

## **MEMBER HANDBOOK Guidelines: FOR MINNESOTA SENIOR CARE PLUS (MSC+)**

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBER HANDBOOK**

#### **Model Member Handbook**

- Managed care organizations (MCO) are required to use the most recent version of the standardized Model Member Handbook.
- The legend for the Model Member Handbook is:
  - Text shown as “<text>” is required language. This text represents variable data.
  - Text shown as “[text]” is optionally printed, depending on the italicized notes.
  - Text shown as “{text}” is never printed. This text is informational only.
  - Language in *italics* is instructions to the MCO. It is to be deleted in the MCO’s version.
- Permissible alterations include modifications as allowed in model instructions and as approved by DHS.
- The document can be formatted as desired specific to font style, margins, bullets but must meet contractual and Managed Care Regulation requirements.
- Whenever a phone number is listed, the TTY must also be provided.
- MCO must insert a comprehensive written key in Section 7. Covered Services after the two introductory paragraphs and before the first covered service is listed. The key must describe the symbols used in the Member Handbook.
- MCOs may include the words (toll free) where ever a toll free phone number is listed.
- Send a copy of the final approved electronic version of the Member Handbook in an accessible format for a web environment to the DHS Contract Manager within two weeks of receiving DHS approval.
- Starting with the Table of Contents through the duration of the document, page numbers need to flow continuously in numeric order.
- The Member Handbook text must be in a font size of 12 point or greater. Alternative formats must include large print version, which the Managed Care Regulation defines as font size no smaller than 18 point.

#### **MCO Member Handbook Submission Process**

- Review and edit the draft Member Handbook prior to submission to DHS. This includes correcting grammar, spelling, and other typographical errors, and ensuring accuracy of data. Errors may cause delays in the approval process.
- Submit the following to the DHS Contract Manager:
  - The Material Review Checklist
  - The Member Handbook (in a format ready for printing).

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

- The name and contact information of the person at the MCO to whom questions can be directed.
- A Flesch Scale Analysis Readability Score at or below 7th grade level for the Member Handbook.
- A signed attestation that the information contained in the Member Handbook is accurate as of the date of submission to DHS. The MCO must ensure in their attestation that the MCO has reviewed the information submitted in their Member Handbook. The narrative information must be accurate and must not contain false or misleading statements. The MCO must have a process to validate that the information provided is correct as stated in the contract, Managed Care Regulation, and the Member Handbook Guidelines. This must be signed by an officer within the MCO such as a CEO, CFO, or Vice President. The officer can delegate a person within the MCO to sign on their behalf. The letter of delegation must be on file with DHS. DHS is not able to verify and accept electronic signatures. The attestation must have a “wet” signature.
- 
- Submit revised Member Handbook drafts as necessary until final approval from DHS is obtained.
- Send a PDF copy of the final approved version of the Member Handbook to the DHS Contract Manager.

### **Process for Distribution of Final Approved Member Handbook**

- MCOs must comply with contract requirements related to electronic accessibility, including Sections 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act.
- The MCO must provide the Member Handbook in an alternative format to its members upon request. Alternative format refers to auxiliary aids and services as defined in the contract and Managed Care Regulation.
- The MCO may provide the Member Handbook in an alternative format to the State and to counties within its service area according to contractual and Managed Care Regulation requirements. (Refer to current contract.)
- Send a PDF copy of any non-English Member Handbook to the Contract Manager and a signed attestation that the Non-English version contains the same information as the English version. If the MCO translates the Member Handbook into other languages, the entire Member Handbook must be translated.
- Send a copy of the final approved electronic version of the Member Handbook in an accessible format for a web environment to the DHS Contract Manager within two weeks of receiving DHS approval.

# Model

## Member Handbook

### Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+)

January 1, 2021

This booklet contains important information about your health care services.

*<Insert MCO cover page for the 2021 Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook>*

*<Insert name of MCO, address, Member/Customer Services phone numbers including TTY, website, and hours of service>*

*(Inside front cover on the left side or on the first page after the front cover)*

*Place the following starting inside the front cover:*

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

<Language Block>

<Discrimination and Complaint Notice CB-5>

< American Indian Statement>

<Insert Table of Contents with page numbers> [MCOs may include additional **subheadings**]

### **Section 1: Telephone Numbers and Contact Information**

[Gives you contact information for our Plan and other organizations that can help you.]

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

## **Section 2: Important Information on Getting the Care You Need**

[Tells you important things you need to know about getting health care as a member of our Plan.]

[Transition of care  
<Prior/Service> authorizations  
Covered and non-covered services  
Cost sharing  
Payments to providers  
Interpreter services  
Home and Community Based Services  
Other health insurance  
Private information  
Restricted Recipient Program  
Cancellation]

## **Section 3: Member Bill of Rights**

[Tells you about your rights as a member of our Plan.]

## **Section 4: Member Responsibilities**

[Tells you about your responsibilities as a member of our Plan.]

## **Section 5: Your Health Plan Member Identification (ID) Card**

[Tells you about your health Plan member ID card, which you should show whenever you get health care services.]

## **Section 6: Cost Sharing**

[Tells you about the amounts (copays) you may need to pay for some services.]

## **Section 7: Covered Services**

[Tells you which health care services are covered and not covered for you as a member of our Plan. Also tells you about restrictions or limitations on covered services.]

## **Section 8: Services We Do Not Cover**

[Tells you about some additional health care services that are **not** covered for you as a member of our Plan]

## **Section 9: Services That Are Not Covered under the Plan but May Be Covered through Another Source**

[Tells you about some health care services that are not covered by the Plan, but may be covered in some other way.]

## **Section 10: When to Call Your County Worker**

[Tells you what kind of information you need to share with your county worker.]

**Section 11: Using the Plan Coverage with Other Insurance**

[Tells you how to get health care services if you have some other kind of insurance in addition to the Plan.]

**Section 12: Subrogation or Other Claim**

[Tells about our right to collect payment from a third party if they are responsible for paying for your health care services.]

**Section 13: Grievance, Appeal, and State Appeal (Fair Hearing with the state) Process**

[Tells you about your right to complain about the quality of care you get, how to appeal a decision we make, and how to request a state appeal (Fair Hearing with the state).]

**Section 14: Definitions**

[Gives you some definitions of words that will help you better understand your health care and coverage.]

**[Section 15: Additional Information]**

[Tells you about <insert applicable topic(s): Health Care Directives, provider payment methods, Women’s Health and Cancer Rights, protecting privacy, and Physician Incentive Plans >.]

*<When using acronyms, the MCO must provide the full description of the term that the acronym is describing. For example, Advanced Practice Nurse (APN).>*

## **Welcome to <insert name of MCO>**

We are pleased to welcome you as a member of <insert name of MCO's MSC+ product> (referred to as "Plan" or "the Plan").

<Insert name of MCO> (referred to as "we," "us," or "our") is part of the Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) program. We coordinate and cover your medical services. You will get most of your health services through the Plan's network of providers. When you need health care or have questions about your health services, you can call us. We will help you decide what to do next and which <doctor/qualified health care provider> to see.

You will be contacted by <Insert name of MCO>, to complete a health assessment by <Insert methods – mail, care coordinator>. The assessment will help us connect you to health care services or other services available to you as a member. Based on your answers, we may contact you for additional information. If you have questions about this assessment, please call <Member/Customer Services/your care coordinator>.

This Member Handbook is our contract with you. It is an important legal document.

This Member Handbook includes:

- Contact information
- Information on how to get the care you need
- Your rights and responsibilities as a member of the Plan
- Information about cost sharing
- A listing of covered and non-covered health care services

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

- When to call your county worker
- Using the Plan coverage with other insurance or other sources of payment
- Information on what to do if you have a grievance (complaint) or want to appeal a Plan action, as defined in Section 13
- Definitions

The counties in the Plan service area are as follows: *<insert names of counties>*.

