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## Welcome to UCare

We are pleased to welcome you as a member of UCare’s MinnesotaCare (referred to as “Plan” or “the Plan”).

UCare (referred to as “we,” “us,” or “our”) is part of MinnesotaCare. We coordinate and cover your medical services. You will get most of your health services through the Plan’s network of providers. When you need health care or have questions about your health services, you can call us. We will help you decide what to do next and which qualified health care provider to go to.

If you are new to UCare, you will be receiving a member survey to complete by mail. This is a voluntary survey. It will take only a few minutes to fill out. We encourage you to complete this survey. The survey will help us connect you to health care services or other services available to you as a member. Based on your answers, we may contact you for additional information. If you have questions about this survey, please call Customer Service.

This Member Handbook is our contract with you. It is an important legal document.

This Member Handbook includes:

- Contact information
- Information on how to get the care you need
- Your rights and responsibilities as a member of the Plan
- Information about cost sharing
- A listing of covered and non-covered health care services
- When to call MinnesotaCare
- Using the Plan coverage with other insurance or other sources of payment
- Information on what to do if you have a grievance (complaint) or want to appeal a Plan action, as defined in Section 13
- Definitions

The counties in the Plan service area are as follows: Anoka, Big Stone, Blue Earth, Carver, Chippewa, Cottonwood, Dakota, Douglas, Faribault, Fillmore, Freeborn, Goodhue, Grant, Hennepin, Houston, Isanti, Jackson, Kanabec, Kandiyohi, Lac Qui Parle, Lake of the Woods, Le Sueur, Lincoln, Lyon, Martin, McLeod, Meeker, Morrison, Mower, Murray, Nicollet, Nobles, Olmsted, Pipestone, Pope, Ramsey, Redwood, Renville, Rice, Rock, Saint Louis, Scott, Sibley, Steele, Stevens, Swift, Todd, Traverse, Wadena, Waseca, Washington, Watonwan, Winona, Wright and Yellow Medicine in Minnesota.

Please tell us how we’re doing. You can call or write to us at any time. (Section 1 of this Member Handbook tells how to contact us.) Your comments are always welcome, whether they are positive or negative. From time to time, we do surveys that ask our members to tell about their experiences with us. If you are contacted, we hope you will participate in a member

satisfaction survey. Your answers to the survey questions will help us know what we are doing well and where we need to improve.

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## Section 1. Telephone numbers and contact information

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### How to contact our Customer Service

If you have any questions or concerns, please call or write to Customer Service. We will be happy to help you. Customer Service hours of service are 8 am – 5 pm, Monday – Friday.

<b>CALL</b>	612-676-3200 or 800-203-7225 This call is free. 8 am – 5 pm, Monday – Friday
<b>TTY</b>	612-676-6810 or 800-688-2534 This call is free.
<b>FAX</b>	612-676-6501 or 866-457-7145
<b>WRITE</b>	<b>Attn: Customer Service</b> UCare PO Box 52 Minneapolis, MN 55440-0052
<b>VISIT</b>	UCare 500 Stinson Boulevard NE Minneapolis, MN 55413
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>ucare.org</b>
<b>MESSAGING THROUGH YOUR MEMBER ACCOUNT</b>	You can also send us a message through your Member Account at <b>member.ucare.org</b> .

## Our Plan contact information for certain services

### Appeals

An appeal is a formal way of asking us to review and change a coverage decision we have made.

<b>CALL</b>	612-676-6841 or 877-523-1517 This call is free. 8 am – 4:30 pm, Monday – Friday
<b>TTY</b>	612-676-6810 or 800-688-2534 This call is free.
<b>WRITE</b>	<b>Attn: Appeals and Grievances</b> UCare PO Box 52 Minneapolis, MN 55440-0052
<b>EMAIL</b>	cag@ucare.org
<b>FAX</b>	612-884-2021 or 866-283-8015

Refer to Section 13 for more information.

### Chiropractic Services

We contract with Fulcrum Health, Inc. to provide chiropractic services. Fulcrum Health, Inc. manages the network of providers, known as ChiroCare. You need to go to a ChiroCare provider to have coverage for this benefit. For help finding a chiropractor or for general chiropractic benefit information, call UCare Customer Service.

<b>CALL</b>	<b>Customer Service</b> 612-676-3200 or 800-203-7225 This call is free. 8 am – 5 pm, Monday – Friday
<b>TTY</b>	612-676-6810 or 800-688-2534 This call is free.

## Complaints about your Medical Care

You can make a complaint about us or one of our network providers, including a complaint about the quality of your care.

<b>CALL</b>	612-676-3200 or 800-203-7225 This call is free. 8 am – 5 pm, Monday – Friday
<b>TTY</b>	612-676-6810 or 800-688-2534 This call is free.
<b>FAX</b>	612-676-6501 or 866-457-7145
<b>WRITE</b>	<b>Attn: Customer Service</b> UCare PO Box 52 Minneapolis, MN 55440-0052
<b>VISIT</b>	UCare 500 Stinson Boulevard NE Minneapolis, MN 55413
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>ucare.org</b>
<b>MESSAGING THROUGH YOUR MEMBER ACCOUNT</b>	You can also send us a message through your Member Account at <b>member.ucare.org</b> .

## Dental Services

We contract with Delta Dental of Minnesota (Delta Dental) to manage your dental benefits. For more information on UCare’s dental services, you can go online to **ucare.org/dental**, or call the UCare Dental Connection. The UCare Dental Connection can help you:

- Find a Delta Dental of Minnesota Select Dental provider or dental home.
- Schedule dental appointments, including appointments for follow-up and specialty care.
- Coordinate transportation for dental appointments.
- Coordinate interpreter services for dental appointments.
- Get answers to your dental benefits and claims questions.

<b>CALL</b>	<b>UCare Dental Connection</b> 651-768-1415 or 855-648-1415 This call is free. 7 am – 7 pm, Monday – Friday
<b>TTY</b>	711



### UCare Mobile Dental Clinic

We offer dental check-ups, cleanings and basic restorative care aboard the UCare Mobile Dental Clinic. Call to find out when the clinic will be near you or go to [ucare.org/mdc](http://ucare.org/mdc) for scheduled dates and locations. Schedule your appointment by calling the UCare Mobile Dental Clinic.

<b>CALL</b>	<b>UCare Mobile Dental Clinic</b> 866-451-1555 This call is free. 8 am – 4:30 pm, Monday – Friday
<b>TTY</b>	800-627-3529 This call is free.

### Durable Medical Equipment Coverage Criteria

<b>CALL</b>	<b>Customer Service</b> 612-676-3200 or 800-203-7225 This call is free. 8 am – 5 pm, Monday – Friday
<b>TTY</b>	612-676-6810 or 800-688-2534 This call is free.

### Interpreter Services

Call UCare Customer Service for American Sign Language (ASL) or Spoken Language interpreter services.

<b>CALL</b>	<b>Customer Service</b> 612-676-3200 or 800-203-7225 This call is free. 8 am – 5 pm, Monday – Friday
<b>TTY</b>	612-676-6810 or 800-688-2534 This call is free.

## Mental Health Services

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Triage Line. To find a provider, call our Triage line or use the Search Network tool on UCare's website.

<b>CALL</b>	612-676-6533 or 833-276-1185 This call is free. 8 am – 5 pm, Monday – Friday.
<b>TTY</b>	612-676-6810 or 800-688-2534 This call is free.
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<a href="http://ucare.org/searchnetwork">ucare.org/searchnetwork</a>

## Prescriptions

If you have questions about drug benefits, call UCare Customer Service.

<b>CALL</b>	612-676-3200 or 800-203-7225 This call is free. 8 am – 5 pm, Monday – Friday.
<b>TTY</b>	612-676-6810 or 800-688-2534 This call is free.

## Substance Use Disorder Services

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Triage Line. To find a provider, call our Triage line or use the Search Network tool on UCare's website.

<b>CALL</b>	612-676-6533 or 833-276-1185 This call is free. 8 am – 5 pm, Monday – Friday.
<b>TTY</b>	612-676-6810 or 800-688-2534 This call is free.
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<a href="http://ucare.org/searchnetwork">ucare.org/searchnetwork</a>

## Transportation

If you need transportation to and from medical appointments.

<b>CALL</b>	<b>HealthRide</b> 612-676-6830 or 800-864-2157 This call is free. 7 am – 8 pm, Monday – Friday.
<b>TTY</b>	612-676-6810 or 800-688-2534 This call is free.

## UCare 24/7 Nurse Line

The UCare 24/7 nurse line is a telephone service that provides members with reliable health information from a registered nurse 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The nurses can offer health advice or answer health questions. The phone number for the UCare 24/7 nurse line can be found on the back of your member ID card.

<b>CALL</b>	800-942-7858 This call is free. 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
<b>TTY</b>	855-307-6976 This call is free.

## Other important contact information

People with hearing loss or a speech disability may call the following numbers to access the resources listed in this Member Handbook: 711, Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529 (TTY, Voice, ASCII, Hearing Carry Over), or 877-627-3848 (speech to speech relay service). Calls to these numbers are free.

For information and to learn more about health care directives and how to exercise an advance directive, please contact UCare Customer Service at 612-676-3200 or 800-203-7225. This call is free. Hours of service are 8 am – 5 pm, Monday – Friday. Or call our TTY number at 612-676-6810 or 800-688-2534. This call is free. More information about health care directives can be found: [ucare.org/advance-directives](https://www.ucare.org/advance-directives). You may also visit the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) website at: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/regulation/infobulletins/advdir.html>.

To report Fraud and Abuse contact UCare’s Compliance Hotline by phone at 877-826-6847 or by email at [compliance@ucare.org](mailto:compliance@ucare.org). This call is free. Or call our TTY number at 612-676-6810 or 800-688-2534, 8 am – 5 pm, Monday – Friday; 711 Minnesota Relay Service, 24 hours, seven days per week. This call is free. You may remain anonymous. To report fraud or abuse directly to the State, contact the Surveillance and Integrity Review Section (SIRS) at the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) by phone at 651-431-2650 or 800-657-3750 or 711 (TTY), or use your preferred relay services; by fax at 651-431-7569; or by email at [DHS.SIRS@state.mn.us](mailto:DHS.SIRS@state.mn.us). This call is free.

## Minnesota Department of Human Services

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) is a state agency that helps people meet their basic needs. It provides or administers health care, financial help, and other services. DHS administers the MinnesotaCare program. If you have questions about your eligibility for MinnesotaCare, contact MinnesotaCare at 651-297-3862 or 800-657-3672 or 711 (TTY), or use your preferred relay services. This call is free.

## **Ombudsman for Public Managed Health Care Programs**

The Ombudsman for Public Managed Health Care Programs, at the Minnesota Department of Human Services, helps people enrolled in a health plan in resolving access, service and billing problems. They can help you file a grievance or appeal with us. The ombudsman can also help you request a State Appeal (Fair Hearing with the state). Call 651-431-2660 or 800-657-3729 or 711 (TTY), or use your preferred relay services. This call is free. Hours of service are Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

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## **Section 2. Important information on getting the care you need**

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Each time you get health services, check to be sure that the provider is a Plan network provider. In most cases, you need to use Plan network providers to get your services. Members have access to a Provider Directory that lists Plan network providers. You may ask for a print copy of this at any time. To verify current information, you can call Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1, or visit our website listed in Section 1.

When you are a member or become a member of UCare you chose or were assigned to a primary care clinic (PCC) or care system. Your primary care clinic (PCC) or care system can provide most of the health care services you need and will help coordinate your care. You may change your primary care clinic (PCC) or care system. To find out how to do this, call Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1.

You do not need a referral to go to a Plan network specialist. However, your primary care clinic can provide most of the health care services you need and will help coordinate your care.

Contact your primary care clinic for information about the clinic's hours, prior authorizations, and to make an appointment. If you cannot go to your appointment, call your clinic right away.

You may change your primary care provider or clinic. To find out how to do this, call Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1.

### **Transition of care**

If you are a newly enrolled member who is currently receiving care from a provider who is not a Plan network provider, we will help you transition to a network provider.

If a drug you are currently taking is not covered under your new plan, you may be able to receive up to a 90-day temporary supply. For more information, call Customer Service.

### **Prior authorizations**

Our approval is needed for some services to be covered. This is called prior authorization. The approval must be obtained before you get the services or before we pay for them. Many of these

services are noted in Section 7. Please work with your qualified health care provider to get a prior authorization when required. For more information, call Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1.

In most cases, you need to use Plan network providers to get your services. If you need a covered service that you cannot get from a Plan network provider, you must get a prior authorization from us to go to an out-of-network provider. Exceptions to this rule are:

- Open access services: family planning, diagnosis of infertility, testing and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), and testing for acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) or other human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) related conditions. You can go to any qualified health care provider, clinic, pharmacy, or family planning agency, even if it is not in our network, to get these services.
- Emergency and post-stabilization services

For more information, call Customer Service at the phone number listed in Section 1.

The Plan allows direct access to the providers in our network, but keeps the right to manage your care under certain circumstances, such as: the Restricted Recipient Program. We may do this by choosing the provider you use and/or the services you receive. For more information, call Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1.

