

October 1, 2015

Wisconsin Providers: Medicare Advantage Plans are closing in WI

UCare regrets to inform you that the UCare Medicare Advantage plans in Wisconsin will close at the end of the year and **we will not be offering any alternative Medicare plan options in Wisconsin in 2016**. As of January 1, 2016, *UCare for Seniors* members in Wisconsin will need to select another plan for your Medicare coverage.

We want you to know that we did not make this decision lightly and regret the impact on our members and providers. UCare has faced significant financial challenges in our Wisconsin service area over the past several years. We have experienced a series of annual cuts in the reimbursement amount provided to us by Medicare. This reimbursement, or capitation payment, allows plans like UCare to assume full financial risk for all Medicare beneficiaries who enroll in the plan. Because we only operate in a mostly rural, 26-county service area, these payments were already quite low, and cuts of this nature were difficult to absorb.

This being said, we continue to offer our Minnesota *UCare for Seniors* members a service area that includes both Minnesota and the 26 counties in Wisconsin. Therefore we will continue to hold a contract with your organization.

Current members can be directed to trusted local resources such as:

- The Wisconsin Department of Health Services Medigap Helpline toll free at 1-800-242-1060; TTY Wisconsin Relay 711; and/or
- A County Elderly Benefits Specialist at your county's Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) office. You can locate your county office at: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/adrc/consumer/index.htm>

UCare will not maintain a list of available insurance agents. To learn about all of the Medicare Advantage, Medigap and Part D Prescription Drug plans available to you, your comprehensive resources are:

- The Medicare website at <https://www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan/questions/home.aspx> and enter your zip code

Current members in Wisconsin will continue to be covered with UCare through December 31, 2015. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact **UCare's Provider Assistance Center at 612-676-3300 or 1-888-531-1493 toll free.**

Thank you for your current and future services provided to UCare members.

Sincerely,



Patricia Ball
Vice President, Provider Relations & Contracting

UCare for Seniors is an HMO-POS plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in *UCare for Seniors* depends on contract renewal.