Please tell us how we're doing. You can call [,email,] or write to us at any time. (Section 1 of this Member Handbook tells how to contact us.) Your comments are always welcome, whether they are positive or negative. From time to time, we do surveys that ask our members to tell about their experiences with us. If you are contacted, we hope you will participate in a member satisfaction survey. Your answers to the survey questions will help us know what we are doing well and where we need to improve.

## Section 1. Telephone numbers and contact information

### How to contact our <Member/Customer Services>

If you have any questions or concerns, please call, [email], or write to <Member/Customer Services>. We will be happy to help you. <Member/Customer Services> hours of service are <insert business days and hours>.

CALL: <insert local and toll free phone numbers>

TTY: <insert local and toll free phone numbers>

[FAX: <insert FAX number>]

WRITE: <insert address>

[VISIT: <insert if different from the “write” address>]

WEBSITE: <insert website address>

[EMAIL: <insert e-mail address>

[MESSAGING THROUGH <MEMBER PORTAL> : <insert contact information>]

[MOBILE WEBSITE: <insert name of mobile application>]

**Our Plan contact information for certain services** [Plans may insert additional contact information as applicable in this area]

Appeals and Grievances <insert contact information> See Section 13 for more information.

Chiropractic Services <insert contact information>

Dental Services <insert contact information>

Durable Medical Equipment Coverage Criteria <insert contact information>

<Insert name of Health Questions Phone Line/Nurse Line in alpha order> <insert contact information>

Home and Community Based Services (Elderly Waiver) <insert contact information>

Interpreter Services

American Sign Language (ASL) <insert contact information>

Spoken Language <insert contact information>

Mental Health and Behavioral Health Services <insert contact information>

Prescriptions <insert contact information>

Substance Use Disorder Services <insert contact information>

Transportation <insert contact information>

## **Other important contact information**

People with hearing loss or a speech disability may call the following numbers to access the resources listed in this Member Handbook 711, Minnesota Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (toll free) (TTY, Voice, ASCII, Hearing Carry Over), or 1-877-627-3848 (toll free) (speech to speech relay service). Calls to these numbers are free.

For information and to learn more about health care directives and how to exercise an advance directive, please contact *<insert MCO name and MCO contact information>*. More information about health care directives can be found: *<insert MCO website information>*. You may also visit the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) website at:

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/regulation/infobulletins/advdir.html>

To Report Fraud and Abuse *<insert MCO specific instructions and contact information.>* To report fraud or abuse directly to the State, contact the Surveillance and Integrity Review Section (SIRS) at the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) by phone at 651-431-2650 or 1-800-657-3750 (toll free) or 711 (TTY); by fax at 651-431-7569; or by email at DHS.SIRS@state.mn.us.

## **Minnesota Department of Human Services**

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) is a state agency that helps people meet their basic needs. It provides or administers health care, financial help, and other services. DHS administers the Medical Assistance (Medicaid) program through counties. If you have questions about your eligibility for Medical Assistance (Medicaid), contact your county worker.

## **Ombudsman for Public Health Care Programs**

The Ombudsman for Public Managed Health Care Programs, at the Minnesota Department of Human Services, helps people enrolled in a health plan in resolving access, service and billing problems. They can help you file a grievance or appeal with us. The ombudsman can also help you request a state appeal (Fair Hearing with the state). Call 651-431-2660 (Twin Cities metro area) or 1-800-657-3729

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

(toll free non-metro) or 711 (TTY). Hours of service are Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. *[Non-metro MCOs can choose to change the order of the numbers to list non-metro phone number first.]*

### **Office of Ombudsman for Long-Term Care**

Contact the Office of Ombudsman for Long-Term Care for assistance with concerns about nursing homes, boarding care homes, adult care homes (i.e., housing with services, assisted living, customized living, or foster care), home care services, and hospital access or discharge for people with Medicare. Call 651-431-2555 or 1-800-657-3591 (toll free).

### **How to contact the Medicare program**

Medicare is the Federal health insurance program for people 65 years of age or over, some people under age 65 with disabilities, and people with End-Stage Renal Disease (permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a kidney transplant).

The federal agency in charge of Medicare is the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (sometimes called “CMS”). This agency contracts with Medicare Advantage Organizations including us.

Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) to ask questions or get free information booklets from Medicare. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048. Customer service representatives are available 24 hours a day, including weekends.

Visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov). This is the official government website for Medicare. It gives you up-to-date information about Medicare and current Medicare issues. It also has information about hospitals, nursing homes, physicians, home health agencies, and dialysis facilities. It includes booklets you can print directly from your computer. It has tools to help you compare Medicare Advantage Plans and Medicare drug plans in your area. You can also find Medicare contacts in your state by selecting “Phone Numbers and Websites.”

If you don’t have a computer, your local library or senior center may be able to help you visit this website using its computer. Or, you can call Medicare and tell them what information you are looking for. They will find the information on the website, print it out, and send it to you.

## **Senior LinkAge Line®**

The Senior LinkAge Line® is a state program that gives free help, information, and answers to your questions about Medicare. The Senior LinkAge Line® is independent (not connected with any insurance company or health plan). It is a state program that gets money from the Federal government to give free local health insurance counseling to people with Medicare.

Senior LinkAge Line® counselors can help you with your Medicare questions or problems. They can help you understand your Medicare rights, help you make complaints about your medical care or treatment, and help you straighten out problems with your Medicare bills. Senior LinkAge Line® counselors can also help you understand your Medicare plan choices and answer questions about switching plans.

You may contact the Senior LinkAge Line® at 1-800-333-2433 (toll free) or write to them at Minnesota Board on Aging, P.O. Box 64976, St. Paul, MN 55164-0976. You may also find the Web site for the Senior LinkAge Line® at [www.minnesotahelp.info](http://www.minnesotahelp.info).

## **Section 2. Important information on getting the care you need**

Each time you get health services, check to be sure that the provider is a Plan network provider. In most cases, you need to use Plan network providers to get

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

your services. Members have access to a Provider Directory that lists Plan network providers. You may ask for a print copy of this at any time. To verify current information, you can *[Insert all applicable statements: call the provider, call <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number in Section 1, or visit our website listed in Section 1.]*

When you are a member or become a member of <MCO Name> you chose or were assigned to a <primary care provider (PCP) or primary care clinic (PCC) or care system> [and a dental clinic]. Your <primary care provider (PCP) or primary care clinic (PCC) or care system> [and dental clinic] can provide most of the health care services you need, and will help coordinate your care. [This provider will also advise you if you need to see specialists.] You may change your <primary care provider (PCP) or primary care clinic (PCC) or care system> [or dental clinic]. *<Explain the process for changing a provider/clinic/care system/dental provider.>*

## **Or**

<MCO name> encourages you to choose a <primary care provider (PCP) or primary care clinic (PCC) or care system> [and dental clinic]. Your primary care clinic can provide most of the health care services you need, and will help coordinate your care. Please confirm with Member Services that your clinic is still a provider with our health plan. You can go to any primary care clinic that's listed in this directory or our online provider search at <MCO website>.]

*[MCOs with referral models, insert: Your primary care clinic or <doctor/qualified health care provider> will refer you to other [doctors or] qualified health care providers when needed.]*

*[MCOs with direct access model, insert: You do not need a referral to see a Plan network specialist. However, your primary care clinic can provide most of the health care services you need, and will help coordinate your care.]*

Contact your primary care clinic for information about the clinic's hours, *[insert if applicable: referrals,]* <prior/service> authorizations, and to make an appointment. If you cannot go to your appointment, call your clinic right away.

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

[You may change your primary care provider or clinic. To find out how to do this, call <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number in Section 1.]