If we are unable to find you a qualified Plan network provider, we must give you a standing prior authorization for you to go to a qualified specialist for any of the following conditions:

- A chronic (on-going) condition
- A life-threatening mental or physical illness
- A degenerative disease or disability
- Any other condition or disease that is serious or complex enough to require treatment by a specialist

**If you do not get a prior authorization from us when needed, the bill may not be paid.** For more information, call Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1.

If a provider you choose is no longer in our Plan network, you must choose another Plan network provider. You may be able to continue to use services from a provider who is no longer a part of our Plan network for up to 120 days for the following reasons:

- An acute condition
- A life-threatening mental or physical illness
- A physical or mental disability defined as an inability to engage in one or more major life activities. This applies to a disability that has lasted or is expected to last at least one year, or is likely to result in death.
- A disabling or chronic condition that is in an acute phase

If your qualified health care provider certifies that you have an expected lifetime of 180 days or less, you may be able to continue to use services for the rest of your life from a provider who is no longer part of our network.

For more information, call Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1.

At UCare, we have staff who can help you figure out the best way to use health care services. If you have questions about things like where to get services, getting authorization for services, or restrictions on prescription drugs, we can help. Call us at 612-676-3200 or 800-203-7225, 8 am – 5 pm, Monday – Friday. This call is free. If you need language assistance to talk about these issues, UCare can give you information in your language through an interpreter. For sign language services, call the TTY line (requires special equipment) at 612-676-6810 or 800-688-2534. This call is free. For other language assistance, call 612-676-3200 or 800-203-7225. This call is free.

## **Covered and non-covered services**

Enrollment in the Plan does not guarantee that certain items are covered. Some prescription drugs or medical equipment may not be covered. This is true even if they were covered before.

Some services and supplies are not covered. All health services must be medically necessary for them to be covered services. Read this Member Handbook carefully. It lists many services and supplies that are not covered. Refer to Sections 7 and 8.

Some services are not covered under the Plan but may be covered through another source. Refer to Section 9 for more information. If you are not sure whether a service is covered, call our Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1.

We may cover additional or substitute services under some conditions.

## **Cost sharing**

You may be required to contribute an amount toward some medical services. This is called cost sharing. You are responsible to pay your cost sharing amount to your provider. Refer to Section 6 for more information.

## **Payments to providers**

We cannot pay you back for most medical bills that you pay. State and federal laws prevent us from paying you directly. If you paid for a service that you think we should have covered, call Customer Service. If you received a medical bill that should have been covered, call Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1. Customer Service will contact your provider to assist them with claim submission.

You may get health services or supplies not covered by the Plan if you agree to pay for them. Providers must have you sign a form acknowledging that you will be responsible for the bill. Providers must have a signed form before providing services or supplies that are not covered by the Plan.

## **Cultural awareness**

We understand that your beliefs, culture, and values play a role in your health. We want to help you maintain good health and good relationships with your qualified health care provider. We want to ensure you get care in a culturally sensitive way.

## **Interpreter services**

We will provide interpreter services to help you access services. This includes spoken language interpreters and American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters. Face-to-face spoken language interpreter services are only covered if the interpreter is listed in the Minnesota Department of Health's Spoken Language Health Care Interpreter Roster. Please call Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1 to find out which interpreters you can use.

## **Other health insurance**

If you have other health insurance or Medicare, you will no longer remain eligible for MinnesotaCare. Make sure to tell the MinnesotaCare office about any other health insurance that covers you or your children.

If you have Medicare, you need to get most of your prescription drugs through the Medicare Prescription Drug Program (Medicare Part D). You must be enrolled in a Medicare prescription drug plan to get these services. The Plan does not pay for prescriptions that are covered under the Medicare Prescription Drug Program.

## **Private information**

We, and the health care providers who take care of you, have the right to get information about your health care. When you enrolled in the Minnesota Health Care Program, you gave your consent for us to do this. We will keep this information private according to law.

## **Restricted Recipient Program**

The Restricted Recipient Program (RRP) is for members who have misused health services. This includes getting health services that members did not need, using them in a way that costs more than they should, or in a way that may be dangerous to a member's health. UCare will notify members if they are placed in the Restricted Recipient Program.

If you are in the Restricted Recipient Program, you must get health services from one designated primary care provider, one clinic, one hospital used by the primary care provider, and one pharmacy. UCare may designate other health services providers. You may also be assigned to a home health agency. You may not be allowed to use the personal care assistance choice or flexible use options, or consumer directed services.

You will be restricted to these designated health care providers for at least 24 months of eligibility for Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP). All referrals to specialists must be from your primary care provider and received by the UCare Restricted Recipient Program. Restricted

recipients may not pay out-of-pocket to go to a non-designated provider who is the same provider type as one of their designated providers.

Placement in the program will stay with you if you change health plans. Placement in the program will also stay with you if you change to MHCP fee-for-service. You will not lose eligibility for MHCP because of placement in the program.

At the end of the 24 months, your use of health care services will be reviewed. If you still misused health services, you will be placed in the program for an additional 36 months of eligibility. You have the right to appeal placement in the Restricted Recipient Program. You must file an appeal within 60 days from the date on the notice from us. You must appeal within 30 days to prevent the restriction from being implemented during your appeal. A member may request a State Appeal (Fair Hearing with the state) after receiving our decision that we have decided to enforce the restriction. Refer to Section 13.

## **Cancellation**

Your coverage with us will be canceled if you are not eligible for MinnesotaCare or if you enroll in a different health plan.

If you are no longer eligible for MinnesotaCare, you may be eligible to purchase health coverage through MNsure. For information about MNsure: call 855-3MNSURE or 855-366-7873; TTY, use your preferred relay services; or visit [www.MNsure.org](http://www.MNsure.org). This call is free.

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## **Section 3. Member Bill of Rights**

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### **You have the right to:**

- Be treated with respect, dignity, and consideration for privacy.
- Get the services you need 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This includes emergencies.
- Be told about your health problems.
- Get information about treatments, your treatment choices, and how treatments will help or harm you.
- Participate with providers in making decisions about your health care.
- Refuse treatment and get information about what might happen if you refuse treatment.
- Refuse care from specific providers.
- Know that we will keep your records private according to law.
- Ask for and get a copy of your medical records. You also have the right to ask to correct the records.
- Get notice of our decisions if we deny, reduce, or stop a service, or deny payment for a service.



- File a grievance or appeal with us. You can also file a complaint with the Minnesota Department of Health.
- Request a State Appeal (Fair Hearing with the state) with the Minnesota Department of Human Services (also referred to as “the state”). You must appeal to us before you request a State Appeal. If we take more than 30 days to decide your plan appeal and we have not asked for an extension, you do not need to wait for our decision to ask for a State Appeal.
- Receive a clear explanation of covered home care services.
- Give written instructions that inform others of your wishes about your health care. This is called a “health care directive.” It allows you to name a person (agent) to make decisions for you if you are unable to decide, or if you want someone else to decide for you.
- Choose where you will get family planning services, diagnosis of infertility, sexually transmitted disease testing and treatment services, and AIDS and HIV testing services.
- Get a second opinion for medical, mental health, and substance use disorder services.
- Be free of restraints or seclusion used as a means of: coercion, discipline, convenience, or retaliation.
- Request a written copy of this Member Handbook at least once a year.
- Get the following information from us, if you ask for it. Call Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1.
  - Whether we use a physician incentive plan that affects the use of referral services, and details about the plan if we use one
  - Results of an external quality review study from the state
  - The professional qualifications of health care providers
- Make recommendations about our rights and responsibilities policy.
- Exercise the rights listed here.
- Get information about UCare, its services, its providers, and member rights and responsibilities
- Have a candid discussion of appropriate or medically necessary treatment options for your conditions, regardless of cost or benefit coverage.

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## **Section 4. Member Responsibilities**

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### **You have the responsibility to:**

- Read this Member Handbook and know which services are covered under the Plan and how to get them.

- Show your health plan member ID card and your Minnesota Health Care Program card every time you get health care. Also show the cards of any other health coverage you have.
- Establish a relationship with a Plan network qualified health care provider before you become ill. This helps you and your qualified health care provider understand your total health condition.
- Give information asked for by your qualified health care provider and/or health plan so the right care or services can be provided to you. Share information about your health history.
- Work with your qualified health care provider to understand your total health condition. Develop mutually agreed-upon treatment goals when possible. Follow plans and instructions for care that you have agreed to with your doctor. If you have questions about your care, ask your qualified health care provider.
- Know what to do when a health problem occurs, when and where to seek help, and how to prevent health problems.
- Practice preventive health care. Have tests, exams and vaccinations recommended for you based on your age and gender.
- Follow plans and instructions for care that you have agreed to with your health care providers.

Contact us if you have any questions, concerns, problems or suggestions. Call Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1.

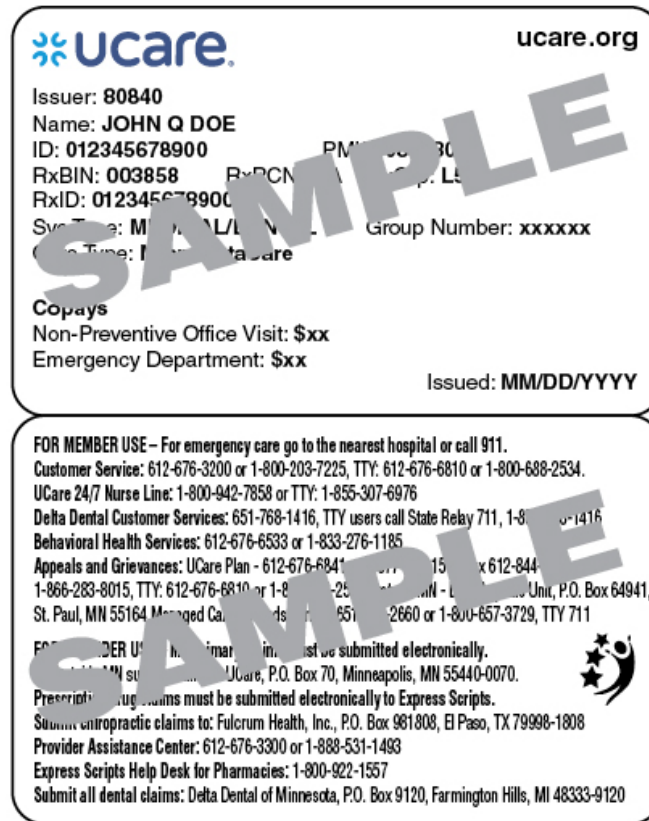
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## **Section 5. Your Health Plan Member Identification (ID) Card**

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- Each member will receive a Plan member ID card.
- Always carry your Plan member ID card with you.
- You must show your Plan member ID card whenever you get health care.
- You must use your Plan member ID card along with your Minnesota Health Care Program card. Also show the cards of any other health coverage you have, such as Medicare or private insurance. Refer to Section 11: Using the Plan coverage with other insurance for additional information.
- Call Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1 right away if your member ID card is lost or stolen. We will send you a new card.
- Call MinnesotaCare if your Minnesota Health Care Program card is lost or stolen.

Here is a sample Plan member ID card to show what it looks like:



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## Section 6. Cost sharing

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Cost sharing refers to your responsibility to pay an amount towards your medical costs. For people enrolled in a MinnesotaCare health plan, cost sharing consists of copays or a coinsurance.

### Copays

MinnesotaCare has two different benefit sets: MinnesotaCare Child and MinnesotaCare. Members who have the MinnesotaCare Child benefit set do not have copays. For members who have the MinnesotaCare benefit set, some services require copays. A copay is an amount that you will be responsible to pay to your provider. You must pay your copay directly to your provider. Some providers require that you pay the copay when you arrive for the medical service. The hospital may bill you after your emergency or non-emergency visit to the emergency room.

Copays are listed in the following chart. Be sure you are reading the copay chart for the program in which you are enrolled. If you do not know which program you are enrolled in, call MinnesotaCare at 651-297-3862 or 800-657-3672 to find out. This call is free.

**Members listed here do not have any copays for health care services**

- American Indians enrolled in a federally recognized tribe
- Children under age 21

<b>MinnesotaCare</b>	
<b>Service</b>	<b>Copay Amount</b>
Non-preventive visits (such as visits for a sore throat, diabetes checkup, high fever, sore back, etc.) provided by a physician, physician ancillary services visits billed under the physician's National Provider Identifier (NPI), acupuncturist, advanced practice nurse, nurse midwife, chiropractor, podiatrist, audiologist, optician, or optometrist. There are no copays for substance use disorder and mental health services.	\$25.00 per visit
Ambulatory surgery – If ambulatory surgery is performed in an outpatient hospital setting, no additional outpatient hospital visit copay will apply.	\$100.00 per surgery
Emergency room visits – If this visit results in an inpatient admission only the inpatient admission copay will be charged.	\$75.00 per visit
Eyeglasses	\$25.00 per pair
Inpatient Hospital	\$250.00 per admission
Prescription Drugs, Generic There are no copays for anti-psychotic drugs.	\$7.00 per prescription
Prescription Drugs, Brand Name There are no copays for anti-psychotic drugs.	\$25.00 per prescription
Prescription Drug Maximum Out of Pocket (MOOP) – includes both generic and brand name drugs	\$70.00 combined maximum per month
Radiology	\$40.00 per visit
Non-Routine Dental Services There are no copays for preventative and diagnostic dental care.	\$15.00 per visit

Examples of services that **do not** have copays:

- Preventative and diagnostic dental care
- Family planning services and supplies
- Home care
- Immunizations
- Interpreter services
- Medical equipment and supplies
- Mental health services
- Preventive care visits, such as physicals
- Rehabilitation therapies
- Repair of eyeglasses
- Some preventive screenings and counseling, such as cervical cancer screenings and nutritional counseling
- Some mental health drugs (antipsychotics)
- Substance use disorder treatment
- Tests such as blood work
- Tobacco use counseling and interventions
- 100% federally funded services at Indian Health Services clinics

This is not a complete list. Call Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1 if you have questions.

