization for a drug and you want us to waive the criteria restriction, or if our plan limits the quantity or dosage of the drug you are requesting (a formulary exception).

**Extra Help** – A Medicare program to help people with limited income and resources pay Medicare prescription drug program costs, such as premiums, deductibles, and coinsurance.

**Formulary (“Drug List” or List of Covered Drugs)** – A list of prescription drugs covered by the plan and approved by Medicare.

**Generic Drug** – A prescription drug that is approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as having the same active ingredient(s) as the brand name drug. Generally, a generic drug works the same as a brand name drug and usually costs less.

**Grievance** – A type of complaint you make about our plan, providers, or pharmacies, 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 6 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.

**Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount (IRMAA)** – If your modified adjusted gross income as reported on your IRS tax return from 2 years ago is above a certain amount, you’ll pay the standard premium amount and an Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount, also known as IRMAA. IRMAA is an extra charge added to your premium. Less than 5% of people with Medicare are affected, so most people will not pay a higher premium.

**Chapter 12 Definitions of important words**

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**Initial Coverage Stage** – This is the stage before your out-of-pocket costs for the year have reached the out-of-pocket threshold amount.

**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 3 months before the month you turn 65, includes the month you turn 65, and ends 3 months after the month you turn 65.

**Integrated D-SNP** – A D-SNP that covers Medicare and most or all Medicaid services under a single health plan for certain groups of individuals eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid. These individuals are also known as full-benefit dually eligible individuals.

**Institutional Special Needs Plan (SNP)** – A plan that enrolls eligible individuals who continuously reside or are expected to continuously reside for 90 days or longer in a long-term care (LTC) facility. These facilities may include a skilled nursing facility (SNF), nursing facility (NF), (SNF/NF), an Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID), an inpatient psychiatric facility, and/or facilities approved by CMS that furnishes similar long-term, healthcare services that are covered under Medicare Part A, Medicare Part B, or Medicaid; and whose residents have similar needs and healthcare status to the other named facility types. An institutional Special Needs Plan must have a contractual arrangement with (or own and operate) the specific LTC facility(ies).

**Institutional Equivalent Special Needs Plan (SNP)** – A plan that enrolls eligible individuals living in the community but requiring an institutional level of care based on the State assessment. The assessment must be performed using the same respective State level of care assessment tool and administered by an entity other than the organization offering the plan. This type of Special Needs Plan may restrict enrollment to individuals that reside in a contracted assisted living facility (ALF) if necessary to ensure uniform delivery of specialized care.

**Interchangeable Biosimilar** – A biosimilar that may be used as a substitute for an original biosimilar product at the pharmacy without needing a new prescription because it meets additional requirements related to the potential for automatic substitution. Automatic substitution at the pharmacy is subject to state law.

**List of Covered Drugs** – See Formulary.

**Low Income Subsidy (LIS)** – See “Extra Help.”

**Manufacturer Discount Program** – A program under which drug manufacturers pay a portion of the plan's full cost for covered Part D brand name drugs and biologics. Discounts are based on agreements between the Federal government and drug manufacturers.

**Maximum Allowable Charge** – The highest amount of money you can be charged for a covered service by doctors and other health care suppliers who don't participate with Medicare. This relates to the limiting charge, which is 15% over Medicare's approved amount.



**Chapter 12 Definitions of important words**

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**Maximum Out-of-Pocket Amount** – The most that you pay out of pocket during the calendar year for covered services. Amounts you pay for your Medicare Part A and Part B premiums, and prescription drugs do not count toward the maximum out-of-pocket amount. If you are eligible for Medicare cost-sharing assistance under Medicaid, you are not responsible for paying any out-of-pocket costs toward the maximum out-of-pocket amount for covered Part A and Part B services. (**Note:** Because our members also get assistance from Medicaid, very few members ever reach this out-of-pocket maximum.)

**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.

**Medically Accepted Indication** – A use of a drug that is either approved by the Food and Drug Administration or supported by certain references, such as the American Hospital Formulary Service Drug Information and the Micromedex DRUGDEX Information system.

**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.

**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 Open Enrollment Period** – The time period from January 1 to March 31 when members in a Medicare Advantage plan can cancel their plan enrollment and switch to another Medicare Advantage plan, or obtain coverage through Original Medicare. If you choose to switch to Original Medicare during this period, you can also join a separate Medicare prescription drug plan at that time. The Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period is also available for a 3-month period after an individual is first eligible for Medicare.

**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 i) an HMO, ii) a PPO, iii) a Private Fee-for-Service (PFFS) plan, or iv) a 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.

**Chapter 12 Definitions of important words**

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**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 Prescription Drug Coverage (Medicare Part D)** – Insurance to help pay for outpatient prescription drugs, vaccines, biologicals, and some supplies not covered by Medicare Part A or Part B.

**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 Services** – A department within our plan responsible for answering your questions about your membership, benefits, grievances, and appeals.

**Network Pharmacy** – A pharmacy that contracts with our plan where members of our plan can get their prescription drug benefits. In most cases, your prescriptions are covered only if they are filled at one of our network pharmacies.

**Network Provider – Provider** is the general term for doctors, other health care professionals, hospitals, and other health care facilities that are licensed or certified by Medicare and by the State to provide health care services. **Network providers** have an agreement with our plan to accept our payment as payment in full, and in some cases to coordinate as well as provide covered services to members of our plan. Network providers are also called “plan providers.”

**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 Biological Product** – A biological product that has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and serves as the comparison for manufacturers making a biosimilar version. It is also called a reference product.

