



January 1 – December 31, 2020

EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE

Your Medicare Health Benefits and Services and Prescription Drug Coverage as a Member of Cigna-HealthSpring TotalCare (HMO D-SNP)

This booklet gives you the details about your Medicare health care and prescription drug coverage from January 1 – December 31, 2020. It explains how to get coverage for the health care services and prescription drugs you need. **This is an important legal document. Please keep it in a safe place.**

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

This document is available for free in Spanish.

Please contact our Customer Service number at 1-800-668-3813 for additional information. (TTY users should call 711.) Hours are October 1 – March 31, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time, 7 days a week. From April 1 – September 30, Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time. Messaging service used weekends, after hours, and on federal holidays.

To get information from us in a way that works for you, please call Customer Service (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). We can give you information in Braille, in large print, and other alternate formats if you need it.

Benefits, premium, deductible, and/or copayments/coinsurance may change on January 1, 2021.

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

2020 Evidence of Coverage
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CHAPTER 1

Getting started as a member

Chapter 1. Getting started as a member

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SECTION 1 Introduction**Section 1.1 You are enrolled in Cigna-HealthSpring TotalCare (HMO D-SNP), which is a specialized Medicare Advantage Plan (Special Needs Plan)**

You are covered by both Medicare and Medicaid:

- **Medicare** is the Federal health insurance program for people 65 years of age or older, some people under age 65 with certain disabilities, and people with end-stage renal disease (kidney failure).
- **Medicaid** is a joint Federal and state government program that helps with medical costs for certain people with limited incomes and resources. Medicaid coverage varies depending on the state and the type of Medicaid you have. Some people with Medicaid get help paying for their Medicare premiums and other costs. Other people also get coverage for additional services and drugs that are not covered by Medicare.

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

There are different types of Medicare health plans. Cigna-HealthSpring TotalCare (HMO D-SNP) is a specialized Medicare Advantage Plan (a Medicare “Special Needs Plan”), which means its benefits are designed for people with special health care needs. Cigna-HealthSpring TotalCare (HMO D-SNP) is designed specifically for people who have Medicare and who are also entitled to assistance from Texas Health and Human Services Commission (Medicaid).

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

Cigna-HealthSpring TotalCare (HMO D-SNP) is run by a private company. Like all Medicare Advantage Plans, this Medicare Special Needs Plan is approved by Medicare. We are pleased to be providing your Medicare health care coverage, including your prescription drug coverage.

Coverage under this Plan qualifies as Qualifying Health Coverage (QHC) and satisfies the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act’s (ACA) individual shared responsibility requirement. Please visit the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) website at: <https://www.irs.gov/Affordable-Care-Act/Individuals-and-Families> for more information.

Section 1.2 What is the *Evidence of Coverage* booklet about?

This *Evidence of Coverage* booklet tells you how to get your Medicare medical care and prescription drugs covered through our plan. This booklet explains your rights and responsibilities, what is covered, and what you pay as a member of the plan.

The word “coverage” and “covered services” refers to the medical care and services and the prescription drugs available to you as a member of Cigna-HealthSpring TotalCare (HMO D-SNP).

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

If you are confused or concerned or just have a question, please contact our plan’s Customer Service (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

Section 1.3 Legal information about the *Evidence of Coverage***It’s part of our contract with you**

This *Evidence of Coverage* is part of our contract with you about how our plan covers your care. Other parts of this contract include your enrollment form, the *List of Covered Drugs (Formulary)*, and any notices you receive from us about changes to your coverage or conditions that affect your coverage. These notices are sometimes called “riders” or “amendments.”

The contract is in effect for the months in which you are enrolled in our plan between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020.

Each calendar year, Medicare allows us to make changes to the plans that we offer. This means we can change the costs and benefits of our plan after December 31, 2020. We can also choose to stop offering the plan, or to offer it in a different service area, after December 31, 2020.

Medicare must approve our plan each year

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

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

Section 2.1 Your eligibility requirements

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

- You have both Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B (Section 2.2 tells you about Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B)
- — *and* — You live in our geographic service area (Section 2.3 below describes our service area)
- — *and* — You are a United States citizen or are lawfully present in the United States
- — *and* — You do not have End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD), with limited exceptions, such as if you develop ESRD when you are already a member of a plan that we offer, or you were a member of a different plan that was terminated
- — *and* — You meet the special eligibility requirements described below.

Special eligibility requirements for our plan

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

Please note: If you lose your eligibility but can reasonably be expected to regain eligibility within 6 month(s), then you are still eligible for membership in our plan (Chapter 4, Section 2.1 tells you about coverage and cost-sharing during a period of deemed continued eligibility).

Section 2.2 What are Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B?

When you first signed up for Medicare, you received information about what services are covered under Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B. Remember:

- Medicare Part A generally helps cover services provided by hospitals (for inpatient services, skilled nursing facilities, or home health agencies).
- Medicare Part B is for most other medical services (such as physicians' services and other outpatient services) and certain items (such as durable medical equipment (DME) and supplies).

Section 2.3 What is Medicaid?

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

In addition, there are programs offered through Texas Health and Human Services Commission (Medicaid) that help people with Medicare pay their Medicare costs, such as their Medicare premiums. These "Medicare Savings Programs" help people with limited income and resources save money each year:

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

Section 2.4 Here is the plan service area for our plan

Although Medicare is a Federal program, our plan is available only to individuals who live in our plan service area. To remain a member of our plan, you must continue to reside in the plan service area. The service area is described below.

Our service area includes these counties in Texas: Henderson, Rusk, Smith, Upshur, Van Zandt

If you plan to move out of the service area, please contact Customer Service (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). When you move, you will have a Special Enrollment Period that will allow you to switch to Original Medicare or enroll in a Medicare health or drug plan that is available in your new location.

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

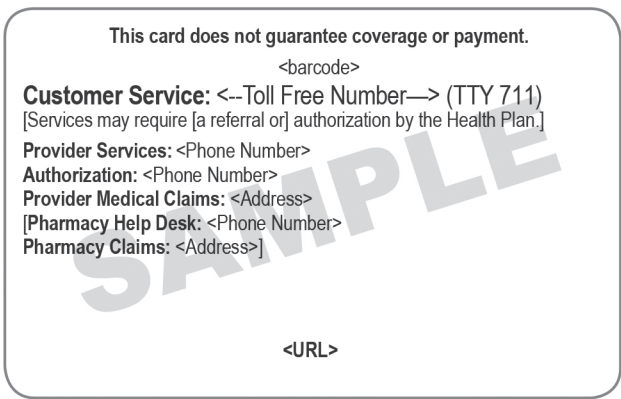
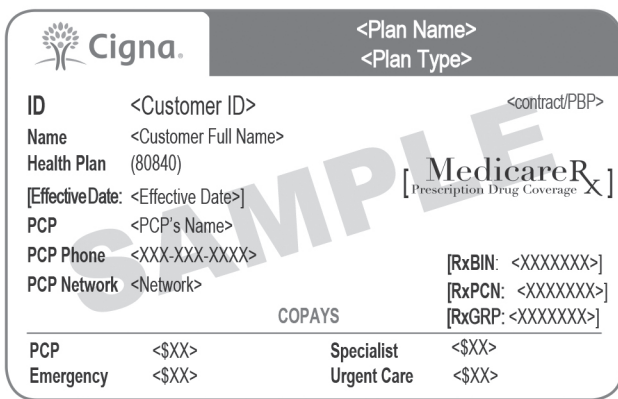
Section 2.5 U.S. Citizen or Lawful Presence

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

SECTION 3 What other materials will you get from us?

Section 3.1 Your plan membership card — Use it to get all covered care and prescription drugs

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



As long as you are a member of our plan, in most cases, **you must not use your red, white, and blue Medicare card** to get covered medical services (with the exception of routine clinical research studies and hospice services). You may be asked to show your Medicare card if you need hospital services. Keep your red, white, and blue Medicare card in a safe place in case you need it later.

