



January 1 – December 31, 2027

Part D Prescription Drug Rider for 2027:

An addendum to your Evidence of Coverage:

Your Medicare Drug Coverage as a Member of Personal Choice 65SM Rx PPO

This document gives the details of your Medicare drug coverage from January 1 – December 31, 2027. **This is an important legal document. Keep it in a safe place.**

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

- Your plan premium and cost sharing
- Your medical and drug benefits
- How to file a complaint if you're not satisfied with a service or treatment
- How to contact us
- Other protections required by Medicare law

For questions about this document, call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293. (TTY/TDD users call 711). Hours are seven days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Please note that on weekends and holidays from April 1 through September 30, your call may be sent to voicemail. This call is free.

This plan, Personal Choice 65 Rx, is offered by QCC Insurance Company, a subsidiary of Independence Blue Cross, LLC ("IBX"). (When this *Part D Prescription Drug Rider* says "we," "us," or "our," it means QCC Insurance Company. When it says "plan" or "our plan," it means Personal Choice 65 Rx.)

To receive this document in an alternate format such as braille, data CD, large print, or audio, please contact our Member Help Team.

Benefits, premiums, deductibles, and/or copayment/coinsurance may change on January 1, 2027.

Our formulary, pharmacy network, and/or provider network can change at any time. You'll get notice about any changes that may affect you at least 30 days in advance.

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CHAPTER 1:

Get started as a member

SECTION 1 Important membership materials

Section 1.1 The *Provider/Pharmacy Directory*

The *Provider/Pharmacy Directory* (www.ibxmedicare.com/directory) lists our current network pharmacies. **Network pharmacies** are pharmacies that agree to fill covered prescriptions for our plan members. Use the *Provider/Pharmacy Directory* to find the network pharmacy you want to use. Go to Chapter 3, Section 2.5 for information on when you can use pharmacies that aren't in our plan's network.

The *Provider/Pharmacy Directory* also shows which pharmacies in our network have preferred cost-sharing, which may be lower than the standard cost-sharing offered by other network pharmacies for some drugs.

The most recent list of pharmacies is also available on our website at www.ibxmedicare.com/directory.

If you don't have a *Provider/Pharmacy Directory*, you can ask for a copy (electronically or in paper form) from our Member Help Team. Requested hard copy *Provider/Pharmacy Directory* will be mailed to you within 3 business days.

Section 1.2 Drug List (formulary)

Our plan has a *List of Covered Drugs* (also called the Drug List or formulary). It tells which prescription drugs are covered under the Part D benefit included in Personal Choice 65 Rx. The drugs on this list are selected by our plan, with the help of doctors and pharmacists. The Drug List meet Medicare's requirements. Drugs included in the Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program will be included on your Drug List unless they have been removed or replaced as described in Chapter 5, Section 6. Medicare approved the Personal Choice 65 Rx Drug List.

The Drug List also tells if there are any rules that restrict coverage for a drug.

We'll give you a copy of the Drug List. To get the most complete and current information about which drugs are covered, visit (www.ibxmedicare.com/formulary) or call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711)

SECTION 2 Summary of Important Costs for 2027

	Your Costs in 2027
Monthly plan premium* *Your premium can be higher or lower than this amount. Go to Section 4.1 for details.	You or your Employer or Union may pay the monthly plan premium. Contact the employer's or union's benefits administrator about our plan premium.
Part D drug coverage (Go to Chapter 4 for details, including Yearly Deductible, Initial Coverage, and Catastrophic Coverage Stages.)	Your plan may or may not have a Part D drug coverage deductible, see your <i>Benefit Highlights</i> . See your <i>Benefit Highlights</i> for Part D Drug coverage amounts.

Your costs can include the following:

- Plan Premium (Section 2.1)
- Part D Late Enrollment Penalty (Section 2.2)
- Income Related Monthly Adjusted Amount (Section 2.3)
- Medicare Prescription Payment Plan Amount (Section 2.4)

Section 2.1 Plan premium

As a member of our plan, you or your Employer or Union pay a monthly plan premium. In addition to paying the monthly plan premium, **you must continue to pay your Medicare premiums to remain a member of the plan.** This includes your premium for Part B. It may also include a premium for Part A, which affects members who aren't eligible for premium-free Part A.

Your coverage is provided through a contract with your current employer or former employer or union. Contact your employer's or union's benefits administrator about the plan premium if paid by the employer or union.

In some situations, your plan premium could be less. Please reach out to your employer or union if they pay the plan premium.

Chapter 1 Get started as a member

There are programs to help people with limited resources pay for their drugs. These include Extra Help and State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs. Learn more about these programs in Chapter 2, Section 7. If you qualify, enrolling in one of these programs might lower your monthly plan premium.

If you *already enrolled* and getting help from one of these programs, **the information about premiums in this Part D Prescription Drug Rider may not apply to you.** We sent you a separate insert, called the *Evidence of Coverage Rider for People Who Get Extra Help Paying for Prescription Drugs* (also known as the *Low-Income Subsidy Rider* or the *LIS Rider*), which tells you about your drug coverage. If you don't have this insert, please call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711) and ask for the *LIS Rider*.

Medicare Part B and Part D premiums differ for people with different incomes. If you have questions about these premiums, check your copy of Medicare & You 2027 handbook, the section called 2027 Medicare Costs. Download a copy from the Medicare website ([Medicare.gov/medicare-and-you](https://www.Medicare.gov/medicare-and-you)) or order a printed copy by phone at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users call 1-877-486-2048.

Section 2.2 Monthly Medicare Part B Premium Many members are required to pay other Medicare premiums

In addition to paying the monthly plan premium, **you must continue paying your Medicare premiums to stay a member of our plan.** This includes your premium for Part B. You may also pay a premium for Part A if you aren't eligible for premium-free Part A.

Section 2.3 Part D Late Enrollment Penalty

Some members are required to pay a Part D **late enrollment penalty**. The Part D late enrollment penalty is an additional premium that must be paid for Part D coverage if at any time after your initial enrollment period is over, there was a period of 63 days or more in a row when you didn't have Part D or other creditable drug coverage. (Creditable drug coverage is coverage that meets Medicare's minimum standards since it is expected to pay, on average, at least as much as Medicare's standard drug coverage.) The cost of the late enrollment penalty depends on how long you went without Part D or other creditable drug coverage. You'll generally have to pay this penalty for as long as you have Part D coverage.

Members who pay their premium directly to the health plan will have the penalty added to their monthly premiums. For premiums paid for by the Employer/Union, the penalty will be added to the Employer/Union's monthly invoice.

The Part D late enrollment penalty is added to your monthly premium. If the premiums are paid for by your Employer/Union, the late enrollment penalty will be added to your Employer/Union monthly invoice. When you first enroll in Personal Choice 65 Rx, we let you know the amount of the penalty.

You **don't** have to pay it if the Part D late enrollment penalty if:

- You get Extra Help from Medicare to help pay your drug costs.
- You went less than 63 days in a row without Part D or other creditable coverage.
- You had creditable drug coverage through another source (like a former employer, union, TRICARE, or Veterans Health Administration (VA)). Your insurer or human resources department will tell you each year if your drug coverage is creditable coverage. You may get this information in a letter or in a newsletter from the plan. Keep this information because you may need it if you join a Medicare drug plan later.
 - **Note:** Any letter or notice must state that you had creditable prescription drug coverage that is expected to pay as much as Medicare's standard drug plan pays.
 - **Note:** Prescription drug discount cards, free clinics, and drug discount websites aren't creditable prescription drug coverage

Medicare determines the amount of the Part D late enrollment penalty. Here's how it works:

- If you went 63 days or more without Part D or other creditable prescription drug coverage after you were first eligible to enroll in Part D, our plan will count the number of full months you didn't have coverage.
- Then, Medicare determines the amount of the average monthly plan premium for Medicare drug plans in the nation from the previous year (national base beneficiary premium). For 2027, this average premium amount is \$41.33.
- To calculate your monthly penalty, multiplies the penalty percentage by the national base beneficiary premium rounds that amount to the nearest 10 cents. In the example here it would be 14% times \$41.33, which equals \$5.78. This rounds to \$5.80. This amount would be added **to the monthly plan premium for someone with a Part D late enrollment penalty.**

Three important things to know about the monthly Part D late enrollment penalty:

- **The penalty may change each year** because the national base beneficiary premium can change each year. If the national average premium (as determined by Medicare) increases, your penalty will increase.
- **You'll generally continue to pay a penalty** every month for as long as you're enrolled in a plan that has Medicare Part D drug benefits, even if you change plans.
- If you're *under* 65 and enrolled in Medicare, the Part D late enrollment penalty will reset when you turn 65. After age 65, your Part D late enrollment penalty will be based only on the months you don't have coverage after your initial enrollment period for aging into Medicare.

If you disagree about your Part D late enrollment penalty, you or your representative can ask for a reconsideration (appeal) of the penalty. The reconsideration is conducted by an independent review organization that is not connected with us. Generally, you must ask for this reconsideration **within 60 days** from the date on the first letter you get stating you have to pay a late enrollment penalty. However, if you were paying a penalty before you joined our plan, generally you won't have another chance to ask for a reconsideration of that late enrollment penalty.

Section 2.4 Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount

Some members may be required to pay an extra charge, known as the Part D Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount (IRMAA). The extra charge is calculated using your modified adjusted gross income as reported on your IRS tax return from 2 years ago. If this amount is above a certain amount, you'll pay the standard premium amount and the additional IRMAA. For more information on the extra amount you may have to pay based on your income, visit [Medicare.gov/health-drug-plans/part-d/basics/costs](https://www.Medicare.gov/health-drug-plans/part-d/basics/costs).

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

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

Section 2.5 Medicare Prescription Payment Plan Amount

If you're participating in the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan, each month you or your Employer/Union will pay your plan premium (if you have one) and you'll get a bill from your health or drug plan for our prescription drugs (instead of paying the pharmacy). Your monthly bill is based on what you owe for any prescriptions you get, plus your previous month's balance, divided by the number of months left in the year.

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

SECTION 3 More information about your monthly plan premium

Many members are required to pay other Medicare premiums

In addition to the monthly plan premium paid by you or your employer/union, if any, many members are required to pay other Medicare premiums. As explained in Section 2 above, in order to be eligible for our plan, you must have both Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B. Some plan members (those who aren't eligible for premium-free Part A) pay a premium for Medicare Part A. Most plan members pay a premium for Medicare Part B. **You must continue paying 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 are required to pay the extra amount and you do not pay it, you will be disenrolled from the plan and lose prescription drug coverage.**
- 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.
- For more information about Part D premiums based on income, go to Chapter 1, Section 2.3. You can also visit [Medicare.gov](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 the *Medicare & You 2027* handbook gives information about the Medicare premiums in the section called "2027 Medicare Costs." This explains how the Medicare Part B and Part D premiums differ for people with different incomes. Everyone with Medicare receives a copy of the *Medicare & You* handbook 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 the *Medicare & You 2027* handbook from the Medicare website ([Medicare.gov](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.

CHAPTER 2:

Phone numbers and resources

SECTION 1 Personal Choice 65 Rx contacts

For help with claims, billing, or member card questions, call or write to our Personal Choice 65 Rx We'll be happy to help you.

Member Help Team – Contact Information

Call	1-888-879-4293 Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Please note that on weekends and holidays from April 1 through September 30, your call may be sent to voicemail. Our Member Help Team 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711) also has free language interpreter services for non-English speakers.
TTY/TDD	711 Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Please note that on weekends and holidays from April 1 through September 30, your call may be sent to voicemail.
Fax	1-888-289-3029 215-238-7960
Write	Personal Choice 65 Rx PO Box 7799 Philadelphia, PA 19101-7799
Website	www.ibxmedicare.com

How to ask for a coverage decision

A coverage decision is a decision we make about your benefits and coverage or about the amount we 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 drugs, see Chapter 7.

Coverage Decisions for Part D Drugs – Contact Information

Call	1-888-678-7015 Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Please note that on weekends and holidays from April 1 through September 30, your call may be sent to voicemail.
TTY/TDD	711 Calls to this number are free. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Please note that on weekends and holidays from April 1 through September 30, your Call may be sent to voicemail.
Fax	1-888-671-5285
Write	Prior Authorization Department PO Box 25183 Santa Ana, CA 92799
Website	www.ibxmedicare.com

How to ask for an appeal

An appeal is a formal way of asking us to review and change a coverage decision. For more information on how to ask for appeals about your Part D drugs, go to Chapter 7.

Appeals for Part D Drugs – Contact Information

Call	1-888-879-4293 Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Please note that on weekends and holidays from April 1 through September 30, your call may be sent to voicemail.
TTY/TDD	711 Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Please note that on weekends and holidays from April 1 through September 30, your call may be sent to voicemail.
Fax	1-888-289-3008 215-988-2001
Write	Personal Choice 65 Rx Medicare Member Appeals Unit PO Box 13652 Philadelphia, PA 19101-3652
Website	www.ibxmedicare.com

How to make a complaint

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 doesn't involve coverage or payment disputes. For more information on how to make a complaint about your Part D prescription drugs, go to Chapter 7.

Complaints – Contact Information

Call	1-888-879-4293 Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Please note that on weekends and holidays from April 1 through September 30, your call may be sent to voicemail.
TTY/TDD	711 Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Please note that on weekends and holidays from April 1 through September 30, your call may be sent to voicemail.
Fax	1-888-289-3008 215-988-2001
Write	Personal Choice 65 Rx Medicare Member Appeals Unit PO Box 13652 Philadelphia, PA 19101-3652
Medicare website	To submit a complaint about Personal Choice 65 Rx directly to Medicare, go to Medicare.gov/my/medicare-complaint .

How to ask us to pay our share of the cost for a drug you got

If you got a bill or paid for drugs (like a pharmacy bill) you think we should pay for, you may need to ask our plan for reimbursement or to pay the pharmacy bill. Go to Chapter 5 for more information.

If you send us a payment request and we deny any part of your request, you can appeal our decision. Go to Chapter 7 for more information.