### **Transition of Care:**

If you are a newly enrolled member who is currently receiving care from a provider who is not a Plan network provider, we will help you transition to a network provider.

If a drug you were taking previously is not covered under your new plan, you may be able to receive up to a 90-day temporary supply. For more information, call <Member/Customer Services>.

### **<Prior/Service> Authorizations *[insert if applicable: and referrals]:***

Our approval is needed for some services to be covered. This is called <prior/service> authorization. The approval must be obtained before you get the services or before we pay for them. Many of these services are noted in Section 7. For more information, call <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number in Section 1.

*[MCOs with referral models, insert: Some services are only covered when you get a referral. A referral is written consent from your <primary care doctor /qualified health care provider> or clinic that you need to get before you see certain providers, such as specialists, for covered services. Get the referral before you see the provider.*

Almost all health services must be approved by your primary care clinic.

Exceptions to this rule are:

- Routine dental care, routine vision care, chiropractic care, and obstetrics and gynecology services. You must get these services from providers in our network.
- Open access services: family planning, diagnosis of infertility, testing and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), and testing for acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) or other human immunodeficiency virus

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

(HIV) related conditions are open access services. You can go to any <doctor/qualified health care provider>, clinic, pharmacy, or family planning agency, even if it is not in our network, to get these services.

- For substance use disorder services, call the phone number listed in Section 1.
- For mental health services, call the phone number listed in Section 1.
- Emergency and post stabilization care: If you get emergency care from a provider not in the Plan network, you must follow some rules. See Section 7. It tells you what emergency care is covered. It also tells you the rules.

For more information, call <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number listed in Section 1.]

*[MCOs with direct access models, insert:* In most cases, you need to use Plan network providers to get your services. If you need a covered service that you cannot get from a Plan network provider, you must get a <prior/service> authorization from us to see an out-of-network provider. Exceptions to this rule are:

- Open access services: family planning, diagnosis of infertility, testing and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), and testing for acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) or other human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) related conditions. You can go to any <doctor/qualified health care provider>, clinic, pharmacy, or family planning agency, even if it is not in our network, to get these services.
- Emergency and post-stabilization services

For more information, call <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number listed in Section 1.]

*[MCOs with direct access models, insert as applicable:* The Plan allows direct access to the providers in our network, but keeps the right to manage your care under certain circumstances, such as: *[List examples for which this applies.]*. We may do this by choosing the provider you use or the services you receive. *[When*

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

we manage your care, our <nurse care manager> and network providers will coordinate your care] For more information, call Member Services at the phone number in Section 1.]

[*MCOs with referral models, insert:* A written referral may be for one visit or it may be a standing referral for more than one visit if you need ongoing services. We must give you a standing referral to a qualified specialist for any of the following conditions:

- A chronic (on-going) condition
- A life-threatening mental or physical illness
- A pregnancy that is beyond the first three months (first trimester)
- A degenerative disease or disability
- Any other condition or disease that is serious or complex enough to require treatment by a specialist

**If you do not get a written referral when needed, the bill may not be paid.** For more information, call <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number in Section 1.]

[*MCOs with direct access models, insert:* If we are unable to find you a qualified Plan network provider, we must give you a standing <prior/service> authorization for you to see a qualified specialist for any of the following conditions:

- A chronic (ongoing) condition
- A life-threatening mental or physical illness
- A pregnancy that is beyond the first three months (first trimester)
- A degenerative disease or disability

- Any other condition or disease that is serious or complex enough to require treatment by a specialist

**If you do not get a <prior/service> authorization from us when needed, the bill may not be paid.** For more information, call <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number in Section 1.]

If a provider you choose is no longer in our Plan network, you must choose another Plan network provider. You may be able to continue to use services from a provider who is no longer a part of our Plan network for up to 120 days for the following reasons:

- An acute condition
- A life-threatening mental or physical illness
- A pregnancy that is beyond the first three months (first trimester)
- A physical or mental disability defined as an inability to engage in one or more major life activities. This applies to a disability that has lasted or is expected to last at least one year, or is likely to result in death.
- A disabling or chronic condition that is in an acute phase

If your <doctor/qualified health care provider> certifies that you have an expected lifetime of 180 days or less, you may be able to continue to use services for the rest of your life from a provider who is no longer part of our network.

For more information, call <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number in Section 1.

At <MCO NAME>, we have staff who can help you figure out the best way to use health care services. If you have questions about things like where to get services, getting authorization for services, or restrictions on prescription drugs, we can help. Call us at <phone number, hours of operation>. If you need language assistance to talk about these issues, <MCO NAME> can give you information in

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

your language through an interpreter. For sign language services, call <TTY number>. For other language assistance, call <phone number>.

### **Covered and noncovered services**

Enrollment in the Plan does not guarantee that certain items are covered. Some prescription drugs or medical equipment may not be covered. This is true even if they were covered before.

Some services and supplies are not covered. All health services must be medically necessary for them to be covered services. Read this Member Handbook carefully. It lists many services and supplies that are not covered. See Sections 7 and 8.

Some services are not covered under the Plan, but may be covered through another source. See Section 9 for more information. If you are not sure whether a service is covered, call our <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number in Section 1.

We may cover additional or substitute services under some conditions.

### **Cost sharing**

You may be required to contribute an amount toward some medical services. This is called cost sharing. You are responsible to pay your cost sharing amount to your provider. See Section 6 for more information.

### **Payments to providers**

We cannot pay you back for most medical bills that you pay. State and federal laws prevent us from paying you directly. If you paid for a service that you think we should have covered, call <Member/Customer Services>. [If you received a medical bill that should have been covered, *Plans must add additional language to describe how to submit a claim.*]

You may get health services or supplies not covered by the Plan if you agree to pay for them. Providers must have you sign a form acknowledging that you will be responsible for the bill. Providers must have a signed form before providing services or supplies that are not covered by the Plan.

### **Cultural Competency**

We understand that your beliefs, culture, and values play a role in your health. We want to help you maintain good health and good relationships with your <doctor/qualified health care provider>. We want to ensure you get care in a culturally competent way.

### **Interpreter Services**

We will provide interpreter services to help you access services. This includes spoken language interpreters and American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters. Face-to-face spoken language interpreter services are only covered if the interpreter is listed in the Minnesota Department of Health's Spoken Language Health Care Interpreter Roster. Please call <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number in Section 1 to find out which interpreters you can use.

### **Home and Community Based Services**

If you need certain services to help you live in the community, see Home and Community Based Services in Section 7 for information on Elderly Waiver services.

### **Other health insurance**

If you have other health or dental insurance, tell us **before** you get care. We will let you know if you should use the Plan network providers or the health care providers used by your other insurance. We will coordinate with your other insurance plan. If your other health or dental insurance changes, tell your county worker.

If you have Medicare, you need to get most of your prescription drugs through the Medicare Prescription Drug Program (Medicare Part D). You must be enrolled in a Medicare prescription drug plan to get these services. The Plan does not pay for prescriptions that are covered under the Medicare Prescription Drug Program.

### **Private information**

We, and the health care providers who take care of you, have the right to see information about your health care. When you enrolled in the Minnesota Health Care Program, you gave your consent for us to do this. We will keep this information private according to law.

### **Restricted Recipient Program**

The Restricted Recipient Program (RRP) is for members who have misused health services. This includes getting health services that members did not need, using them in a way that costs more than they should, or in a way that may be dangerous to a member's health. <MCO Name> will notify members if they are placed in the Restricted Recipient Program.

If you are in the Restricted Recipient Program, you must get health services from one designated primary care provider [in your local trade area], one clinic, one hospital used by the primary care provider, and one pharmacy. <MCO Name> may designate other health services providers. You may also be assigned to a home health agency. You may not be allowed to use the personal care assistance choice or flexible use options, or consumer directed services.