## **Coinsurance**

MinnesotaCare has two different benefit sets: MinnesotaCare Child and MinnesotaCare. Members who have the MinnesotaCare Child benefit set do not have coinsurance. For members who have the MinnesotaCare benefit set, some services or items require coinsurance. A coinsurance is an amount that you will be responsible to pay to your provider. Coinsurance is usually a percentage. This means, you pay a percent of the total cost of the medical equipment.

Coinsurance amount is listed in the following chart. Be sure you are reading the coinsurance chart for the program in which you are enrolled. If you do not know which program you are enrolled in, call MinnesotaCare at 651-297-3862 or 800-657-3672 to find out. This call is free.

<b>MinnesotaCare</b>	
<b>Medical Equipment</b>	<b>Coinsurance Amount</b>
Wheelchairs, canes, crutches, walkers, commodes, decubitus ulcer care equipment, heat/cold application, bath and toilet aids, urinals, beds, oximeters, patient lifts/standers, compression devices and appliances, ultraviolet light equipment, nerve stimulators, traction equipment, orthopedic devices, wound therapy devices, and wound suction pump	10%

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## **Section 7. Covered services**

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This section describes the major services that are covered under the Plan for MinnesotaCare members. It is not a complete list of covered services. If you need help understanding what services are covered, call Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1. Some services have limitations. Some services require a prior authorization. A service marked with an asterisk (\*) means a prior authorization is required or may be required. Make sure there is a prior authorization in place before you get the service. All health care services must be medically necessary for them to be covered. Refer to Section 2 for more information on prior authorizations. You can also call Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1 for more information.

Some services require cost sharing. Cost sharing refers to your responsibility to pay an amount toward your medical costs. Refer to Section 6 for information about cost sharing and exceptions to cost sharing.

### **Acupuncture Services\***

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#### **Covered services:**

- Acupuncture services are covered when provided by a licensed acupuncturist or by another Minnesota licensed practitioner with acupuncture training and credentialing.
- Up to 20 units of acupuncture services are allowed per calendar year without authorization. Ask for prior authorization if additional units are needed.

Acupuncture services are covered for the following:

- Acute and chronic pain
- Depression
- Anxiety
- Schizophrenia

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\* Requires or may require a prior authorization.

- Post-traumatic stress syndrome
- Insomnia
- Smoking cessation
- Restless legs syndrome
- Menstrual disorders
- Xerostomia (dry mouth) associated with the following:
  - Sjogren’s syndrome
  - Radiation therapy
- Nausea and vomiting associated with the following:
  - Postoperative procedures
  - Pregnancy
  - Cancer care

## **Child and Teen Checkups (C&TC)**

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### **Covered Services:**

Child and Teen Checkups (C&TC) preventive health visits include:

- growth measurements
- health education
- health history including nutrition
- developmental screening
- social-emotional or mental health screening
- head-to-toe physical exam
- immunizations
- lab tests
- vision checks
- hearing checks
- oral health, including fluoride varnish application

### **Notes:**

C&TC is a health care program of well-child visits for members under age 21. C&TC visits help keep kids healthy and can provide more support, if needed. How often a C&TC is needed depends on age:

- Birth to 2 1/2 years: 0-1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 24 and 30 months
- 3 to 21 years: 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20 years

Starting at age 11, each visit may include one-on-one time with the healthcare provider. This gives time for questions and discussion about health needs and goals and helps children and young adults learn to manage their own health.

Contact your Primary Care Clinic to schedule your C&TC well child and preventive health visits.

## **Chiropractic Care\***

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### **Covered Services:**

- One evaluation or exam per calendar year
- Manual manipulation (adjustment) of the spine to treat subluxation of the spine – up to 24 visits per calendar year, limited to six per month. Visits exceeding 24 per calendar year or six per month require a prior authorization.\*
- X-rays when needed to support a diagnosis of subluxation of the spine

### **Not Covered Services:**

- Other adjustments, vitamins, medical supplies, therapies and equipment from a chiropractor

## **Dental Services for Adults**

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### **Covered Services:**

- Diagnostic services:
  - comprehensive exam (*once every five years*) (*cannot be performed on same date as a periodic or limited evaluation*)
  - periodic exam (*once per calendar year*) (*cannot be performed on same date as a limited or comprehensive evaluation*)
  - limited (problem-focused) exams (*once per day*) (*cannot be performed on same date as a periodic or comprehensive oral evaluation, or dental cleaning service*)
  - teledentistry for diagnostic services
  - imaging services, limited to:
    - bitewing (*once per calendar year*)

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\* Requires or may require a prior authorization.



- single X-rays for diagnosis of problems (*four per date of service*)
- panoramic (*once every five years and as medically necessary; once every two years in limited situations; or with a scheduled outpatient facility or freestanding Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) procedure.*)
- full mouth X-rays (*once every five years and only when provided in an outpatient hospital or freestanding Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) as part of an outpatient dental surgery*)
- Preventive services:
  - dental cleanings (*limited to two per calendar year; up to four times per year if medically necessary*)
  - fluoride varnish (*once per calendar year*) (*cannot be performed on same date as emergency treatment of dental pain service*)
  - cavity treatment (*once per tooth per six months*) (*cannot be performed on same date as fluoride varnish service or emergency treatment of dental pain service*)
- Restorative services:
  - fillings (*limited to once per 90 days per tooth*)
  - sedative fillings for relief of pain (*cannot be performed on same date as fluoride varnish service or emergency treatment of dental pain service*)
- Endodontics (root canals) (*on anterior teeth and premolars only and once per tooth per lifetime; retreatment is not covered*)
- Oral surgery\* (*limited to extractions, removal of impacted teeth or tooth roots, biopsies, and incision and drainage of abscesses*)
- Periodontics\*:
  - gross removal of plaque and tartar (full mouth debridement) (*once every five years*) (*cannot be performed on same date as dental cleaning service, comprehensive exam, oral evaluation or periodontal evaluation service*)
  - scaling and root planing\* (with Prior authorization) (*cannot be performed on same day as dental cleaning or full mouth debridement*) (*once every two (2) years for each quadrant*)
    - Follow-up procedures (periodontal maintenance) (*four (4) per calendar year*)
- Prosthodontics:
  - removable appliances (dentures and partials) (*one appliance every six years per dental arch*)

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\* Requires or may require a prior authorization.

- adjustments, modifications, relines, repairs, and rebases of removable appliances (dentures and partials) (*repairs to missing or broken teeth are limited to five teeth per 180 days*)
- replacement of appliances that are lost, stolen, or damaged beyond repair under certain circumstances
- replacement of partial appliances if the existing partial cannot be altered to meet dental needs
- tissue conditioning liners (once per appliance)
- precision attachments and repairs
- Additional general dental services:
  - emergency treatment for pain (*once per day*)
  - general anesthesia, deep sedation (*when provided in an outpatient hospital or freestanding Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) as part of an outpatient dental surgery.*)
  - extended care facility/house call in certain institutional settings including: nursing facilities, skilled nursing facilities, boarding care homes, Institutions for Mental Diseases (IMD), Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons with Developmental Disabilities (ICF/DDs), Hospices, Minnesota Extended Treatment Options (METO), and swing beds (a nursing facility bed in a hospital) (*cannot be performed on same date as oral hygiene instruction service*)
  - behavioral management when necessary to ensure that a covered dental service is correctly and safely performed
  - oral or IV sedation (only if the covered dental service cannot be performed safely without it or would otherwise require the service to be performed under general anesthesia in a hospital or surgical center)

**Notes:**

**UCare offers the following additional dental services:**

- One extra preventive dental exam per year for adults except pregnant women, beyond what is covered by MinnesotaCare.

Refer to Section 1 for Dental Services contact information.

**Dental Services (for children under age 19 and pregnant women)**

**Covered Services:**

- Diagnostic services:
  - comprehensive exam (*once per five years*) (*cannot be performed on same date as a periodic or limited evaluation*)

- periodic exam *(cannot be performed on same date as a limited or comprehensive evaluation)*
- limited (problem-focused) exams *(cannot be performed on same date as a periodic or comprehensive oral evaluation, or dental cleaning)*
- oral evaluation for patients under age three *(once per lifetime) (cannot be performed on same date as oral hygiene instruction service)*
- oral evaluation *(cannot be performed on same date as full mouth debridement)*
- periodontal evaluation *(cannot be performed on same date as full mouth debridement)*
- teledentistry for diagnostic services
- imaging services, limited to:
  - o bitewing *(once per calendar year)*
  - o X-rays *(four per date of service)*
  - o panoramic *(once in a five-year period except when medically necessary; once every two years in limited situations; or with a scheduled outpatient facility or freestanding Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) procedure)*
  - o full mouth X-rays *(once in a five-year period)*
- Preventive services:
  - dental cleanings *(limited to twice per calendar year; up to four per year as medically necessary)*
  - fluoride varnish *(once every six months) (cannot be performed on same date as emergency treatment of dental pain service)*
  - sealants for children under age 19 *(one every five years per permanent molar)*
  - cavity treatment *(once per tooth per six months) (cannot be performed on same date as emergency treatment of dental pain service or fluoride varnish application)*
  - oral hygiene instruction service *(cannot be performed on same date as oral evaluation for children under age three)*
- Restorative services:
  - fillings *(limited to once per 90 days per tooth)*
  - sedative fillings for relief of pain *(cannot be performed on same date as emergency treatment of dental pain service)*
  - individual crowns *(must be made of prefabricated stainless steel or resin)*
- Endodontics (root canals) *(once per tooth per lifetime) (anterior and premolar are limited to once per tooth per lifetime)*

- Oral surgery\*:
  - including extractions (*with Prior Authorization*)\*
- Orthodontics\* (*only when medically necessary for very limited conditions for members age 18 and younger*) (*with Prior Authorization*)
- Periodontics\*:
  - gross removal of plaque and tartar (full mouth debridement) (*once every five years*) (*cannot be performed on same date as dental cleaning service, comprehensive exam, oral evaluation or periodontal evaluation service*)
  - scaling and root planning\* (*with Prior Authorization*) (*cannot be performed on same day as dental cleaning or full mouth debridement*) (*once every two (2) years for each quadrant.*)
    - Follow-up procedures (periodontal maintenance) (*four (4) per calendar year*)
- Prosthodontics:
  - removable appliances (dentures, partials, overdentures) (*one appliance every six years per dental arch*)
  - adjustments, modifications, relines, repairs, and rebases of removable appliances (dentures and partials) (*repairs to missing or broken teeth are limited to five teeth per 180 days*)
  - replacement of appliances that are lost, stolen, or damaged beyond repair under certain circumstances
  - replacement of partial appliances if the existing partial cannot be altered to meet dental needs
  - tissue conditioning liners
  - precision attachments and repairs
- Additional general dental services:
  - emergency treatment of dental pain
  - general anesthesia, deep sedation
  - nitrous oxide
  - extended care facility/house call in certain institutional settings including: boarding care homes, Institutions for Mental Diseases (IMDs), Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons with Developmental Disabilities (ICF/DDs), Hospices, Minnesota Extended Treatment Options (METO), nursing facilities, school or Head Start program, skilled nursing facilities, and swing beds (a nursing facility bed in a hospital) (*cannot be performed on same date as oral hygiene instruction service*)
  - medications (*only when medically necessary for very limited conditions*)

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\* Requires or may require a prior authorization.

- behavioral management when necessary to ensure that a covered dental service is correctly and safely performed
- oral bite adjustments (complete adjustments with Prior Authorization) *(limited to once per day)*

**Notes:**

If you begin orthodontia services, we will not require completion of the treatment plan in order to pay the provider for services received.

If you are new to our health plan and have already started a dental service treatment plan (ex. Orthodontia care), please contact us for coordination of care.

**UCare offers the following additional dental services:**

- Dental sealants for members age 18 and under, once per permanent molar (teeth 1-3, 14-16, 17-19, and 30-32) per 60 months if sealants fail.

Refer to Section 1 for Dental Services contact information.