Payment Requests – Contact Information

Call	1-888-678-7015 Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Please note that on weekends and holidays from April 1 through September 30, your call may be sent to voicemail.
TTY/TDD	711 Calls to this number are free. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
Write	Part D Payment Requests PO Box 650287 Dallas, TX 75265-0287
Fax	1-888-289-3029 215-238-7960
Website	www.ibxmedicare.com

SECTION 2 Programs to help people pay for prescription drugs

The Medicare website (Medicare.gov/basics/costs/help/drug-costs) has information on ways to lower your prescription drug costs. The programs below can help people with limited incomes

Extra Help from Medicare

Medicare and Social Security have a program called Extra Help that can help pay drug costs for people with limited income and resources. If you qualify, you get help paying for your Medicare drug plan's monthly plan premium, yearly deductible, and copayments. Extra Help also counts toward your out-of-pocket costs.

If you automatically qualify for Extra Help, Medicare will mail you a purple letter. to let you know. If you don't automatically qualify, you can apply any time. To see if you qualify for getting Extra Help:

- Visit <https://secure.ssa.gov/i1020/start> to apply online.
- Call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213. TTY users call 1-800-325-0778.

When you apply for Extra Help, you can also start the application process for a Medicare Savings Program (MSP). These state programs provide help with other Medicare costs. Social Security will send information to your state to initiate an MSP application, unless you tell them not to on the Extra Help application.

If you qualify for Extra Help and you think that you're paying an incorrect amount for your prescription at a pharmacy, our plan has a process to help you get evidence of the right copayment amount. If you already have evidence of the right amount, we can help you share this evidence with us.

- You can request assistance in obtaining this evidence by calling our Member Help Team. If you already have documentation (e.g., a copy of your Medicaid card or other documentation from the state's Medicaid office), you should send it to:

Personal Choice 65 Rx
PO Box 7799
Philadelphia, PA 19101-7799

- When we get the evidence showing the right copayment level, we'll update our system so you can pay the right amount when you get your next prescription. If you overpay your copayment, we'll pay you back either by check or a future copayment credit. If the pharmacy didn't collect your copayment and you owe them a debt, we may make the payment directly to the pharmacy. If a state paid on your behalf, we may make the payment directly to the state. Call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711) if you have questions.

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

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

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

The AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) helps people living with HIV/AIDS access life-saving HIV medications. Medicare Part D drugs that are also on the ADAP formulary qualify for prescription cost-sharing help through the Pennsylvania Office of Medical Assistance Programs (OMAP).

Note: To be eligible for the ADAP in your state, people must meet certain criteria, including proof of state residence and HIV status, low income (as defined by the state), and uninsured/under-insured status.

If you change plans, notify your local ADAP enrollment worker so you can continue to get help. For information on eligibility criteria, covered drugs, or how to enroll in the program, call 1-800-922-9384.

State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs

Many states have State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs that help 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 Pennsylvania, the State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program is Pharmaceutical Assistance Contract for the Elderly (PACE).

Pharmaceutical Assistance Contract for the Elderly (PACE) (Pennsylvania's *State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program*) – Contact Information

Call	1-800-225-7223
Write	Pharmaceutical Assistance Contract for the Elderly (PACE) 555 Walnut Street Harrisburg, PA 17101
Website	www.aging.pa.gov/aging-services/prescriptions/Pages/default.aspx

Medicare Prescription Payment Plan

The Medicare Prescription Payment Plan is a payment option that works with your current drug coverage to help you manage your out-of-pocket costs for drugs covered by our plan by spreading them across **the calendar year** (January – December). Anyone with a Medicare drug plan or Medicare health plan with drug coverage (like a Medicare Advantage plan with a drug coverage) can use this payment option. **This payment option might help you manage your expenses, but it doesn't save you money or lower your drug costs. If you're participating in the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan and stay in the same Part D plan, your participation will be automatically renewed for 2027.** To learn more about this payment option call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711) or visit [Medicare.gov](https://www.Medicare.gov).

Medicare Prescription Payment Plan – Contact Information

CALL	1-888-879-4293 Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Please note that on weekends and holidays from April 1 through September 30, your call may be sent to voicemail. Our Member Help Team also has free language interpreter services available for non-English speakers.
TTY	711 Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Fax	1-888-289-3029 215-238-7960
Write	Personal Choice 65 Rx PO Box 7799 Philadelphia, PA 19101-7799
Website	www.ibxmedicare.com/ira

CHAPTER 3:

Using plan coverage for Part D drugs

SECTION 1 Basic rules for our plan's Part D drug coverage

Go to Chapter 4 for what you pay for Part D drugs.

Our plan will generally cover your drugs as long as you follow these rules:

- You must have a provider (a doctor, dentist, or other prescriber) write you a prescription that's valid under applicable state law.
- Your prescriber must not be on Medicare's Exclusion or Preclusion Lists.
- You generally must use a network pharmacy to fill your prescription. (Go to Section 2) or you can fill your prescription through our plan's mail-order service.
- Your drug must be on our plan's Drug List (go to Section 3).
- Your drug must be used for a medically accepted indication. A "medically accepted indication" is a use of the drug that's either approved by the FDA or supported by certain references. (Go to Section 3 for more information about a medically accepted indication.)
- Your drug may require approval from our plan based on certain criteria before we agree to cover it. (Go to Section 4 for more information)

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

In most cases, your prescriptions are covered *only* if they're filled at our plan's network pharmacies. (Go to Section 2.4 for information about when we cover prescriptions filled at out-of-network pharmacies.)

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

Section 2.1 Network pharmacies

Find a network pharmacy in your area

To find a network pharmacy, go to your *Provider/Pharmacy Directory*, visit our website www.ibx.com/medicare/get-care/find-a-drug.html, and/or call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711).

You may go to any of our network pharmacies. Some network pharmacies provide preferred cost-sharing, which may be lower than the cost-sharing at a pharmacy that offers standard cost-sharing. The *Provider/Pharmacy Directory* will tell you which network pharmacies offer preferred cost-sharing. Contact us to find out more about how your out-of-pocket costs could vary for different drugs.

If your pharmacy leaves the network

If the pharmacy you use leaves our plan's network, you'll have to find a new pharmacy in the network. If the pharmacy you use stays in our network but no longer offers preferred cost sharing, you may want to switch to a different network or preferred pharmacy, if available. To find another pharmacy in your area, our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711) or use the *Provider/Pharmacy Directory*. You can also find information on our website at www.ibx.com/medicare/get-care/find-a-drug.html.

Specialized pharmacies

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

- Pharmacies that supply drugs for home infusion therapy.
- Pharmacies that supply drugs for residents of a long-term care (LTC) facility. Usually, an LTC facility (such as a nursing home) has its own pharmacy. If you have difficulty getting Part D drugs in an LTC facility, call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711).
- Pharmacies that serve the Indian Health Service / Tribal / Urban Indian Health Program (not available in Puerto Rico). Except in emergencies, only Native Americans or Alaska Natives have access to these pharmacies in our network.
- Pharmacies that dispense drugs restricted by the FDA to certain locations or that require special handling, provider coordination, or education on its use. To locate a specialized pharmacy, go to your *Provider/Pharmacy Directory* www.ibx.com/medicare/get-care/find-a-drug.html or call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711).

Section 2.2 Our plan's mail-order service

Our plan's mail-order service allows you to order **up to a 90-day supply**.

To get order forms and information about filling your prescriptions by mail, call our Member Help Team and ask about our mail-order pharmacy service provided by OptumRx® Home Delivery or visit www.ibxmedicare.com.

Usually, a mail-order pharmacy order will be delivered to you in no more than 7 to 10 business days. If we anticipate a delay in shipment, OptumRx[®] Home Delivery will contact you as soon as a delay is discovered.

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

After the pharmacy gets a prescription from a health care provider, it will contact you to see if you want the medication filled immediately or at a later time. It's important to respond each time you're contacted by the pharmacy to let them know whether to ship, delay, or stop the new prescription.

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

If you choose not to use our auto-refill program but still want the mail-order pharmacy to send you your prescription, contact your pharmacy 7 to 10 days before your current prescription will run out. This will ensure your order is shipped to you in time.

To opt out of our program that automatically prepares mail-order refills, contact us by calling OptumRx[®] Home Delivery at 1-888-678-7015 (TTY/TDD users call 711) or log in at www.ibx.com/login.

If you get a refill automatically by mail that you don't want, you may be eligible for a refund.

Section 2.3 How to get a long-term supply of drugs

Our plan offers 2 ways to get a long-term supply (also called an extended supply of maintenance drugs on our plan's Drug List. (Maintenance drugs are drugs you take on a regular basis, for a chronic or long-term medical condition.)

1. Some retail pharmacies in our network allow you to get a long-term supply of maintenance drugs (which offer preferred cost-sharing) at a lower cost-sharing amount. Other retail pharmacies may not agree to the lower cost-sharing amounts. In this case, you'll be responsible for the difference in price. Your *Provider/Pharmacy Directory* www.ibx.com/medicare/get-care/find-a-drug.html tells you which pharmacies in our network can give you a long-term supply of maintenance drugs. You can also call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711) for more information.
2. You also get maintenance drugs through our mail-order program. Go to Section 2.2 for more information.

Section 2.4 Using a pharmacy that's not in our plan's network

Generally, we cover drugs filled at an out-of-network pharmacy *only* when you aren't able to use a network pharmacy. We also have network pharmacies outside of our service area where you can get prescriptions filled as a member of our plan. **Check first with our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711)** to see if there's a network pharmacy nearby.

We cover prescriptions filled at an out-of-network pharmacy only in these circumstances:

- Covered Part D drugs are available at out-of-network pharmacies in special circumstances, including illness while traveling outside of our plan's service area where there is no network pharmacy. We may cover your prescription at an out-of-network pharmacy for up to a 30-day supply if at least one of the following applies:
 - If the prescriptions are related to care for a medical emergency or urgent care;
 - If you are unable to obtain a covered drug in a timely manner within our service area because there are no network pharmacies within a reasonable driving distance that provide 24-hour service;
- If you are trying to fill a prescription drug that is not regularly stocked at an accessible network retail or mail-order pharmacy (including high-cost and unique drugs). You may have to pay more than your normal cost-sharing amount and will likely have to pay the pharmacy's full charge for the drug and submit documentation to receive reimbursement. We will consider your request and make a coverage decision. If we decide that the drug is covered and you followed all the rules for getting the drug, we will pay for our share of the cost.
- We cannot pay for any prescriptions that are filled by pharmacies outside the United States, even for a medical emergency.

If you must use an out-of-network pharmacy, you'll generally have to pay the full cost (rather than your normal cost share) at the time you fill your prescription. You can ask us to reimburse you for our share of the cost. (Go to Chapter 5 for information on how to ask our plan to pay you back.) You may be required to pay the difference between what you pay for the drug at the out-of-network pharmacy and the cost we would cover at an in-network pharmacy.

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

Section 3.1 The Drug List tells which Part D drugs are covered

Our plan has a *List of Covered Drugs* (formulary). In this *Part D Prescription Drug Rider*, **we call it the Drug List**

The drugs on this list are selected by our plan with the help of doctors and pharmacists. The list meets Medicare's requirements and has been approved by Medicare. The Drug List only shows drugs covered under Medicare Part D.

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

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

Certain drugs may be covered for some medical conditions but are considered non-formulary for other medical conditions. These drugs will be identified on our Drug List and on [Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov), along with the specific medical conditions that they cover.

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

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

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

Go to Chapter 8 for definitions of types of drugs that may be on the Drug List.

Drugs that aren't on the Drug List

Our plan doesn't cover all prescription drugs.

- In some cases, the law doesn't allow any Medicare plan to cover certain types of drugs. (For more information, go to Section 7.)
- In other cases, we decided not to include a particular drug on the Drug List.
- In some cases, you may be able to get a drug that's not on the Drug List. (For more information, go to Chapter 7.)

Section 3.2 There are cost-sharing tiers for drugs on the Drug List

Every drug on our plan's Drug List is in a cost-sharing tier. In general, the higher the tier, the higher your cost for the drug:

To find out which cost-sharing tier your drug is in, look it up in our plan's Drug List.

The amount you pay for drugs in each cost-sharing tier is shown in Chapter 4.

Section 3.3 How to find out if a specific drug is on the Drug List

To find out if a drug is on our Drug List, you have these options:

- Check the most recent Drug List we provided electronically.
- Visit our plan's website (www.ibxmedicare.com/formulary). The Drug List on the website is always the most current.
- Call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711) to find out if a particular drug is on our plan's "Drug List" or ask for a copy of the list.
- Use our plan's "Real-time Benefit Tool" (www.ibxmedicare.com/pharmacyfinder) to search for drugs on the Drug List to get an estimate of what you'll pay and see if there are alternative drugs on the Drug List that could treat the same condition. You can also call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711).

SECTION 4 Drugs with restrictions on coverage

Section 4.1 Why some drugs have restrictions

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

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

Note that sometimes a drug may appear more than once in our Drug List. This is because the same drugs can differ based on the strength, amount, or form of the drug prescribed by your health care provider, and different restrictions or cost sharing may apply to the different versions of the drug (for example, 10 mg versus 100 mg; one per day versus 2 per day; tablet versus liquid).

Section 4.2 Types of restrictions

If there's a restriction for your drug, it usually means that you or your provider has to take extra steps for us to cover the drug. Call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711) to learn what you or your provider can do to get coverage for the drug. **If you want us to waive the restriction for you, you need to use the coverage decision process and ask us to make an exception.** We may or may not agree to waive the restriction for you. (Go to Chapter 7.)

Getting plan approval in advance

For certain drugs, you or your provider needs to get approval from our plan based on specific criteria before we agree to cover the drug for you. This is called **prior authorization**. This is put in place to ensure medication safety and help guide appropriate use of certain drugs. If you don't get this approval, your drug might not be covered by our plan. Our plan's prior authorization criteria can be obtained by calling our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711) or on our website www.ibx.com/medicare/get-care/find-a-drug.