You will be restricted to these designated health care providers for at least 24 months of eligibility for Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP). All referrals to specialists must be from your primary care provider and received by the <MCO Name> Restricted Recipient Program. Restricted recipients may not pay out-of-pocket to see a non-designated provider who is the same provider type as one of their designated providers.

Placement in the program will stay with you if you change health plans.  
Placement in the program will also stay with you if you change to MHCP fee-for-

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

service. You will not lose eligibility for MHCP because of placement in the program.

At the end of the 24 months, your use of health care services will be reviewed. If you still misused health services, you will be placed in the program for an additional 36 months of eligibility. You have the right to appeal placement in the Restricted Recipient Program. You must file an appeal within 60 days from the date on the notice from us. You must appeal within 30 days to prevent the restriction from being implemented during your appeal. A member may request a state appeal (Fair Hearing with the state) after receiving our decision that we have decided to enforce the restriction. See Section 13.

### **Cancellation**

Your coverage with us will be canceled if you are not eligible for Medical Assistance (Medicaid) or if you enroll in a different health plan.

If you are no longer eligible for Medical Assistance (Medicaid) and you do not have Medicare, you may be eligible to purchase health coverage through MNsure. For information about MNsure: call 1-855-3MNSURE or 1-855-366-7873 (toll free); TTY, use your preferred relay services; or visit [www.MNsure.org](http://www.MNsure.org).

### **Section 3. Member Bill of Rights**

#### **You have the right to:**

Be treated with respect, dignity, and consideration for privacy.

Get the services you need 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This includes emergencies.

Be told about your health problems.

Get information about treatments, your treatment choices, and how treatments will help or harm you.

Participate with providers in making decisions about your health care.

Refuse treatment and get information about what might happen if you refuse treatment.

Refuse care from specific providers.

Know that we will keep your records private according to law.

Ask for and get a copy of your medical records. You also have the right to ask to correct the records.

Get notice of our decisions if we deny, reduce, or stop a service, or deny payment for a service.

File a grievance or appeal with us. You can also file a complaint with the Minnesota Department of Health.

Request a state appeal (Fair Hearing with the state) with the Minnesota Department of Human Services (also referred to as “the state”). You must appeal to us before you request a state appeal. If we take more than 30 days to decide your plan appeal and we have not asked for an extension, you do not need to wait for our decision to ask for a state appeal.

Receive a clear explanation of covered nursing home and home care services.

Give written instructions that inform others of your wishes about your health care. This is called a “health care directive.” It allows you to name a person (agent) to make decisions for you if you are unable to decide, or if you want someone else to decide for you.

Choose where you will get family planning services, diagnosis of infertility, sexually transmitted disease testing and treatment services, and AIDS and HIV testing services.

Get a second opinion for medical, mental health, and substance use disorder services.

Be free of restraints or seclusion used as a means of: coercion, discipline, convenience, or retaliation.

Request a written copy of this Member Handbook at least once a year.

Get the following information from us, if you ask for it. Call <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number in Section 1.

- Whether we use a physician incentive plan that affects the use of referral services, and details about the plan if we use one.
- Results of an external quality review study from the state
- [The professional qualifications of health care providers]

Make recommendations about our rights and responsibilities policy.

Exercise the rights listed here.

## Section 4. Member Responsibilities

### **You have the responsibility to:**

Read this Member Handbook and know which services are covered under the Plan and how to get them.

Show your health plan member ID card and your Minnesota Health Care Program card every time you get health care. Also show the cards of any other health coverage you have, such as Medicare or private insurance.

Establish a relationship with a Plan network <primary care doctor/qualified health care provider> before you become ill. This helps you and your <primary care doctor/qualified health care provider> understand your total health condition.

Give information asked for by your <primary care doctor/qualified health care provider> or health plan so the right care or services can be provided to you. Share information about your health history.

Work with your <primary care doctor/ qualified health care provider > to understand your total health condition. Develop mutually agreed-upon treatment goals when possible. Follow plans and instructions for care that you have agreed to with your doctor. If you have questions about your care, ask your <doctor/qualified health care provider>.

Know what to do when a health problem occurs, when and where to seek help, and how to prevent health problems.

Practice preventive health care. Have tests, exams and vaccinations recommended for you based on your age and gender.

**Contact us if you have any questions, concerns, problems or suggestions. Call <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number in Section 1.**

## Section 5. Your Health Plan Member Identification (ID) Card

Each member will receive a Plan member ID card.

Always carry your Plan member ID card with you.

You must show your Plan member ID card whenever you get health care.

You must use your Plan member ID card along with your Minnesota Health Care Program card. Also show the cards of any other health coverage you have, such as Medicare or private insurance.

Call <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number in Section 1 right away if your member ID card is lost or stolen. We will send you a new card.

Call your county worker if your Minnesota Health Care Program card is lost or stolen.

Here is a sample Plan member ID card to show what it looks like:

*<Insert member ID card diagram here – front and back. Mark it as sample card.>*

## Section 6. Cost Sharing

Cost sharing refers to your responsibility to pay an amount towards your medical costs. For people in the Minnesota Senior Care Plus program, cost sharing consists only of copays.

If your income is at or below 100 percent of federal poverty guidelines, you will pay no more than five percent of your monthly family income for cost sharing. This may reduce the copay amount to less than the amounts listed here. DHS will tell us each month if you have a reduced cost sharing amount.

### Copays

The members listed here **do not** have to pay copays for medical services that are covered by Medical Assistance (Medicaid) under the Plan:

- Members receiving hospice care
- Members residing in a nursing home, hospital, or other long-term care facility for more than 30 days
- American Indians who receive or have ever received a service(s) from an Indian Health Care Provider, or through Indian Health Service Contract Health Services (IHS CHS) referral from an IHS facility

Some services require copays. A copay is an amount that you will be responsible to pay to your provider.

Copays are listed in the following chart:

Service	Copay Amount
Non-preventive visits (such as visits for a sore throat, diabetes checkup, high fever, sore back, etc.) provided by a physician, physician assistant, advanced practice nurse, certified professional midwife, chiropractor, acupuncturist, podiatrist, audiologist, or eye doctor. There are no copays for mental health services.	\$3.00

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

Diagnostic procedures (for example, endoscopy, arthroscopy)	\$3.00
Emergency room visit when it is not an emergency	\$3.50
Brand name prescriptions <i>The most you will have to pay in copays for prescriptions is \$12.00 per month.</i>	\$3.00
Generic prescriptions <i>The most you will have to pay in copays for prescriptions is \$12.00 per month.</i>	\$1.00

The most you will have to pay in copays for prescriptions is \$12.00 per month. Copays will not be charged for some mental health drugs and most family planning drugs.

If you have Medicare, you must get most of your prescription drugs through a Medicare Prescription Drug Program (Medicare Part D) plan. You may have different copays with no monthly limit for some of these services.

You must pay your copay directly to your provider. Some providers require that you pay the copay when you arrive for the medical service. The hospital may bill you after your non-emergency visit to the emergency room.

If you are unable to pay the copay, the provider must still provide services. This is true even if you have not paid your copay to that provider in the past or if you have other debts to that provider. The provider may still bill you for the unpaid copays.

We get information from the state about which members do not have copays. You may need to pay a copay until you are listed in our system as a person who does not have to pay copays.

Examples of services that **do not** have copays:

- Dental services
- Emergency services
- Eyeglasses
- Family planning services and supplies
- Home care
- Immunizations
- Inpatient hospital stays
- Interpreter services
- Medical equipment and supplies
- Medical transportation
- Mental health services
- Preventive care visits, such as physicals
- Rehabilitation therapies
- Repair of eyeglasses
- Services covered by Medicare, except for Medicare Part D drugs
- Some mental health drugs (antipsychotics)
- Some preventive screenings and counseling, such as cervical cancer screenings and nutritional counseling
- Substance use disorder treatment
- Tests such as blood work and X-rays
- Tobacco use counseling and interventions
- 100% federally funded services at Indian Health Services clinics

This is not a complete list. Call <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number in Section 1 if you have questions.

