



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MEDIA CONTACT:**  
Wendy Wicks  
612-306-3698  
[wwicks@ucare.org](mailto:wwicks@ucare.org)

**UCare makes insulin more affordable for Medicare members**  
***Health plan joins the Part D Senior Savings Model and***  
***enhances diabetes coverage for Individual & Family plan members***

MINNEAPOLIS, October 13, 2020 — Today, [UCare](#), an independent, nonprofit health plan, announced plans to offer Part D savings on its drug list (formulary) insulin to members of all UCare individual\* Medicare plans in 2021. As the rising cost of insulin increasingly causes financial hardship, UCare is stabilizing costs to help our members with diabetes maintain their best health.

In 2021, the cost of covered insulin for individual Medicare plan members will be capped at \$30/month at a preferred pharmacy and \$35/month at other pharmacies in UCare's extensive network. This benefit applies in the deductible, initial coverage and coverage gap phases of members' part D benefit. UCare Associate Vice President Patrick Mitch expects "our members with diabetes who use insulin will save on average \$446 a year on their prescription costs. We are pleased to offer our members significant financial relief."

The health plan will continue to cap insulin costs for Individual & Family plan members at \$25/month in 2021. In addition, UCare will add select non-insulin covered diabetes medications such as oral drugs to the monthly cap. (This enhanced coverage applies to plans with medication copays, not HSA or Core plans.)

The pharmacy benefit completes UCare's [full slate of diabetes programs](#) supporting optimal health for our members living with diabetes. A healthy lifestyle is key to controlling blood sugar levels when you live with diabetes. UCare supports healthy lifestyles through such offerings as:

- [Healthy Savings](#) up to \$200/month on healthy foods at participating markets
- [Community Education](#) discounts (\$15 discount for 3 classes/year)
- [Savings on health club memberships](#)
- [UCare's Health Journey](#) program providing personalized, phone-based health coaching from a registered nurse

The statements contained in this news release are solely those of UCare and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of CMS (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services). UCare assumes responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of the information contained in this news release.

The Medicare cost relief is made possible by a [Part D Senior Savings Model](#) program introduced by the CMS in March 2020. UCare opted into the program in partnership with our pharmacy benefit manager and insulin manufacturers to bring down the monthly cost of insulin for members.

### **About UCare**

[UCare](#) is an independent, nonprofit health plan providing health care and administrative services to more than 500,000 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.

#

\*The insulin cap does not apply to members of UCare Medicare Group plans offered by employers to retirees.