Trying a different drug first

This requirement encourages you to try less costly but usually just as effective drugs before our plan covers another drug. For example, if Drug A and Drug B treat the same medical condition, our plan may require you to try Drug A first. If Drug A doesn't work for you, the plan will then cover Drug B. This requirement to try a different drug first is called **step therapy**. Our plan's step therapy criteria can be obtained by calling Member at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711) or on our website www.ibx.com/medicare/get-care/find-a-drug.

Quantity limits

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

SECTION 5 What you can do if one of your drugs isn't covered the way you'd like

There are situations where a prescription drug you take, or that you and your provider think you should take isn't on our Drug List or has restrictions. For example:

- The drug might not be covered at all. Or a generic version of the drug may be covered but the brand-name version you want to take isn't covered.
- The drug is covered, but there are extra rules or restrictions on coverage.

- The drug is covered, but in a cost-sharing tier that makes your cost-sharing more expensive than you think it should be.

If your drug is in a cost-sharing tier that makes your cost more expensive than you think it should be, go to Section 5.1 to learn what you can do.

If your drug isn't on the Drug List or is restricted, here are options for what you can do:

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

You may be able to get a temporary supply

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

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

- **If you're a new member,** we'll cover a temporary supply of your drug during the first **90 days** of your membership in our plan.
- **If you were in our plan last year,** we'll cover a temporary supply of your drug during the first **90 days** of the calendar year.
- This temporary supply will be for a maximum of a 30-day supply. If your prescription is written for fewer days, we'll allow multiple fills to provide up to a maximum of a 30-day supply of medication. The prescription must be filled at a network pharmacy. (Note that a long-term care pharmacy may provide the drug in smaller amounts at a time to prevent waste.)
- **For members who've been in our plan for more than 90 days and live in a long-term care facility and need a supply right away:**
 - We'll cover one 31-day emergency supply of a particular drug, or less if your prescription is written for fewer days. This is in addition to the above temporary supply.
 - If a transition occurs due to a member changing settings, such as moving from a home residence to a long-term facility and then back again, Personal Choice 65 Rx has a method in place to ensure that you have access to your medication. If your change of setting cannot be identified by the automated system, the pharmacy can notify Personal Choice 65 Rx of the setting change

and provide you with your needed medications. You will receive notice that you must either switch to a therapeutically appropriate drug on the plan's formulary or request an exception to continue taking the requested drug.

For questions about a temporary supply, call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711).

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

Option 1. You can change to another drug

Talk with your provider about whether a different drug covered by our plan may work just as well for you. Call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711) to ask for a list of covered drugs that treat the same medical condition. This list can help your provider find a covered drug that might work for you.

Option 2. You can ask for an exception

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

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

If you and your provider want to ask for an exception, go to Chapter 7, Section 2.4 to learn what to do. It explains the procedures and deadlines set by Medicare to make sure your request is handled promptly and fairly

Section 5.1 What to do if your drug is in a cost-sharing tier you think is too high?

If your drug is in a cost-sharing tier you think is too high, here are things you can do:

You can change to another drug

If your drug is in a cost-sharing tier you think is too high, start by talking with your provider. Perhaps there is a different drug in a lower cost-sharing tier that might work just as well for you. You can call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711) to ask for

a list of covered drugs that treat the same medical condition. This list can help your provider find a covered drug that might work for you.

You can ask for an exception

You and your provider can ask our plan to make an exception in the cost-sharing tier for the drug so that you pay less for it. If your provider says you have medical reasons that justify asking us for an exception, your provider can help you ask for an exception to the rule.

If you and your provider want to ask for an exception, go to Chapter 7, Section 2.4 for what to do. It explains the procedures and deadlines set by Medicare to make sure your request is handled promptly and fairly.

Drugs in our specialty tier aren't eligible for this type of exception. We don't lower the cost-sharing amount for drugs in this tier.

SECTION 6 Our Drug List can change during the year

Most changes in drug coverage happen at the beginning of each year (January 1). However, during the year, our plan can make some changes to the "Drug List." For example, our plan might:

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

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

Information on changes to drug coverage

When changes to the Drug List occur, we post information on our website about those changes. We also update our online Drug List regularly. Sometimes you'll get direct notice if changes are made to a drug you take.

Changes to drug coverage that affect you during this plan year

- **Adding new drugs to the Drug List and immediately removing or making changes to a like drug on the Drug List.**
 - When adding a new version of a drug to the Drug List, we may immediately remove a like drug from the Drug List, move the like drug to different cost-sharing tier, add

new restrictions, or both. The new version of the drug will be on the same or a lower cost-sharing tier and on the same or lower cost-sharing tier and with the same or fewer restrictions.

- We'll make these immediate changes only if we add a new generic version of a brand name or add certain new biosimilar versions of an original biological product that was already on the Drug List.
- We may make these changes immediately and tell you, even if you take the drug that we remove or make changes to. If you take the like drug at the time we make the change, we'll tell you about any specific change we made.
- **Adding drugs to the Drug List and removing or making changes to a like drug on the Drug List.**
 - When adding another version of a drug to the Drug List, we may remove a like drug from the Drug List, move it to a different cost-sharing tier, add new restrictions, or both. The new version of the drug will be on the same or a lower cost-sharing tier and on the same or lower cost-sharing tier and with the same or fewer restrictions.
 - We'll make these changes only if we add a new generic version of a brand-name drug or add certain new biosimilar versions of an original biological product that was already on the Drug List.
 - We'll tell you at least 30 days before we make the change, or tell you about the change and cover a 30-day fill of the version of the drug you're taking.
- **Removing unsafe drugs and other drugs on the Drug List that are withdrawn from the market.**
 - Sometimes a drug can be deemed unsafe or taken off the market for another reason. If this happens, we may immediately remove the drug from the Drug List. If you take that drug, we'll tell you after we make the change.
- **Making other changes to drugs on the Drug List**
 - We may make other changes once the year has started that affect drugs you are taking. For example, we're based on FDA boxed warnings or new clinical guidelines recognized by Medicare.
 - We'll tell you at least 30 days before we make these changes or tell you about the change and cover an additional 30-day fill of the drug you're taking.

If we make changes to any of the drugs you take, talk with your prescriber about the options that would work best for you, including changing to a different drug to treat your condition, or asking for a coverage decision to satisfy any new restrictions on the drug you take.

You or your prescriber can ask us for an exception to continue covering the drug or version of the drug you've been taking. For more information on how to ask for a coverage decision, including an exception, go to Chapter 7.

Changes to the Drug List that don't affect you during this plan year

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

In general, changes that won’t affect you during the current plan year are:

- We move your drug into a higher cost-sharing tier.
- We put a new restriction on the use of your drug.
- We remove your drug from the Drug List.

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

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

SECTION 7 Types of drugs we don't cover

Some kinds of prescription drugs are *excluded*. This means Medicare doesn’t pay for these drugs.

If you get drugs that are excluded, you must pay for them yourself. If you appeal and the requested drug is found not to be excluded under Part D, we’ll pay for or cover it. (For information about appealing a decision, go to Chapter 7.)

Here are 3 general rules about drugs that Medicare drug plans won’t cover under Part D:

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

In addition, by law, the following categories of drugs aren’t covered by Medicare drug plans:

- Non-prescription drugs (also called over-the-counter drugs)
- Drugs used to promote fertility
- Drugs used for the relief of cough or cold symptoms
- Drugs used for cosmetic purposes or to promote hair growth
- Prescription vitamins and mineral products, except prenatal vitamins and fluoride preparations
- Drugs used for the treatment of sexual or erectile dysfunction
- Drugs used for treatment of anorexia, weight loss, or weight gain
- Outpatient drugs for which the manufacturer requires associated tests or monitoring services be purchased only from the manufacturer as a condition of sale

If you get Extra Help to pay for your prescriptions, Extra Help won't pay for drugs that aren't normally covered. If you have drug coverage through Medicaid, your state Medicaid program may cover some prescription drugs not normally covered in a Medicare drug plan. Contact your state Medicaid program to determine what drug coverage may be available to you.

SECTION 8 How to fill a prescription

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

If you don't have our plan membership information with you, you or the pharmacy can call our plan to get the information, or you can ask the pharmacy to look up our plan enrollment information.

If the pharmacy can't get the necessary information, **you may have to pay the full cost of the prescription when you pick it up.** You can then **ask us to reimburse you** for our share. Go to Chapter 5 for information about how to ask our plan for reimbursement.

SECTION 9 Part D drug coverage in special situations

Section 9.1 In a hospital or a skilled nursing facility for a stay covered by our plan

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

Section 9.2 As a resident in a long-term care (LTC) facility

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

Check your *Provider/Pharmacy Directory* www.ibxmedicare.com/directory to find out if your LTC facility's pharmacy or the one it uses is part of our network. If it isn't, or if you need more information or help, call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711). If you're in an LTC facility, we must ensure that you're able to routinely get your Part D benefits through our network of LTC pharmacies.

If you're a resident in an LTC facility and need a drug that's not on our Drug List or restricted in some way, go to Section 5 for information about getting a temporary or emergency supply.

Section 9.3 If you also have drug coverage from an employer or retiree group plan

If you have other drug coverage through your (or your spouse or domestic partner's) employer or retiree group, contact **that group's benefits administrator**. They can help you understand how your current drug coverage will work with our plan.

In general, if you have employee or retiree group coverage, the drug coverage you get from us will be *secondary* to your group coverage. That means your group coverage pays first.

Special note about creditable coverage:

Each year your employer or retiree group should send you a notice that tells you if your drug coverage for the next calendar year is creditable.

If the coverage from the group plan is creditable, it means that your plan has drug coverage that is expected to pay, on average, at least as much as Medicare's standard drug coverage.

Keep any notices about creditable coverage, because you may need these notices later to show that you maintained creditable coverage. If you didn't get a creditable coverage notice, ask for a copy from your employer or retiree plan's benefits administrator or the employer or union.

Section 9.4 If you're in Medicare-certified hospice

Hospice and our plan don't cover the same drug at the same time. If you're enrolled in Medicare hospice and require certain drugs (e.g., anti-nausea drugs, laxatives, pain medication or anti-anxiety drugs) that aren't covered by your hospice because it is unrelated to your terminal illness and related conditions, our plan must get notification from either the prescriber or your hospice provider that the drug is unrelated before our plan can cover the

drug. To prevent delays in getting these drugs that should be covered by our plan, ask your hospice provider or prescriber to provide notification before your prescription is filled.

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

SECTION 10 Programs on drug safety and managing medications

We conduct drug use reviews to help make sure our members get safe and appropriate care.

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

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

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

Section 10.1 Drug Management Program (DMP) to help members safely use opioid medications

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

- Requiring you to get all your prescriptions for opioid or benzodiazepine medications from a certain pharmacy(ies)

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

If we plan on limiting how you get these medications or how much you can get, we'll send you a letter in advance. The letter will tell you if we'll limit coverage of these drugs for you, or if you'll be required to get the prescriptions for these drugs only from a specific prescriber or pharmacy. You'll have an opportunity to tell us which prescribers or pharmacies you prefer to use, and about any other information you think is important for us to know. After you've had the opportunity to respond, if we decide to limit your coverage for these medications, we'll send you another letter confirming the limitation. If you think we made a mistake or you disagree with our decision or with the limitation, you and your prescriber have the right to appeal. If you appeal, we'll review your case and give you a new decision. If we continue to deny any part of your request about the limitations that apply to your access to medications, we'll automatically send your case to an independent reviewer outside of our plan. Go to Chapter 7 for information about how to ask for an appeal.

You won't be placed in our DMP if you have certain medical conditions, such as cancer-related pain or sickle cell disease, you're getting hospice, palliative, or end-of-life care, or live in a long-term care facility.

Section 10.2 Medication Therapy Management (MTM) program to help members manage medications

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

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

It's a good idea to talk to your doctor about your recommended to-do list and medication list. Bring the summary with you to your visit or anytime you talk with your doctors, pharmacists,

Chapter 3 Using plan coverage for Part D drugs

and other health care providers. Keep your medication list up to date and with you (for example, with your ID) in case you go to the hospital or emergency room

If we have a program that fits your needs, we'll automatically enroll you in the program and send you information. If you decide not to participate, notify us and we'll withdraw you. For questions about these programs, call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711).

CHAPTER 4:

What you pay for Part D drugs

SECTION 1 What you pay for Part D drugs

If you're in a program that helps pay for your drugs, **some information in this *Part D Prescription Drug Rider* about the costs for Part D prescription drugs may not apply to you.** We sent you a separate insert, called the *Evidence of Coverage Rider for People Who Get Extra Help Paying for Prescription Drugs* (also known as the *Low-Income Subsidy Rider* or the *LIS Rider*), which tells you about your drug coverage. If you don't have this insert, call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711), and ask for the *LIS Rider*.

We use "drug" in this chapter to mean a Part D prescription drug. Not all drugs are Part D drugs. Some drugs are covered under Medicare Part A or Part B and other drugs are excluded from Medicare coverage by law.

To understand the payment information, you need to know what drugs are covered, where to fill your prescriptions, and what rules to follow when you get your covered drugs. Chapter 3 explains these rules. When you use our plan's "Real-Time Benefit Tool" to look up drug coverage (www.ibxmedicare.com/pharmacyfinder), the cost you see shows an estimate of the out-of-pocket costs you're expected to pay. You can also get information provided by the "Real-Time Benefit Tool" by calling our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711)

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

There are 3 different types of out-of-pocket costs for covered Part D drugs that you may be asked to pay:

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

Section 1.2 How Medicare calculates your out-of-pocket costs

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

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

Your out-of-pocket costs **include** the payments listed below (if they are for covered Part D drugs, and you followed the rules for drug coverage explained in Chapter 3):

- The amount you pay for drugs when you're in the following drug payment stages:
 - The Deductible Stage
 - The Initial Coverage Stage
- Any payments you made during this calendar year as a member of a different Medicare drug plan before you joined our plan
- Any payments for your drugs made by family or friends
- Any payments made for your drugs by Extra Help from Medicare, employer or union health plans, Indian Health Service, AIDS drug assistance programs, State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs (SPAPs), and most charities.