## Section 7. Covered Services

This section describes the major services that are covered under the Plan for Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) members. It is not a complete list of covered services. If you need help understanding what services are covered, call <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number in Section 1. Some services have limitations. Some services require a *[insert if applicable: referral or order or]* <prior/service> authorization. A service marked with an asterisk (\*) means a [referral or order or] <prior/service> authorization is required [or may be Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

required]. *{Insert asterisks next to services that require a referral, order, or <prior/service> authorization.}* [MCOs may add a footnote to each page with an asterisk and description: “\*Requires [or may require] a [referral or an order or a <prior/service> authorization.”] Make sure there is a [insert if applicable: referral or order or] <prior/service> authorization in place before you get the service. All health care services must be medically necessary for them to be covered. Call <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number in Section 1 for more information.

Some services require cost sharing. Cost sharing refers to your responsibility to pay an amount toward your medical costs. See Section 6 for information about cost sharing and exceptions to cost sharing.

*[For each covered service, if MCO benefits differ from the fee for service information listed below MCO must also list any limitations related to each benefit within the covered service section]*

## **Acupuncture Services**

### **Covered Services:**

- Acupuncture services are covered when provided by a licensed acupuncturist or by another Minnesota licensed practitioner with acupuncture training and credentialing.
- Up to 20 units of acupuncture services are allowed per calendar year without authorization. Request prior authorization if additional units are needed.
- Acupuncture services are covered for the following:
  - Acute and chronic pain
  - Depression
  - Anxiety
  - Schizophrenia
  - Post-traumatic stress syndrome
  - Insomnia
  - Smoking cessation
  - Restless legs syndrome

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

- Menstrual disorders
- Xerostomia (dry mouth) associated with the following:
  - Sjogren’s syndrome
  - Radiation therapy
- Nausea and vomiting associated with the following:
  - Postoperative procedures
  - Pregnancy
  - Cancer care

## **Chiropractic Care**

### **Covered Services:**

- One evaluation or exam per calendar year
- Manual manipulation (adjustment) of the spine to treat subluxation of the spine - up to 24 visits per calendar year, limited to six per month. Visits exceeding 24 per calendar year or six per month require a <prior/service> authorization.
- X-rays when needed to support a diagnosis of subluxation of the spine

### **Not Covered Services:**

- Other adjustments, vitamins, medical supplies, therapies and equipment from a chiropractor

## **Dental Services**

### **Covered Services:**

- Diagnostic services:
  - comprehensive exam (*once every five years*) (*cannot be performed on same date as a periodic or limited evaluation*)
  - periodic exam (*once per calendar year*) (*cannot be performed on same date as a limited or comprehensive evaluation*)

- limited (problem-focused) exams (*once per day*) ) (*Cannot be performed on same date as a periodic or comprehensive oral evaluation [or prophylaxis]; documentation must include notation of the specific oral health problem or complaint*)
- Teledentistry for diagnostic services (*limited to 3 telemedicine services per member per calendar week*)
- X-rays, limited to:
  - bitewing (*once per calendar year*)
  - single X-rays for diagnosis of problems
  - panoramic (*once every five years and as medically necessary for diagnosis and follow-up of oral and maxillofacial conditions and trauma; once every two years in limited situations; or with a scheduled outpatient facility or freestanding Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) procedure.*)
  - full mouth X-rays (*once every five years only when provided in an outpatient hospital or freestanding Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) as part of an outpatient dental surgery*)
- Preventive services:
  - cleaning (*up to four times per year if medically necessary*)
  - fluoride varnish (*once per calendar year*)
  - caries medicament application (*once per tooth per 6 months*)
- Restorative services:
  - fillings
  - sedative fillings for relief of pain
- Endodontics (root canals) (*on anterior teeth and premolars only and once per tooth per lifetime; retreatment is not covered*)
- Periodontics:
  - gross removal of plaque and tartar (full mouth debridement) (*once every five years*)
  - scaling and root planing (*once every two years only when provided in an outpatient hospital or freestanding Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) as part of an outpatient dental surgery.*)
    - [scaling and root planing may also be covered in a clinic setting under certain circumstances.\* *If optional language is added, please include a list of circumstances in this sub-bullet.*]

- Prosthodontics:
  - removable prostheses (dentures and partials) (*once every six years per dental arch*); *partials always require a <Service/Prior> Authorization*)>
  - relines, repairs, and rebases of removable prostheses (dentures and partials)
  - replacement of prostheses that are lost, stolen, or damaged beyond repair under certain circumstances
  - replacement of partial prostheses if the existing partial cannot be altered to meet dental needs
- Oral surgery (*limited to extractions, biopsies, and incision and drainage of abscesses*)
- Additional general dental services:
  - treatment for pain (*once per day*)
  - general anesthesia (*when provided in an outpatient hospital or freestanding Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) as part of an outpatient dental surgery.*
    - *[general anesthesia may be covered in a clinic setting under certain circumstances.\* If optional language is added, please include a list of circumstances in this sub-bullet.]*
  - extended care facility or house call in certain institutional settings including: nursing facilities, skilled nursing facilities, boarding care homes, Institutions for Mental Diseases (IMD), Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons with Developmental Disabilities (ICF/DDs) Hospices, Minnesota Extended Treatment Options (METO), and swing beds (a nursing facility bed in a hospital)
  - behavioral management when necessary to ensure that a covered dental service is correctly and safely performed
  - oral or IV sedation – only if the covered dental service cannot be performed safely without it or would otherwise require the service to be performed under general anesthesia in a hospital or surgical center

**Notes:**

If you choose to get dental benefits from a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) or a state-operated dental clinic, you will have the same benefits that you are entitled to under Medical Assistance (Medicaid). *If MCOs offers additional dental benefits, add this language and provide the list of additional benefits.* [Additional dental benefits offered by <plan name> are only available if you go to a dental provider in <plan name>'s provider network.]

[Additional Dental Services:] *Provide a listing*

If you are new to our health plan and have already started a dental service treatment plan, please contact us for coordination of care

See Section 1 for Dental Services contact information.

### **Diagnostic Services**

#### **Covered Services:**

- Lab tests and X-rays
- Other medical diagnostic tests ordered by your <doctor/qualified health care provider>

### **Doctor and Other Health Services**

#### **Covered Services:**

- Doctor visits including:
  - care for pregnant women
  - family planning – **open access service**
  - lab tests and X-rays
  - physical exams
  - preventive exams
  - preventive office visits
  - specialists
  - telemedicine consultation

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

- vaccines and drugs administered in a <doctor's/qualified health care provider's> office
- visits for illness or injury
- visits in the hospital or nursing home
- Advanced practice nurse services: services provided by a nurse practitioner, nurse anesthetist, nurse midwife, or clinical nurse specialist
- Behavioral Health Home: coordination of behavioral and physical health services
- Blood and blood products
- Clinical trial coverage: Routine care that is: 1) provided as part of the protocol treatment of a clinical trial; 2) is usual, customary and appropriate to your condition; and 3) would be typically provided outside of a clinical trial. This includes services and items needed for the treatment of effects and complications of the protocol treatment.
- Cancer screenings (including mammography, pap test, prostate cancer screening, colorectal cancer screening)
- Clinical Services
- Community health worker care coordination and patient education services
- Community Medical Emergency Technician (CMET) services
  - post-hospital or post-nursing home discharge visits ordered by your primary care provider
  - safety evaluation visits ordered by Primary Care Provider or Physician (PCP)
- Community Paramedic Services: certain services are provided by a community paramedic. The services must be a part of a care plan by your primary care provider. The services may include:
  - health assessments
  - chronic disease monitoring and education
  - help with medications
  - immunizations and vaccinations
  - collecting lab specimens
  - follow-up care after being treated at a hospital
  - other minor medical procedures
- Counseling and testing for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), AIDS and other HIV-related conditions - **open access service**