## **Diagnostic Services**

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**Covered Services:**

- Lab tests and X-rays
- Other medical diagnostic tests ordered by your qualified health care provider

## **Doctor and Other Health Services**

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**Covered Services:**

- Doctor visits including:
  - allergy immunotherapy and allergy testing
  - care for pregnant women (refer to Notes)
  - family planning – **open access service**
  - lab tests and X-rays
  - physical exams
  - preventive exams
  - preventive office visits
  - specialists
  - telemedicine consultation

- vaccines and drugs administered in a qualified health care provider's office\*
- visits for illness or injury
- visits in the hospital or nursing home
- Advanced practice nurse services: services provided by a nurse practitioner, nurse anesthetist, nurse midwife, or clinical nurse specialist
- Behavioral Health Home: coordination of behavioral and physical health services (for members under age 19)
- Blood and blood products
- Clinical trial coverage: Routine care that is: 1) provided as part of the protocol treatment of a Clinical Trial; 2) is usual, customary and appropriate to your condition; and 3) would be typically provided outside of a Clinical Trial. This includes services and items needed for the treatment of effects and complications of the protocol treatment.
- Cancer screenings (including mammography, pap test, prostate cancer screening, colorectal cancer screening)
- Clinical Services
- Community health worker care coordination and patient education services
- Community Medical Emergency Technician (CMET) services
  - post-hospital/post-nursing home discharge visits ordered by your primary care provider
  - safety evaluation visits ordered by Primary Care Provider/Physician (PCP)
- Community Paramedic Services: certain services are provided by a community paramedic. The services must be a part of a care plan by your primary care provider. The services may include:
  - health assessments
  - chronic disease monitoring and education
  - help with medications
  - immunizations and vaccinations
  - collecting lab specimens
  - follow-up care after being treated at a hospital
  - other minor medical procedures
- Counseling and testing for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), AIDS and other HIV-related conditions – **open access service**
- Health Care Home services: care coordination for members with complex or chronic health care needs

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\* Requires or may require a prior authorization.

- Enhanced asthma care services (for eligible members under the age of 19 who are diagnosed as having poorly controlled asthma, when specific criteria are met)
  - Home visits to determine if there are asthma-triggers in the member's home
  - Must be provided by a registered environmental health specialist, healthy homes specialist, and lead risk assessor. You must contact one of these health care professionals to help you or you can contact Customer Service.
- Health education and counseling (for example, smoking cessation, nutrition counseling, diabetes education)
- Hospital In-Reach Community-Based Service (IRSC) Coordination: coordination of services targeted at reducing hospital emergency room (ER) use under certain circumstances. This service addresses health, social, economic, and other needs of members to help reduce usage of ER and other health care services.
- Immunizations
- Podiatry services (debridement of toenails, infected corns and calluses, and other non-routine foot care)
- Respiratory therapy
- Services of a certified public health nurse or a registered nurse practicing in a public health nursing clinic under a governmental unit
- Treatment for AIDS and other HIV-related conditions – **NOT** an open access service. You must go to a provider in the Plan network.
- Treatment for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) – **open access service**
- Tuberculosis care management and direct observation of drug intake

**Not Covered Services:**

- Artificial ways to become pregnant (artificial insemination, including in-vitro fertilization and related services, fertility drugs and related services)

**Notes:**

Pregnancy begin/end dates should be reported to your eligibility worker as soon as possible.

**Early Intensive Developmental and Behavioral Intervention (EIDBI) Services (for children under age 21)\***

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The purpose of the EIDBI benefit is to provide medically necessary, early and intensive intervention for people with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and related conditions. The benefit is also intended to:

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\* Requires or may require a prior authorization.

- Educate, train and support parents and families
- Promote people’s independence and participation in family, school and community life
- Improve long-term outcomes and the quality of life for people and their families

EIDBI services are provided by enrolled EIDBI providers who have expertise in the approved modalities which include:

- Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)
- Developmental, Individual Difference, Relationship-Based (DIR)/Floortime model
- Early Start Denver Model (ESDM)
- PLAY Project
- Relationship Development Intervention (RDI)
- Early Social Interaction (ESI).

**Covered Services:**

- Comprehensive Multi-Disciplinary Evaluation (CMDE) which is needed yearly to access EIDBI services
- Individual Treatment Plan (ITP) Development (Initial)
  - Individual Treatment Plan (ITP) Development and Progress Monitoring
- Direct Intervention: Individual and/or Group
- Observation and Direction
- Family/Caregiver Training and Counseling: Individual and/or Group
- Coordinated Care Conference (*one per year without authorization*)
- Travel time

**Emergency Medical Services and Post-Stabilization Care**

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**Covered Services:**

- Emergency room services
- Post-stabilization care
- Ambulance (air or ground includes transport on water)

**Not Covered Services:**

Emergency, urgent, or other health care services delivered or items supplied from providers located outside of the United States (U.S.). We will not make payment for health care to a provider or any entity outside of the U.S.



## Notes:

If you have an emergency and need treatment right away, call 911 or go to the closest emergency room. Show them your member ID card and ask them to call your qualified health care provider.

In all other cases, call your qualified health care provider, if possible. You can call the number 24 hours a day, seven days a week and get instructions about what to do.

If you are out of town, go to the closest emergency room or call 911. Show them your member ID card and ask them to call your qualified health care provider.

You must call your qualified health care provider within 48 hours or as soon as you can after getting emergency care at a hospital that is not a part of the Plan network.

## Family Planning Services

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### Covered Services:

- Family planning exam and medical treatment – **open access service**
- Family planning lab and diagnostic tests – **open access service**
- Family planning methods (for example, birth control pills, patch, ring, Intrauterine Device (IUD), injections, implants) – **open access service**
- Family planning supplies with prescription (for example, condom, sponge, foam, film, diaphragm, cap) – **open access service**
- Counseling and diagnosis of infertility, including related services – **open access service**
- Treatment for medical conditions of infertility – **NOT** an open access service. You must go to a provider in the Plan network.

**Note:** This service does not include artificial ways to become pregnant.

- Counseling and testing for sexually transmitted disease (STDs), AIDS, and other HIV-related conditions – **open access service**
- Treatment for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) – **open access service**
- Voluntary sterilization – **open access service**

**Note:** You must be age 21 or over and you must sign a federal sterilization consent form. At least 30 days, but not more than 180 days, must pass between the date that you sign the form and the date of surgery.

- Genetic counseling – **open access service**
- Genetic testing – **NOT** an open access service. You must go to a provider in the Plan network.
- Treatment for AIDS and other HIV-related conditions – **NOT** an open access service. You must go to a provider in the Plan network.

### **Not Covered Services:**

- Artificial ways to become pregnant (artificial insemination, including in vitro fertilization and related services; fertility drugs and related services)
- Reversal of voluntary sterilization
- Sterilization of someone under conservatorship/guardianship

### **Notes:**

Federal and state law allow you to choose any physician, clinic, hospital, pharmacy, or family planning agency to get **open access services**, even if they are not in the Plan network.

## **Hearing Aids**

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### **Covered Services:**

- Hearing aid batteries
- Hearing aids
- Repair and replacement of hearing aids due to normal wear and tear, with limits

## **Home Care Services**

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### **Covered Services:**

- Skilled nurse visit
- Rehabilitation therapies to restore function (for example, speech, physical, occupational, respiratory)
- Home health aide visit

## **Hospice**

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### **Covered Services:**

Hospice benefits include coverage for the following services, when provided directly in response to the terminal illness:

- Physician services
- Nursing services
- Medical social services
- Counseling
- Medical supplies and equipment

- Outpatient drugs for symptom and pain control
- Dietary and other counseling
- Short-term inpatient care
- Respite care
- Home health aide and homemaker services
- Physical, occupational, and speech therapy
- Volunteers
- Other items and services included in the plan of care that are otherwise covered medical services

**Notes:**

You must elect hospice benefits to receive hospice services.

Members age 21 and under can still receive treatment for their terminal condition in addition to hospice services.

If you are interested in using hospice services, please call Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1.

## **Hospital – Inpatient**

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**Covered Services:**

Inpatient hospital services are covered if determined to be medically necessary. This includes:

- Inpatient hospital stay\*
- Your semi-private room and meals
- Private room when medically necessary
- Tests and X-rays
- Surgery\*
- Drugs
- Medical supplies
- Professional services
- Therapy services (for example, physical, occupational, speech, respiratory)

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\* Requires or may require a prior authorization.

### **Not Covered Services:**

- Personal comfort items, such as TV, phone, barber or beauty services, guest services
- Charges related to hospital care for investigative services, plastic surgery or cosmetic surgery are not covered unless determined medically necessary through the medical review process

### **Notes:**

Refer to Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Services section for more information on inpatient SUD benefits.

## **Hospital – Outpatient**

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### **Covered Services:**

- Urgent care for conditions that are not as serious as an emergency
- Outpatient surgical center
- Tests and X-rays
- Dialysis
- Emergency room services
- Post-stabilization care
- Observation services – if you're not admitted as an inpatient to the hospital, you may enter "outpatient observation" status until your provider determines your condition requires and inpatient admission to the hospital or a discharge home. Observation services are covered up to 48 hours. UCare will consider observation services up to 72 hours for unusual circumstances when submitted with additional documentation.

## **Interpreter Services**

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### **Covered Services:**

- Spoken language interpreter services
- Sign language interpreter services

### **Notes:**

Interpreter services are available to help you get services.

Refer to Interpreter Services in Section 1 for contact information and to find out which interpreters you can use.

## Medical Equipment and Supplies\*

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### Covered Services:

- Prosthetics or orthotics
- Durable medical equipment (for example, wheelchairs, hospital beds, walkers, crutches, and wigs for people with alopecia areata). Contact Customer Service for more information on coverage and benefit limits for wigs.
- Repairs of medical equipment
- Batteries for medical equipment
- Some shoes, when custom molded or part of a leg brace
- Oxygen and oxygen equipment
- Medical supplies you need to take care of your illness, injury, or disability
- Diabetic equipment and supplies
- Nutritional/enteral products when specific criteria are met
- Incontinence products
- Family planning supplies – **open access service**. Refer to Family Planning Services in this section.
- Augmentative communication devices, including electronic tablets
- Allergen-reducing products (for eligible members under the age of 19 who are diagnosed as having poorly controlled asthma)

### Not Covered Services:

- Constructive modifications to home, vehicle, or workplace, including bathroom grab bars
- Environmental products (such as air filters, purifiers, conditioners, dehumidifiers) unless covered as allergen-reducing products for eligible members
- Exercise equipment

### Notes:

You will need to go to your qualified health care provider and get a prescription in order for medical equipment and supplies to be covered.

Please call the durable medical equipment coverage criteria phone number in Section 1 if you need more information on our durable medical equipment coverage criteria.

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\* Requires or may require a prior authorization.

## Mental Health Services

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### Covered Services:

- Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC)
- Clinical Care Consultation
- Crisis response services including:
  - Screening
  - Assessment
  - Intervention
  - Stabilization including residential stabilization
  - Community intervention (*for members age 18 or older*)
- Diagnostic assessments including screening for the presence of co-occurring mental illness and substance use disorders
- Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT) Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) (*for adult members age 18 or older and adolescent members age 12-17 who meet certain criteria*)
- Forensic Assertive Community Treatment (FACT) (*for members age 18 or older*)
- Inpatient psychiatric hospital stay, including extended inpatient psychiatric hospital stay
- Mental health provider travel time
- Mental Health Targeted Case Management (MH-TCM)
- Outpatient mental health services including:
  - Explanation of findings
  - Family psychoeducation services (*for members under age 21*)
  - Mental health medication management
  - Neuropsychological services
  - Psychotherapy (patient and/or family, family, crisis, and group)
  - Psychological testing
- Physician Mental Health Services including:
  - Health and behavior assessment/intervention
  - Inpatient visits
  - Psychiatric consultations to primary care providers
  - Physician consultation, evaluation, and management
- Rehabilitative Mental Health Services including:
  - Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) (*for members age 18 or older*)

- Adult day treatment (*for members age 18 or older*)
- Adult Rehabilitative Mental Health Services (ARMHS) is available to members age 18 or older
- Certified family peer specialists (*for members under age 21*)
- Certified Peer Specialist (CPS) support services in limited situations
- Children’s mental health residential treatment services (*for members under age 21*)\*
- Children’s Therapeutic Services and Supports (CTSS) including Children’s Day Treatment (*for members under age 21*)
- Family psychoeducation services (*for members under age 21*)
- Intensive Residential Treatment Services (IRTS) (*for members over age 18*)
- Intensive Treatment Foster Care Services (*for members under age 21*)
- Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP)
- Intensive Rehabilitative Mental Health Services (IRMHS): (*for members ages 16 through 20*)
- Youth Assertive Community Treatment (Youth ACT): intensive non-residential rehabilitative mental health services (*for members ages eight (8) through 25*)
- Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) for members age 21 and under\*
- Telemedicine

**Not Covered Services:**

- Conversion therapy

The following services are not covered under the Plan but may be available through your county. Call your county for information. Also refer to Section 9.

- Treatment at Rule 36 facilities that are not licensed as Intensive Residential Treatment Services (IRTS)
- Room and board associated with Intensive Residential Treatment Services (IRTS)
- Treatment and room and board services at certain children’s residential mental health treatment facilities in bordering states

**Notes:**

Refer to Mental Health Services in Section 1 for information on where you should call or write.

Use a Plan network provider for mental health services.

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\* Requires or may require a prior authorization.

If we decide no structured mental health treatment is necessary, you may get a second opinion. For the second opinion, we must allow you to go to any qualified health professional that is not in the Plan network. We will pay for this. We must consider the second opinion, but we have the right to disagree with the second opinion. You have the right to appeal our decision.