Moving to the Catastrophic Coverage Stage:

When you (or those paying on your behalf) have spent a total of \$2,400 in out-of-pocket costs within the calendar year, you move from the Initial Coverage Stage to the Catastrophic Coverage Stage.

These payments aren't included in your out-of-pocket costs

Your out-of-pocket costs **don't include** any of these types of payments:

- Your monthly plan premium
- Drugs you buy outside the United States and its territories
- Drugs that aren't covered by our plan
- Drugs you get at an out-of-network pharmacy that don't meet our plan's requirements for out-of-network coverage
- Non-Part D drugs, including prescription drugs and vaccines covered by Part A or Part B and other drugs excluded from coverage by Medicare
- Payments for your drugs made by certain insurance plans and government-funded health programs such as TRICARE and the Veterans Health Administration (VA)
- Payments for your drugs made by a third party with a legal obligation to pay for prescription costs (for example, Workers' Compensation)
- Payments made by drug manufacturers under the Manufacturer Discount Program

Reminder: If any other organization like the ones listed above pays part or all your out-of-pocket costs for drugs, you're required to tell our plan by calling our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711).

Tracking your out-of-pocket total costs

- The *Part D Explanation of Benefits* (EOB) you get includes the current total of your out-of-pocket costs. When this amount reaches \$2,400, the *Part D EOB* will tell you that you left the Initial Coverage Stage and moved to the Catastrophic Coverage Stage.
- **Make sure we have the information we need.** Go to Section 3.1 to learn what you can do to help make sure our records of what you spent are complete and up to date.

SECTION 2 Drug payment stages for Personal Choice 65 Rx members

There are **3 drug payment stages** for your drug coverage under Personal Choice 65 Rx. How much you pay for each prescription depends on what stage you're in when you get a prescription filled or refilled. Details of each stage are explained in this chapter. The stages are:

- **Stage 1: Yearly Deductible Stage**
- **Stage 2: Initial Coverage Stage**
- **Stage 3: Catastrophic Coverage Stage**

SECTION 3 Your *Part D Explanation of Benefits (EOB)* explains which payment stage you're in

Our plan keeps track of your prescription drug costs and the payments you make when you get prescriptions at the pharmacy. This way, we can tell you when you move from one drug payment stage to the next. We track 2 types of costs:

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

If you filled one or more prescriptions through our plan during the previous month, we'll send you a *Part D EOB*. The *Part D EOB* includes:

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

Section 3.1 Help us keep our information about your drug payments up to date

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

- **Show your membership card every time you get a prescription filled.** This helps make sure we know about the prescriptions you fill and what you pay.
- **Make sure we have the information we need.** There are times you may pay for the entire cost of a prescription drug. In these cases, we won't automatically get the information we need to keep track of your out-of-pocket costs. To help us keep track of your out-of-pocket costs, give us copies of your receipts. **Examples of when you should give us copies of your drug receipts:**
 - When you purchase a covered drug at a network pharmacy at a special price or use a discount card that's not part of our plan's benefit.
 - When you pay a copayment for drugs provided under a drug manufacturer patient assistance program.
 - Any time you buy covered drugs at out-of-network pharmacies or pay the full price for a covered drug under special circumstances.
 - If you're billed for a covered drug, you can ask our plan to pay our share of the cost. For instructions on how to do this, go to Chapter 5.

Send us information about the payments others make for you. Payments made by certain other people and organizations also count toward your out-of-pocket costs. For example, payments made by a State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program, an AIDS drug assistance program (ADAP), the Indian Health Service, and charities count toward your out-of-pocket costs. Keep a record of these payments and send them to us so we can track your costs.

Check the written report we send you. When you get the *Part D EOB*, look it over to be sure the information is complete and correct. If you think something is missing or you have

questions, call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711). Be sure to keep these reports.

SECTION 4 The Deductible Stage

The Deductible Stage is the first payment stage for your drug coverage. This stage begins when you fill your first prescription for the year. When you're in this payment stage, **you must pay the full cost of your drugs** until you reach our plan's deductible amount. The **full cost** is usually lower than the normal full price of the drug since our plan negotiated lower costs for most drugs at network pharmacies.

Once you pay the deductible amount for your drugs, you leave the Deductible Stage and move to the Initial Coverage Stage.

SECTION 5 The Initial Coverage Stage

Section 5.1 What you pay for a drug depends on the drug and where you fill your prescription

During the Initial Coverage Stage, our plan pays its share of the cost of your covered drugs, and you pay your share (your copayment or coinsurance amount). Your share of the cost will vary depending on the drug and where you fill your prescription.

Our plan has cost-sharing tiers

Every drug on our plan's Drug List is in a cost-sharing tier. In general, the higher the cost sharing tier number, the higher your cost for the drug:

To find out which cost-sharing tier your drug is in, look it up in our plan's Drug List.

Your pharmacy choices

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

- A network retail pharmacy that offers standard cost-sharing. Costs may be less at pharmacies that offer preferred cost-sharing.
- A network retail pharmacy that offers preferred cost-sharing.
- A pharmacy that isn't in our plan's network. We cover prescriptions filled at out-of-network pharmacies in only limited situations. Go to Chapter 3 to find out when we'll cover a prescription filled at an out-of-network pharmacy.
- Our plan's mail-order pharmacy.

For more information about these pharmacy choices and filling your prescriptions, go to Chapter 3 and the plan's *Provider/Pharmacy Directory* www.ibx.com/medicare/get-care/find-a-drug.html.

You won't pay more than \$35 for a one-month supply of each covered insulin product regardless of the cost-sharing tier.

Go to Section 7 of this chapter for more information on cost-sharing for Part D vaccines.

Section 5.2 If your doctor prescribes less than a full month's supply, you may not have to pay the cost of the entire month's supply

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

If you get less than a full month's supply of certain drugs, you won't have to pay for the full month's supply.

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

Section 5.3 Your costs for a long-term (up to a 90-day) supply of a covered Part D drug

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

Your *Prescription Drug Benefit Highlights* shows what you pay when you get a long-term supply of a drug.

- Sometimes the cost of the drug is lower than your copayment. In these cases, you pay the lower price for the drug instead of the copayment.

You won't pay more than \$70 for up to a 2-month supply or \$105 for up to a 3-month supply of each covered insulin product regardless of the cost-sharing tier. You won't pay more than \$70 if you fill a three-month supply of a covered insulin product through our mail-order pharmacy.

Section 5.4 You stay in the Initial Coverage Stage until your total drug costs for the year reach \$2,400

You stay in the Initial Coverage Stage until your total out-of-pocket costs reach \$2,400.

The *Part D EOB* you get will help you keep track of how much you, our plan, and any third parties have spent on your behalf during the year. Not all members will reach the \$2,400 out-of-pocket limit in a year.

We'll let you know if you reach this amount. Go to Section 1.3 for more information on how Medicare calculates your out-of-pocket costs.

SECTION 6 The Catastrophic Coverage Stage

In the Catastrophic Coverage Stage, you pay nothing for covered Part D drugs. You enter the Catastrophic Coverage Stage when your out-of-pocket costs reach the \$2,400 limit for the calendar year. Once you're in the Catastrophic Coverage Stage, you'll stay in this payment stage until the end of the calendar year.

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

SECTION 7 What you pay for Part D vaccines

Important message about what you pay for vaccines – Some vaccines are considered medical benefits and are covered under Part B. Other vaccines are considered Part D drugs. You can find these vaccines listed in our plan's Drug List. Our plan covers most adult Part D vaccines at no cost to you. Go to our plan's Drug List or call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711) for more coverage and cost-sharing details about specific vaccines.

There are 2 parts to our coverage of Part D vaccines:

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

Your costs for a Part D vaccine depend on 3 things:

1. Whether the vaccine is recommended for adults by an organization called the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).

- Most adult Part D vaccines are recommended by ACIP and cost you nothing.

2. Where you get the vaccine.

- The vaccine itself may be dispensed by a pharmacy or provided by the doctor's office.

3. Who gives you the vaccine.

- A pharmacist or another provider may give the vaccine in the pharmacy. Or a provider may give it in the doctor's office.

Chapter 4 What you pay for you Part D drugs

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

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

Below are 3 examples of ways you might get a Part D vaccine.

Situation 1: You get the Part D vaccine at the network pharmacy. (Whether you have this choice depends on where you live. Some states don't allow pharmacies to give certain vaccines.)

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

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

- When you get the vaccine, you may have to pay the entire cost of the vaccine itself and the cost for the provider to give it to you.
- You can then ask our plan to pay our share of the cost by using the procedures described in Chapter 5.
- For most adult Part D vaccines, you'll be reimbursed the full amount you paid. For other Part D vaccines, you'll be reimbursed the amount you paid less any coinsurance for the vaccine (including administration) and less any difference between the amount the doctor charges and what we normally pay. (If you get Extra Help, we'll reimburse you for this difference.)

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

- For most adult Part D vaccines, you pay nothing for the vaccine itself.
- For other Part D vaccines, you pay the pharmacy your coinsurance for the vaccine itself.
- When your doctor gives you the vaccine, you may have to pay the entire cost for this service. You can then ask our plan to pay our share of the cost by using the procedures described in Chapter 5.

Chapter 4 What you pay for you Part D drugs

- For most adult Part D vaccines, you'll be reimbursed the full amount you paid. For other Part D vaccines, you'll be reimbursed the amount you paid less any coinsurance for the vaccine administration and less any difference between the amount the doctor charges and what we normally pay. (If you get Extra Help, we'll reimburse you for this difference.)

To ensure full access to your Part D vaccine benefit for a vaccine that is not an adult ACIP-recommended vaccine, we encourage you to receive your vaccine and have it administered at a network pharmacy. Because there may be a large difference between the amount your doctor charges you and the amount we normally pay, you may not receive reimbursement for the full amount you paid out of pocket when you choose scenario 2 or 3 above.

CHAPTER 5:

Asking us to pay our share of a bill for covered drugs

SECTION 1 Situations when you should ask us to pay our share of a bill for covered drugs

Sometimes when you get medical care or a prescription drug, you may need to pay the full cost. Other times, you may pay more than you expected under the coverage rules of our plan, or you may get a bill from a provider. In these cases, you can ask our plan to pay you back (reimburse you). It's your right to be paid back by our plan whenever you've paid more than your share of the cost for medical services or drugs covered by our plan. There may be deadlines that you must meet to get paid back. Go to Section 2 of this chapter.

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

Examples of situations in which you may need to ask our plan to pay you back or to pay a bill you got:

1. If you're retroactively enrolled in our plan

Sometimes a person's enrollment in our plan is retroactive. (This means that the first day of their enrollment has already passed. The enrollment date may even have occurred last year.)

If you were retroactively enrolled in our plan and you paid out of pocket for any of your covered services or drugs after your enrollment date, you can ask us to pay you back for our share of the costs. You need to submit paperwork such as receipts and bills for us to handle the reimbursement.

2. When you use an out-of-network pharmacy to fill a prescription

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

Save your receipt and send a copy to us when you ask us to pay you back for our share of the cost. Remember that we only cover out-of-network pharmacies in limited

Chapter 5 Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered drugs

circumstances. Go to Chapter 3, Section 2.4 to learn about these circumstances. We may not pay you back the difference between what you paid for the drug at the out-of-network pharmacy and the amount we'd pay at an in-network pharmacy.

3. When you pay the full cost for a prescription because you don't have our plan membership card with you

If you don't have our plan membership card with you, you can ask the pharmacy to call our plan or look up our plan enrollment information. If the pharmacy can't get the enrollment information they need right away, you may need to pay the full cost of the prescription yourself.

Save your receipt and send a copy to us when you ask us to pay you back for our share of the cost. We may not pay you back the full cost you paid if the cash price you paid is higher than our negotiated price for the prescription.

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

You may pay the full cost of the prescription because you find the drug isn't covered for some reason.

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

When you send us a request for payment, we'll review your request and decide whether the service or drug should be covered. This is called making a **coverage decision**. If we decide it should be covered, we'll pay for our share of the cost for the service or drug. If we deny your request for payment, you can appeal our decision. Chapter 7 has information about how to make an appeal.

SECTION 2 How to ask us to pay you back or pay a bill you got

You can ask us to pay you back by sending us a request in writing. If you send a request in writing, send your bill and documentation of any payment you have made. It's a good idea to make a copy of your bill and receipts for your records. **You must submit your claim to us within 12 months** of the date you got the drug.

To make sure you're giving us all the information we need to make a decision, you can fill out our claim form to make your request for payment.

- You don't have to use the form, but it'll help us process the information faster.

Chapter 5 Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered drugs

- Download a copy of the form from our website (www.ibxmedicare.com) or call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711) and ask for the form.

Whether you choose to use the form or not, the following information is needed for us to identify you and process your request for payment:

- Member name
- Member ID number (located on your member ID card)
- Member date of birth
- Date of service
- Procedure code (located on the bill or receipt from the provider)
- Diagnosis code (located on the bill or receipt from the provider)
- Billed charges/amounts
- Provider name and National Provider Identifier (NPI)
- Receipt or proof of payment

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

Part D Payment Requests
PO Box 650287
Dallas, TX 75265-0287

SECTION 3 We'll consider your request for payment and say yes or no

When we get your request for payment, we'll let you know if we need any additional information from you. Otherwise, we'll consider your request and make a coverage decision.

- If we decide the drug is covered and you followed all the rules, we'll pay for our share of the cost. Our share of the cost might not be the full amount you paid (for example, if you got a drug at an out-of-network pharmacy or if the cash price you paid for a drug is higher than our negotiated price). If you already paid for the drug, we'll mail your reimbursement of our share of the cost to you. If you haven't paid for the drug yet, we'll mail the payment directly to the provider.
- If we decide the drug is *not* covered, or you did *not* follow all the rules, we won't pay for our share of the cost. We'll send you a letter explaining the reasons why we aren't sending the payment and your right to appeal that decision.

Section 3.1 If we tell you that we won't pay for all or part of the drug, you can make an appeal

If you think we made a mistake in turning down your request for payment or the amount we're paying, you can make an appeal. If you make an appeal, it means you're asking us to change the decision we made when we turned down your request for payment. The appeals process is a formal process with detailed procedures and important deadlines. For the details on how to make this appeal, go to Chapter 7.