Here's why this is so important: If you get covered services using your red, white, and blue Medicare card instead of using your Cigna-HealthSpring TotalCare (HMO D-SNP) membership card while you are a plan member, you may have to pay the full cost yourself.

If your plan membership card is damaged, lost, or stolen, call Customer Service right away and we will send you a new card. (Phone numbers for Customer Service are printed on the back cover of this booklet.)

Section 3.2 The Provider and Pharmacy Directory: Your guide to all providers in the plan's network

The *Provider and Pharmacy Directory* lists our network providers and durable medical equipment suppliers.

What are "network providers"?

Network providers are the doctors and other health care professionals, medical groups, durable medical equipment suppliers, hospitals, and other health care facilities that have an agreement with us to accept our payment and any plan cost-sharing as payment in full. We have arranged for these providers to deliver covered services to members in our plan. The most recent list of providers and suppliers is available on our website at www.cignamedicare.com.

Why do you need to know which providers are part of our network?

It is important to know which providers are part of our network because, with limited exceptions, while you are a member of our plan you must use network providers to get your medical care and services. When you select a Primary Care Physician (PCP), you are also selecting an entire network (a specific group of Plan providers) of specialists and hospitals to which your PCP will refer you. If there are specific specialists or hospitals you want to use, you must find out whether your PCP sends his/her patients to those providers. Each plan PCP has certain plan specialists and hospitals they use for referrals. This means the PCP you select will determine the specialists and hospitals you may use. Please call Customer Service for details regarding the specialists and hospitals you may use. The only exceptions are emergencies, urgently needed services when the network is not available (generally, when you are out of the area), out-of-area dialysis services, and cases in which our plan authorizes use of out-of-network providers. See Chapter 3 (*Using the plan's coverage for your medical services*) for more specific information about emergency, out-of-network, and out-of-area coverage.

You must go to a Texas Health and Human Services Commission (Medicaid) provider to get Medicaid services. For more information about Medicaid provider participation, please contact your state Medicaid Agency. This information is listed in Chapter 2, Section 6.

If you don't have your copy of the *Provider and Pharmacy Directory*, you can request a copy from Customer Service (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You may ask Customer Service for more information about our network providers, including their qualifications. You can also see the *Provider and Pharmacy Directory* at www.cignamedicare.com, or download it from this website. Both Customer Service and the website can give you the most up-to-date information about changes in our network providers.

Section 3.3 The Provider and Pharmacy Directory: Your guide to pharmacies in our network**What are “network pharmacies”?**

Network pharmacies are all of the pharmacies that have agreed to fill covered prescriptions for our plan members.

Why do you need to know about network pharmacies?

You can use the *Provider and Pharmacy Directory* to find the network pharmacy you want to use. There are changes to our network of pharmacies for next year. An updated *Provider and Pharmacy Directory* is located on our website at www.cignamedicare.com. You may also call Customer Service for updated provider information or to ask us to mail you a *Provider and Pharmacy Directory*.

Please review the 2020 Provider and Pharmacy Directory to see which pharmacies are in our network.

If you don't have the *Provider and Pharmacy Directory*, you can get a copy from Customer Service (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). At any time, you can call Customer Service to get up-to-date information about changes in the pharmacy network. You can also find this information on our website at www.cignamedicare.com. Both Customer Service and the website can give you the most up-to-date information about changes in our network pharmacies.

Section 3.4 The plan's List of Covered Drugs (Formulary)

The plan has a *List of Covered Drugs (Formulary)*. We call it the “Drug List” for short. It tells which Part D prescription drugs are covered under the Part D benefit included in our plan. In addition to the drugs covered by Part D, some prescription drugs are covered for you under your Medicaid benefits. The Drug List tells you how to find out which drugs are covered under Medicaid.

The drugs on this list are selected by the plan with the help of a team of doctors and pharmacists. The list must meet requirements set by Medicare. Medicare has approved the Cigna-HealthSpring TotalCare (HMO D-SNP) Drug List.

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

We will provide you a copy of the Drug List. The Drug List we provide you includes information for the covered drugs that are most commonly used by our members. However, we cover additional drugs that are not included in the provided Drug List. If one of your drugs is not listed in the Drug List, you should visit our website or contact Customer Service to find out if we cover it. To get the most complete and current information about which drugs are covered, you can visit the plan's website (www.cignamedicare.com) or call Customer Service (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

Section 3.5 The Part D Explanation of Benefits (the “Part D EOB”): Reports with a summary of payments made for your Part D prescription drugs

When you use your Part D prescription drug benefits, we will send you a summary report to help you understand and keep track of payments for your Part D prescription drugs. This summary report is called the *Part D Explanation of Benefits* (or the “Part D EOB”).

The *Part D Explanation of Benefits* tells you the total amount you, or others on your behalf, have spent on your Part D prescription drugs and the total amount we have paid for each of your Part D prescription drugs during the month. Chapter 6 (*What you pay for your Part D prescription drugs*) gives more information about the *Explanation of Benefits* and how it can help you keep track of your drug coverage.

A *Part D Explanation of Benefits* summary is also available upon request. To get a copy, please contact Customer Service (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

SECTION 4 Your monthly premium for our plan**Section 4.1 How much is your plan premium?**

As a member of our plan, you pay a monthly plan premium. For 2020, the monthly premium for Cigna-HealthSpring TotalCare (HMO D-SNP) is \$20.80. In addition, you must continue to pay your Medicare Part B premium (unless your Part B premium is paid for you by Texas Health and Human Services Commission (Medicaid) or another third party).

In some situations, your plan premium could be more

In some situations, your plan premium could be more than the amount listed above in Section 4.1. This situation is described below.

- Some members are required to pay a Part D **late enrollment penalty** because they did not join a Medicare drug plan when they first became eligible or because they had a continuous period of 63 days or more when they didn’t have “creditable” prescription drug coverage. (“Creditable” means the drug coverage is expected to pay, on average, at least as much as Medicare’s standard prescription drug coverage.) For these members, the Part D late enrollment penalty is added to the plan’s monthly premium. Their premium amount will be the monthly plan premium plus the amount of their Part D late enrollment penalty.
 - If you receive “Extra Help” from Medicare to pay for your prescription drugs, you will not pay a late enrollment penalty.
 - If you ever lose your low income subsidy (“Extra Help”), you would be subject to the monthly Part D late enrollment penalty if you have ever gone without creditable prescription drug coverage for 63 days or more.
 - If you are required to pay the Part D late enrollment penalty, the cost of the late enrollment penalty depends on how long you went without Part D or creditable prescription drug coverage.

Some members are required to pay other Medicare premiums

In addition to paying the monthly plan premium, some members are required to pay other Medicare premiums. As explained in Section 2 above, in order to be eligible for our plan, you must maintain your eligibility for Medicaid as well as have both Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B. For most Cigna-HealthSpring TotalCare (HMO D-SNP) members, Texas Health and Human Services Commission (Medicaid) pays for your Part A premium (if you don’t qualify for it automatically) and for your Part B premium. If Texas Health and Human Services Commission (Medicaid) is not paying your Medicare premiums for you, you must continue to pay your Medicare premiums to remain a member of the plan.

If your modified adjusted gross income as reported on your IRS tax return from 2 years ago is above a certain amount, you’ll pay the standard premium amount and an Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount, also known as IRMAA. IRMAA is an extra charge added to your premium.

- If you have to pay an extra amount, Social Security, **not your Medicare plan**, will send you a letter telling you what that extra amount will be. If you had a life-changing event that caused your income to go down, you can ask Social Security to reconsider their decision.
- **If you are required to pay the extra amount and you do not pay it, you will be disenrolled from the plan.**

- You can also visit <https://www.medicare.gov> on the Web or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048. Or you may call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213. TTY users should call 1-800-325-0778.