We will not determine medical necessity for court-ordered mental health services. Use a Plan network provider for your court-ordered mental health assessment.

## **Obstetrics and Gynecology (OB/GYN) Services**

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### **Covered Services:**

- Doula services by a certified doula supervised by either a physician, nurse practitioner, or certified nurse midwife and registered with the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)
- Hospital services for newborns
- Treatment for newborns of HIV-positive mothers
- Testing and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) – **open access service**

### **Not Covered Services:**

- Abortion: This service is not covered under the Plan. It may be covered by the state. Call the Minnesota Health Care Programs Member Helpdesk at 651-431-2670 or 800-657-3739, or 711 (TTY), or use your preferred relay services for coverage information. This call is free. Also refer to Section 9.
- Planned home births

### **Notes:**

You have “direct access” to OB-GYN providers for the following services: annual preventive health exam, including follow-up exams that your qualified health care provider says are necessary; evaluation and treatment for gynecologic conditions or emergencies. To get the direct access services, you must go to a provider in the Plan network. For services labeled as **open access**, you can go to any qualified health care provider clinic, hospital, pharmacy, or family planning agency.

## **Optical Services**

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### **Covered Services:**

- Eye exams
- Initial eyeglasses, when medically necessary
- Replacement eyeglasses, when medically necessary
  - Identical replacement of covered eyeglasses for loss, theft, or damage beyond repair



- Repairs to frames and lenses for eyeglasses covered under the Plan
- Tinted, photochromatic (for example, Transition® lenses) or polarized lenses, when medically necessary
- Contact lenses, when medically necessary

**Not Covered Services:**

- Extra pair of glasses
- Progressive bifocal/trifocal lenses (without lines)
- Protective coating for plastic lenses
- Contact lens supplies

## **Out-of-Area Services**

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**Covered Services:**

- A service you need when temporarily out of the Plan service area\*. A prior authorization may be required to get medically necessary services (other than urgent or emergency services) when you are out of area. Please call Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1 for more information.
- A service you need after you move from our service area while you are still a Plan member\*
- Emergency services for an emergency that needs treatment right away
- Post-stabilization care
- Medically necessary urgent care when you are outside of the Plan service area. (Call Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1 as soon as possible.)
- Covered services that are not available in the Plan service area\*

**Not Covered Services:**

- Emergency, urgent, or other health care services or items supplied from providers located outside of the United States (U.S.). We will not make payment for health care to a provider or any entity outside of the U.S.

## **Out-of-Network Services**

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**Covered Services:**

- Certain services you need that you cannot get through a Plan network provider\*

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\* Requires or may require a prior authorization.

- Emergency services for an emergency that needs treatment right away
- Post-stabilization care
- A second opinion for mental health and substance use disorder
- Open access services
- Pregnancy-related services received in connection with an abortion (*does not include abortion-related services*)
- A non-emergency medical service you need when temporarily out of the network or plan service area that is or was prescribed, recommended, or is currently provided by a network provider\*

## Prescription Drugs

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### Covered Services:

- Prescription drugs
- Medication therapy management (MTM) services
- Certain over-the-counter drugs (*when prescribed by a qualified health care provider with authority to prescribe*)

### Not Covered Services:

- Drugs used to treat erectile or sexual dysfunction
- Drugs used to enhance fertility
- Drugs used for cosmetic purposes including drugs to treat hair loss
- Drugs excluded from coverage by federal or state law
- Experimental drugs, investigational drugs, or drugs not approved by the FDA
- Medical cannabis

### Notes:

The drug must be on our list of covered drugs (formulary).

The list of covered drugs (formulary) includes the prescription drugs covered by UCare. The drugs on the list are selected by the plan with the help of a team of doctors and pharmacists. The list has to be similar to the list covered by Fee-for-Service Medical Assistance (Medicaid). The list also must include drugs listed in the Department of Human Services' Preferred Drug List (PDL).

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\* Requires or may require a prior authorization.

In addition to the prescription drugs covered by UCare, some over-the-counter drugs are covered for you under your Medical Assistance (Medicaid) benefits. You can search for prescription drugs using our online search tool at [ucare.org/mhcp-druglist](https://ucare.org/mhcp-druglist). A list of covered drugs (formulary) is also posted on the website. You can also call Customer Service and ask for a written copy of our list of covered drugs (formulary).

If a drug you are currently taking is not covered under your new plan, you may be able to receive up to a 90-day temporary supply. For more information, call Customer Service.

Some covered drugs may have additional requirements or limits on coverage. These requirements and limits may include:

- **Prior Authorization (PA):** UCare requires you or your health care provider to get prior authorization for certain drugs. This means that you will need to get approval from UCare before you fill your prescriptions. If you don't get approval, UCare may not cover the drug.
- **Quantity Limits (QL):** For certain drugs, UCare limits the amount of the drug that UCare will cover.
- **Preferred/Non-Preferred (P/NP):** For some groups of drugs, UCare requires you to try the preferred drugs before paying for the non-preferred drugs. In order to receive a non-preferred drug, your doctor or health care provider will have to get prior authorization.
- **Age Requirements:** In some cases, there are age requirements for you to try certain drugs. A prior authorization is needed depending on your age and the specific drug prescribed.
- **Brand-name Drugs:** Brand-name version of the drug will be covered by UCare only when:
  1. Your prescriber informs UCare in writing that the brand name version of the drug is medically necessary; OR
  2. UCare prefers the dispensing of the brand-name version over the generic version of the drug; OR
  3. Minnesota Law requires the dispensing of the brand-name version of the drug

You can find out if your drug requires prior authorization, has quantity limits, has Preferred/Non-Preferred status, or has an age requirement by contacting Customer Service or visiting our website at [ucare.org/mhcp-druglist](https://ucare.org/mhcp-druglist). A drug restriction or limit can be removed if your doctor submits a statement or documentation supporting the request. You can also get more information about the restrictions applied to specific covered drugs by contacting Customer Service or visiting our website at [ucare.org/mhcp-druglist](https://ucare.org/mhcp-druglist).

If UCare changes prior authorization requirements, quantity limits, and/or other restrictions on a drug you are currently taking, UCare will notify you and your prescriber of the change at least 10 days before the change becomes effective.

We will cover a non-formulary drug if your qualified health care provider shows us that: 1) the drug that is normally covered has caused a harmful reaction to you; 2) there is a reason to believe the drug that is normally covered would cause a harmful reaction; or 3) the drug prescribed by your qualified health care provider is more effective for you than the drug that is normally covered. The drug must be in a class of drugs that is covered.

We will cover an antipsychotic drug, even if it is not on our drug list, if your provider certifies this is best for you. There is no copay for antipsychotic drugs. In certain cases, we will also cover other drugs used to treat a mental illness or emotional disturbance even if the drug is not on our approved drug list. We will do this for up to one year if your provider certifies the drug is best for you and you have been treated with the drug for 90 days before: 1) we removed the drug from our drug list; or 2) you enrolled in the Plan.

Most drugs and certain supplies are available up to a 30 day supply. Certain drugs you take on a regular basis for a chronic or long-term condition are available up to a 90-day supply and are identified on UCare’s List of Covered Drugs as “90 day.”

If UCare does not cover your drug or has restrictions or limits on your drug that you don’t think will work for you, you can do one of these things:

- You can ask your health care provider if there is another covered drug that will work for you.
- You and/or your health care provider can ask UCare to make an “exception” and cover the drug for you or remove the restrictions or limits. If your exception request is approved, the drug will be covered at the appropriate generic or brand name copay level.

If your qualified health care provider prescribes a drug that is not on our list of covered drugs or a drug that requires prior authorization, he or she should contact Express Scripts with medical reasons that justify asking for an exception. Your provider may submit an electronic prior authorization request to Express Scripts, or call, or fax using a request form. Express Scripts contact information is available on the UCare provider website. Members may also find information about the exception request process by logging in to the member portal on **member.ucare.org** calling Customer Service at the number listed in Section 1.

If pharmacy staff tells you the drug is not covered and asks you to pay, ask them to call your qualified health care provider. We cannot pay you back if you pay for it. There may be another drug that will work that is covered by us under the Plan. If the pharmacy won’t call your qualified health care provider, you can. You can also call Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1 for help.

Specialty drugs are used by people with complex or chronic diseases. These drugs often require special handling, dispensing, or monitoring by a specially-trained pharmacist.

If you are prescribed a drug that is on the UCare Specialty Drug List, your prescriber will need to send the prescription of that specialty drug to UCare’s Specialty Pharmacy.

**Name of Specialty Pharmacy:** Fairview Specialty Pharmacy

**Phone and TTY:** 612-672-5260 or 800-595-7140 This call is free.  
TTY call 711 and ask for 800-595-7140

**Fax:** 866-347-4939

**Hours of Operation:** 8 am – 7 pm, Monday – Friday; 8 am – 4 pm, Saturday. On call services offered 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

**Website:** [fairviewspecialtyrx.org](http://fairviewspecialtyrx.org)

You will also need to call the Specialty Pharmacy at 612-672-5260 or 800-595-7140 or TTY call the National Relay Center at 711 and ask for 800-595-7140 to set up an account. This call is free. You will need to have your UCare Member Identification (ID) card when you call the Specialty Pharmacy.

If you have Medicare, you will no longer remain eligible for MinnesotaCare. You need to get most of your prescription drugs through the Medicare Prescription Drug Program (Medicare Part D). You must be enrolled in a Medicare prescription drug plan to get these services. The Plan does not pay for prescriptions that are covered under the Medicare Prescription Drug Program.

## **Rehabilitation**

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### **Covered Services:**

- Rehabilitation therapies to restore function: physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy
- Audiology services including hearing tests

### **Not Covered Services:**

- Vocational rehabilitation
- Health clubs and spas

## **School Based Community Services (for members under age 21)**

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### **Covered Services:**

- Audiology
- Occupational Therapy
- Outpatient Mental Health Services
- Physical Therapy
- Public Health Nursing
- Speech Language Pathology

### **Not Covered Services:**

- Personal care assistance

- Assistive Technology
- Special Transportation
- Individualized Education Plan (IEP) services that are required to be covered through the school

## **Substance Use Disorder Services (SUD)**

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### **Covered Services:**

- Screening/Assessment/Diagnosis
- Outpatient treatment
- Inpatient hospital
- Residential non-hospital treatment
- Outpatient methadone treatment
- Detoxification (only when inpatient hospitalization is medically necessary because of conditions resulting from injury or accident or medical complications during detoxification)
- SUD treatment coordination
- Peer recovery support
- Withdrawal Management

### **Not Covered Services:**

Payment for room and board determined necessary by substance use disorder assessment is the responsibility of the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

### **Notes:**

Refer to Section 1 for Substance Use Disorder Services contact information.

A qualified assessor who is part of the Plan network will decide what type of substance use disorder care you need. You may get a second assessment if you do not agree with the first one. To get a second assessment you must send us a request. We must get your request within five working days of when you get the results of your first assessment or before you begin treatment (whichever is first). We will cover a second assessment by a different qualified assessor. We will do this within five working days of when we get your request. If you agree with the second assessment, you may access services according to substance use disorder standards and the second assessment. You have the right to appeal. Refer to Section 13 of this Member Handbook.

## **Surgery**

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### **Covered Services:**

- Office/clinic visits/surgery
- Removal of port wine stain birthmarks
- Reconstructive surgery (for example, following mastectomy, following surgery for injury, sickness or other diseases; for birth defects)\*
- Anesthesia services
- Circumcision when medically necessary
- Gender confirmation surgery

### **Not Covered Services:**

- Cosmetic surgery

## **Telehealth Services**

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### **Covered Services:**

- Telehealth services covers medically necessary services and consultations delivered by a licensed health care provider by telephone or video call with the member. The member's location can be their home.

## **Telemonitoring**

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Telemonitoring is the use of technology to provide care and support to a member's complex health needs from a remote location such as in a member's home. Telemonitoring can track a member's vital signs using a device or equipment that sends the data electronically to their provider for review. Examples of vital signs that can be monitored remotely include heart rate, blood pressure, and blood glucose levels.

### **Covered Services:**

- telemonitoring services for members with high-risk, medically complex conditions like congestive heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) or diabetes (when medically necessary)

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\* Requires or may require a prior authorization.

## **Transplants\***

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### **Covered Services:**

- Organ and tissue transplants, including: bone marrow, cornea, heart, heart-lung, intestine, intestine-liver, kidney, liver, lung, pancreas, pancreas-kidney, pancreatic islet cell, stem cell, and other transplants
- Ventricular Assist Device: inserted as a bridge to a heart transplant or as a destination therapy treatment

### **Notes:**

The type of transplant must be: 1) listed in the Minnesota Department of Human Services Provider Manual; 2) a type covered by Medicare; or 3) approved by the state's medical review agent.

Transplants must be done at a transplant center that is a Medicare approved transplant center.

Stem cell or bone marrow transplants centers must meet the standards set by the Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy (FACT).