CHAPTER 6:

Your rights and responsibilities

SECTION 1 Our plan must honor your rights and cultural sensitivities

Section 1.1 We must provide information in a way that works for you and consistent with your cultural sensitivities (in languages other than English, braille, data CD, large print, or audio format)

Our plan is required to ensure that all services, both clinical and non-clinical, are provided in a culturally competent manner and are accessible to all enrollees, including those with limited English proficiency, limited reading skills, hearing incapacity, or those with diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds. Examples of how our plan may meet these accessibility requirements include but aren't limited to, provision of translator services, interpreter services, teletypewriters, or TTY (text telephone or teletypewriter phone) connection.

We may request demographic information from you, such as race, ethnicity, language, sexual orientation, and gender identity. We may also request information about social needs essential to your well-being. Sharing this information with us helps us better understand and meet the diverse needs of our members. Your response to our request for demographic information is optional.

Our plan has free interpreter services available to answer questions from non-English-speaking members. We can also give you information in braille, in data CD, in large print, or in audio format at no cost if you need it. We're required to give you information about our plan's benefits in a format that's accessible and appropriate for you. To get information from us in a way that works for you, call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711) .

Our plan is required to give members the option of direct access to a women's health specialist within the network for women's routine and preventive health care services.

If providers in our plan's network for a specialty aren't available, it's our plan's responsibility to locate specialty providers outside the network who will provide you with the necessary care. In this case, you'll only pay in-network cost sharing. If you find yourself in a situation where there are no specialists in our plan's network that cover a service you need, call our plan for information on where to go to get this service at in-network cost sharing.

If you have any trouble getting information from our plan in a format that's accessible and appropriate for you, seeing women's health specialists or finding a network specialist, call to file a grievance with our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY users should call

711). You can also file a complaint with Medicare by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) or directly with the Office for Civil Rights 1-800-368-1019 or TTY 1-800-537-7697.

Section 1.2 We must ensure you get timely access to covered drugs

You have the right to choose a pharmacy in our plan's network to fill your prescriptions. You also have the right to get your prescriptions filled or refilled *within a reasonable amount of time*.

If you think you aren't getting your Part D drugs within a reasonable amount of time, Chapter 7 tells what you can do.

Section 1.3 We must protect the privacy of your personal health information

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

- Your personal health information includes the personal information you gave us when you enrolled in this plan as well as your medical records and other medical and health information.
- You have rights related to your information and controlling how your health information is used. We give you a written notice, called a *Notice of Privacy Practice*, that tells about these rights and explains how we protect the privacy of your health information.

How do we protect the privacy of your health information?

- We make sure that unauthorized people don't see or change your records.
- Except for the circumstances noted below, if we intend to give your health information to anyone who isn't providing your care or paying for your care, *we're required to get written permission from you or someone you have given legal power to make decisions for you first*.
- There are certain exceptions that don't require us to get your written permission first. These exceptions are allowed or required by law.
 - We're required to release health information to government agencies that are checking on quality of care.
 - Because you're a member of our plan through Medicare, we're required to give Medicare your health information, including information about your Part D drugs. If Medicare releases your information for research or other uses, this will be done according to federal statutes and regulations; typically, this requires that information that uniquely identifies you not be shared.

You can see the information in your records and know how it's been shared with others

You have the right to look at your medical records held by our plan, and to get a copy of your records. We're allowed to charge you a fee for making copies. You also have the right to ask us to make additions or corrections to your medical records. If you ask us to do this, we'll work with your health care provider to decide whether the changes should be made.

You have the right to know how your health information has been shared with others for any purposes that aren't routine.

If you have questions or concerns about the privacy of your personal health information, call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711).

IBX is committed to protecting the privacy of our members' personal health information. Part of that commitment is complying with the Privacy Rule of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), which requires us to take additional measures to protect personal information and to inform our members about those measures.

The Notice of Privacy Practices describes how IBX may use and disclose a member's personal health information and how a member of an IBX health plan can get access to this information. For details on our practices, available privacy forms, and HIPAA requirements, please visit www.ibxmedicare.com/privacy. You can also call to request a copy of the Notice of Privacy Practices by contacting our Member Help Team.

Section 1.4 We must give you information about our plan, our network of pharmacies, and your covered drugs

As a member of Personal Choice 65 Rx, you have the right to get several kinds of information from us.

If you want any of the following kinds of information, call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711):

- **Information about IBX and our plan.** This includes, for example, information about our plan's financial condition.
- **Information about our network providers and pharmacies.** You have the right to get information about the qualifications of the providers and pharmacies in our network and how we pay the providers in our network.
- **Information about your coverage and the rules you must follow when using your coverage.** Chapters 3 and 4 provide information about Part D drug coverage.
- **Information about why something is not covered and what you can do about it.** Chapter 7 provides information on asking for a written explanation on why a medical

service or Part D drug isn't covered or if your coverage is restricted. Chapter 7 also provides information on asking us to change a decision, also called an appeal.

Section 1.5 You have the right to know your treatment options and participate in decisions about your care.

You have the right to get full information from your doctors and other health care providers. Your providers must explain your medical condition and your treatment choices *in a way that you can understand*.

You also have the right to participate fully in decisions about your health care. To help you make decisions with your doctors about what treatment is best for you, your rights include the following:

- **To know about all your choices.** You have the right to be told about programs our plan offers to help members manage their medications and use drugs safely.
- **To know about the risks.** You have the right to be told about any risks involved in your care. You must be told in advance if any proposed treatment is part of a research experiment. You always have the choice to refuse any experimental treatments.
- **The right to say “no.”** You have the right to refuse any recommended treatment. You also have the right to stop taking your medication. If you refuse treatment or stop taking medication, you accept full responsibility for what happens to your body as a result.

You have the right to give instructions about what’s to be done if you can’t make medical decisions for yourself

Sometimes people become unable to make health care decisions for themselves due to accidents or serious illness. You have the right to say what you want to happen if you’re in this situation. This means, *if you want to*, you can:

- Fill out a written form to give **someone the legal authority to make medical decisions for you** if you ever become unable to make decisions for yourself.
- **Give your doctors written instructions** about how you want them to handle your medical care if you become unable to make decisions for yourself.

Legal documents you can use to give directions in advance of these situations are called **advance directives**. Documents like a **living will** and **power of attorney for health care** are examples of advance directives.

How to set up an advance directive to give instructions:

- **Get a form.** You can get an advance directive form from your lawyer, a social worker, or some office supply stores. You can sometimes get advance directive forms from organizations that give people information about Medicare. You can also call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711) to ask for the forms.
- **Fill out the form and sign it.** No matter where you get this form, it's a legal document. Consider having a lawyer help you prepare it.
- **Give copies of the form to the right people.** Give a copy of the form to your doctor and to the person you name on the form who can make decisions for you if you can't. You may want to give copies to close friends or family members. Keep a copy at home.

If you know ahead of time that you're going to be hospitalized, and you signed an advance directive, **take a copy with you to the hospital.**

- The hospital will ask whether you signed an advance directive form and whether you have it with you.
- If you didn't sign an advance directive form, the hospital has forms available and will ask if you want to sign one.

Filling out an advance directive is your choice (including whether you want to sign one if you're in the hospital). According to law, no one can deny you care or discriminate against you based on whether or not you signed an advance directive.

If your instructions aren't followed

If you sign an advance directive, and you believe that a doctor or hospital didn't follow the instructions in it, you can file a complaint with the Pennsylvania *Department of Health*. Call the Complaint Hotline at 1-800-254-5164 or use the online form at apps.health.pa.gov/dohforms/FacilityComplaint.aspx.

Section 1.6 You have the right to make complaints and ask us to reconsider decisions we made

If you have any problems, concerns, or complaints and need to ask for coverage, or make an appeal, Chapter 7 tells what you can do. Whatever you do — ask for a coverage decision, make an appeal, or make a complaint — **we're required to treat you fairly.**

Section 1.7 If you believe you're being treated unfairly, or your rights aren't being respected

You have the right to be treated with fairness, respect, and recognition of your dignity. If you believe you've been treated unfairly or your rights haven't been respected due to your race, disability, religion, sex, health, ethnicity, creed (beliefs), age, or national origin, call the

Department of Health and Human Services' **Office for Civil Rights** at 1-800-368-1019 (TTY users call 1-800-537-7697), or call your local Office for Civil Rights.

If you believe you've been treated unfairly or your rights haven't been respected, *and it's not* about discrimination, you can get help dealing with the problem you're having from these places:

- **Call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711).**
- **Call Medicare** at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) (TTY users call 1-877-486-2048).

Section 1.8 How to get more information about your rights

Get more information about your rights from these places:

- **Call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711)**
- **Call you local SHIP** at 1-800-783-7067
- **Contact Medicare**
 - Visit [Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov) to read the publication *Medicare Rights & Protections* (available at : [Medicare Rights & Protections](https://www.medicare.gov/medicare-rights-and-protections))
 - Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) (TTY users call 1-877-486-2048)

You also have the right to make recommendations regarding our rights and responsibilities policy by calling our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711).

SECTION 2 Your responsibilities as a member of our plan

Things you need to do as a member of our plan are listed below. For questions, please call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711)

- **Get familiar with your covered services and the rules you must follow to get these covered services.** Use this document, the *Evidence of Coverage*, and your *Benefit Highlights* to learn what's covered and the rules you need to follow to get covered services.
 - The *Evidence of Coverage* gives details about medical services, including what's covered, what isn't covered, rules to follow, and what you pay.
 - Chapters 3 and 4 of this document give details about coverage for Part D drugs.
- **If you have any other drug coverage in addition to our plan, you're required to tell us.** Please call our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711) to let us know.

- We are required to follow rules set by Medicare to make sure that you are using all of your coverage in combination when you get your covered services from our plan. This is called “**coordination of benefits**” because it involves coordinating the drug benefits you get from our plan with any other drug benefits available to you. We’ll help you coordinate your benefits. (For more information about coordination of benefits, go to Chapter 1, Section 7 of your *Evidence of Coverage*.)
- **Tell your doctor and other health care providers that you're enrolled in our plan.** Show our plan membership card whenever you get Part D drugs.
- **Pay what you owe.** As a plan member, you're responsible for these payments:
 - You must pay your plan premiums.
 - You must continue to pay a premium for your Medicare Part B to stay a member of our plan.
 - For most of your drugs covered by our plan, you must pay your share of the cost when you get the drug. This will be a copayment (a fixed amount) or coinsurance (a percentage of the total cost). Your *Benefit Highlights* tells what you must pay for your Part D prescription drugs.
 - If you get any drugs that are not covered by our plan or by other insurance you may have, you must pay the full cost.
 - If you're required to pay a late enrollment penalty, you must pay the penalty to keep your drug coverage.
 - If you're required to pay the extra amount for Part D because of your yearly income, you must pay the extra amount directly to the government to stay a member of our plan.

SECTION 3 Member communications

Section 3.1 Member connections

There are many ways that you can connect with our plan and manage your health care coverage.

Member Site

Log in or register at www.ibx.com/login anytime and anywhere to find all your health and benefit information in one place. Access your member ID card, the Provider/Pharmacy Finder, the status of recent claims, and important messages. You can manage your prescription drug benefit, search for lower-cost alternatives, and order and track medications through mail-order home delivery service. You can also visit our website at www.ibxmedicare.com for plan documents, health and wellness information, and more.

Medical Technology Assessment

Our plan uses the technology assessment process to assure that new drugs, procedures, or devices are safe and effective before approving them as a covered service. When new technology becomes available, or, at the request of a practitioner or member, the plan researches all scientific information available from these expert sources. Following this analysis, the plan:

- Decides about when a new drug, procedure, or device has been proven to be safe and effective; and
- Uses this information to determine when an item becomes a covered service.

The review and evaluation of available clinical and scientific information is done by expert sources. These sources include, but are not limited to:

- Publications from government agencies;
- Peer-reviewed journals;
- Professional guidelines;
- Regional and national experts;
- Clinical trials; and
- Manufacturers' literature.

Section 3.2 Utilization management reviews

The professional providers, independent medical consultants, medical directors, or nurses that perform utilization review services are not compensated or given incentives based on coverage review decisions. Medical directors and nurses are salaried and contracted external physicians and other professional consultants are compensated on a per case-reviewed basis, regardless of the coverage determination. The health benefit plan does not specifically reward or provide financial incentives for issuing denials of coverage. There are no financial incentives for such individuals, which would encourage utilization review decisions that result in underutilization.

CHAPTER 7:

If you have a problem or complaint (Part D coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)

SECTION 1 What to do if you have a problem or concern

This chapter explains 2 types of processes for handling problems and concerns:

- For some problems, you need to use the **process for coverage decisions and appeals**.
- For other problems, you need to use the **process for making complaints** (also called grievances).

Both processes have been approved by Medicare. Each process has a set of rules, procedures, and deadlines that must be followed by us and by you.

The information in this chapter will help you identify the right process to use and what to do.

Section 1.1 Legal terms

There are legal terms for some of the rules, procedures, and types of deadlines explained in this chapter. Many of these terms are unfamiliar to most people. To make things easier, this chapter uses more familiar words in place of some legal terms.

However, it's sometimes important to know the correct legal terms. To help you know which terms to use to get the right help or information, we include these legal terms when we give details for handling specific situations.

SECTION 2 Part D drugs: How to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal

Section 2.1 What to do if you have problems getting a Part D drug or you want us to pay you back for a Part D drug

Your benefits include coverage for many prescription drugs. To be covered, the drug must be used for a medically accepted indication. (Go to Chapter 3 for more information about a medically accepted indication.) For details about Part D drugs, rules, restrictions, and costs, go to Chapters 3 and 4. **This section is about your Part D drugs only.** To keep things simple,

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we generally say *drug* in the rest of this section, instead of repeating *covered outpatient prescription drug* or *Part D drug* every time. We also use the term Drug List instead of *List of Covered Drugs* or formulary.

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

Part D coverage decisions and appeals**Legal Term:**

An initial coverage decision about your Part D drugs is called a **coverage determination**.