Your copy of *Medicare & You 2020* gives information about these premiums in the section called “2020 Medicare Costs.” Everyone with Medicare receives a copy of *Medicare & You* each year in the fall. Those new to Medicare receive it within a month after first signing up. You can also download a copy of *Medicare & You 2020* from the Medicare website (<https://www.medicare.gov>). Or, you can order a printed copy by phone at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users call 1-877-486-2048.

Section 4.2 There are several ways you can pay your plan premium

There are 3 ways you can pay your plan premium. Please select your premium payment option when you complete your enrollment form. You can also call Customer Service to let us know which option you choose or if you want to make a change.

If you decide to change the way you pay your premium, it can take up to three months for your new payment method to take effect. While we are processing your request for a new payment method, you are responsible for making sure that your plan premium is paid on time.

Option 1: You can pay by check

Your monthly plan premium is due monthly, but you can pay quarterly or yearly if you choose. You may decide to pay your monthly plan premium directly to our plan. You must submit to us your check or money order made payable to Cigna by the last day of the month. Please include your member ID number on the check. Do not make your check payable to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) or to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Payment should be sent to Cigna, P.O. Box 847990, Dallas, TX 75284-7990. Payments mailed to a different Cigna address will delay the processing of the payment.

Option 2: You can pay by automatic monthly withdrawals from your bank account

Instead of paying by check, you can have your monthly plan premium automatically withdrawn from your bank account. To have your monthly premium withdrawn from your bank account by an Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT), please contact Customer Service. We will automatically deduct your premium on or about the 15th of each month (if the 15th falls on a weekend, the deduction will be made the following business day).

Option 3: You can have the plan premium taken out of your monthly Social Security check

You can have the plan premium taken out of your monthly Social Security check. Contact Customer Service for more information on how to pay your monthly plan premium this way. We will be happy to help you set this up. (Phone numbers for Customer Service are printed on the back cover of this booklet.)

What to do if you are having trouble paying your plan premium

Your plan premium is due in our office by the last day of the month.

If you are having trouble paying your premium on time, please contact Customer Service to see if we can direct you to programs that will help with your plan premium. (Phone numbers for Customer Service are printed on the back cover of this booklet.)

Section 4.3 Can we change your monthly plan premium during the year?

No. We are not allowed to change the amount we charge for the plan’s monthly plan premium during the year. If the monthly plan premium changes for next year, we will tell you in September and the change will take effect on January 1.

However, in some cases the part of the premium that you have to pay can change during the year. This happens if you become eligible for the “Extra Help” program or if you lose your eligibility for the “Extra Help” program during the year. If a member qualifies for “Extra Help” with their prescription drug costs, the “Extra Help” program will pay part of the member’s monthly plan premium. A member who loses their eligibility during the year will need to start paying their full monthly premium. You can find out more about the “Extra Help” program in Chapter 2, Section 7.

SECTION 5 Please keep your plan membership record up to date

Section 5.1 How to help make sure that we have accurate information about you

Your membership record has information from your enrollment form, including your address and telephone number. It shows your specific plan coverage, including your Primary Care Provider/Medical Group/IPA. A Medical Group is an association of primary care providers (PCPs), specialists and/or ancillary providers, such as therapists and radiologists. An Independent Physician Association, or IPA, is a group of primary care and specialty care physicians who work together in coordinating your medical needs.

The doctors, hospitals, pharmacists, and other providers in the plan’s network need to have correct information about you. **These network providers use your membership record to know what services and drugs are covered and the cost-sharing amounts for you.** Because of this, it is very important that you help us keep your information up to date.

Let us know about these changes:

- Changes to your name, your address, or your phone number
- Changes in any other health insurance coverage you have (such as from your employer, your spouse’s employer, workers’ compensation, or Medicaid)
- If you have any liability claims, such as claims from an automobile accident
- If you have been admitted to a nursing home
- If you receive care in an out-of-area or out-of-network hospital or emergency room
- If your designated responsible party (such as a caregiver) changes
- If you are participating in a clinical research study

If any of this information changes, please let us know by calling Customer Service (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

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

Read over the information we send you about any other insurance coverage you have

Medicare requires us to collect information from you about any other medical insurance coverage and/or drug insurance coverage that you may have. This is because we must coordinate any other coverage you have with your benefits under our plan. (For more information about how our coverage works when you have other insurance, see Section 7 in this chapter.)

Once a year, and also when Medicare informs us of changes in your other insurance coverage, we will send you a letter along with a questionnaire to confirm the other insurance coverage. Please complete the questionnaire and return it to us or call Customer Service to let us know if you still have the other insurance coverage or if it has ended. If you have other medical insurance coverage or drug insurance coverage that is not listed in the letter, please call Customer Service to let us know about this other coverage (the Customer Service phone number is printed on the back cover of this booklet).

SECTION 6 We protect the privacy of your personal health information

Section 6.1 We make sure that your health information is protected

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

For more information about how we protect your personal health information, please go to Chapter 8, Section 1.4 of this booklet.

SECTION 7 How other insurance works with our plan

Section 7.1 Which plan pays first when you have other insurance?

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

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

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

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

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

Texas Health and Human Services Commission (Medicaid) and TRICARE never pay first for Medicare-covered services. They only pay after Medicare and/or employer group health plans have paid.

If you have other insurance, tell your doctor, hospital, and pharmacy. If you have questions about who pays first, or you need to update your other insurance information, call Customer Service (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You may need to give your plan member ID number to your other insurers (once you have confirmed their identity) so your bills are paid correctly and on time.

CHAPTER 2

*Important phone numbers
and resources*

Chapter 2. Important phone numbers and resources

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SECTION 1 Plan contacts

(how to contact us, including how to reach Customer Service at the plan)

How to contact our plan’s Customer Service

For assistance with claims, billing, or member card questions, please call or write to Cigna-HealthSpring TotalCare (HMO D-SNP) Customer Service. We will be happy to help you.

Method	Customer Service – Contact Information
CALL	1-800-668-3813 Calls to this number are free. Customer Service is available October 1 – March 31, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time, 7 days a week. From April 1 – September 30, Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time. Messaging service used weekends, after hours, and on federal holidays. Customer Service also has free language interpreter services available for non-English speakers.
TTY	711 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking. Calls to this number are free. Customer Service is available October 1 – March 31, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time, 7 days a week. From April 1 – September 30, Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time. Messaging service used weekends, after hours, and on federal holidays.
FAX	1-888-766-6403
WRITE	Cigna, Attn: Member Services, 2800 North Loop West, Houston, TX 77092 LetUsHelpYou@healthspring.com
WEBSITE	www.cignamedicare.com

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

A coverage decision is a decision we make about your benefits and coverage or about the amount we will pay for your medical services. For more information on asking for coverage decisions about your medical care, see Chapter 9 (*What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)*).

You may call us if you have questions about our coverage decision process.

Method	Coverage Decisions for Medical Care – Contact Information
CALL	1-800-668-3813 Calls to this number are free. Customer Service is available October 1 – March 31, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time, 7 days a week. From April 1 – September 30, Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time. Messaging service used weekends, after hours, and on federal holidays.
TTY	711 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking. Calls to this number are free. Customer Service is available October 1 – March 31, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time, 7 days a week. From April 1 – September 30, Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time. Messaging service used weekends, after hours, and on federal holidays.
FAX	1-888-766-6403
WRITE	Cigna, Attn: Precertification Department, P.O. Box 20002, Nashville, TN 37202

How to contact us when you are making an appeal about your medical care

An appeal is a formal way of asking us to review and change a coverage decision we have made. For more information on making an appeal about your medical care, see Chapter 9 (*What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)*).