**Chapter 12 Definitions of important words**

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**Original Medicare** (Traditional Medicare or Fee-for-Service Medicare) – Original Medicare is offered by the government, and not a private health plan like 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-Network Pharmacy** – A pharmacy that does not have a contract with our plan to coordinate or provide covered drugs to members of our plan. Most drugs you get from out-of-network pharmacies are not covered by our plan unless certain conditions apply.

**Out-of-Network Provider or Out-of-Network Facility** – A provider or facility that does not have a contract with our plan to coordinate or provide covered services to members of our plan. Out-of-network providers are providers that are not employed, owned, or operated by our plan.

**Out-of-Pocket Costs** – See the definition for cost sharing above. A member’s cost-sharing requirement to pay for a portion of services or drugs received is also referred to as the member’s out-of-pocket cost requirement.

**Out-of-Pocket Threshold** – The maximum amount you pay out of pocket for Part D drugs.

**PACE plan** – A PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly) plan combines medical, social, and long-term services and supports (LTSS) for frail people to help people stay independent and living in their community (instead of moving to a nursing home) as long as possible. People enrolled in PACE plans receive both their Medicare and Medicaid benefits through the plan.

**Part C** – see Medicare Advantage (MA) Plan.

**Part D** – The voluntary Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Program.

**Part D Drugs** – Drugs that can be covered under Part D. We may or may not offer all Part D drugs. Certain categories of drugs have been excluded from Part D coverage by Congress. Certain categories of Part D drugs must be covered by every plan.

**Part D Late Enrollment Penalty** – An amount added to your monthly premium for Medicare drug coverage if you go without creditable coverage (coverage that is expected to pay, on average, at least as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage) for a continuous period of 63 days or more after you are first eligible to join a Part D plan. If you lose “Extra Help”, you may be subject to the late enrollment penalty if you go 63 days or more in a row without Part D or other creditable prescription drug coverage.

**Chapter 12 Definitions of important words**

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**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 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 or certain drugs. Covered services that need prior authorization are marked in the Medical Benefits Chart in Chapter 4. Covered drugs that need prior authorization are marked in the formulary and our criteria are posted on our website.

**Prosthetics and Orthotics** – Medical devices including, but 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.

**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.

**Quantity Limits** – A management tool that is designed to limit the use of selected drugs for quality, safety, or utilization reasons. Limits may be on the amount of the drug that we cover per prescription or for a defined period of time.

**“Real-Time Benefit Tool”** – A portal or computer application in which enrollees can look up complete, accurate, timely, clinically appropriate, enrollee-specific formulary and benefit information. This includes cost-sharing amounts, alternative formulary medications that may be used for the same health condition as a given drug, and coverage restrictions (Prior Authorization, Step Therapy, Quantity Limits) that apply to alternative medications.

**Rehabilitation Services** – These services include physical therapy, speech and language therapy, and occupational therapy.

**Self-administered** – A self-administered drug is one you would normally take on your own by taking it orally, putting it on your skin (topical), injecting subcutaneously, or inhaling it.

**Chapter 12 Definitions of important words**

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**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.

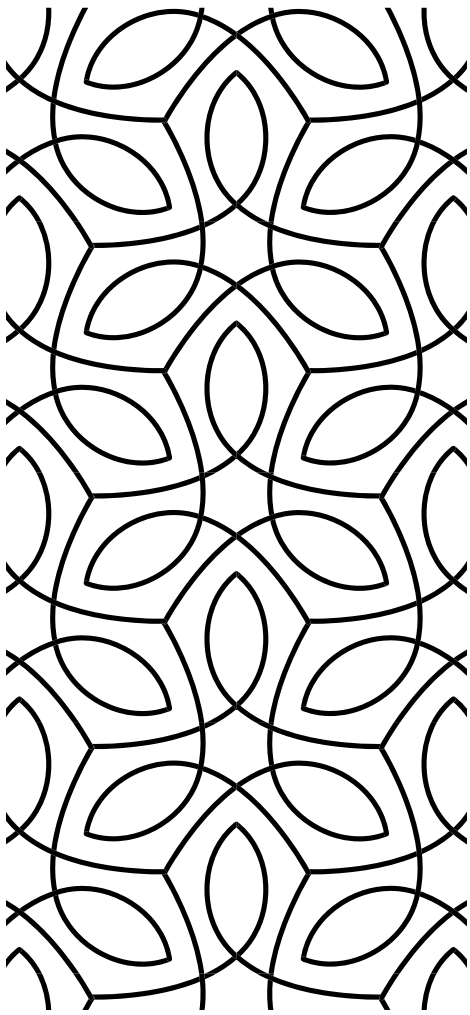
**Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Care** – Skilled nursing care and rehabilitation services provided on a continuous, daily basis, in a skilled nursing facility. Examples of care include physical therapy or intravenous injections that can only be given by a registered nurse or doctor.

**Special 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.

**Step Therapy** – A utilization tool that requires you to first try another drug to treat your medical condition before we will cover the drug your physician may have initially prescribed.

**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** – A plan-covered service requiring immediate medical attention that is not an emergency is an urgently needed service if either you are temporarily outside the service area of the plan, or it is unreasonable given your time, place, and circumstances to obtain this service from network providers with whom the plan contracts. Examples of urgently needed services are unforeseen medical illnesses and injuries, or unexpected flare-ups of existing conditions. However, medically necessary routine provider visits, such as annual checkups, are not considered urgently needed even if you are outside the service area of the plan or the plan network is temporarily unavailable.



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