A coverage decision is a decision we make about your benefits and coverage or about the amount we'll pay for your drugs. This section tells what you can do if you're in any of the following situations:

- Asking to cover a Part D drug that's not on our plan's Drug List. **Ask for an exception. Section 2.2**
- Asking to waive a restriction on our plan's coverage for a drug (such as limits on the amount of the drug you can get, prior authorization criteria, or the requirement to try another drug first). **Ask for an exception. Section 2.2**
- Asking to pay a lower cost-sharing amount for a covered drug on a higher cost-sharing tier. **Ask for an exception. Section 2.2**
- Asking to get pre-approval for a drug. **Ask for a coverage decision. Section 2.4**
- Pay for a prescription drug you already bought. **Ask us to pay you back. Section 2.4**

If you disagree with a coverage decision we made, you can appeal our decision.

This section tells you both how to ask for coverage decisions and how to request an appeal.

Section 2.2 Asking for an exception**Legal Terms:**

Asking for coverage of a drug that's not on the Drug List is a **formulary exception**.

Asking for removal of a restriction on coverage for a drug is a **formulary exception**.

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Asking to pay a lower price for a covered non-preferred drug is a **tiering exception**.

If a drug isn't covered in the way you'd like it to be covered, you can ask us to make an **exception**. An exception is a type of coverage decision.

For us to consider your exception request, your doctor or other prescriber will need to explain the medical reasons why you need the exception approved. Here are 3 examples of exceptions that you or your doctor or other prescriber can ask us to make:

1. Covering a Part D drug that's not on our Drug List. If we agree to cover a drug not on the Drug List, you'll need to pay the cost-sharing amount that applies to drugs in that tier. You can't ask for an exception to the cost-sharing amount we require you to pay for the drug when we agree to cover a drug not on the Drug list.

2. Removing a restriction for a covered drug. Chapter 5 describes the extra rules or restrictions that apply to certain drugs on our Drug List. If we agree to make an exception and waive a restriction for you, you can ask for an exception to the copayment or coinsurance amount we require you to pay for the drug.

3. Changing coverage of a drug to a lower cost-sharing tier. Every drug on our Drug List is in a cost-sharing tier. In general, the lower the cost-sharing tier number, the less you pay as your share of the cost of the drug.

- If our Drug List contains alternative drug(s) for treating your medical condition that are in a lower cost-sharing tier than your drug, you can ask us to cover your drug at the cost-sharing amount that applies to the alternative drug(s).
- If the drug you're taking is a biological product, you can ask us to cover your drug at a lower cost-sharing amount. This would be the lowest tier that contains biological product alternatives for treating your condition.
- If the drug you're taking is a brand name drug you can ask us to cover your drug at the cost-sharing amount that applies to the lowest tier that contains brand name alternatives for treating your condition.
- If the drug you're taking is a generic drug you can ask us to cover your drug at the cost-sharing amount that applies to the lowest tier that contains either brand or generic alternatives for treating your condition.
- You can't ask us to change the cost-sharing tier for any drug in our specialty tier.
- If we approve your tiering exception request and there's more than one lower cost-sharing tier with alternative drugs you can't take, you usually pay the lowest amount.

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Section 2.3 Important things to know about asking for exceptions**Your doctor must tell us the medical reasons**

Your doctor or other prescriber must give us a statement that explains the medical reasons you're asking for an exception. For a faster decision, include this medical information from your doctor or other prescriber when you ask for the exception.

Our Drug List typically includes more than one drug for treating a particular condition. These different possibilities are called **alternative** drugs. If an alternative drug would be just as effective as the drug you're requesting and wouldn't cause more side effects or other health problems, we generally *won't* approve your request for an exception. If you ask us for a tiering exception, we generally *won't* approve your request for an exception unless all the alternative drugs in the lower cost-sharing tier(s) won't work as well for you or are likely to cause an adverse reaction or other harm.

We can say yes or no to your request

- If we approve your request for an exception, our approval usually is valid until the end of our plan year. This is true as long as your doctor continues to prescribe the drug for you and that drug continues to be safe and effective for treating your condition.
- If we say no to your request, you can ask for another review by making an appeal.

Section 2.4 How to ask for a coverage decision, including an exception**Legal term:**

A fast coverage decision is called an **expedited coverage determination**.

Step 1: Decide if you need a standard coverage decision or a fast coverage decision.

Standard coverage decisions are made within **72 hours** after we get your request. **Fast coverage decisions** are made within **24 hours** after we get your request.

If your health requires it, ask us to give you a fast coverage decision. To get a fast coverage decision, you must meet 2 requirements:

- You must be asking for a drug you didn't get yet. (You can't ask for fast coverage decision to be paid back for a drug you have already bought.)
- Using the standard deadlines could cause serious harm to your health or hurt your ability to function.
- **If your doctor or other prescriber tells us that your health requires a fast coverage decision, we'll automatically give you a fast coverage decision.**

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- **If you ask for a fast coverage decision on your own, without your doctor or prescriber's support, we'll decide whether your health requires that we give you a fast coverage decision.** If we don't approve a fast coverage decision, we'll send you a letter that:
 - Explains that we'll use the standard deadlines.
 - Explains if your doctor or other prescriber asks for the fast coverage decision, we'll automatically give you a fast coverage decision.
 - Tells you how you can file a fast complaint about our decision to give you a standard coverage decision instead of the fast coverage decision you asked for. We'll answer your complaint within 24 hours of receipt.

Step 2: Ask for a standard coverage decision or a fast coverage decision.

Start by calling, writing, or faxing our plan to ask us to authorize or provide coverage for the medical care you want. You can also access the coverage decision process through our website. We must accept any written request, including a request submitted on the *CMS Model Coverage Determination Request Form* or on our plan's form, which is available on our website www.ibxmedicare.com. Chapter 2 has contact information. Visit www.ibxmedicare.com to locate and complete our plan's form. To help us process your request, include your name, contact information, and information that shows which denied claim is being appealed.

You, your doctor (or other prescriber), or your representative can do this. You can also have a lawyer act on your behalf. This chapter tells how you can give written permission to someone else to act as your representative.

- **If you're asking for an exception, provide the supporting statement,** which is the medical reason for the exception. Your doctor or other prescriber can fax or mail the statement to us. Or your doctor or other prescriber can tell us on the phone and follow up by faxing or mailing a written statement if necessary.

Step 3: We consider your request and give you our answer.***Deadlines for a fast coverage decision***

- We must generally give you our answer **within 24 hours** after we get your request.
 - For exceptions, we'll give you our answer within 24 hours after we get your doctor's supporting statement. We'll give you our answer sooner if your health requires us to.
 - If we don't meet this deadline, we're required to send your request to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent review organization. We'll let you know in writing if your request has been sent to the independent review organization.

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- **If our answer is yes to part or all of what you asked for**, we must provide the coverage we agreed to within 24 hours after we get your request or doctor's statement supporting your request.
- **If our answer is no to part or all of what you asked for**, we'll send you a written statement that explains why we said no. We'll also tell you how you can appeal.

Deadlines for a standard coverage decision about a drug you didn't get yet.

- We must generally give you our answer **within 72 hours** after we get your request.
 - For exceptions, we'll give you our answer within 72 hours after we get your doctor's supporting statement. We'll give you our answer sooner if your health requires us to.
 - If we don't meet this deadline, we're required to send your request to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it'll be reviewed by an independent review organization. We'll let you know in writing if your request has been sent to the independent review organization.
- **If our answer is yes to part or all of what you asked for**, we must **provide the coverage** we agreed to **within 72 hours** after we get your request or doctor's statement supporting your request.
- **If our answer is no to part or all of what you asked for**, we'll send you a written statement that explains why we said no. We'll also tell you how you can appeal.

Deadlines for a standard coverage decision about payment for a drug you have already bought

- We must give you our answer **within 14 calendar days** after we get your request.
 - If we don't meet this deadline, we're required to send your request to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent review organization. We'll let you know in writing if your request has been sent to the independent review organization.
- **If our answer is yes to part or all of what you asked for**, we're also required to make payment to you within 14 calendar days after we get your request.
- **If our answer is no to part or all of what you asked for**, we'll send you a written statement that explains why we said no. We'll also tell you how you can appeal.

Step 4: If we say no to your coverage request, you can make an appeal.

- If we say no, you have the right to ask us to reconsider this decision by making an appeal. This means asking again to get the drug coverage you want. If you make an appeal, it means you're going to Level 1 of the appeals process.

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Section 2.5 How to make a Level 1 appeal**Legal Terms:**

An appeal to our plan about a Part D drug coverage decision is called a **plan redetermination**.

A fast appeal is called an **expedited redetermination**.

Step 1: Decide if you need a standard appeal or a fast appeal.

A standard appeal is usually made within 7 calendar days. A fast appeal is generally made within 72 hours. If your health requires it, ask for a fast appeal.

- If you're appealing a decision we made about a drug you didn't get yet, you and your doctor or other prescriber will need to decide if you need a fast appeal.
- The requirements for getting a fast appeal are the same as those for getting a fast coverage decision.

Step 2: You, your representative, doctor, or other prescriber must contact us and make your Level 1 appeal. If your health requires a quick response, you must ask for a fast appeal.

- **For standard appeals, submit a written request or call us.** Chapter 2 has contact information.
- **For fast appeals, either submit your appeal in writing or call us at 1-888-879-4293.** Chapter 2 has contact information.
- **We must accept any written request**, including a request submitted on the *CMS Model Coverage Redetermination Request Form*, which is available on our website www.ibxmedicare.com. Include your name, contact information, and information about your claim to help us process your request.
- **You must make your appeal request within 65 calendar days** from the date on the written notice we sent to tell you our answer on the coverage decision. If you miss this deadline and have a good reason for missing it, explain the reason your appeal is late when you make your appeal. We may give you more time to make your appeal. Examples of good cause may include a serious illness that prevented you from contacting us or if we provided you with incorrect or incomplete information about the deadline for requesting an appeal.

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- **You can ask for a copy of the information in your appeal and add more information.** You and your doctor may add more information to support your appeal.

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

- When we review your appeal, we take another careful look at all the information about your coverage request. We check to see if we were following all the rules when we said no to your request. We may contact you or your doctor or other prescriber to get more information.

Deadlines for a fast appeal

- For fast appeals, we must give you our answer **within 72 hours after we get your appeal**. We'll give you our answer sooner if your health requires us to.
 - If we don't give you an answer within 72 hours, we're required to send your request to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent review organization. We'll let you know in writing if your request has been sent to the independent review organization. Section 2.6 explains the Level 2 appeal process.
- **If our answer is yes to part or all of what you asked for**, we must provide the coverage we agreed to within 72 hours after we get your appeal.
- **If our answer is no to part or all of what you asked for**, we'll send you a written statement that explains why we said no and how you can appeal our decision.

Deadlines for a standard appeal for a drug you didn't get yet.

- For standard appeals, we must give you our answer **within 7 calendar days** after we get your appeal. We'll give you our decision sooner if you didn't get the drug yet and your health condition requires us to do so.
 - If we don't give you a decision within 7 calendar days, we're required to send your request to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent review organization. We'll let you know in writing if your request has been sent to the independent review organization. Section 2.6 explains the Level 2 appeal process.
- **If our answer is yes to part or all of what you asked for**, we must provide the coverage as quickly as your health requires, but no later than **7 calendar days** after we get your appeal.
- **If our answer is no to part or all of what you asked for**, we'll send you a written statement that explains why we said no and how you can appeal our decision.

Deadlines for a standard appeal about payment for a drug you already bought

- We must give you our answer **within 14 calendar days** after we get your request.
 - If we don't meet this deadline, we're required to send your request to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent review organization.

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We'll let you know in writing if your request has been sent to the independent review organization.

- **If our answer is yes to part or all of what you asked for**, we're also required to make payment to you within **30 calendar days** after we get your request.
- **If our answer is no to part or all of what you asked for**, we'll send you a written statement that explains why we said no. We'll also tell you how you can appeal.

Step 4: If we say no to your appeal, you decide if you want to continue with the appeals process and make *another* appeal.

- If you decide to make another appeal, it means your appeal is going on to Level 2 of the appeals process.

Section 2.6 How to make a Level 2 appeal

Legal Term:

The formal name for the independent review organization is the **Independent Review Entity**. It is sometimes called the **IRE**.

The **independent review organization is an independent organization hired by Medicare**. It is not connected with us and is not a government agency. This organization decides whether the decision we made is correct or if it should be changed. Medicare oversees its work.

Step 1: You (or your representative or your doctor or other prescriber) must contact the independent review organization and ask for a review of your case.

- If we say no to your Level 1 appeal, the written notice we send you will include **instructions on how to make a Level 2 appeal** with the independent review organization. These instructions will tell who can make this Level 2 appeal, what deadlines you must follow, and how to reach the independent review organization.
- **You must make your appeal request within 65 calendar days** from the date on the written notice.
- If we did not complete our review within the applicable timeframe or make an unfavorable decision regarding an **at-risk** determination under our drug management program, we'll automatically forward your request to the IRE. We'll let you know in writing if your request has been sent to the independent review organization.
- We'll send the information about your appeal to the independent review organization. This information is called your **case file**. **You have the right to ask us for a copy of your case file.**

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- You have a right to give the independent review organization additional information to support your appeal.

Step 2: The independent review organization reviews your appeal.

Reviewers at the independent review organization will take a careful look at all of the information about your appeal.

Deadlines for fast appeal

- If your health requires it, ask the independent review organization for a fast appeal.
- If the organization agrees to give you a fast appeal, the organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 appeal **within 72 hours** after it gets your appeal request.

Deadlines for standard appeal

- For standard appeals, the independent review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 appeal **within 7 calendar days** after it gets your appeal if it is for a drug you didn't get yet. If you're asking us to pay you back for a drug you already bought, the independent review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 appeal **within 14 calendar days** after it gets your request.

Step 3: The independent review organization gives you its answer.***For fast appeals:***

- **If the independent review organization says yes to part or all of what you asked for**, we must provide the drug coverage that was approved by the independent review organization **within 24 hours** after we get the decision from the independent review organization.