Method	Appeals for Medical Care – Contact Information
CALL	1-800-511-6943 Calls to this number are free. Hours are Monday – Friday, 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. local time. Messaging service used weekends, after hours, and on federal holidays.
TTY	711 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking. Calls to this number are free. Hours are Monday – Friday, 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. local time. Messaging service used weekends, after hours, and on federal holidays.
FAX	1-800-931-0149
WRITE	Cigna, Attn: Part C Appeals, P.O. Box 24087, Nashville, TN 37202-4087

How to contact us when you are making a complaint 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. This type of complaint does not involve coverage or payment disputes. (If your problem is about the plan's coverage or payment, you should look at the section above about making an appeal.) For more information on making a complaint about your medical care, see Chapter 9 (*What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)*).

Method	Complaints about Medical Care – Contact Information
CALL	1-800-668-3813 Calls to this number are free. Customer Service is available October 1 – March 31, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time, 7 days a week. From April 1 – September 30, Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time. Messaging service used weekends, after hours, and on federal holidays.
TTY	711 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking. Calls to this number are free. Customer Service is available October 1 – March 31, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time, 7 days a week. From April 1 – September 30, Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time. Messaging service used weekends, after hours, and on federal holidays.
WRITE	Cigna, Attn: Member Grievances, P.O. Box 2888, Houston, TX 77252
MEDICARE WEBSITE	You can submit a complaint about our plan directly to Medicare. To submit an online complaint to Medicare go to https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx .

How to contact us when you are asking for a coverage decision about your Part D prescription drugs

A coverage decision is a decision we make about your benefits and coverage or about the amount we will pay for your prescription drugs covered under the Part D benefit included in your plan. For more information on asking for coverage decisions about your Part D prescription drugs, see Chapter 9 (*What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)*).

Method	Coverage Decisions for Part D Prescription Drugs – Contact Information
CALL	1-800-668-3813 Calls to this number are free. Customer Service is available October 1 – March 31, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time, 7 days a week. From April 1 – September 30, Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time. Messaging service used weekends, after hours, and on federal holidays.
TTY	711 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking. Calls to this number are free. Customer Service is available October 1 – March 31, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time, 7 days a week. From April 1 – September 30, Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time. Messaging service used weekends, after hours, and on federal holidays.
FAX	1-866-845-7267
WRITE	Cigna, Attn: Coverage Determination & Exceptions, P.O. Box 20002, Nashville, TN 37202
WEBSITE	www.cignamedicare.com

How to contact us when you are making an appeal about your Part D prescription drugs

An appeal is a formal way of asking us to review and change a coverage decision we have made. For more information on making an appeal about your Part D prescription drugs, see Chapter 9 (*What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)*).

Method	Appeals for Part D Prescription Drugs – Contact Information
CALL	1-800-668-3813 Calls to this number are free. Customer Service is available October 1 – March 31, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time, 7 days a week. From April 1 – September 30, Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time. Messaging service used weekends, after hours, and on federal holidays.
TTY	711 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking. Calls to this number are free. Customer Service is available October 1 – March 31, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time, 7 days a week. From April 1 – September 30, Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time. Messaging service used weekends, after hours, and on federal holidays.
FAX	1-866-593-4482
WRITE	Cigna, Attn: Part D Appeals, P.O. Box 24207, Nashville, TN 37202-9910
WEBSITE	www.cignamedicare.com

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

You can make a complaint about us or one of our network pharmacies, including a complaint about the quality of your care. This type of complaint does not involve coverage or payment disputes. (If your problem is about the plan's coverage or payment, you should look at the section above about making an appeal.) For more information on making a complaint about your Part D prescription drugs, see Chapter 9 (*What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)*).

Method	Complaints about Part D prescription drugs – Contact Information
CALL	1-800-668-3813 Calls to this number are free. Customer Service is available October 1 – March 31, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time, 7 days a week. From April 1 – September 30, Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time. Messaging service used weekends, after hours, and on federal holidays.
TTY	711 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking. Calls to this number are free. Customer Service is available October 1 – March 31, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time, 7 days a week. From April 1 – September 30, Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time. Messaging service used weekends, after hours, and on federal holidays.
WRITE	Cigna, Attn: Member Grievances, P.O. Box 2888, Houston, TX 77252
MEDICARE WEBSITE	You can submit a complaint about our plan directly to Medicare. To submit an online complaint to Medicare go to https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx .

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

For more information on situations in which you may need to ask us for reimbursement or to pay a bill you have received from a provider, see Chapter 7 (*Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs*).

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

Method	Payment Requests – Contact Information	
WRITE	Part C (Medical Services) Cigna Attn: Direct Member Reimbursement, Medical Claims P.O. Box 20002, Nashville, TN 37202	Part D (Prescription Drugs) Cigna Attn: Direct Member Reimbursement, Pharmacy P.O. Box 20002, Nashville, TN 37202
WEBSITE	www.cignamedicare.com	

SECTION 2 Medicare

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

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

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

Method	Medicare – Contact Information
CALL	<p>1-800-MEDICARE, or 1-800-633-4227</p> <p>Calls to this number are free.</p> <p>24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p>
TTY	<p>1-877-486-2048</p> <p>This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.</p> <p>Calls to this number are free.</p>
WEBSITE	<p>https://www.medicare.gov</p> <p>This is the official government website for Medicare. It gives you up-to-date information about Medicare and current Medicare issues. It also has information about hospitals, nursing homes, physicians, home health agencies, and dialysis facilities. It includes booklets you can print directly from your computer. You can also find Medicare contacts in your state.</p> <p>The Medicare website also has detailed information about your Medicare eligibility and enrollment options with the following tools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medicare Eligibility Tool: Provides Medicare eligibility status information. • Medicare Plan Finder: Provides personalized information about available Medicare prescription drug plans, Medicare health plans, and Medigap (Medicare Supplement Insurance) policies in your area. These tools provide an <i>estimate</i> of what your out-of-pocket costs might be in different Medicare plans. <p>You can also use the website to tell Medicare about any complaints you have about our plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tell Medicare about your complaint: You can submit a complaint about our plan directly to Medicare. To submit a complaint to Medicare, go to https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx. Medicare takes your complaints seriously and will use this information to help improve the quality of the Medicare program. <p>If you don't have a computer, your local library or senior center may be able to help you visit this website using its computer. Or, you can call Medicare and tell them what information you are looking for. They will find the information on the website, print it out, and send it to you. (You can call Medicare at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.)</p>

SECTION 3 State Health Insurance Assistance Program

(free help, information, and answers to your questions about Medicare)

The State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) is a government program with trained counselors in every state. In Texas, the SHIP is called Texas Health Information Counseling & Advocacy Program (HICAP).

Texas Health Information Counseling & Advocacy Program (HICAP) is independent (not connected with any insurance company or health plan). It is a state program that gets money from the Federal government to give free local health insurance counseling to people with Medicare.

Texas Health Information Counseling & Advocacy Program (HICAP) counselors can help you with your Medicare questions or problems. They can help you understand your Medicare rights, help you make complaints about your medical care or treatment, and help you straighten out problems with your Medicare bills. Texas Health Information Counseling & Advocacy Program (HICAP) counselors can also help you understand your Medicare plan choices and answer questions about switching plans.

Method	Texas Health Information Counseling & Advocacy Program (HICAP) – Contact Information
CALL	1-800-252-9240
TTY	711 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
WRITE	Texas Health Information Counseling & Advocacy Program (HICAP), Texas Department of Insurance, P.O. Box 149104, Austin, TX 78714-9104
WEBSITE	https://hhs.texas.gov/services/health/medicare

SECTION 4 Quality Improvement Organization

(paid by Medicare to check on the quality of care for people with Medicare)

There is a designated Quality Improvement Organization for serving Medicare beneficiaries in each state. For Texas, the Quality Improvement Organization is called KEPRO.

KEPRO has a group of doctors and other health care professionals who are paid by the Federal government. This organization is paid by Medicare to check on and help improve the quality of care for people with Medicare. KEPRO is an independent organization. It is not connected with our plan.

