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## **UCare adds new PPO plans to 2023 Medicare portfolio**

**New UCare Your Choice plans benefit new-to-Medicare members – offering a network-free allowance for dental/vision/hearing benefits**

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 8, 2022 — With the onset of the Medicare shopping season, [UCare's](#) Medicare 5-Star rated (2022), Medicare Advantage Plan portfolio is expanding with the addition of new Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) plan options to appeal to recent retirees and those new to Medicare. UCare's robust portfolio includes a full slate of individual Medicare Advantage plan options, supplement plans and partner plans – varied options to meet Medicare enrollees where they are in their health journey.

[UCare](#), a community-based, nonprofit health plan, currently serves more than 116,000 Medicare Advantage members across Minnesota and in western Wisconsin. UCare Medicare Plans\* have an extensive provider network with 96% of providers in Minnesota, including large care systems Allina Health, CentraCare, Essentia Health, M Health Fairview and others.

The new UCare Your Choice plans feature prescription coverage, flexible benefits, affordable copays and low drug deductibles. Two plan options are available. The \$0 premium option includes \$900 (preloaded on a card) a year for members to pay for dental care, eyewear/contacts and hearing aids from any provider. The \$75 premium option includes \$1,800 (preloaded on a card) to pay for the same supplemental benefits from any provider. With no network limitations, Medicare members have the freedom and flexibility to shop for these “extras” where they prefer, especially when traveling or spending winters as snowbirds.

“Our members and prospects tell us they value flexibility and choice in their Medicare Advantage plans. We’re pleased to expand options to meet individual preferences, especially for newcomers to Medicare,” said Ghita Worcester, Executive Vice President of Public Affairs and Chief Growth Officer. “We focused on keeping costs low and improving out-of-network experience for members.”

Every year UCare evaluates opportunities to enrich coverage and provide more value for its Medicare members. For 2023, the following changes offer significant value:

- **Stable or reduced premiums** on most plans, including no changes to \$0 premium plans and some premiums reduced as much as \$10/month
- **Partnership with the national MultiPlan® Network** of more than 38,000 providers available in all Medicare Advantage plans for an in-network experience when traveling within the US
- **Household helpers and companions** for members of the Value and Value Plus plans – who are often veterans. The companions help seniors feel less socially isolated and assist with everyday tasks, including transportation, light housework and more
- **Continued benefits for members with specific chronic conditions** in some plans – including **meal delivery** after hospital discharge for members with congestive heart failure
- **Inflation Reduction Act** financial relief limiting costs of insulin to \$35/month and removing costs for Medicare Part D vaccines such as the shingles, tetanus and travel vaccines

Medicare shoppers can learn about UCare's 2023 plans by:

- Visiting [UCare's Medicare site](#)
- Attending a [meeting](#) (in-person and online options)
- Talking with their insurance broker
- Calling UCare sales at 1-877-523-1518, 8 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday
- Emailing [sales@ucare.org](mailto:sales@ucare.org).

## About UCare

[UCare](#) is an independent, nonprofit health plan providing health care and administrative services to more than 640,000 members throughout Minnesota and parts of western Wisconsin. UCare partners with health care providers, counties, and community organizations to create and deliver Medicare, Medicaid and Individual & Family health plans.

The health plan addresses health care disparities and care access issues through a broad array of community initiatives. UCare has received Top Workplaces honors from the Star Tribune for 13 consecutive years since the rankings began in 2010.

## Additional Information

This information is not a complete description of benefits. Call 1-877-523-1518 (TTY users call 1-800-688-2534) for more information.

UCare Minnesota is an HMO-POS plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in UCare Minnesota depends on contract renewal. UCare Your Choices is a PPO plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in UCare Your Choices depends on contract renewal. Every year, Medicare evaluates plans based on a 5-star rating system.

\* except for UCare partner plans - UCare Medicare with M Health Fairview & North Memorial and EssentiaCare

\*\* MultiPlan is a registered trademark of MultiPlan, Inc.

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