For standard appeals:

- **If the independent review organization says yes to part or all of your request for coverage**, we must **provide the drug coverage** that was approved by the independent review organization **within 72 hours** after we get the decision from the independent review organization.
- **If the independent review organization says yes to part or all of your request to pay you back** for a drug you already bought, we're required to **send payment to you within 30 calendar days** after we get the decision from the independent review organization.

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What if the independent review organization says no to your appeal?

If this organization says no **to part or all of** your appeal, it means they agree with our decision not to approve your request (or part of your request). (This is called **upholding the decision**. It's also called **turning down your appeal**.) In this case, the independent review organization will send you a letter:

- Explains the decision.
- Lets you know about your right to a Level 3 appeal if the dollar value of the drug coverage you're asking for meets a certain minimum. If the dollar value of the drug coverage you're asking for is too low, you can't make another appeal and the decision at Level 2 is final.
- Tells you the dollar value that must be in dispute to continue with the appeals process.

Step 4: If your case meets the requirements, you choose whether you want to take your appeal further.

- There are 3 additional levels in the appeals process after Level 2 (for a total of 5 levels of appeal).
- If you want to go on to a Level 3 appeal, the details on how to do this are in the written notice you get after your Level 2 appeal decision.

The Level 3 appeal is handled by an Administrative Law Judge or attorney adjudicator. Section 3 in this chapter tells more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

SECTION 3 Taking your appeal to Levels 3, 4, and 5

Section 3.1 Appeal Levels 3, 4, and 5 for Medical Service Requests

This section may be right for you if you made a Level 1 appeal and a Level 2 appeal, and both of your appeals were turned down.

If the dollar value of the item or medical service you appealed meets certain minimum levels, you may be able to go on to additional levels of appeal. If the dollar value is less than the minimum level, you can't appeal any further. The written response you get to your Level 2 appeal will explain how to make a Level 3 appeal.

For most situations that involve appeals, the last 3 levels of appeal work in much the same way as the first 2 levels. Here's who handles the review of your appeal at each of these levels.

Level 3 appeal

An **Administrative Law Judge** or an attorney adjudicator who works for the federal government will review your appeal and give you an answer.

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- **If the Administrative Law Judge or attorney adjudicator says yes to your appeal, the appeals process *may or may not be over*.** Unlike a decision at a Level 2 appeal, we have the right to appeal a Level 3 decision that's favorable to you. If we decide to appeal, it will go to a Level 4 appeal.
 - If we decide *not* to appeal, we must authorize or provide you with the service within 60 calendar days after we get the Administrative Law Judge's or attorney adjudicator's decision.
 - If we decide to appeal the decision, we'll send you a copy of the Level 4 appeal request with any accompanying documents. We may wait for the Level 4 appeal decision before authorizing or providing the service in dispute.
- **If the Administrative Law Judge or attorney adjudicator says no to your appeal, the appeals process *may or may not be over*.**
 - If you decide to accept the decision that turns down your appeal, the appeals process is over.
 - If you don't want to accept the decision, you can continue to the next level of the review process. The notice you get will tell you what to do for a Level 4 appeal.

Level 4 appeal

The **Medicare Appeals Council** (Council) will review your appeal and give you an answer. The Council is part of the federal government.

- **If the answer is yes, or if the Council denies our request to review a favorable Level 3 appeal decision, the appeals process *may or may not be over*.** Unlike a decision at Level 2, we have the right to appeal a Level 4 decision that is favorable to you. We'll decide whether to appeal this decision to Level 5.
 - If we decide *not* to appeal the decision, we must authorize or provide you with the service within 60 calendar days after getting the Council's decision.
 - If we decide to appeal the decision, we'll let you know in writing.
- **If the answer is no or if the Council denies the review request, the appeals process *may or may not be over*.**
 - If you decide to accept this decision that turns down your appeal, the appeals process is over.
 - If you don't want to accept the decision, you may be able to continue to the next level of the review process. If the Council says no to your appeal, the notice you get will tell you whether the rules allow you to go to a Level 5 appeal and how to continue with a Level 5 appeal.

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Level 5 appeal

A judge at the **Federal District Court** will review your appeal.

- A judge will review all the information and decide *yes* or *no* to your request. This is a final answer. There are no more appeal levels after the Federal District Court.

Section 3.2 Appeal Levels 3, 4, and 5 for Part D Drug Requests

This section may be right for you if you made a Level 1 appeal and a Level 2 appeal, and both of your appeals were turned down.

If the value of the drug you appealed meets a certain dollar amount, you may be able to go to additional levels of appeal. If the dollar amount is less, you can't appeal any further. The written response you get to your Level 2 appeal will explain who to contact and what to do to ask for a Level 3 appeal.

For most situations that involve appeals, the last 3 levels of appeal work in much the same way as the first 2 levels. Here's who handles the review of your appeal at each of these levels.

Level 3 appeal:

An Administrative Law Judge or an attorney adjudicator who works for the federal government will review your appeal and give you an answer.

- **If the answer is yes, the appeals process is over.** We must **authorize or provide the drug coverage** that was approved by the Administrative Law Judge or attorney adjudicator **within 72 hours (24 hours for expedited appeals) or make payment no later than 30 calendar days** after we get the decision.
- **If the answer is no, the appeals process *may* or *may not* be over.**
 - If you decide to accept the decision that turns down your appeal, the appeals process is over.
 - If you don't want to accept the decision, you can continue to the next level of the review process. The notice you get will tell you what to do for a Level 4 appeal.

Level 4 appeal

The **Medicare Appeals Council** (Council) will review your appeal and give you an answer. The Council is part of the federal government.

- **If the answer is yes, the appeals process is over.** We must **authorize or provide the drug coverage** that was approved by the Council **within 72 hours (24 hours for expedited appeals) or make payment no later than 30 calendar days** after we get the decision.

Chapter 7 If you have a problem or complaint (Part D coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)

- **If the answer is no, the appeals process *may* or *may not* be over.**
 - If you decide to accept the decision that turns down your appeal, the appeals process is over.
 - If you don't want to accept the decision, you may be able to continue to the next level of the review process. If the Council says no to your appeal or denies your request to review the appeal, the notice will tell you whether the rules allow you to go on to a Level 5 appeal. It will also tell you who to contact and what to do next if you choose to continue with your appeal.

Level 5 appeal

A judge at the **Federal District Court** will review your appeal.

- A judge will review all the information and decide *yes* or *no* to your request. This is a final answer. There are no more appeal levels after the Federal District Court.

Making complaints

SECTION 4 How to make a complaint about quality of care, waiting times, customer service, or other concerns

Section 4.1 What kinds of problems are handled by the complaint process?

The complaint process is *only* used for certain types of problems. This includes problems related to quality of care, waiting times, and customer service. Here are examples of the kinds of problems handled by the complaint process.

Complaint	Example
Quality of your medical care	• Are you unhappy with the quality of the care you got (including care in the hospital)?
Respecting your privacy	• Did someone not respect your right to privacy or share confidential information?
Disrespect, poor customer service, or other negative behaviors	• Has someone been rude or disrespectful to you? • Are you unhappy with our Member Help Team? • Do you feel you're being encouraged to leave our plan?

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Complaint	Example
Waiting times	• Are you having trouble getting an appointment, or waiting too long to get it? • Have you been kept waiting too long by doctors, pharmacists, or other health professionals? Or by our Member Help Team or other staff at our plan? ◦ Examples include waiting too long on the phone, in the waiting or exam room, or getting a prescription.
Cleanliness	• Are you unhappy with the cleanliness or condition of a pharmacy, clinic, hospital, or doctor's office?
Information you get from us	• Did we fail to give you a required notice? • Is our written information hard to understand?
Timeliness (These types of complaints are all related to the <i>timeliness</i> of our actions related to coverage decisions and appeals)	If you asked for a coverage decision or made an appeal, and you think we aren't responding quickly enough, you can make a complaint about our slowness. Here are examples: • You asked us for a <i>fast coverage decision</i> or a <i>fast appeal</i>, and we said no; you can make a complaint. • You believe we aren't meeting the deadlines for coverage decisions or appeals; you can make a complaint. • You believe we aren't meeting deadlines for covering or reimbursing you for certain drugs that were approved; you can make a complaint. • You believe we failed to meet required deadlines for forwarding your case to the independent review organization; you can make a complaint.

Section 4.2 How to make a complaint**Legal Terms:**

A **complaint** is also called a **grievance**.

Chapter 7 If you have a problem or complaint (Part D coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)

Making a complaint is called **filing a grievance**.

Using the process for complaints is called **using the process for filing a grievance**.

A **fast complaint** is called an **expedited grievance**.

Step 1: Contact us promptly – either by phone or in writing.

- **Calling our Member Help Team at 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711) is usually the first step.** If there's anything else you need to do, our Member Help Team will let you know.
- **If you don't want to call (or you called and weren't satisfied), you can put your complaint in writing and send it to us.** If you put your complaint in writing, we'll respond to your complaint in writing.

Here is our formal procedure for answering grievances:

- **Standard Grievance Process**
If we can't resolve your issue over the phone, we have a formal procedure to review your issues. To use the formal grievance procedure, please call 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD: 711) 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Please note that on weekends and holidays from April 1 through September 30, your call may be sent to voicemail. Or, mail a written request to Personal Choice 65 Rx, Medicare Member Appeals Unit, PO Box 13652, Philadelphia, PA 19101-3652. You will receive notification of the resolution of your grievance.
- **Expedited (Fast) Grievance Process**
As a member, you may file an expedited grievance with Personal Choice 65 Rx for the following reasons only:
 - We decided to invoke an extension to, or reconsidered the time frames for, an organization determination; and/or
 - We refused to grant your request for an expedited organization determination or reconsideration or coverage determination or redetermination

We only respond within 24 hours of receiving your expedited grievance request if it is for a valid reason. To file an expedited grievance, please call 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD: 711), 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Please note that on weekends and holidays from April 1 through September 30, your call may be sent to voicemail. Or, mail a written request to Personal Choice 65 Rx, Medicare Member Appeals Unit, PO Box 13652, Philadelphia, PA 19101-3652.

You can also submit your complaint to us by fax (see Chapter 2 for more information).

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- The **deadline** for making a complaint is 60 calendar days from the time you had the problem you want to complain about.

Step 2: We look into your complaint and give you our answer.

- **If possible, we'll answer you right away.** If you call us with a complaint, we may be able to give you an answer on the same phone call.
- **Most complaints are answered within 30 calendar days.** If we need more information and the delay is in your best interest or if you ask for more time, **we can take up to 14 more calendar days** (44 calendar days total) to answer your complaint. If we decide to take extra days, we'll tell you in writing.
- **If you're making a complaint because we denied your request for a fast coverage decision or a fast appeal, we'll automatically give you a fast complaint.** If you have a fast complaint, it means we'll give you **an answer within 24 hours**.
- **If we don't agree** with some or all of your complaint or don't take responsibility for the problem you're complaining about, we'll include our reasons in our response to you.

Section 4.3 You can also make complaints about quality of care to the Quality Improvement Organization

When your complaint is about *quality of care*, you have 2 extra options:

- **You can make your complaint directly to the Quality Improvement Organization.**
- The Quality Improvement Organization is a group of practicing doctors and other health care experts paid by the federal government to check and improve the care given to Medicare patients. Chapter 2 has contact information.

Or

- **You can make your complaint to both the Quality Improvement Organization and us at the same time.**

Section 4.4 You can also tell Medicare about your complaint

You can submit a complaint about Personal Choice 65 Rx directly to Medicare. To submit a complaint to Medicare, go to [Medicare.gov/my/medicare-complaint](https://www.medicare.gov/my/medicare-complaint) You can also call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY/TDD users call 1-877-486-2048.

CHAPTER 8:

Definitions

Appeal – An appeal is something you do if you disagree with our decision to deny a request for coverage of health care services or prescription drugs or payment for services or drugs you already got. You may also make an appeal if you disagree with our decision to stop services that you’re getting.

Biological Product – A prescription drug that is made from natural and living sources like animal cells, plant cells, bacteria, or yeast. Biological products are more complex than other drugs and can’t be copied exactly, so alternative forms are called biosimilars. (Go to “**Original Biological Product**” and “**Biosimilar**”).

Biosimilar – A biological product that’s very similar, but not identical, to the original biological product. Biosimilars are as safe and effective as the original biological product. Some biosimilars may be substituted for the original biological product at the pharmacy without needing a new prescription (go to “**Interchangeable Biosimilar**”).

Brand Name Drug – A prescription drug that is manufactured and sold by the pharmaceutical company that originally researched and developed the drug. Brand name drugs have the same active-ingredient formula as the generic version of the drug. However, generic drugs are manufactured and sold by other drug manufacturers and are generally not available until after the patent on the brand name drug has expired.

Catastrophic Coverage Stage – The stage in the Part D Drug Benefit that begins when you (or other qualified parties on your behalf) have spent \$2,400 for Part D in covered drugs during the covered year. During this payment stage, you pay nothing for your covered Part D drugs.

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) – The federal agency that administers Medicare.

Coinsurance – An amount you may be required to pay, expressed as a percentage (for example 20%) as your share of the cost for services or prescription drugs.

Complaint – The formal name for making a complaint is **filing a grievance**. The complaint process is used *only* for certain types of problems. This includes problems about quality of care, waiting times, and the customer service you get. It also includes complaints if our plan doesn’t follow the time periods in the appeal process.

Copayment (or copay) – An amount you may be required to pay as your share of the cost for a medical service or supply, like a doctor’s visit, hospital outpatient visit, or a prescription drug. A copayment is a set amount (for example \$10), rather than a percentage.

Chapter 8 Definitions

Cost Sharing – Cost-sharing refers to amounts that a member has to pay when services or drugs are gotten. (This is in addition to our plan’s monthly plan premium.) Cost-sharing includes any combination of the following 3 types of payments: 1) any deductible amount a plan may impose before services or drugs are covered; 2) any fixed copayment amount that a plan requires when a specific service or drug is gotten; or 3) any coinsurance amount, a percentage of the total amount paid for a service or drug, that a plan requires when a specific service or drug is gotten.