You should contact KEPRO in any of these situations:

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

Method	KEPRO (Texas' Quality Improvement Organization) – Contact Information
CALL	1-888-315-0636 Hours are Mon. – Fri. 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., weekends and holidays: 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
TTY	1-855-843-4776 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
WRITE	KEPRO, 5201 W. Kennedy Blvd., Suite 900, Tampa, FL 33609
WEBSITE	www.keproqio.com

SECTION 5 Social Security

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

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

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

Method	Social Security – Contact Information
CALL	1-800-772-1213 Calls to this number are free. Available 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. You can use Social Security’s automated telephone services to get recorded information and conduct some business 24 hours a day.
TTY	1-800-325-0778 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking. Calls to this number are free. Available 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.
WEBSITE	https://www.ssa.gov

SECTION 6 Medicaid

(a joint Federal and state program that helps with medical costs for some people with limited income and resources)

As described in Chapter 1, Section 2.1, to be a member of our plan, you must be enrolled in Medicare Part A, Medicare Part B, and Medicaid.

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

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

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

If you have questions about the assistance you get from Medicaid, contact Texas Health and Human Services Commission (Medicaid).

Method	Texas Health and Human Services Commission – Contact Information
CALL	1-512-424-6500 or 1-800-252-8263 Hours are Mon. – Fri. 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
TTY	1-800-735-2989 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
WRITE	Texas Health and Human Services Commission, Brown-Heatly Building, 4900 N. Lamar Boulevard, Austin, TX 78751-2316
WEBSITE	https://yourtexasbenefits.hhsc.texas.gov/

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission – Office of the Ombudsman helps people enrolled in Texas Health and Human Services Commission (Medicaid) with service or billing problems. They can help you file a grievance or appeal with our plan.

Method	Texas Health and Human Services Commission – Office of the Ombudsman – Contact Information
CALL	1-877-787-8999 Hours are Mon. – Fri. 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
TTY	1-800-735-2989 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
WRITE	Texas Health and Human Services Commission, Office of the Ombudsman, MC H-700, P.O. Box 13247, Austin, TX 78711-3247
WEBSITE	https://hhs.texas.gov/about-hhs/your-rights/hhs-office-ombudsman

The Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman helps people get information about nursing homes and resolve problems between nursing homes and residents or their families.

Method	Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman – Contact Information
CALL	1-800-252-2412 Hours are Mon. – Fri. 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
TTY	711 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
WRITE	Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman, Texas Health and Human Services, P.O. Box 149030, Austin, TX 78714-9030
WEBSITE	www.dads.state.tx.us/news_info/ombudsman/

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

Medicare's “Extra Help” Program

Most of our members qualify for and are already getting “Extra Help” from Medicare to pay for their prescription drug plan costs.

Medicare provides “Extra Help” to pay prescription drug costs for people who have limited income and resources. Resources include your savings and stocks, but not your home or car. Those who qualify get help paying for any Medicare drug plan’s monthly premium, yearly deductible, and prescription copayments. This “Extra Help” also counts toward your out-of-pocket costs.

People with limited income and resources may qualify for “Extra Help.” Some people automatically qualify for “Extra Help” and don’t need to apply. Medicare mails a letter to people who automatically qualify for “Extra Help.”

If you have questions about “Extra Help,” call:

- 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week;
- The Social Security Office at 1-800-772-1213, between 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. TTY users should call 1-800-325-0778; or
- Texas Health and Human Services Commission (Medicaid) (See Section 6 of this chapter for contact information).

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

- Please contact Customer Service to request assistance or to provide one of the documents listed below to establish your correct copay level. Please note that any document listed below must show that you were eligible for Medicaid during a month after June of the previous year:
 1. A copy of your Medicaid card which includes your name, eligibility date and status level;
 2. A report of contact including the date a verification call was made to Texas Health and Human Services Commission (Medicaid) and the name, title and telephone number of the state staff person who verified the Medicaid status;
 3. A copy of a state document that confirms active Medicaid status;
 4. A print out from the state electronic enrollment file showing Medicaid status;
 5. A screen print from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (Medicaid) systems showing Medicaid status;
 6. Other documentation provided by the State showing Medicaid status;
 7. A Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Notice of Award with an effective date; or
 8. An Important Information letter from the Social Security Administration (SSA) confirming that you are “...automatically eligible for Extra Help...”
- If you are a member that is institutionalized, please provide one or more of the following:
 1. A remittance from a long-term care facility showing Medicaid payment for a full calendar month;
 2. A copy of a state document that confirms Medicaid payment to a long term care facility for a full calendar month on your behalf;
 3. A screen print from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (Medicaid) systems showing your institutional status based on at least a full calendar month’s stay for Medicaid payment purposes.
 4. For Individuals receiving home- and community-based services (HCBS), you may submit a copy of:
 - a) A state-issued Notice of Action, Notice of Determination, or Notice of Enrollment that includes the beneficiary’s name and HCBS eligibility date during a month after June of the previous calendar year;
 - b) A state-approved HCBS Service Plan that includes the beneficiary’s name and effective date beginning during a month after June of the previous calendar year;
 - c) A state-issued prior authorization approval letter for HCBS that includes the beneficiary’s name and effective date beginning during a month after June of the previous calendar year;
 - d) Other documentation provided by the State showing HCBS eligibility status during a month after June of the previous calendar year; or,
 - e) A state-issued document, such as a remittance advice, confirming payment for HCBS, including the beneficiary’s name and the dates of HCBS.
- When we receive the evidence showing your copayment level, we will update our system so that you can pay the correct copayment when you get your next prescription at the pharmacy. If you overpay your copayment, we will reimburse you. Either we will forward a check to you in the amount of your overpayment or we will offset future copayments. If the pharmacy hasn’t collected a copayment from you and is carrying your copayment as a debt owed by you, we may make the payment directly to the pharmacy. If a state paid on your behalf, we may make payment directly to the state. Please contact Customer Service if you have questions (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

What if you have coverage from a State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program (SPAP)?

If you are enrolled in a State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program (SPAP), or any other program that provides coverage for Part D drugs (other than “Extra Help”), you still get the 70% discount on covered brand name drugs. Also, the plan pays 5% of the costs of brand drugs in the coverage gap. The 70% discount and the 5% paid by the plan are both applied to the price of the drug before any SPAP or other coverage.

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

The AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) helps ADAP-eligible individuals living with HIV/AIDS have access to life-saving HIV medications. Medicare Part D prescription drugs that are also covered by ADAP qualify for prescription cost-sharing assistance through the Texas HIV Medication Program. Note: To be eligible for the ADAP operating in your State, individuals must meet certain criteria, including proof of State residence and HIV status, low income as defined by the State, and uninsured/under-insured status.

If you are currently enrolled in an ADAP, it can continue to provide you with Medicare Part D prescription cost-sharing assistance for drugs on the ADAP formulary. In order to be sure you continue receiving this assistance, please notify your local ADAP enrollment worker of any changes in your Medicare Part D plan name or policy number.

For information on eligibility criteria, covered drugs, or how to enroll in the program, please call your state’s AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) at the phone number listed below.

Method	Texas HIV Medication Program – Contact Information
CALL	1-800-255-1090 Hours are Mon. – Fri. 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
WRITE	Texas HIV Medication Program, MSJA, MC 1873, P.O. Box 149347, Austin, TX 78714-9347
WEBSITE	http://www.dshs.texas.gov/hivstd/meds/

What if you get “Extra Help” from Medicare to help pay your prescription drug costs? Can you get the discounts?

Most of our members get “Extra Help” from Medicare to pay for their prescription drug plan costs. If you get “Extra Help,” the Medicare Coverage Gap Discount Program does not apply to you. If you get “Extra Help,” you already have coverage for your prescription drug costs during the coverage gap.