## **Transportation to/from Medical Services (covered for members in the MinnesotaCare Child (under age 19) benefit set and for pregnant women enrolled in MinnesotaCare)**

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### **Covered Services:**

- Ambulance (air or ground includes transport on water)
- Volunteer driver transport
- Unassisted transport (taxicab or public transit)
- Assisted transport
- Lift-equipped/ramp transport
- Protected transport
- Stretcher transport

### **Not Covered Services:**

- Mileage reimbursement (for example, when you use your own car), meals, lodging, and parking also including out of state travel. These services are not covered under the Plan but

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\* Requires or may require a prior authorization.



may be available through the local county or tribal agency. Call your local county or tribal agency for more information.

**Notes:**

If you need transportation to and from health services that we cover, call the transportation phone number in Section 1. We will provide the most appropriate and cost-effective form of transportation.

The Plan is not required to provide transportation to your primary care clinic if it is more than 30 miles from your home or if you choose a specialty provider that is more than 60 miles from your home. Call the transportation phone number in Section 1 if you do not have a primary care clinic that is available within 30 miles of your home and/or if you do not have a specialty provider that is available within 60 miles of your home.

**HealthRide: We provide rides to and from medical appointments for eligible members who have no other means of transportation.**

Transportation is covered to places where you receive covered benefits, such as: a UCare network doctor's office (primary care provider and/or specialist), dental, mental health, and substance use disorder treatment providers. Rides are also provided to and from a pharmacy to pick up prescriptions.

Bus passes are available in the seven-county Minneapolis/St. Paul metro area, St. Cloud, Duluth, and greater St. Louis County, among other areas.

**How to schedule or cancel a ride:**

- You must schedule your ride with HealthRide at least two business days before your appointment to ensure transportation availability.
- You can order a bus pass from HealthRide (if available in your area) fourteen days prior to your scheduled appointment. If you have a bus pass you must use the bus for eligible medical appointments.
- Have the following information ready before you call HealthRide:
  - your member ID,
  - date of birth,
  - the address on file with the county,
  - the pick-up and drop-off address, and
  - your contact phone number (for pick-up).
- You must call HealthRide if you need to cancel your scheduled ride or change your destination.

**Things you should know about how to use your transportation benefit:**

- MinnesotaCare adults can call UCare HealthRide to arrange rides to breast cancer screening and colon cancer screening appointments.
- You cannot pick up or drop off anyone during your trip.
- You may bring an attendant.
- HealthRide reserves the right to verify appointments/prescriptions prior to providing rides.
- UCare may contact you to verify a ride if another individual is calling on your behalf.
- The driver will give you a card or a voucher with the company name and phone number on it. Keep it with you and call the number for your return ride.

## **Urgent Care**

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### **Covered Services:**

- Urgent care within the Plan service area
- Urgent care outside of the Plan service area

### **Not Covered Services:**

- Urgent, emergency, or other health care services delivered or items supplied from providers located outside of the United States (U.S.). We will not make payment for health care to a provider or any entity outside of the U.S.

### **Notes:**

An urgent condition is not as serious as an emergency. This is care for a condition that needs prompt treatment to stop the condition from getting worse. Urgent care is available 24 hours a day.

Call Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1 as soon as possible when you get urgent care outside the Plan service area.

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## **Section 8. Services we do not cover**

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If you get services or supplies that are not covered, you may have to pay for them yourself. Some “not covered” services and supplies are listed under each category in Section 7. Below is a list of other services and supplies that are not covered under the Plan. This is not a complete list. Call Customer Service for more information.

- Autopsies (exams that are done on the bodies of people who have died to find out the cause of death)
- Cosmetic procedures or treatments

- Emergency, urgent, or other health care services delivered or items supplied from providers located outside of the United States (U.S.). We will not make payment for health care to a provider or any entity outside of the U.S.
- Experimental or investigative services
- Health care services or supplies that are not medically necessary
- Homeopathic and herbal products
- Hospital inpatient and nursing home incidental services, such as TV, phone, barber and beauty services, and guest services
- Supplies that are not used to treat a medical condition

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## **Section 9. Services that are not covered under the Plan but may be covered through another source**

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These services are not covered under the Plan, but may be covered through another source, such as the state, county, federal government, tribe, or a Medicare prescription drug plan. To find out more about these services, call the Minnesota Health Care Programs Member Helpdesk at 651-431-2670 or 800-657-3739 or 711 (TTY), or use your preferred relay services. This call is free.

- Abortion services
- Case management for members with developmental disabilities
- Child welfare targeted case management
- Day training and habilitation services
- HIV case management
- Home Care Nursing (HCN) (*ONLY covered for members in the MinnesotaCare Child benefit set*)
- Intermediate care facility for members with developmental disabilities (ICF/DD)
- Job training and educational services
- Medically necessary services specified in an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) that are provided by a school district and covered under Medical Assistance (Medicaid)
- Mileage reimbursement (for example, when you use your own car), meals, lodging, and parking. Contact MinnesotaCare for more information.
- Nursing home stays

- Personal Care Assistance (PCA). Community First Services and Supports (CFSS) will replace PCA services, upon federal approval (*ONLY covered for members in the MinnesotaCare Child benefit set*)
- Post-arrest Community-Based Services Coordination
- Prescriptions covered under the Medicare Prescription Drug Program (Medicare Part D). You must be enrolled in a Medicare prescription drug plan to get these services. You are not eligible to remain enrolled in MinnesotaCare if you have Medicare.
- Room and board associated with Intensive Residential Treatment Services (IRTS)
- Room and board associated with treatment services at children’s residential mental health treatment facilities (Rule 5). Room and board may be covered by your county. Call your county for information.
- Services provided by federal institutions
- Services provided by a state regional treatment center or a state-owned long-term care facility unless approved by us or the service is ordered by a court under conditions specified in law
- Treatment at Rule 36 facilities that are not licensed as Intensive Residential Treatment Services (IRTS)
- Home and Community-Based Services waivers

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## **Section 10. When to call MinnesotaCare**

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Call MinnesotaCare at 651-297-3862, 800-657-3672, 711 TTY, or use your preferred relay services to report these changes:

- Name changes
- Address changes including moving out of Minnesota
- Pregnancy begin/end dates
- Addition or loss of a household member
- Lost or stolen Minnesota Health Care Program ID card
- New insurance or Medicare – begin/end dates
- Change in income including employment changes

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## **Section 11. Using the Plan coverage with other insurance**

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If you have or obtain other health insurance or Medicare, you will no longer remain eligible for MinnesotaCare. Make sure to tell the MinnesotaCare office about any other health insurance that covers you or your children.

If you have other insurance, tell us before you get care. We will let you know if you should use the Plan network providers or the health care providers used by your other insurance. We will coordinate our payments with them. This is called “coordination of benefits.” Examples of other insurance include:

- No-fault car insurance
- Workers’ compensation
- Medicare
- Tricare
- Other Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) coverage
- Other commercial insurance

When you become a member of the Plan, you agree to:

- Let us send bills to your other insurance
- Let us get information from your other insurance
- Let us get payments from your other insurance instead of having payments sent to you
- Help us get payments from your other insurance

If you have other insurance changes, call the MinnesotaCare office.

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## **Section 12. Subrogation or other claim**

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**This first paragraph applies to certain non-citizen members in any MinnesotaCare benefit set:**

You may have other sources of payment for your medical care. They might be from another person, group, insurance company, or other organization. If you have a claim against another source for injuries, we will make a claim for medical care we covered for you. State law requires you to help us do this. The claim may be recovered from any settlement or judgment received by you from another source. This is true even if you did not get full payment of your claim. The amount of the claim will not be more than state law allows.

**This second paragraph applies to members in the MinnesotaCare Child and MinnesotaCare benefit sets, except certain non-citizens:**

You may have other sources of payment for your medical care. They might be from another person, group, insurance company or other organization. Federal and state laws provide that Medical Assistance (Medicaid) benefits pay only if no other source of payment exists. If you have a claim against another source for injuries, we will make a separate claim for medical care we covered for you. The laws require you to help us do this. The claim may be recovered from any source that may be responsible for payment of the medical care we covered for you. The amount of the claim will not be more than federal and state laws allow.

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## **Section 13. Grievance, Appeal and State Appeal (Fair Hearing with the state) process**

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This section tells you about the grievance and appeal system including notices, grievances (complaints), health plan appeals, and State Appeals (Fair Hearings with the state). It tells you how and when to use the grievance and appeal system if you are not satisfied with your health care or service or disagree with a decision we made. It tells you about your rights when using the grievance and appeal system.

Please call Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1 if you have questions or want help filing a grievance or appeal.

### **Grievance and appeal system terms to know:**

**A grievance** is when you are not satisfied with the services you have received and may include any of the following:

- quality of care or services provided
- failure to respect your rights
- rudeness of a provider or health plan employee
- delay in appropriate treatment or referral
- not acting within required time frames for grievances and appeals

**A denial, termination or reduction (DTR) (notice of action)** is a form or letter we send you to tell you about a decision we made on a request for service, payment of a claim, or any other request. The notice will tell you how to file an appeal with the health plan or request a State Appeal (Fair Hearing with the state) if you disagree with our decision.

**A health plan appeal** is your request for us to review a decision we made. You may ask for an appeal if you disagree with our decision in any of the following **actions** (decisions):

- denial or limited authorization of the type or level of service requested by your provider

- reduction, suspension, or stopping of a service that was approved before
- denial of all or part of payment for a service
- not providing services (including transportation) in a reasonable amount of time
- denial of a member's request to get services out of network for members living in a rural area with only one health plan
- not providing a response to your grievance or appeal in the required timelines
- denial of your request to dispute your financial liability including copayments and other cost sharing

Your provider may Appeal on your behalf with your written consent. Your treating provider may Appeal a Prior Authorization decision without your consent.

**A State Appeal (Fair Hearing with the state)** is your request for the state to review a decision we made. You must appeal to UCare before asking for a State Appeal. If we take more than 30 days to decide your appeal and we have not asked for an extension, you do not need to wait for our decision to ask for a State Appeal. You may appeal any of these actions (decisions):

- denial or limited authorization of the type or level of service
- reduction, suspension, or stopping of a service that was approved before
- denial of all or part of a payment for a service
- not providing services in a reasonable amount of time
- our failure to act within required timelines for prior authorizations and appeals
- financial liability including copayments or other cost sharing
- any other action

### **Important Timelines for Appeals**

**You must follow the timelines for filing health plan appeals and State Appeals (Fair Hearings with the state). If you go over the time allowed, we may not review your appeal and the state may not accept your request for an appeal.**

You must appeal to us **within 60 days** from the date of the DTR (notice of action). We can give you more time if you have a good reason for missing the deadline. You must file an appeal with us **before** you request a State Appeal. If we take more than 30 days to decide your appeal and we have not asked for an extension, you can request a State Appeal without waiting for us.

You must request a State Appeal **within 120 days** of our appeal decision.

If we are stopping or reducing a service, you can keep getting the service if you file a health plan appeal **within 10 days** from the date on the notice, or before the service is stopped or reduced, whichever is later. **You must ask to keep getting the service when you file an appeal.** The

service can continue until the appeal is decided. If you lose the appeal, you may be billed for these services, but only if state policy allows it.

If you lose the appeal, you may keep getting the service during a State Appeal if you request a State Appeal within 10 days from the date of the decision on your plan appeal.

For the Restricted Recipient Program, a member who receives a notice of restriction may file an appeal with us. You must file an appeal **within 60 days** from the date on the notice. You must appeal within 30 days to prevent the restriction from being implemented during your appeal. You may request a State Appeal after receiving our decision.

### **To file an oral or written appeal with us:**

You may appeal by phone, writing, fax or in person. The contact information and address is found in Section 1 under “Appeals and Grievances.”

Fast appeals are for urgently needed services. If we agree that it is urgent, we will give you a decision within 72 hours. We will try to call you with the decision before we send the decision in writing.

We may take up to 14 extra days if we need more information and it is in your best interest or if you request extra time. We will tell you why we are taking the extra time.

If your appeal is not urgent, we will tell you within 10 days that we received it. We will give you a written decision within 30 days. We may take up to 14 extra days if we need more information and it is in your best interest or if you request extra time. We will tell you we are taking the extra time and why.

The person making the decision will not be the same person who was involved in the prior review or decision-making.

If we are deciding an appeal about a service that was denied because it was not medically necessary, the decision will be made by a health care professional with appropriate clinical expertise in treating your condition or disease.

You or your representative may present your information in person, by telephone, or in writing.

If you appeal, we will send you or your representative the case file upon request, including medical records and any other documents and records considered by us during the appeal process.

### **To file a State Appeal (Fair Hearing with the state) with the Minnesota Department of Human Services:**

You must file a health plan Appeal with us **before** you ask for a State Appeal. You must ask for a State Appeal **within 120 days** from the date of our appeal decision (resolution).



Your appeal to the state must be in writing. You can write to the Minnesota Department of Human Services to request a State Appeal.

**Write to:** Minnesota Department of Human Services  
Appeals Office  
PO Box 64941  
St. Paul, MN 55164-0941

**File online at:** <https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfservlet/Public/DHS-0033-ENG>

**Or fax to:** 651-431-7523

Tell the state why you disagree with the decision we made.

You can ask a friend, relative, advocate, provider, or lawyer to help you. Your provider must have your written permission to request a State Appeal for you.

