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UCare provides Individual & Family and Medicare members with COVID-19 financial relief
Premium payment discounts, enhanced coverage, telehealth resources ease access to care

MINNEAPOLIS, May 19, 2020 — As COVID-19 continues to impact Minnesotans' safety, health and financial security, [UCare](#) is providing peace of mind to its members and providers. The nonprofit, community-based health plan is taking several actions* to make health care more accessible and affordable:

- Reducing member premium payments** by 20% in July and August 2020
- Removing copays for Medicare primary care and mental health clinic services – including telehealth – during the COVID-19 public health emergency
- Continuing to waive copays, coinsurance and deductibles for COVID-19 tests and associated clinic, urgent care and emergency room visits
- Continuing to waive copays, coinsurance, deductibles for COVID-19 inpatient hospitalizations through September 2020
- Supplying health care providers, group homes, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, social service organizations and vulnerable members with telehealth home kits, masks, healthy snack boxes and iPads – more detail [here](#)
- Offering \$25,000 grants to small provider groups and community clinics to build infrastructure during COVID-19

In the past few months, members' use of health care services and associated claims were lower than expected due to COVID-19. This enabled UCare to offer members financial relief and providers resources to ease the way for them to reconnect.

“We are concerned that our members – including older and more vulnerable members – are forgoing needed care at this time,” said UCare President and CEO Mark Traynor. “As a result, we are adjusting coverage and costs to support members' health. We want members to access essential care, and we are pleased to enhance providers' ability to provide that care.”

UCare is a leading Individual & Family and Medicare Advantage plan in Minnesota. The health plan has 41% market share of Individual & Family plans sold through MNsure, with more than 42,000 members. As a Medicare Advantage plan of long standing, UCare currently serves more than 101,000 Medicare members across Minnesota and parts of Wisconsin.

Medicare members also have access to over-the-counter [Healthy Savings](#) to purchase preventive care items such as masks, gloves or hand sanitizers at participating stores. And all UCare members can benefit from telehealth services available to them in the safety of their homes.

About UCare

[UCare](#) is an independent, nonprofit health plan providing health care and administrative services to more than 475,000 members throughout Minnesota and parts of western Wisconsin. UCare partners with health care providers, counties, and community organizations to create and deliver Medicare, Medicaid and Individual & Family health plans.

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

*Member financial relief measures are in place during the duration of federal and state public health emergencies. If the public health emergencies end sooner, then benefits will revert back.

**20% premium payment reductions also apply to separate dental plans for Medicare members in July and August 2020

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