What if you don’t get a discount, and you think you should have?

If you think that you have reached the coverage gap and did not get a discount when you paid for your brand name drug, you should review your next *Part D Explanation of Benefits* (Part D EOB) notice. If the discount doesn’t appear on your *Part D Explanation of Benefits*, you should contact us to make sure that your prescription records are correct and up-to-date. If we don’t agree that you are owed a discount, you can appeal. You can get help filing an appeal from your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) (telephone numbers are in Section 3 of this Chapter) or by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs

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

In Texas, the State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program is Kidney Health Care Program.

Method	Kidney Health Care Program (Texas’ State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program) – Contact Information
CALL	1-512-776-7150 or 1-800-222-3986 Hours are Mon. – Fri. 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
WRITE	Kidney Health Care Program, Specialty Health Care Services, MC 1938, P.O. Box 149347, Austin, TX 78714
WEBSITE	https://hhs.texas.gov/services/health/kidney-health-care

SECTION 8 How to contact the Railroad Retirement Board

The Railroad Retirement Board is an independent Federal agency that administers comprehensive benefit programs for the nation’s railroad workers and their families. If you have questions regarding your benefits from the Railroad Retirement Board, contact the agency.

If you receive your Medicare through the Railroad Retirement Board, it is important that you let them know if you move or change your mailing address.

Method	Railroad Retirement Board – Contact Information
CALL	<p>1-877-772-5772</p> <p>Calls to this number are free.</p> <p>If you press “0,” you may speak with an RRB representative from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, and from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday.</p> <p>If you press “1,” you may access the automated RRB HelpLine and recorded information 24 hours a day, including weekends and holidays.</p>
TTY	<p>1-312-751-4701</p> <p>This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.</p> <p>Calls to this number are <i>not</i> free.</p>
WEBSITE	<p>https://secure.rrb.gov/</p>

SECTION 9 Do you have “group insurance” or other health insurance from an employer?

If you (or your spouse) get benefits from your (or your spouse’s) employer or retiree group as part of this plan, you may call the employer/union benefits administrator or Customer Service if you have any questions. You can ask about your (or your spouse’s) employer or retiree health benefits or premiums. (Phone numbers for Customer Service are printed on the back cover of this booklet.) You may also call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227; TTY: 1-877-486-2048) with questions related to your Medicare coverage under this plan or enrollment periods to make a change.

If you have other prescription drug coverage through your (or your spouse’s) employer or retiree group, please contact **that group’s benefits administrator**. The benefits administrator can help you determine how your current prescription drug coverage will work with our plan.

CHAPTER 3

*Using the plan's coverage
for your medical and
other covered services*

Chapter 3. Using the plan’s coverage for your medical and other covered services

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

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

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

Section 1.1 What are “network providers” and “covered services”?

Here are some definitions that can help you understand how you get the care and services that are covered for you as a member of our plan:

- **“Providers”** are doctors and other health care professionals licensed by the state to provide medical services and care. The term “providers” also includes hospitals and other health care facilities.
- **“Network providers”** are the doctors and other health care professionals, medical groups, hospitals, and other health care facilities that have an agreement with us to accept our payment and your cost-sharing amount as payment in full. We have arranged for these providers to deliver covered services to members in our plan. The providers in our network bill us directly for care they give you. When you see a network provider, you pay nothing or only your share of the cost for covered services.
- **“Covered services”** include all the medical care, health care services, supplies, and equipment that are covered by our plan. Your covered services for medical care are listed in the benefits chart in Chapter 4.

Section 1.2 Basic rules for getting your medical care and other services covered by the plan

As a Medicare health plan, our plan must cover all services covered by Original Medicare and may offer other services in addition to those covered under Original Medicare (see the benefits chart in Chapter 4 for details).

Our plan will generally cover your medical care as long as:

- **The care you receive is included in the plan's Benefits Chart** (this chart is in Chapter 4 of this booklet).
- **The care you receive is considered medically necessary.** “Medically necessary” means that the services, supplies, or drugs are needed for the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of your medical condition and meet accepted standards of medical practice.
- **You have a network primary care provider (a PCP) who is providing and overseeing your care.** As a member of our plan, you must choose a network PCP (for more information about this, see Section 2.1 in this chapter).
 - In most situations, your network PCP must give you approval in advance before you can use other providers in the plan's network, such as specialists, hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, or home health care agencies. This is called giving you a “referral.” For more information about this, see Section 2.3 of this chapter.
 - Referrals from your PCP are not required for emergency care or urgently needed services. There are also some other kinds of care you can get without having approval in advance from your PCP (for more information about this, see Section 2.2 of this chapter).
- **You must receive your care from a network provider** (for more information about this, see Section 2 in this chapter). In most cases, care you receive from an out-of-network provider (a provider who is not part of our plan's network) will not be covered. *Here are three exceptions:*
 - The plan covers emergency care or urgently needed services that you get from an out-of-network provider. For more information about this, and to see what emergency or urgently needed services means, see Section 3 in this chapter.
 - If you need medical care that Medicare requires our plan to cover and the providers in our network cannot provide this care, you can get this care from an out-of-network provider. Authorization must be obtained from the plan prior to seeking care. In this situation, we will cover these services as if you got the care from a network provider. For information about getting approval to see an out-of-network doctor, see Section 2.4 in this chapter.
 - The plan covers kidney dialysis services that you get at a Medicare-certified dialysis facility when you are temporarily outside the plan's service area.

SECTION 2 Use providers in the plan's network to get your medical care and other services**Section 2.1 You must choose a Primary Care Provider (PCP) to provide and oversee your care****What is a "PCP" and what does the PCP do for you?**

When you become a member of our plan, you must choose a plan provider to be your Primary Care Physician (PCP). Your PCP is a Physician whose specialty is Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, General Practice, Geriatrics, or Pediatrics who meets state requirements and is trained to give you basic medical care. As we explain below, you will get your routine or basic care from your PCP. Your PCP will also "coordinate" the rest of the covered services you get as a member of our plan. For example, in order for you to see a specialist, you will need to get your PCP's approval first (This is called getting a "referral" to a specialist). Your PCP will provide most of your care and will help you arrange or coordinate the rest of the covered services you get as a member of our plan. This includes your X-rays, laboratory tests, therapies, care from doctors who are specialists, hospital admissions, and follow-up care. "Coordinating" your services includes checking or consulting with other plan providers about your care and how it is going. If you need certain types of covered services or supplies, you must get approval in advance from your PCP (such as giving you a referral to see a specialist). In some cases, your PCP will need to get prior authorization (prior approval) from us. Since your PCP will provide and coordinate your medical care, you should have all of your past medical records sent to your PCP's office. Chapter 8 tells you how we will protect the privacy of your medical records and personal health information.

How do you choose your PCP?

You select a Primary Care Physician from your *Provider and Pharmacy Directory* and call Customer Service with your selection. The directory is continually being updated; therefore, please contact Customer Service to be sure the provider is accepting new patients. Customer Service is available to assist with your selection and to help find a physician to meet your needs. Customer Service can also help you check to see if a provider is in our network of physicians. If there is a particular specialist or hospital that you want to use, check first to be sure your PCP makes referrals to that specialist, or uses that hospital. The name and office telephone number of your PCP is printed on your membership card.

Changing your PCP

You may change your PCP for any reason, at any time. Also, it's possible that your PCP might leave our plan's network of providers and you would have to find a new PCP. Please note that when you change your PCP you will be limited to the specialists and hospitals to which the new PCP will refer you. Please see Section 2.3 in this chapter for additional details.

Your change will take place the first of the following month. To change your PCP, please call Customer Service. Customer Service will confirm that the PCP you want to switch to is accepting new patients. We will change your membership record to the new PCP and confirm when the change to your new PCP will take effect. You will receive a new membership card that shows the name and phone number of your new PCP.