A human services judge from the state Appeals Office will hold a hearing. You may ask to attend the hearing by telephone, by video, or in person. You can ask your providers or others to give testimony. You can provide documents for the judge to consider.

The process can take 90 days. If your hearing is about an urgently needed service, tell the Judge or the Ombudsman when you call or write to them.

If your hearing is about a service that was denied because it was not medically necessary, you may ask for review by a medical expert. The medical expert is independent of both the state and UCare. The state pays for this review. There is no cost to you.

If you do not agree with the human service judge's decision, you may ask the state to reconsider their decision. Send a written request for reconsideration to the Minnesota Department of Human Services Appeals Office within 30 days from the date of the decision. The contact information is listed earlier in this section.

If you do not agree with the state's decision, you may appeal to the district court in your county.

### **Grievances (Complaints)**

You may file a Grievance with us **at any time**. There is no timeline for filing a grievance with us. **To file an oral grievance with us:**

Call Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1 and tell us about the problem.

We will give you a decision within 10 days. We may take up to 14 more days to make a decision if we need more information and it will be in your best interest or if you or your provider requests extra time. We will tell you within 10 days that we are taking extra time and the reasons why.

If your grievance is about our denial of a fast appeal or a grievance about urgent health care issues, we will give you a decision within 72 hours.

**To file a written grievance with us:**

Send a letter to us about your grievance. Write to the address listed in Section 1 under “Appeals and Grievances.”

We can help you put your grievance in writing. Call Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1 if you need help.

We will tell you that we received your grievance within 10 days.

We will give you a written decision within 30 days. We may take up to 14 extra days if we need more information and it is in your best interest. We will tell you we are taking the extra time and why.

If you do not agree with our decision, you can file your complaint with the Minnesota Department of Health.

**Write to:** Minnesota Department of Health  
Health Policy and Systems Compliance Monitoring Division  
Managed Care Systems  
PO Box 64882  
St. Paul, MN 55164-0882

**Call:** 800-657-3916 (This call is free.) or 651-201-5100.

**TTY:** 711, or use your preferred relay services.

**Visit:** [health.state.mn.us/facilities/insurance/clearinghouse/complaints.html](http://health.state.mn.us/facilities/insurance/clearinghouse/complaints.html)

You can also call the Ombudsman for Public Managed Health Care Programs for help. The contact information is listed below this section.

**Important information about your rights when filing a grievance, appeal, or requesting a State Appeal (Fair Hearing with the state):**

If you decide to file a grievance or appeal, or request a State Appeal, it will not affect your eligibility for medical services. It will also not affect your enrollment in our health plan.

You can have a relative, friend, advocate, provider, or lawyer help with your grievance, appeal, or a State Appeal.

There is no cost to you for filing a health plan appeal, grievance, or a State Appeal. We may pay for some expenses such as transportation, childcare, photocopying, etc.

If you ask for your medical records or other documents we used to make our decision, or want copies, we or your provider must provide them to you at no cost. If you ask, we must give you a copy of the guidelines we used to make our decision, at no cost to you. You may need to put your request in writing.

If you need help with your grievance, appeal, or a State Appeal, you can call or write to the Ombudsman for Public Managed Health Care Programs. They may be able to help you with access, service, or billing problems. They can also help you file a grievance or appeal with us or request a State Appeal.

**Call:** 651-431-2660

800-657-3729 or 711 (TTY), or use your preferred relay service. This call is free.  
Hours of service are Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

Or

**Write to:** Ombudsman for Public Managed Health Care Programs  
PO Box 64249  
St. Paul, MN 55164-0249

**Fax to:** 651-431-7472

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## Section 14. Definitions

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These are the meanings of some words in this Member Handbook.

**Action:** This includes:

- denial or limited authorization of the type or level of service
- reduction, suspension, or stopping of a service that was approved before
- denial of all or part of payment for a service
- not providing services in a reasonable amount of time
- not acting within required time frames for grievances and appeals
- denial of a member's request to get services out-of-network for members living in a rural area with only one health plan

**Adult:** Minnesota Care members ages 21 and older are considered an adult for covered health services and cost sharing.

MinnesotaCare members ages 19 and 20 are considered an adult for covered health services with some additions noted in Section 7.

**Anesthesia:** Drugs that make you fall asleep for an operation.

**Appeal:** A way for you to challenge our action if you think we made a mistake. You can ask us to change a coverage decision by filing a written or oral appeal.

**Child:** MinnesotaCare members ages 18 and under are considered a child for covered health services and cost-sharing with some additions noted in Section 7.

MinnesotaCare members ages 19 and 20 are considered a child for cost sharing.

**Child and Teen Checkups (C&TC):** A special health care program of well-child visits for members under age 21. It includes screening to check for health problems. It also includes referrals for diagnosis and treatment, if necessary.

**Clinical Trial:** A qualified medical study test that is: subject to a defined peer review; sponsored by a clinical research program that meets federal and state rules and approved standards; and whose true results are reported.

**Coinsurance:** An amount you may be required to pay as your share of the cost for services or items. Coinsurance is usually a percentage (for example, 10%).

**Copay/Copayment:** A fixed amount you may pay as your share of the cost each time you get certain services, supplies, or prescription drugs. Co-pays are usually paid at the time services, supplies, or prescription drugs are provided. For example, you might pay \$7-25 for prescription drugs or \$25 for services etc.

**Cost Sharing:** Amounts you may be responsible to pay toward your medical services. Refer to Section 6 for information on cost sharing.

**Covered Services:** The health care services that are eligible for payment.

**Cultural Competency:** Cultural and language competence is the ability of managed care organizations and the providers within their network to provide care to members with diverse values, beliefs and behaviors, and to tailor the delivery of care to meet members' social, cultural, and language needs. The ultimate goal is a health care delivery system and workforce that can deliver the highest quality of care to every patient, regardless of race, ethnicity, cultural background, language proficiency, literacy, age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, religion, or socioeconomic status.

**Denial, Termination or Reduction (DTR) (Notice of Action):** A form or letter we send you to tell you about a decision on a claim, service, or any other action taken by us.

**Direct Access Services:** You can go to any provider in the Plan network to get these services. You do not need a referral or prior authorization from your PCP or PCC before getting services.

**Durable Medical Equipment (DME):** Certain medical equipment that is ordered by your doctor for use at home. Examples are walkers, wheelchairs, oxygen equipment and supplies.

**Emergency:** A medical emergency is when you, or any other person with an average knowledge of health and medicine, believe that you have medical symptoms that need immediate medical attention to prevent death, loss of a body part, or loss of function of a body part or could cause serious physical or mental harm. The medical symptoms may be a serious injury or severe pain. This is also called Emergency Medical Condition.

**Emergency Care/Services:** Covered services that are given by a provider trained to give emergency services and needed to treat a medical emergency. This is also called Emergency Room Care.

**Emergency Medical Transportation:** Ambulance services for an emergency medical condition.

**Excluded Services:** Services the plan does not pay for. Medical Assistance (Medicaid) will not pay for them either.

**Experimental Service:** A service that has not been proven to be safe and effective.

**External Quality Review Study:** A study about how quality, timeliness and access of care are provided by UCare. This study is external and independent.

**Family Planning:** Information, services, and supplies that help a person decide about having children. These decisions include choosing to have a child, when to have a child, or not to have a child.

**Fee-for-Service (FFS):** A method of payment for health services. The medical provider bills the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) directly. DHS pays the provider for the medical services. This method is used when you are eligible for Minnesota Health Care Programs but are not enrolled in a health plan.

**Formulary:** The list of drugs covered under the Plan.

**Grievance:** A complaint you make about us or one of our network providers or pharmacies. This includes a complaint about the quality of your care.

**Home Health Care:** Health care services for an illness or injury given in the home or in the community where normal life activities take the member.

**Hospice:** A special program for members who are terminally ill and not expected to live more than six months to live comfortably for the rest of the member's time. It offers special services for the member and his or her family. This is also known as Hospice Services.

**Hospitalization:** Care in a hospital that requires admission as an inpatient and usually requires an overnight stay.

**Hospital Outpatient Care:** Care in a hospital that usually doesn't require an overnight stay.

**Inpatient Hospital Stay:** A stay in a hospital or treatment center that usually lasts 24 hours or more.

**Investigative Service:** A service that has not been proven to be safe and effective.

**Medically Necessary:** This describes services, supplies, or drugs you need to prevent, diagnose, or treat your medical condition or to maintain your current health status. This includes care that keeps you from going into a hospital or nursing home. It also means the services, supplies, or drugs meet accepted standards of medical practice. Medically necessary care is appropriate for your condition. This includes care related to physical conditions and behavioral health (including Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder). It includes the kind and level of services. It includes the number of treatments. It also includes where you get the services and how long they continue. Medically necessary services must:

- be the services, supplies and prescription drugs other providers would usually order.
- help you get better or stay as well as you are.
- help stop your condition from getting worse.
- help prevent or find health problems

**Medicare:** The federal health insurance program for people age 65 or over. It is also for some people under age 65 with disabilities, and people with End Stage Renal Disease.

**Medicare Prescription Drug Plan:** An insurance plan that offers Medicare Prescription Drug Program (Medicare Part D) drug benefits.

**Medicare Prescription Drug Program:** The prescription drug benefit for Medicare members. It is sometimes called Medicare Part D. Drug coverage is provided through a Medicare prescription drug plan.

**Member:** A person who is receiving services through a certain program, such as a Minnesota Health Care Program or Medicare.

**Member Handbook:** This is the document you are reading. This document tells you what services are covered under the Plan. It tells what you must do to get covered services. It tells your rights and responsibilities. It also tells our rights and responsibilities.

**Network:** Our contracted health care providers for the Plan.

**Network Providers:** These are providers who agree to work with the health plan and accept our payment and not charge our members an extra amount. While you are a member of our plan, you must use network providers to get covered services. Network providers are also called plan providers or participating providers.

**Ombudsman for Public Managed Health Care Programs:** A person at the Minnesota Department of Human Services who can help you with access, service or billing problems. The ombudsman can also help you file a grievance or appeal or request a State Appeal (Fair Hearing with the state).

**Open Access Services:** Federal and state law allow you to choose any qualified health care provider, clinic, hospital, pharmacy, or family planning agency - even if not in our network - to get these services.

**Outpatient Hospital Services:** Services provided at a hospital or outpatient facility that are not at an inpatient level of care. These services may also be available at your clinic or another health facility.

**Out-of-Area Services:** Health care provided to a member by an out-of-network provider outside of the Plan service area.

**Out-of-Network Provider or Out-of-Network Facility:** A provider or facility that is not employed, owned, or operated by our plan and is not under contract to provide covered services to members of our plan. This is also known as a non-participating provider.

**Out-of-Network Services:** Health care provided to a member by a provider who is not part of the Plan network.

**Physician Incentive Plan:** Special payment arrangements between us and the doctor or doctor group that may affect the use of referrals. It may also affect other services that you might need.

**Physician Services:** Services provided by an individual licensed under state law to practice medicine or osteopathy. Health care services a licensed medical physician (M.D. – Medical Doctor or D.O. – Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine) provides or coordinates.

**Plan:** An organization that has a network of doctors, hospitals, pharmacies, providers of long-term services, and other providers. It also has care coordinators to help you.

**Post-stabilization Care:** A hospital service needed to help a person's conditions stay stable after having emergency care. It starts when the hospital asks for our approval for coverage. It continues until: the person is discharged; our Plan network qualified health care provider begins care; or we, the hospital, and qualified health care provider agree to a different arrangement.

**Premium:** The periodic payment to Medicare, an insurance company, or a health care plan for health or prescription drug coverage.

**Prescriptions:** Medicines and drugs ordered by a medical provider.

**Prescription Drug Coverage:** A health plan that helps pay for prescription drugs and medications. Also refer to “Medicare Prescription Drug Program.”

**Preventive Services:** Services that help you stay healthy, such as routine physicals, immunizations, and well-person care. These services help find and prevent health problems. Follow-up on conditions that have been diagnosed (like a diabetes checkup) are *not* preventive.

**Primary Care Clinic:** The primary care clinic (PCC) you choose for your routine care. This clinic will provide most of your care.

**Primary Care Provider:** Your primary care provider (PCP) is the doctor or other qualified health care provider you go to at your primary care clinic. This person will manage your health care.

**Prior Authorization:** Our approval that is needed for some services before you get them. This is also known as preauthorization or service authorization.

**Provider:** A qualified health care professional or facility approved under state law to provide health care.

**Quality of care complaint:** For purposes of this handbook, “quality of care complaint” means an expressed dissatisfaction regarding health care services resulting in potential or actual harm to a member. Quality of care complaints may include: access; provider and staff competence; clinical appropriateness of care; communications; behavior; facility and environmental considerations; and other factors that could impact the quality of health care services.

**Rehabilitation Services and Devices:** Treatment and equipment you get to help you recover from an illness, accident or major operation.

**Restricted Recipient Program (RRP):** A program for members who have received medical care and have not followed the rules or have misused services. If you are in this program, you must get health services from one designated primary care provider, one pharmacy, one hospital or other designated health care provider. You must do this for at least 24 months of eligibility for Minnesota Health Care Programs. Members in this program who fail to follow program rules will be required to continue in the program for an additional 36 months.