- Health Care Home services: care coordination for members with complex or chronic health care needs
- Health education and counseling (for example, smoking cessation, nutrition counseling, diabetes education)
- Hospital In-Reach Community-Based Service (IRSC) Coordination: coordination of services targeted at reducing hospital emergency room (ER) use under certain circumstances. This service addresses health, social, economic, and other needs of members to help reduce usage of ER and other health care services.
- Immunizations
- Podiatry services (debridement of toenails, infected corns and calluses, and other non-routine foot care)
- Respiratory therapy
- Services of a certified public health nurse or a registered nurse practicing in a public health nursing clinic under a governmental unit
  
- Treatment for AIDS and other HIV-related conditions - **NOT** an open access service. You must see a provider in the Plan network.
- Treatment of End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD)
- Treatment for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) – **open access service**
- Tuberculosis care management and direct observation of drug intake

**Not Covered Services:**

- Artificial ways to become pregnant (artificial insemination, including in-vitro fertilization and related services, fertility drugs and related services)

**Emergency Medical Services and Post-Stabilization Care**

**Covered Services:**

- Emergency room services
- Post-stabilization care
- Ambulance (air or ground includes transport on water)

## **Not Covered Services:**

Emergency, urgent, or other health care services delivered or items supplied from providers located outside of the United States (U.S.). We will not make payment for health care to a provider or any entity outside of the U.S.

## **Notes:**

If you have an emergency and need treatment right away, call 911 or go to the closest emergency room. Show them your member ID card and ask them to call your <primary care doctor/ qualified health care provider>.

In all other cases, call your primary care <doctor/qualified health care provider>, if possible. [*Insert if applicable:* The clinic's phone number is also on your member ID card.] You can call the number 24 hours a day, seven days a week and get instructions about what to do.

If you are out of town, go to the closest emergency room or call 911. Show them your member ID card and ask them to call your primary care <doctor/qualified health care provider>.

You must call your <primary care clinic /qualified health care provider/[or Member/Customer Services]> within 48 hours or as soon as you can after getting emergency care at a hospital that is not a part of the Plan network.

## **Eye Care Services**

### **Covered Services:**

- Eye exams
- Initial eyeglasses, when medically necessary
- Replacement eyeglasses, when medically necessary
  - Identical replacement of covered eyeglasses for loss, theft, or damage beyond repair

- Repairs to frames and lenses for eyeglasses covered under the Plan
- Tinted, photochromatic (for example, Transition® lenses) or polarized lenses, when medically necessary
- Contact lenses, when medically necessary under certain conditions

### **Not Covered Services:**

- Extra pair of glasses
- Progressive bifocal or trifocal lenses (without lines)
- Protective coating for plastic lenses
- Contact lens supplies

### **Family Planning Services**

#### **Covered Services:**

- Family planning exam and medical treatment – **open access service**
- Family planning lab and diagnostic tests – **open access service**
- Family planning methods (for example, birth control pills, patch, ring, Intrauterine Device (IUD), injections, implants) – **open access service**
- Family planning supplies with prescription (for example, condom, sponge, foam, film, diaphragm, cap) – **open access service**
- Counseling and diagnosis of infertility, including related services – **open access service**
- Treatment for medical conditions of infertility – **NOT** an open access service. You must see a provider in the Plan network. Note: This service does not include artificial ways to become pregnant.
- Counseling and testing for sexually transmitted disease (STDs), AIDS, and other HIV-related conditions – **open access service**
- Treatment for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) - **open access service**
- Voluntary sterilization – **open access service**  
**Note:** You must be age 21 or over and you must sign a federal sterilization consent form. At least 30 days, but not more than 180 days, must pass between the date that you sign the form and the date of surgery.

- Genetic counseling - **open access service**
- Genetic testing – **NOT** an open access service. You must see a provider in the Plan network.
- Treatment for AIDS and other HIV-related conditions - **NOT** an open access service. You must see a provider in the Plan network.

**Not Covered Services:**

- Artificial ways to become pregnant (artificial insemination, including in vitro fertilization and related services; fertility drugs and related services)
- Reversal of voluntary sterilization
- Sterilization of someone under conservatorship or guardianship

**Notes:**

Federal and state law allow you to choose any physician, clinic, hospital, pharmacy, or family planning agency to get **open access services**, even if they are not in the Plan network.

**Hearing Aids**

**Covered Services:**

- Hearing aid batteries
- Hearing aids
- Repair and replacement of hearing aids due to normal wear and tear, with limits

**Home Care Services**

**Covered Services:**

- Skilled nurse visit
- Rehabilitation therapies to restore function (for example, speech, physical, occupational, respiratory)
- Home health aide visit
- Home Care Nursing (HCN)

- Personal Care Assistant (PCA). (Community First Services and Supports (CFSS) replaces PCA services, upon federal approval)

## **Home and Community Based Services (Elderly Waiver)**

### **Covered Services:**

The plan will pay for the following services for individuals eligible to get Elderly Waiver (EW) services:

- Adult Day Services (ADS) and ADS Bath: Licensed program that delivers a set of health, social and nutritional services. ADS Bath is optional.
- Adult Foster Care: Licensed, adult appropriate, sheltered living arrangement in a family-like setting.
- Case Management: Management of your health and long-term care services among different health and social service workers.
- Chore Services: Heavy household services needed to keep your home clean and safe.
- Companion Services: Non-medical care, supervision and socialization.
- Consumer Directed Community Support Services: Services that you manage yourself within a set budget.
- Customized Living/24 Hour Customized Living: A group of individualized services provided in an assisted living setting.
- Environmental Accessibility Adaptations: Physical changes to your home and vehicle needed to assure health and safety and enable you to be more independent.
- Extended State Plan Home Health Care Services: This includes home health aide services that are over the Medical Assistance (Medicaid) limit.
- Extended State Plan Home Care Nursing: This includes home care nursing services that are over the Medical Assistance (Medicaid) limit.
- Extended State Plan Personal Care Assistance Services: Help with personal care and activities of daily living over the Medical Assistance (Medicaid) limit.
- Family and Care Giver Training and Education: Training for unpaid caregivers. This includes coaching and counseling – individualized support for caregivers.

- Family Memory Care: coaching counseling service for caregivers living with a family member or friend with dementia. This also includes assessment.
- Home Delivered Meals: Meals delivered to your home.
- Homemaker Services: General household activities to keep up the home. These range from general household cleaning to incidental assistance with home management and/or activities of daily living.
- Individual Community Living Support Services: A bundled service to offer assistance and support to remain in your own home.
- Respite Care: Short-term service when you cannot care for yourself, and your unpaid caregiver needs relief.
- Specialized Medical Supplies and Equipment: Supplies and equipment that are over the Medical Assistance (Medicaid) limit or coverage. This includes Personal Emergency Response System (PERS).
- Transitional Supports Services: One-time costs related to setting up a household when a person leaves a nursing home and moves to the community.
- Transportation: Enables you to gain access to activities and services in the community.

**NOTES:**

You must have a Long-Term Care Consultation (LTCC) done and be found to be nursing home certifiable to get these Elderly Waiver (EW) services. You can ask to have this assessment in your home, apartment, or facility where you live. Your MSC+ [plans insert: care coordinator or case manager] will meet with you and your family to talk about your care needs within 20 days if you call to ask for a visit.

Your MSC+ [plans insert: care coordinator or case manager] will give you information about community services, help you find services to stay in your home or community, and help you find services to move out of a nursing home or other facility.