Cost-Sharing Tier – Every drug on the list of covered drugs is in a cost-sharing tier. In general, the higher the cost-sharing tier, the higher your cost for the drug.

Coverage Determination – A decision about whether a drug prescribed for you is covered by our plan and the amount, if any, you’re required to pay for the prescription. In general, if you bring your prescription to a pharmacy and the pharmacy tells you the prescription isn’t covered under our plan, that isn’t a coverage determination. You need to call or write to our plan to ask for a formal decision about the coverage. Coverage determinations are called **coverage decisions** in this document.

Covered Drugs – The term we use to mean all the prescription drugs covered by our plan.

Covered Services – The term we use to mean all the health care services and supplies that are covered by our plan.

Creditable Prescription Drug Coverage – Prescription drug coverage (for example, from an employer or union) that is expected to pay, on average, at least as much as Medicare’s standard prescription drug coverage. People who have this kind of coverage when they become eligible for Medicare can generally keep that coverage without paying a penalty if they decide to enroll in Medicare prescription drug coverage later.

Daily cost-sharing rate – A daily cost-sharing rate may apply when your doctor prescribes less than a full month’s supply of certain drugs for you and you’re required to pay a copayment. A daily cost-sharing rate is the copayment divided by the number of days in a month’s supply. Here is an example: If your copayment for a one-month supply of a drug is \$30, and a one-month’s supply in our plan is 30 days, then your daily cost-sharing rate is \$1 per day.

Deductible – The amount you must pay for health care or prescriptions before our plan pays.

Dispensing Fee – A fee charged each time a covered drug is dispensed to pay for the cost of filling a prescription, such as the pharmacist’s time to prepare and package the prescription.

Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans (D-SNP) – D-SNPs enroll people who are entitled to both Medicare (Title XVIII of the Social Security Act) and medical assistance from a state plan under

Medicaid (Title XIX). States cover some Medicare costs, depending on the state and the person's eligibility.

Dually Eligible Individual – A person who is eligible for Medicare and Medicaid coverage.

Evidence of Coverage (EOC) and Disclosure Information – This document, along with your enrollment form and any other attachments, riders, or other optional coverage selected, which explains your coverage, what we must do, your rights, and what you have to do as a member of our plan.

Exception – A type of coverage decision that, if approved, allows you to get a drug that isn't on our formulary (a formulary exception), or get a non-preferred drug at a lower cost-sharing level (a tiering exception). You may also ask for an exception if our plan requires you to try another drug before getting the drug you're asking for, if our plan requires a prior authorization for a drug and you want us to waive the criteria restriction, or if our plan limits the quantity or dosage of the drug you're asking for (a formulary exception).

Extra Help – A Medicare program to help people with limited income and resources pay Medicare prescription drug program costs, such as premiums, deductibles, and coinsurance

Generic Drug – A prescription drug that is approved by the FDA as having the same active ingredient(s) as the brand name drug. Generally, a generic drug works the same as a brand name drug and usually costs less

Grievance – A type of complaint you make about our plan, providers, or pharmacies, including a complaint concerning the quality of your care. This doesn't involve coverage or payment disputes.

Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount (IRMAA) – If your modified adjusted gross income as reported on your IRS tax return from 2 years ago is above a certain amount, you'll pay the standard premium amount and an Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount, also known as IRMAA. IRMAA is an extra charge added to your premium. Less than 5% of people with Medicare are affected, so most people won't pay a higher premium.

Initial Coverage Stage – This is the stage after you pay your deductible (if you have one) and before your out-of-pocket costs for the year, have reached the out-of-pocket threshold amount.

Initial Enrollment Period – When you're first eligible for Medicare, the period of time when you can sign up for Medicare Part A and Part B. If you're eligible for Medicare when you turn 65, your Initial Enrollment Period is the 7-month period that begins 3 months before the month you turn 65, includes the month you turn 65, and ends 3 months after the month you turn 65.

Chapter 8 Definitions

Institutional Special Needs Plan (I-SNP) – I-SNPs restrict enrollment to MA eligible people who live in the community but need the level of care a facility offers, or who live (or are expected to live) for at least 90 days straight in certain long-term facilities. I-SNPs include the following types of plans: Institutional-equivalent SNPs (IE-SNPs) Hybrid Institutional SNPs (HI-SNPs), and Facility-based Institutional SNPs (FI-SNPs).

Institutional-Equivalent Special Needs Plan (IE-SNP) – An IE-SNP restricts enrollment to MA eligible people who live in the community but need the level of care a facility offers.

Interchangeable Biosimilar – A biosimilar that may be used as a substitute for an original biosimilar product at the pharmacy without needing a new prescription because it meets additional requirements about the potential for automatic substitution. Automatic substitution at the pharmacy is subject to state law.

List of Covered Drugs (formulary or “Drug List”) – A list of prescription drugs covered by our plan.

Low Income Subsidy (LIS) – Go to Extra Help.

Manufacturer Discount Program – A program under which drug manufacturers pay a portion of our plan’s full cost for covered Part D brand name drugs and biologics. Discounts are based on agreements between the federal government and drug manufacturers.

Maximum Fair Price – The price Medicare negotiated for a selected drug.

Medicaid (or Medical Assistance) – A joint federal and state program that helps with medical costs for some people with low incomes and limited resources. State Medicaid programs vary, but most health care costs are covered if you qualify for both Medicare and Medicaid.

Medically Accepted Indication – A use of a drug that is either approved by the FDA or supported by certain references, such as the American Hospital Formulary Service Drug Information and the Micromedex DRUGDEX Information system.

Medically Necessary – Services, supplies, or drugs that are needed for the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of your medical condition and meet accepted standards of medical practice.

Medicare – The federal health insurance program for people 65 years of age or older, some people under age 65 with certain disabilities, and people with End-Stage Renal Disease (generally those with permanent kidney failure who need dialysis or a kidney transplant).

Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period – The time period from January 1 to March 31 when members in a Medicare Advantage plan can cancel their plan enrollment and switch to another Medicare Advantage plan or get coverage through Original Medicare. If you choose to switch to Original Medicare during this period, you can also join a separate Medicare

prescription drug plan at that time. The Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period is also available for a 3-month period after a person is first eligible for Medicare.

Medicare Advantage (MA) Plan – Sometimes called Medicare Part C. A plan offered by a private company that contracts with Medicare to provide you with all your Medicare Part A and Part B benefits. A Medicare Advantage Plan can be i) an HMO, ii) a PPO, iii) a Private Fee-for-Service (PFFS) plan, or iv) a Medicare Medical Savings Account (MSA) plan. Besides choosing from these types of plans, a Medicare Advantage HMO or PPO plan can also be a Special Needs Plan (SNP). In most cases, Medicare Advantage Plans also offer Medicare Part D (prescription drug coverage). These plans are called **Medicare Advantage Plans with Prescription Drug Coverage**.

Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage (Medicare Part D) – Insurance to help pay for outpatient prescription drugs, vaccines, biologicals, and some supplies not covered by Medicare Part A or Part B.

Medicare Cost Plan – A Medicare Cost Plan is a plan operated by a Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) or Competitive Medical Plan (CMP) in accordance with a cost-reimbursed contract under section 1876(h) of the Act.

Medicare Health Plan – A Medicare health plan is offered by a private company that contracts with Medicare to provide Part A and Part B benefits to people with Medicare who enroll in our plan. This term includes all Medicare Advantage Plans, Medicare Cost Plans, Special Needs Plans, Demonstration/Pilot Programs, and Programs of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE).

Medication Therapy Management (MTM) program – A Medicare Part D program for complex health needs provided to people who meet certain requirements or are in a Drug Management Program. MTM services usually include a discussion with a pharmacist or health care provider to review medications.

Medigap (Medicare Supplement Insurance) Policy – Medicare supplement insurance sold by private insurance companies to fill “gaps” in Original Medicare. Medigap policies only work with Original Medicare. (A Medicare Advantage Plan is not a Medigap policy.)

Member (Member of our Plan, or Plan Member) – A person with Medicare who is eligible to get covered services, who has enrolled in our plan, and whose enrollment has been confirmed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

Member Help Team – A department within our plan responsible for answering your questions about your membership, benefits, grievances, and appeals.

Chapter 8 Definitions

Network Pharmacy – A pharmacy that contracts with our plan where members of our plan can get their prescription drug benefits. In most cases, your prescriptions are covered only if they are filled at one of our network pharmacies.

Open Enrollment Period – The time period of October 15 until December 7 of each year when members can change their health or drug plans or switch to Original Medicare.

Organization Determination – A decision our plan makes about whether health care services or prescription drugs are covered or how much you have to pay for health care services or prescription drugs. Organization determinations are called “coverage decisions” in this document.

Original Biological Product – A biological product that has been approved by the FDA and serves as the comparison for manufacturers making a biosimilar version. It is also called a reference product.

Original Medicare (Traditional Medicare or Fee-for-Service Medicare) – Original Medicare is offered by the government, and not a private health plan like Medicare Advantage plans and prescription drug plans. Under Original Medicare, Medicare services are covered by paying doctors, hospitals, and other health care providers payment amounts established by Congress. You can see any doctor, hospital, or other health care provider that accepts Medicare. You must pay the deductible. Medicare pays its share of the Medicare-approved amount, and you pay your share. Original Medicare has 2 parts: Part A (Hospital Insurance) and Part B (Medical Insurance) and is available everywhere in the United States.

Out-of-Network Pharmacy – A pharmacy that doesn’t have a contract with our plan to coordinate or provide covered drugs to members of our plan. Most drugs you get from out-of-network pharmacies aren’t covered by our plan unless certain conditions apply

Out-of-Pocket Costs – Go to the definition for cost-sharing above. A member’s cost sharing requirement to pay for a portion of services or drugs received is also referred to as the member’s out-of-pocket cost requirement

Out-of-Pocket Threshold – The maximum amount you pay out of pocket for Part D drugs.

PACE plan – A PACE (Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly) plan combines medical, social, and long-term services and supports (LTSS) for frail people to help people stay independent and living in their community (instead of moving to a nursing home) as long as possible. People enrolled in PACE plans get both their Medicare and Medicaid benefits through our plan.

Part D – The voluntary Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Program

Part D Drugs – Drugs that can be covered under Part D. We may or may not offer all Part D drugs. Certain categories of drugs have been excluded as covered Part D drugs by Congress. Certain categories of Part D drugs must be covered by every plan.

Part D Late Enrollment Penalty – An amount added to your monthly plan premium for Medicare drug coverage if you go without creditable coverage (coverage that is expected to pay, on average, at least as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage) for a continuous period of 63 days or more.

Pharmacy Benefit Manager – An entity that administers prescription drugs on behalf of our plan.

Preferred Cost Sharing – Preferred cost-sharing means lower cost-sharing for certain covered Part D drugs at certain network pharmacies.

Preventive services – Health care services that help you stay healthy, detect health problems early, determine the most effective treatments, and prevent certain diseases. Preventive services include exams, shots, lab tests, and screenings. They also include programs for health monitoring, and counseling and education to help you take care of your own health.

Prior Authorization – Approval in advance to get services and/or certain drugs that may or may not be on our formulary. Some in-network medical services are covered only if your doctor or other network provider gets “prior authorization” from our plan. Covered services that need prior authorization are marked in the Benefits Chart in Chapter 4 of the *Evidence of Coverage*. Some drugs are covered only if your doctor or other network provider gets “prior authorization” from us. Covered drugs that need prior authorization are marked in the formulary.

Quantity Limits – A management tool that is designed to limit the use of a drug for quality, safety, or utilization reasons. Limits may be on the amount of the drug that we cover per prescription or for a defined period of time.

“Real-Time Benefit Tool” – A portal or computer application in which enrollees can look up complete, accurate, timely, clinically appropriate, enrollee-specific formulary and benefit information. This includes cost sharing amounts, alternative formulary medications that may be used for the same health condition as a given drug, and coverage restrictions (Prior Authorization, Step Therapy, Quantity Limits) that apply to alternative medications.

Referral – A written order from your primary care doctor for you to visit a specialist or get certain medical services. Without a referral, our plan may not pay for services from a specialist.

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Selected Drug – A drug covered under Part D for which Medicare negotiated a Maximum Fair Price.

Special Needs Plan – A special type of Medicare Advantage Plan that provides more focused health care for specific groups of people, such as those who have both Medicare and Medicaid, who live in a nursing home, or who have certain chronic medical conditions.

Standard Cost Sharing – Standard cost-sharing is cost-sharing other than preferred cost-sharing offered at a network pharmacy.

Step Therapy – A utilization tool that requires you to first try another drug to treat your medical condition before we'll cover the drug your physician may have initially prescribed.

Website URL – The address of a resource (such as a document or website) on the Internet. URL stands for “uniform resource locator” or a “universal resource locator.”

Benefits underwritten by QCC Insurance Company, a subsidiary of Independence Blue Cross — independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

OptumRx is an Optum® company – an independent company that provides home delivery, specialty, and infusion pharmacy services.

Personal Choice 65 Rx Member Help Team

Method	Member Help Team – Contact Information
Call	1-888-879-4293 Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Please note that on weekends and holidays from April 1 through September 30, your call may be sent to voicemail. Our Member Help Team 1-888-879-4293 (TTY/TDD users call 711) also has free language interpreter services available for non-English speakers.
TTY/TDD	711 Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Please note that on weekends and holidays from April 1 through September 30, your call may be sent to voicemail.
Fax	1-888-289-3029 215-238-7960
Write	Personal Choice 65 Rx PO Box 7799 Philadelphia, PA 19101-7799
Website	www.ibxmedicare.com

PA MEDI (Pennsylvania's SHIP)

Pennsylvania Medicare Education and Decision Insight (PA MEDI) is a state program that gets money from the federal government to give free local health insurance counseling to people with Medicare.

Method	Contact Information
Call	1-800-783-7067
Write	PA MEDI Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Aging 555 Walnut Street, 5 th Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101-1919
Website	www.aging.pa.gov/aging-services/medicare-counseling/Pages/default.aspx

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