## Medicare Advantage Plans for 2024



## Is my Medicare Advantage plan going to be the right plan for me in 2024?

This depends. Questions you will need to answer include:

- Are your doctors and other providers still covered? Plans usually let you know, but you may also want to check with your provider and check the plan's provider look-up or ask them for a printed directory.
- Will your costs and coverage change? Each year plans are allowed to change premiums, co-pays and co-insurance for covered services. That includes prescription drug coverage as well. They can also drop drugs from their formulary altogether which will increase your costs significantly.
- Are new or better plans available? Medicare Advantage is a competitive insurance market, and there are many options this year.

### Here are some of the highlights for 2024.

- 10 HMO (Health Maintenance Organization) plans are offered to anyone with Medicare Part A & B at monthly premiums from \$0 to \$71.
- 2 PPOs (Preferred Provider Organization) plans are offered this year.
- 9 Special Needs HMO plans are offered, including those for persons with specified chronic conditions, or with Medi-Cal + Medicare.
- All Wellcare plans and AARP SecureHorizons Plan 1 are leaving which gives you special rights to replace your coverage<sup>1</sup>.
- Kaiser continues to offer a \$0 premium Basic Plan with slightly higher co-pays than the Enhanced Plan.
- UHC Canopy does not have John Muir doctors 'in network' this year.

### What changes can I make starting October 15th?



You can change to any other Medicare Advantage plan without any health screening. You must enroll in your new plan between October 15<sup>th</sup> and December 7<sup>th</sup>. Coverage will start January 1<sup>st</sup>. If you want to change again, you can do so once anytime in the first 3 months of 2024.

Or, you can leave your current plan and use Original Medicare as your primary insurance, along with a stand-alone prescription drug plan. There is never health screening for this option. See the following page for your rights to purchase a Medicare Supplement (Medigap) policy.



# I am unhappy with my Medicare Advantage Plan! Can I use original Medicare as my primary insurance and purchase a Medigap policy plus a Prescription Plan?

The following plans have changed at least one of their payment amounts which, under California law, entitles you to purchase a Medicare Supplement (Medigap) policy without any health screening instead. Purchasing a stand-alone prescription plan is also available to you.

## Plans which allow you to leave and purchase Medigap from any insurer:

AARP SecureHorizons<sup>1</sup> Brand New Day Central Health

Imperial (all plans) Kaiser (only Basic) Wellcare (all plans<sup>1</sup>)

You must disenroll from your plan by December 7<sup>th</sup> for an effective date of January 1<sup>st</sup> 2024. You can easily do this by selecting a stand-alone Prescription Drug Plan. You may then enroll in any Medicare Supplement (Medigap) plan offered by any company before March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2024. Coverage will start the first of the month following your enrollment or January first if enrolling before that date.

## Plans which allow you to leave and purchase Medigap from their parent company:

Anthem PPO Humana (all plans)
UHC Assure UHC Canopy Health

You must disenroll from your plan by February 28<sup>th</sup>. You can easily do this by selecting a stand-alone Prescription Drug Plan. You then may enroll in any Medicare Supplement (Medigap) offered by the parent company (not any company as noted above). You must do this by March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2024. Coverage will start the first of the month following your enrollment, or January first if enrolling before that date.

### Contact us for help in obtaining a Medigap plan

Contra Costa County Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP)
Contact Us: (925) 655-1393, (800) 510-2020 or (800) 434-0222

.Email: ehsdhicap@ehsd.cccounty.us Visit: www.cchicap.org



**Navigating Medicare** 



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1 – Special timing rules apply for plans terminating. For those with full Medi-Cal status, it is illegal for companies to sell you a Medigap policy. See HICAP for more information and assistance.