You have the right to have friends or family present at the visit. You can designate a representative to help you make decisions. You can decide what your needs are and where you want to live. You can ask for services to best

meet your needs. You can make the final decisions about your plan for services and help. You can choose who you want to provide the services and supports from those providers available from our plan's network.

After the visit, your MSC+ [*plans insert: care coordinator or case manager*] will send you a letter that recommends services that best meet your needs. You will be sent a copy of the service or care plan you helped put together. Your MSC+ [*plans insert: care coordinator or case manager*] will help you file an appeal if you disagree with suggested services or were informed you may not qualify for these services.

People who live on or near the White Earth, Leech Lake, Red Lake, Mille Lacs or Fond du Lac Reservations may be able to choose to get their EW services through the Tribal health or human services division or through our Plan. Contact the tribal nation or our Plan if you have questions.

If you are currently on the Community Access for Disability Inclusion (CADI), Community Alternative Care (CAC), Brain Injury (BI), or the Developmental Disability (DD) waiver you will continue to get services covered by these programs in the same way you get them now. Your county case manager will continue to authorize these services and coordinate with your MSC+ [*plans insert: care coordinator or case manager*].

If you need transition planning and coordination services to help you move to the community, you may be eligible to get Moving Home Minnesota (MHM) services. MHM services are separate from EW services, but you must be eligible for EW.

See Home and Community Based Services in Section 1 for contact information.

## **Hospice**

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

## **Covered Services:**

Hospice benefits include coverage for the following services, when provided directly in response to the terminal illness:

- Physician services
- Nursing services
- Medical social services
- Counseling
- Medical supplies and equipment
- Outpatient drugs for symptom and pain control
- Dietary and other counseling
- Short-term inpatient care
- Respite care
- Home health aide and homemaker services
- Physical, occupational, and speech therapy
- Volunteers
- Other items and services included in the plan of care that are otherwise covered medical services

## **Notes:**

### **Medicare Election**

You must elect hospice benefits to receive hospice services.

If you are both Medicare and Medicaid eligible, and elect hospice, you must elect Medicare hospice care in addition to Medicaid hospice care. Federal guidelines prohibit you from choosing hospice care through one program and not the other when you are eligible for both.

If you are interested in using hospice services, please call <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number in Section 1.

### **Hospital - Inpatient**

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

## **Covered Services:**

Inpatient hospital services are covered if determined to be medically necessary.

This includes:

- Inpatient hospital stay
- Your semi-private room and meals
- Private room when medically necessary
- Tests and X-rays
- Surgery
- Drugs
- Medical supplies
- Professional services
- Therapy services (for example, physical, occupational, speech, respiratory)

## **Not Covered Services:**

- Personal comfort items, such as TV, phone, barber or beauty services, guest services
- Charges related to hospital care for investigative services, plastic surgery or cosmetic surgery are not covered unless determined medically necessary through the medical review process

## **Notes:**

See Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Services section for more information on inpatient (SUD) benefits

## **Hospital – Outpatient**

### **Covered Services:**

- Urgent care for conditions that are not as serious as an emergency
- Outpatient surgical center
- Tests and X-rays
- Dialysis

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

- Emergency room services
- Post-stabilization care

## **Housing Stabilization Services**

### **Covered Services:**

The plan will pay for the following services for members eligible for Housing Stabilization Services:

- Housing consultation services: service to develop a person-centered plan for people without Medical Assistance case management services
- Housing transition services: helps you plan for, find, and move into housing
- Housing sustaining services: helps you maintain housing
- Non-emergency medical transportation to receive housing stabilization services

### **Notes:**

You must have a Housing Stabilization Services eligibility assessment done and be found eligible for these services. People who need Housing Stabilization Services can ask for an assessment or be supported by a provider or case manager. If a person has a targeted case manager or waiver case manager or senior care coordinator, that case manager may support them to access services, or the person can contact a Housing Stabilization Services provider directly to help them receive Housing Stabilization Services.

Department of Human Services (DHS) staff will use the results of the assessment to determine whether the member meets the needs-based criteria to receive this service. DHS will send the member a letter of approval or denial for Housing Stabilization Services

## **Interpreter Services**

### **Covered Services:**

- Spoken language interpreter services
- Sign language interpreter services

### **Notes:**

Interpreter services are available to help you get services.

See Interpreter Services in Section 1 for contact information and to find out which interpreters you can use.

### **Medical Equipment and Supplies**

#### **Covered Services:**

- Prosthetics or orthotics
- Durable medical equipment (for example, wheelchairs, hospital beds, walkers, crutches, and wigs for people with alopecia areata). Contact <Member/Customer Services> for more information on coverage and benefit limits for wigs.
- Repairs of medical equipment
- Batteries for medical equipment
- Some shoes, when custom molded or part of a leg brace
- Oxygen and oxygen equipment
- Medical supplies you need to take care of your illness, injury, or disability
- Diabetic equipment and supplies
- Nutritional or enteral products when specific criteria are met
- Incontinence products
- Family planning supplies – **open access service**. See Family Planning Services in this section.
- Augmentative communication devices, including electronic tablets

#### **Not Covered Services:**

- Constructive modifications to home, vehicle, or workplace, including bathroom grab bars
- Environmental products (such as air filters, purifiers, conditioners, dehumidifiers)
- Exercise equipment

**Notes:**

You will need to see your <doctor/qualified health care provider> and get a prescription in order for medical equipment and supplies to be covered.

Please call the durable medical equipment coverage criteria phone number in Section 1 if you need more information on our durable medical equipment coverage criteria.

**Mental Health and Behavioral Health Services**

**Covered Services:**

- Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC)
- Clinical Care Consultation
- Crisis response services including:
  - Screening
  - Assessment
  - Intervention
  - Stabilization including residential stabilization
  - Community intervention
- Diagnostic assessments including screening for the presence of co-occurring mental illness and substance use disorders
- Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT) Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP)
- Inpatient psychiatric hospital stay, including extended inpatient psychiatric hospital stay
- Mental health provider travel time
- Mental Health Targeted Case Management (MH-TCM)
- Outpatient mental health services including:
  - Explanation of findings

- Mental health medication management
- Neuropsychological services
- Psychotherapy (patient or family, family, crisis, and group)
- Psychological testing
- Physician Mental Health Services including:
  - Health and behavior assessment and intervention
  - Inpatient visits
  - Psychiatric consultations to primary care providers
  - Physician consultation, evaluation, and management
- Rehabilitative Mental Health Services including:
  - Assertive Community Treatment (ACT)
  - Adult day treatment
  - Adult Rehabilitative Mental Health Services (ARMHS)
  - Certified Peer Specialist (CPS) support services in limited situations
  - Intensive Residential Treatment Services (IRTS)
  - Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP)
- Telemedicine

**Not Covered Services:**

The following services are not covered under the Plan but may be available through your county. Call your county for information. Also see Section 9.

- Treatment at Rule 36 facilities that are not licensed as Intensive Residential Treatment Services (IRTS)
- Room and board associated with Intensive Residential Treatment Services (IRTS)

**Notes:**

See Mental Health and Behavioral Health Services in Section 1 for information on where you should call or write.

Use a Plan network provider for mental health services.

If we decide no structured mental health treatment is necessary, you may get a second opinion. For the second opinion, we must allow you to go to any qualified health professional that is not in the Plan network. We will pay for this. We must consider the second opinion, but we have the right to disagree with the second opinion. You have the right to appeal our decision.

We will not determine medical necessity for court-ordered mental health services. Use a Plan network provider for your court-ordered mental health assessment.

### **Nursing Home Services**

#### **Covered Services:**

- Nursing Home Daily Rate – We are responsible for paying a total of 180 days of nursing home room and board. If you need continued nursing home care beyond the 180 days, the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) will pay directly for your care. If DHS is currently paying for your care in the nursing home, DHS, not us, will continue to pay for your care.
- Nursing Services
- Therapy services
- Drugs
- Medical supplies and equipment.