**Second Opinion:** If you do not agree with an opinion you get from a Plan network provider, you have the right to get an opinion from another provider. We will pay for this. For mental health services, the second opinion may be from an out-of-network provider. For substance use disorder services, the second opinion will be from a different qualified assessor who does not need to be in the Plan network. We must consider the second opinion but do not have to accept a second opinion for substance use disorder or mental health services.

**Service Area:** The area where a person must live to be able to become or remain a member of the Plan. Contact Customer Service at the phone number in Section 1 for details about the service area.

**Service Authorization:** Our approval that is needed for some services before you get them. This is also known as preauthorization or prior authorization.



**Skilled Nursing Care:** Care or treatment that can only be done by licensed nurses.

**Specialist:** A doctor who provides health care for a specific disease or part of the body.

**Standing Authorization:** Written consent from us to go to an out-of-network specialist more than one time (for ongoing care.)

**State Appeal (Fair Hearing with the state):** A hearing at the state to review a decision made by us. You must request a hearing in writing. Your provider may request a State Appeal with your written consent. You may ask for a hearing if you disagree with any of the following:

- a denial, termination, or reduction of services
- enrollment in the Plan
- denial of part or all of a claim for a service
- our failure to act within required timelines for prior authorizations and appeals
- any other action

**Subrogation:** Our right to collect money in your name from another person, group, or insurance company. We have this right when you get medical coverage under this Plan for a service that is covered by another source or third party payer.

**Substance Use Disorder:** Using alcohol or drugs in a way that harms you.

**United States:** For the purpose of this Member Handbook, the United States includes the fifty states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, The Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

**Urgently Needed Care:** Care you get for a sudden illness, injury, or condition that is not an emergency but needs care right away. This is also known as Urgent Care.

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## Section 15. Additional information

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### Health and Wellness Education Programs

For eligible members, UCare offers programs to improve your health and wellbeing. For a full list of our programs, visit [ucare.org/healthwellness](https://ucare.org/healthwellness).

- Get help to quit smoking, chewing tobacco and vaping through coaching with the Tobacco and Nicotine Quit Line.

### Physical Activity Programs

- LivingWell Kid Kits designed for members age 17 and younger to live well and feel well. Eligible for one kit per year.

- Health Club Savings for members age 18 years and older. Receive a monthly reimbursement in health club dues membership fees when you visit the health club at least 12 times per calendar month.

### **Discounts**

- Community Education discounts on eligible classes through local school districts.
- Save on pre-qualified healthy foods including milk, lean meats, eggs, fruits, vegetables and more with the Healthy Savings program. Download the free app, scan it at check-out and get instant discount.

Healthy Savings is a registered trademark of Solutran, Inc.

### **Pregnancy and New Parent Support**

UCare offers a variety of services to help members who are pregnant or postpartum, and young families. These include:

- Management of Maternity Services (MOMS) program to support expectant mothers stay healthy during and after pregnancy.
- Breast pumps and resources to help with breastfeeding for new mothers.
- Childbirth, breastfeeding and pregnancy-related education classes.
- Car seat and car seat safety education at no cost from UCare through our Seats, Education And Travel Safety (SEATS) program. For eligible members who are either pregnant, or are children under age 8.
- Caring for your baby booklet and resources to help you keep your child healthy from birth to two years.

For more information on these programs, visit [ucare.org/healthwellness](http://ucare.org/healthwellness) or call UCare Customer Service at 612-676-3200 or 800-203-7225, 8 am – 5 pm, Monday – Friday. This call is free. Or call our TTY number at 612-676-6810 or 800-688-2534. This call is free.

### **Virtual Visits**

#### **No-cost E-visits or virtual visits through virtuwell: Virtual visits**

UCare offers unlimited virtual (online) visits at no cost through [virtuwell.com](http://virtuwell.com). You can use [virtuwell.com](http://virtuwell.com) to get care online 24/7 with no appointment needed. A virtuwell Board Certified Nurse Practitioner can diagnose and treat over 60 minor conditions including flu, pink eye, skin conditions, and urinary tract infections (UTIs). You can access care without leaving your home and pick up any prescribed medications sent to your network pharmacy. There is no app to download or video required and you can access [virtuwell.com](http://virtuwell.com) through any device.

### **Disease management**

Education and support to better understand and manage your health. Get help managing your health condition(s) through UCare's Disease Management programs. We offer personalized support from a health coach or asthma educator over the phone. What's more, participants receive tools to help set and meet personal health goals. Begin your health journey today!

- **Asthma Education Program** (adults & children): Personalized education over the phone to help you know about and control your asthma triggers, symptoms and medications. You'll go over your Asthma Action Plan and learn when to look for medical advice or attention for your asthma.
- **Diabetes, Heart Failure and Migraine Health Coaching** (adults): Personalized health coaching over the phone from a health coach who understands your condition and how it impacts daily life. The health coach will work with you to develop, assess and adjust your health goals. Program goals are for you to self-manage your condition and to improve your overall health and well-being.
- **Coronary artery disease (CAD), chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), diabetes, heart failure, hypertension** (adults): Daily telemonitoring with nurse support to help with self-management of your chronic condition.
- **Diabetes and hypertension:** Manage your diabetes and/or blood pressure from your phone with education and reminders to help you manage your health. The app lets you chat with dietitians and health experts in real time to get the support you need, whenever you need it.

For more information on these programs, visit [ucare.org/healthwellness](https://ucare.org/healthwellness) or call UCare's Disease Management Team at 866-863-8303. This call is free. Or call our TTY number at 800-688-2534. This call is free.

## Questions and answers about health care directives

### Minnesota Law

Minnesota law allows you to inform others of your health care wishes. You have the right to state your wishes or appoint an agent in writing so that others will know what you want if you can't tell them because of illness or injury. The information that follows tells about health care directives and how to prepare them. It does not give every detail of the law.

### What is a health care directive?

A health care directive is a written document that informs others of your wishes about your health care. It allows you to name a person ("agent") to decide for you if you are unable to decide. It also allows you to name an agent if you want someone else to decide for you. You must be at least 18 years old to make a health care directive.

### Why have a health care directive?

A health care directive is important if your attending physician determines you can't communicate your health care choices (because of physical or mental incapacity). It is also important if you wish to have someone else make your health care decisions. In some circumstances, your directive may state that you want someone other than an attending physician to decide when you cannot make your own decisions.

## **Do I have to have a health care directive? What happens if I don't have one?**

You don't have to have a health care directive. But writing one helps to make sure your wishes are followed. You will still receive medical treatment if you don't have a written directive. Health care providers will listen to what people close to you say about your treatment preferences, but the best way to be sure your wishes are followed is to have a health care directive.

## **How do I make a health care directive?**

There are forms for health care directives. You don't have to use a form, but your health care directive must meet the following requirements to be legal:

- Be in writing and dated.
- State your name.
- Be signed by you or someone you authorize to sign for you, when you can understand and communicate your health care wishes.
- Have your signature verified by a notary public or two witnesses.
- Include the appointment of an agent to make health care decisions for you and/or instructions about the health care choices you wish to make.

Before you prepare or revise your directive, you should discuss your health care wishes with your doctor or other health care provider. Information about how to obtain forms for preparation of your health care directive can be found at the end of this document, under "How to obtain additional information."

## **I prepared my directive in another state. Is it still good?**

Health care directives prepared in other states are legal if they meet the requirements of the other state's laws or the Minnesota requirements. But requests for assisted suicide will not be followed.

## **What can I put in a health care directive?**

You have many choices of what to put in your health care directive. For example, you may include:

- The person you trust as your agent to make health care decisions for you. You can name alternative agents in case the first agent is unavailable, or joint agents.
- Your goals, values, and preferences about health care.
- The types of medical treatment you would want (or not want).
- How you want your agent or agents to decide.
- Where you want to receive care.
- Instructions about artificial nutrition and hydration.
- Mental health treatments that use electroshock therapy or neuroleptic medications.

- Instructions if you are pregnant.
- Donation of organs, tissues, and eyes.
- Funeral arrangements.
- Who you would like as your guardian or conservator if there is a court action.

You may be as specific or as general as you wish. You can choose which issues or treatments to deal with in your health care directive.

### **Are there any limits to what I can put in my health care directive?**

There are some limits about what you can put in your health care directive. For instance:

- Your agent must be at least 18 years of age.
- Your agent cannot be your health care provider, unless the health care provider is a family member or you give reasons for the naming of the agent in your directive.
- You cannot request health care treatment that is outside of reasonable medical practice.
- You cannot request assisted suicide.

### **How long does a health care directive last? Can I change it?**

Your health care directive lasts until you change or cancel it. As long as the changes meet the health care directive requirements listed above, you may cancel your directive by any of the following:

- A written statement saying you want to cancel it.
- Destroying it.
- Telling at least two other people you want to cancel it.
- Writing a new health care directive.

### **What if my health care provider refuses to follow my health care directive?**

Your health care provider generally will follow your health care directive, or any instructions from your agent, as long as the health care follows reasonable medical practice. But you or your agent cannot request treatment that will not help you or which the provider cannot provide. If the provider cannot follow your agent's directions about life-sustaining treatment, the provider must inform the agent. The provider must also document the notice in your medical record. The provider must allow the agent to arrange to transfer you to another provider who will follow the agent's directions.

### **What if I've already prepared a health care document? Is it still good?**

Before August 1, 1998, Minnesota law provided for several other types of directives, including living wills, durable health care powers of attorney, and mental health declarations. The law changed so people can use one form for all their health care instructions. Forms created before August 1, 1998, are still legal if they followed the law in effect when written. They are also legal

if they meet the requirements of the new law (described above). You may want to review any existing documents to make sure they say what you want and meet all requirements.

### **What should I do with my health care directive after I have signed it?**

You should inform others of your health care directive and give people copies of it. You may wish to inform family members, your health care agent or agents, and your health care providers that you have a health care directive. You should give them a copy. It's a good idea to review and update your directive as your needs change. Keep it in a safe place where it is easily found.

### **What if I believe a health care provider has not followed health care directive requirements?**

Complaints of this type can be filed with the Office of Health Facility Complaints at 651-201-4200 (Metro area) or 800-369-7994. This call is free. TTY users, please call 651-201-5797. Or email: [health.ohfc-complaints@state.mn.us](mailto:health.ohfc-complaints@state.mn.us).

### **What if I believe a health plan has not followed health care directive requirements?**

Complaints of this type can be filed with the Minnesota Health Information Clearinghouse at 651-201-5178 or 800-657-3793. This call is free. TTY users, please call 651-201-5797. Email: [health.clearinghouse@state.mn.us](mailto:health.clearinghouse@state.mn.us).

### **How to obtain additional information**

If you want more information about health care directives, please contact your health care provider, your attorney, or Minnesota Board on Aging's Senior LinkAge Line® at 800-333-2433. This call is free. TTY: Minnesota Relay at 711 or 800-627-3529. This call is free. A suggested health care directive form is available on the internet at [ucare.org/advance-directives](http://ucare.org/advance-directives).

## **How UCare evaluates new technologies**

If your provider recommends a new technology that is not currently covered, UCare has a process to evaluate new technologies. When new technologies enter the marketplace (devices, procedures or drugs), UCare's clinical and quality committees and medical directors carefully research and review new technologies before determining their medical necessity and/or appropriateness. We use information gathered from many sources in our evaluation efforts, including the Hayes, Inc. Technology Assessment Reports, published peer-reviewed medical literature, consensus statements and guidelines from national medical associations and physician specialty societies, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), other regulatory bodies, and internal and external expert sources.

## **Authorization and notification**

UCare wants you to get the best care for your needs. One of the ways we do that is by working with your doctor to review some services and procedures. The Member Handbook says which care or services require UCare notification or authorization. This list may change. Some examples include spine surgery and home health care.

**Notification**

Hospitals are required to notify UCare if you are admitted to a hospital, long term care facility (LTAC), or skilled nursing facility (SNF). UCare's clinical team then coordinates with your doctors to make sure you are getting the care you need. UCare may also set up post-hospital care if needed.

**Authorization**

Some services require UCare approval. This approval needs to happen before, during or soon after the service is completed. Your provider is responsible for getting approval. This is true for providers in UCare's network and providers out-of-network.

Pre-authorization, or pre-service review, means that before you get the service, your provider must give information to UCare and request approval. If pre-approval is required for a service, it will only be covered if the approval is granted.

Urgent concurrent and concurrent review often occurs during a LTAC or SNF stay. This gives UCare an opportunity to review your care plan. During review, UCare will see if some of your care might need to be extended or if different care will be needed.

Post-service review is needed if your doctor didn't request pre-service review. Your claim may have initially been denied because authorization is required for coverage. Your doctor should provide information to UCare for review. UCare's clinical team will review your care plan to make sure you get the coverage you are entitled to as a UCare member.

To make a coverage decision, UCare's clinical team evaluates if the service is medically necessary, appropriate and effective for your needs.

If we deny a request made by you or your doctor, you or your doctor may appeal our decision. When you file an appeal, you or your doctor may submit additional documentation. Doctors review appeal requests against current medical evidence and your benefit plan. If we deny your appeal, you will be given information on how to file a second level appeal.

For more information, go to **ucare.org**.