Section 2.2 What kinds of medical care and other services can you get without getting approval in advance from your PCP?

You can get the services listed below without getting approval in advance from your PCP.

- Routine women's health care, which includes breast exams, screening mammograms (X-rays of the breast), Pap tests, and pelvic exams as long as you get them from a network provider.
- Flu shots, Hepatitis B vaccinations, and pneumonia vaccinations as long as you get them from a network provider.
- Emergency services from network providers or from out-of-network providers.
- Urgently needed services from network providers or from out-of-network providers when network providers are temporarily unavailable or inaccessible, e.g., when you are temporarily outside of the plan's service area.
- Kidney dialysis services that you get at a Medicare-certified dialysis facility when you are temporarily outside the plan's service area. (If possible, please call Customer Service before you leave the service area so we can help arrange for you to have maintenance dialysis while you are away. Phone numbers for Customer Service are printed on the back cover of this booklet.)

Section 2.3 How to get care from specialists and other network providers

A specialist is a doctor who provides health care services for a specific disease or part of the body. There are many kinds of specialists. Here are a few examples:

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

When your PCP thinks that you need specialized treatment, he/she will give you a referral (approval in advance) to see a plan specialist or certain other providers. For some types of referrals, your PCP may need to get approval in advance from the plan (this is called getting “prior authorization”). Refer to Chapter 4, Section 2.1 for information about which services require prior authorization or referrals. It is very important to get a referral (approval in advance) from your PCP before you see a plan specialist or certain other providers (there are a few exceptions, including routine women’s health care that we explain earlier in this section).

If you do not have a referral (approval in advance) before you get services from a specialist, you may have to pay for these services yourself.

If the specialist wants you to come back for more care, check first to be sure that the referral (approval in advance) you got from your PCP for the first visit covers more visits to the specialist.

When you select a PCP, you are also selecting an entire network (a specific group of Plan providers) of specialists and hospitals to which your PCP will refer you. If there are specific specialists or hospitals you want to use, you must find out whether your PCP sends his/her patients to those providers. Please call Customer Service for details regarding the specialists and hospitals you may use.

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

We may make changes to the hospitals, doctors, and specialists (providers) that are part of your plan during the year. There are a number of reasons why your provider might leave your plan but if your doctor or specialist does leave your plan you have certain rights and protections that are summarized below:

- Even though our network of providers may change during the year, Medicare requires that we furnish you with uninterrupted access to qualified doctors and specialists.
- We will make a good faith effort to provide you with at least 30 days’ notice that your provider is leaving our plan so that you have time to select a new provider.
- We will assist you in selecting a new qualified provider to continue managing your health care needs.
- If you are undergoing medical treatment you have the right to request, and we will work with you to ensure, that the medically necessary treatment you are receiving is not interrupted.
- If you believe we have not furnished you with a qualified provider to replace your previous provider or that your care is not being appropriately managed, you have the right to file an appeal of our decision.
- If you find out your doctor or specialist is leaving your plan, please contact us so we can assist you in finding a new provider and managing your care.

For assistance, please call Customer Service (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet), and they will be able to help you choose a new provider in your area. You can also look at your *Provider and Pharmacy Directory* for a listing of all network providers in your area or visit our website at www.cignamedicare.com for the most up-to-date *Provider and Pharmacy Directory*. Once you choose a provider in your area, you can call Customer Service (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) and provide them with this information.

Section 2.4 How to get care from out-of-network providers

For Medicare-covered services, if you require specialized services that are not available from a provider in our network, contact your Primary Care Physician (PCP) for authorization and coordination of care. Members are entitled to receive services from out-of-network providers for emergency or out-of-area urgently needed services. Dialysis services are covered for ESRD members who have traveled outside of the plan’s service area and are not able to access contracted ESRD providers.

SECTION 3 How to get covered services when you have an emergency or urgent need for care or during a disaster

Section 3.1 Getting care if you have a medical emergency

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

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

If you have a medical emergency:

- **Get help as quickly as possible.** Call 911 for help or go to the nearest emergency room or hospital. Call for an ambulance if you need it. You do *not* need to get approval or a referral first from your PCP.
- **As soon as possible, make sure that our plan has been told about your emergency.** We need to follow up on your emergency care. You or someone else should call to tell us about your emergency care, usually within 48 hours. Please call Customer Service at the toll-free number on the back of your membership card. Hours are October 1 – March 31, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time, 7 days a week. From April 1 – September 30, Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. local time. Messaging service used weekends, after hours, and on federal holidays. TTY users should call 711. Additionally, you should call your PCP. Your PCP's phone number is listed on the front of your membership card.

What is covered if you have a medical emergency?

You may get covered emergency medical care whenever you need it, anywhere in the United States or its territories. Our plan covers ambulance services in situations where getting to the emergency room in any other way could endanger your health. For more information, see the Benefits Chart in Chapter 4 of this booklet.

Please note that Medicare does not provide coverage for emergency medical care outside the United States and its territories; however, our plan *does* cover emergencies outside of the country. For more information, see the Medical Benefits Chart in Chapter 4 of this booklet.

If you have an emergency, we will talk with the doctors who are giving you emergency care to help manage and follow up on your care. The doctors who are giving you emergency care will decide when your condition is stable and the medical emergency is over.

After the emergency is over you are entitled to follow-up care to be sure your condition continues to be stable. Your follow-up care will be covered by our plan. If your emergency care is provided by out-of-network providers, we will try to arrange for network providers to take over your care as soon as your medical condition and the circumstances allow.

What if it wasn't a medical emergency?

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

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

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

Section 3.2 Getting care when you have an urgent need for services

What are “urgently needed services”?

“Urgently needed services” are non-emergency, unforeseen medical illness, injury, or condition that requires immediate medical care. Urgently needed services may be furnished by network providers or by out-of-network providers when network providers are temporarily unavailable or inaccessible. The unforeseen condition could, for example, be an unforeseen flare-up of a known condition that you have.

What if you are in the plan's service area when you have an urgent need for care?

You should always try to obtain urgently needed services from network providers. However, if providers are temporarily unavailable or inaccessible and it is not reasonable to wait to obtain care from your network provider when the network becomes available, we will cover urgently needed services that you get from an out-of-network provider.

For a list of urgent care centers in our network, please refer to our *Provider and Pharmacy Directory*. You can call Customer Service for information on how to access urgent care centers. (Phone numbers for Customer Service are printed on the back cover of this booklet.)

What if you are outside the plan's service area when you have an urgent need for care?

When you are outside the service area and cannot get care from a network provider, our plan will cover urgently needed services that you get from any provider.

Our plan covers worldwide emergency and urgent care services outside the United States under the following circumstances described in the Emergency Care and Urgently Needed Services benefits listed in the Medical Benefits Chart in Chapter 4 of this booklet.

Section 3.3 Getting care during a disaster

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

Please visit the following website: www.cigna.com/medicare/disaster-policy for information on how to obtain needed care during a disaster.

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

SECTION 4 What if you are billed directly for the full cost of your covered services?**Section 4.1 You can ask us to pay our share of the cost for covered services**

If you have paid more than your share for covered services, or if you have received a bill for the full cost of covered medical services, go to Chapter 7 (*Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs*) for information about what to do.

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

Before paying for the cost of the service, you should check if the service is covered by Texas Health and Human Services Commission (Medicaid).

Our plan covers all medical services that are medically necessary, are listed in the plan's Benefits Chart (this chart is in Chapter 4 of this booklet), and are obtained consistent with plan rules. You are responsible for paying the full cost of services that aren't covered by our plan, either because they are not plan covered services, or they were obtained out-of-network and were not authorized.

