5 things to know about health Insurance

1. There are many kinds of private health insurance policies. Different kinds of policies can offer very different kinds of benefits, and some can limit which doctors, hospitals, or other providers you can use.

2. You may have to pay coinsurance or a copayment as your share of the cost when you get a medical service, like a doctor’s visit, hospital outpatient visit, or a prescription. Coinsurance is usually a percentage amount (for example, 20% of the total cost). A copayment is usually a fixed amount (for example, you might pay $10 or $20 for a prescription or doctor’s visit).

3. You may have to pay a deductible each plan year before your insurance company starts to pay for care you get. For example, let’s say you have a $200 deductible. You go to the emergency room and the total cost is $1,250. You pay the first $200 to cover the deductible, and then your insurance starts to pay its share.

Value of Health Insurance page 1
4. Health insurance plans contract with networks of hospitals, doctors, pharmacies, and health care providers to take care of people in the plan. Depending on the type of policy you buy, your plan may only pay for your care when you get it from a provider in the plan’s network, or you may have to pay a bigger share of the bill.

5. You may see products that look and sound like health insurance, but don’t give you the same protection as full health insurance. Some examples are policies that only cover certain diseases, policies that only cover you if you’re hurt in an accident, or plans that offer you discounts on health services. Don’t mistake insurance-like products for full comprehensive insurance protection.

Get more information about how insurance works at HealthCare.gov. You can also call the Health Insurance Marketplace Call Center at 1-800-318-2596.

Health coverage helps pay costs when you need care

No one plans to get sick or hurt, but most people need medical care at some point. Health coverage helps pay for these costs and protects you from very high expenses.

Value of Health Insurance page 2
What is health insurance?

Health insurance is a contract between you and your insurance company. You buy a plan, and the company agrees to pay part of your medical costs when you get sick or hurt.

There are other important benefits of health insurance. Plans available in the Marketplace (and most other plans) provide free preventative care, like vaccines and check-ups. They also cover some costs for prescription drugs.

Health insurance helps you pay for care

Did you know the average cost of a 3-day hospital stay is $30,000? Or that fixing a broken leg can cost up to $7,500? Having health coverage can help protect you from high, unexpected costs like these.

You insurance policy or summary of benefits and coverage will show what types of care, treatments and services are covered, including how much the insurance company will pay for different treatments in different situations.

What you pay for health insurance

You’ll usually pay a premium every month for health coverage, and you may also have to meet a deductible once each year before the insurance company starts to pay.

What is health insurance?

Kev povfwm khumob yog dlabtsi?

Kev povfwm khumob yog ib txaj kev cog lug ntawm koj hab lub txuam txhaab muag kev povfwm khumob. Thaum koj yuav puab ib tug qauv lawm, lub tuam txhaab ntawd nrog koi pum zoo paab koi them ib feem ntawm koi cov nqe khumob thauam kws koi muaj mob lossis raug mob.

Kev povfwm khumob muaj lwm yaam kev paab cuam kws tseem ceeb hab. Cov qauv kws muaj muag nyob rua huv lub khw muag kev povfwm khumob, Marketplace (hab lwm tug cov qauv) puavleeg muaj moog kuaj mob dawb xws le kuaiv tivthaiv mob nkeeg, kev txhaj tshuaij, hab moog kuaj mob. Dlhau le ntawd tseem paab them ib cov nqe tshuaij kws kws khumob xaaj.

Kev povhwm khomob paab koi them nqe khomob

Koj puas paub tas tug nqe khomob rua ib tug tuabneeg mob pw huv tsev khomob le peb nub lawm raug nqe le ntawm $30,000? Hab kev khu tug kws txhais ceg lug yoq raug nqe le ntawm $7,500? Muaj kev tuav povfwm khumob yuav paab tivthaiv koi lug ntawm cov nqe khomob sab sab hab yug pun tsi txug le cov nuav.

Koj dlam ntawv povfwm khomob lossis tshooj kws qha txug cov kev paab cuam yuav qha rua koi paub tas yaam kev kuaj mob, khomob, lossis lwm yaam kev paab cuam kws puab yuav paab koi them. Tseem qha ntxiv tas lub tuam txhaab ntawd yuav them nphaum le caag rua tej yaam kev khu mob rua tej lub tsam mooj zoo le caag hab.

Yaam kws koi them rua kev povwm khumob

Txhua lub hld twg koi yuav tau them ib tug nqe miv miv rua kev tuav povfwm khumob, hab txhua xyoos tej zag koi tseem tau them ib qhov nqe ntau kws jog koi ntlag tug kws koi yuav tau them kum txwm ua ntej kev

What you pay for health insurance

Kev povhwm khomob paab koi them nqi khomob

Koj puas paub tias tus nqi khomob rau ib tus neeg mob pw huv tsev khomob li peb nhub lawm raug nqi li ntawm $30,000? Thiab kev khu tus uas txhais ceg dam yug raug nqi li ntawm $7,500? Muaj kev tuav povhwm kho mob yuav tab tivthaiv koi los ntawm cov nqi khomob siab siab thabi yus pom tsis txog li cov no.

Koj daim ntawv povhwm khomob lossis tshooj uas qhia txog cov kev paab cuam yuav qhia rau koi paub tias yam kev kuaj mob, khomob, lossis lwm yam kev paab cuam uas lawv yuav paab koi them. Tseem qhia ntxiv tias lub tuam txhab ntawd yuav them nphaum le cas rua tej yawm kev khoomob rau rua tej lwj ceeb zoo li cas thiab.

Yam uas koi them rua kev povhwm khomob

Txhua lub hld twg koi yuav tau them ib tus nqi me me rau kev tuav povhwm khomob, thiab txhua xyoos tej zaum koi tseem tau them ib qhov nqi ntau uas jog koi ntiag tus uas koi yuav tau them kom txwm ua ntej kev

Value of Health Insurance page 3
pay its share.

How much you pay for your premium and deductible is based on the type of coverage you have.

Just as important as the premium cost is how much you have to pay when you get services.

Examples include:

- How much you pay for care before your insurance company starts to pay its share (deductible)
- What you pay out-of-pocket for services after you pay the deductible (coinsurance or copayments)
- How much in total you'll have to pay if you get sick (the out-of-pocket maximum)

What your policy covers is often directly related to how expensive the health insurance policy is. The policy with the cheapest premium may not cover many services and treatments.

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Credits: English from the Affordable Care Act Marketplace at Healthcare.gov