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

Chapter 9 (*What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, complaints)*) has more information about what to do if you want a coverage decision from us or want to appeal a decision we have already made. You may also call Customer Service to get more information (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

For covered services that have a benefit limitation, you pay the full cost of any services you get after you have used up your benefit for that type of covered service. For example, you may have to pay the full cost of any skilled nursing facility care you get after our Plan's payment reaches the benefit limit. Once you have used up your benefit limit, additional payments you make for the service do not count toward your annual out-of-pocket maximum. You can call Customer Service when you want to know how much of your benefit limit you have already used.

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

Section 5.1 What is a “clinical research study”?

A clinical research study (also called a “clinical trial”) is a way that doctors and scientists test new types of medical care, like how well a new cancer drug works. They test new medical care procedures or drugs by asking for volunteers to help with the study. This kind of study is one of the final stages of a research process that helps doctors and scientists see if a new approach works and if it is safe.

Not all clinical research studies are open to members of our plan. Medicare first needs to approve the research study. If you participate in a study that Medicare has *not* approved, *you will be responsible for paying all costs for your participation in the study.*

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

If you participate in a Medicare-approved study, Original Medicare pays most of the costs for the covered services you receive as part of the study. When you are in a clinical research study, you may stay enrolled in our plan and continue to get the rest of your care (the care that is not related to the study) through our plan.

If you want to participate in a Medicare-approved clinical research study, you do *not* need to get approval from us or your PCP. The providers that deliver your care as part of the clinical research study do *not* need to be part of our plan's network of providers.

Although you do not need to get our plan's permission to be in a clinical research study, **you do need to tell us before you start participating in a clinical research study.**

If you plan on participating in a clinical research study, contact Customer Service (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) to let them know that you will be participating in a clinical trial and to find out more specific details about what your plan will pay.

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

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

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

Original Medicare pays most of the cost of the covered services you receive as part of the study. After Medicare has paid its share of the cost for these services, our plan will also pay for part of the costs. We will pay the difference between the cost-sharing in Original Medicare and your cost-sharing as a member of our plan. This means you will pay the same amount for the services you receive as part of the study as you would if you received these services from our plan.

Here's an example of how the cost-sharing works: Let's say that you have a lab test that costs \$100 as part of the research study. Let's also say that your share of the costs for this test is \$20 under Original Medicare, but the test would be \$10 under our plan's benefits. In this case, Original Medicare would pay \$80 for the test and we would pay another \$10. This means that you would pay \$10, which is the same amount you would pay under our plan's benefits.

In order for us to pay for our share of the costs, you will need to submit a request for payment. With your request, you will need to send us a copy of your Medicare Summary Notices or other documentation that shows what services you received as part of the study and how much you owe. Please see Chapter 7 for more information about submitting requests for payment.

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

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

Do you want to know more?

You can get more information about joining a clinical research study by reading the publication “Medicare and Clinical Research Studies” on the Medicare website (<https://www.medicare.gov>). You can also call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

SECTION 6 Rules for getting care covered in a “religious non-medical health care institution”**Section 6.1 What is a religious non-medical health care institution?**

A religious non-medical health care institution is a facility that provides care for a condition that would ordinarily be treated in a hospital or skilled nursing facility. If getting care in a hospital or a skilled nursing facility is against a member's religious beliefs, we will instead provide coverage for care in a religious non-medical health care institution. You may choose to pursue medical care at any time for any reason. This benefit is provided only for Part A inpatient services (non-medical health care services). Medicare will only pay for non-medical health care services provided by religious non-medical health care institutions.

Section 6.2 What care from a religious non-medical health care institution is covered by our plan?

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

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

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

- The facility providing the care must be certified by Medicare.
- Our plan's coverage of services you receive is limited to *non-religious* aspects of care.
- If you get services from this institution that are provided to you in a facility, the following conditions apply:
 - You must have a medical condition that would allow you to receive covered services for inpatient hospital care or skilled nursing facility care.
 - — *and* — You must get approval in advance from our plan before you are admitted to the facility or your stay will not be covered.

Medicare Inpatient Hospital coverage limits apply (please refer to the Medical Benefits Chart in Chapter 4).

SECTION 7 Rules for ownership of durable medical equipment**Section 7.1 Will you own the durable medical equipment after making a certain number of payments under our plan?**

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

In Original Medicare, people who rent certain types of DME own the equipment after paying copayments for the item for 13 months. As a member of our plan, however, you usually will not acquire ownership of rented DME items no matter how many copayments you make for the item while a member of our plan. Under certain limited circumstances we will transfer ownership of the DME item to you. Call Customer Service (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) to find out about the requirements you must meet and the documentation you need to provide.

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

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

If you made fewer than 13 payments for the DME item under Original Medicare *before* you joined our plan, your previous payments also do not count toward the 13 consecutive payments. You will have to make 13 new consecutive payments after you return to Original Medicare in order to own the item. There are no exceptions to this case when you return to Original Medicare.

CHAPTER 4

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

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

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

This chapter focuses on what services are covered and what you pay for these services. It includes a Benefits Chart that lists your covered services and shows how much you will pay for each covered service as a member of our plan. Later in this chapter, you can find information about medical services that are not covered. It also explains limits on certain services.

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

To understand the payment information we give you in this chapter, you need to know about the types of out-of-pocket costs you may pay for your covered services.

- A **“copayment”** is the fixed amount you pay each time you receive certain medical services. You pay a copayment at the time you get the medical service. (The Medical Benefits Chart in Section 2 tells you more about your copayments.)

If you receive Medicare cost-sharing assistance under Texas Health and Human Services Commission (Medicaid), you pay nothing for your covered services as long as you follow the plan’s rules for getting your care. (See Chapter 3 for more information about the plan’s rules for getting your care.)

Section 1.2 What is the most you will pay for Medicare Part A and Part B covered medical services?

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

Because you are enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan, there is a limit to how much you have to pay out-of-pocket each year for medical services that are covered under Medicare Part A and Part B (see the Medical Benefits Chart in Section 2, below). This limit is called the maximum out-of-pocket amount for medical services.

As a member of our plan, the most you will have to pay out-of-pocket for Part A and Part B services in 2020 is \$0. The amounts you pay for copayments for covered services count toward this maximum out-of-pocket amount. (The amounts you pay for your plan premiums and for your Part D prescription drugs do not count toward your maximum out-of-pocket amount. In addition, amounts you pay for some services do not count toward your maximum out-of-pocket amount. These services are italicized in the Medical Benefits Chart.) If you reach the maximum out-of-pocket amount of \$0, you will not have to pay any out-of-pocket costs for the rest of the year for covered Part A and Part B services. However, you must continue to pay your plan premium and the Medicare Part B premium (unless your Part B premium is paid for you by Medicaid or another third party).

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

As a member of our plan, an important protection for you is that you only have to pay your cost-sharing amount when you get services covered by our plan. We do not allow providers to add additional separate charges, called “balance billing.” This protection (that you never pay more than your cost-sharing amount) applies even if we pay the provider less than the provider charges for a service and even if there is a dispute and we don’t pay certain provider charges.

Here is how this protection works.

- If your cost-sharing is a copayment (a set amount of dollars, for example, \$15.00), then you pay only that amount for any covered services from a network provider.
- If your cost-sharing is a coinsurance (a percentage of the total charges), then you never pay more than that percentage. However, your cost depends on which type of provider you see:
 - If you receive the covered services from a network provider, you pay the coinsurance percentage multiplied by the plan’s reimbursement rate (as determined in the contract between the provider and the plan).
 - If you receive the covered services from an out-of-network provider who participates with Medicare, you pay the coinsurance percentage multiplied by the Medicare payment rate for participating providers. (Remember, the plan covers services from out-of-network providers only in certain situations, such as when you get a referral.)
 - If you receive the covered services from an out-of-network provider who does not participate with Medicare, you pay the coinsurance percentage multiplied by the Medicare payment rate for non-participating providers. (Remember, the plan covers services from out-of-network providers only in certain situations, such as when you get a referral.)