#### **Not Covered Services:**

- A private room, unless your doctor orders it for a medical reason
- Personal comfort items, such as TV, phone, barber or beauty services, guest services

### **Out-of-Area Services**

#### **Covered Services:**

- A service you need when temporarily out of the Plan service area <MCO to insert instructions for how member is to obtain>
- A service you need after you move from our service area while you are still a Plan member
- Emergency services for an emergency that needs treatment right away
- Post-stabilization care
- Medically necessary urgent care when you are outside of the Plan service area (Call <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number in Section 1 as soon as possible.)
- Covered services that are not available in the Plan service area

**Not Covered Services:**

- Emergency, urgent, or other health care services or items supplied from providers located outside of the United States (U.S.). We will not make payment for health care to a provider or any entity outside of the U.S.

**Out-of-Network Services**

**Covered Services:**

- Certain services you need that you cannot get through a Plan network provider
- Emergency services for an emergency that needs treatment right away
- Post-stabilization care
- A second opinion for mental health and substance use disorder
- A non-emergency medical service you need when temporarily out of the network or plan service area that is or was prescribed, recommended, or is currently provided by a network provider

**Prescription Drugs (for members who do NOT have Medicare)**

**Covered Services:**

- Prescription drugs
- Medication therapy management (MTM) services
- Certain over-the-counter drugs (*when prescribed by a qualified health care provider with authority to prescribe*)

**Not Covered Services:**

- Drugs used to treat erectile or sexual dysfunction
- Drugs used to enhance fertility
- Drugs used for cosmetic purposes including drugs to treat hair loss
- Drugs or products to promote weight loss
- Drugs not clinically proven to be effective
- Experimental or investigational drugs
- Medical cannabis

**Notes:**

The drug must be on our list of covered drugs (formulary).

The list of covered drugs (formulary) includes the prescription drugs covered by <MCO NAME>. The drugs on the list are selected by the plan with the help of a team of doctors and pharmacists. The list has to be similar to the list covered by Fee-for-Service Medical Assistance (Medicaid). The list also must include drugs listed in the Department of Human Services' Preferred Drug List (PDL).

In addition to the prescription drugs covered by <MCO NAME>, some over-the-counter drugs are covered for you under your Medical Assistance (Medicaid) benefits. You can search for prescription drugs using our online search tool at <web address>. A list of covered drugs (formulary) is also posted on the website. You can also call <Member/Customer Services> and ask for a written copy of our list of covered drugs (formulary).

If a drug you were taking previously is not covered under your new plan, you may be able to receive up to a 90-day temporary supply. For more information, call <Member/Customer Services>.

Some covered drugs may have additional requirements or limits on coverage. These requirements and limits may include:

- **Prior Authorization (PA):** <MCO NAME> requires you or your <doctor or health care provider> to get prior authorization for certain drugs. This means that you will need to get approval from <MCO NAME> before you fill your prescriptions. If you don't get approval, <MCO NAME> may not cover the drug.
- **Quantity Limits (QL):** For certain drugs, <MCO NAME> limits the amount of the drug that <MCO NAME> will cover.
- **Preferred and Non-Preferred (P/NP):** For some groups of drugs, <MCO Name> requires you to try the preferred drugs before paying for the non-preferred drugs. In order to receive a non-preferred drug, your doctor or health care provider will have to get prior authorization.
- **Age Requirements:** In some cases, there are age requirements for you to try certain drugs. A prior authorization is needed depending on your age and the specific drug prescribed.
- **Brand-name Drugs:** Brand-name version of the drug will be covered by <MCO NAME> only when:
  1. Your prescriber informs <MCO NAME> in writing that the brand name version of the drug is medically necessary; OR
  2. <MCO NAME> prefers the dispensing of the brand-name version over the generic version of the drug; OR
  3. Minnesota Law requires the dispensing of the brand-name version of the drug

You can find out if your drug requires prior authorization, has quantity limits, has Preferred or Non-Preferred status, or has an age requirement by contacting <Customer/Member Services> or visiting our website at <MCO Website>. A drug restriction or limit can be removed if your doctor submits a statement or documentation supporting the request. You can also get more information about

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

the restrictions applied to specific covered drugs by contacting <Customer/Member Services> or visiting our website at <MCO Website>.

If <MCO NAME> changes prior authorization requirements, quantity limits, or other restrictions on a drug you are currently taking, <MCO NAME> will notify you and your prescriber of the change at least 10 days before the change becomes effective.

We will cover a non-formulary drug if your <doctor/qualified health care provider> shows us that: 1) the drug that is normally covered has caused a harmful reaction to you; 2) there is a reason to believe the drug that is normally covered would cause a harmful reaction; or 3) the drug prescribed by your <doctor/qualified health care provider> is more effective for you than the drug that is normally covered. The drug must be in a class of drugs that is covered.

We will cover an antipsychotic drug, even if it is not on our drug list, if your provider certifies this is best for you. There is no copay for antipsychotic drugs. In certain cases, we will also cover other drugs used to treat a mental illness or emotional disturbance even if the drug is not on our approved drug list. We will do this for up to one year if your provider certifies the drug is best for you and you have been treated with the drug for 90 days before: 1) we removed the drug from our drug list; or 2) you enrolled in the Plan.

**For most drugs, you can get only a *[Insert plan limit between 30 and 34]-day supply at one time.***

If <MCO NAME> does not cover your drug or has restrictions or limits on your drug that you don't think will work for you, you can do one of these things:

- You can ask your health care provider if there is another covered drug that will work for you.
- You or your health care provider can ask <MCO NAME> to make an "exception" and cover the drug for you or remove the restrictions or limits. If your exception request is approved, the drug will be covered at the appropriate generic or brand name copay level.

*[Describe the formulary exception process, including authorization requirements.]*

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

If pharmacy staff tells you the drug is not covered and asks you to pay, ask them to call your <doctor/qualified health care provider>. We cannot pay you back if you pay for it. There may be another drug that will work that is covered by us under the Plan. If the pharmacy won't call your <doctor/qualified health care provider>, you can. You can also call <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number in Section 1 for help.

Specialty drugs are used by people with complex or chronic diseases. These drugs often require special handling, dispensing, or monitoring by a specially-trained pharmacist. *[MCO may add/clarify any exceptions to the specialty drug rule].*

*If an MCO uses an exclusive Specialty Drug Provider, use this language:*

If you are prescribed a drug that is on the <MCO NAME> Specialty Drug List, your prescriber will need to send the prescription of that specialty drug to <MCO NAME>'s Specialty Pharmacy.

Name of Specialty Pharmacy:

Phone and TTY:

Fax:

Hours of Operation:

[Insert Specialty Pharmacy website]

[You will also need to call the Specialty Pharmacy at <insert phone number> to set up an account. You will need to have your <MCO NAME> Member Identification (ID) card when you call the Specialty Pharmacy.] *or* [The Specialty Pharmacy will contact you to set up your account after you have authorized your prescriber to send the prescription to the Specialty pharmacy <and receive authorization from <MCO Name>>.]

*If an MCO uses multiple Specialty Drug providers, use this language:*

If you are prescribed a drug that is on the <MCO NAME> Specialty Drug List, your prescriber will need to send the prescription of that specialty drug to one of <MCO NAME>'s Specialty Pharmacies listed here.

Name of Specialty Pharmacy:  
Phone and TTY:  
Fax:  
Hours of Operation:  
[Insert Specialty Pharmacy website]

[You will also need to call the Specialty Pharmacy that receives your prescription to set up an account. You will need to have your <MCO NAME> Member ID card when you call the Specialty Pharmacy.] *or* [The Specialty Pharmacy will contact you to set up your account after you have authorized your prescriber to send the prescription to the Specialty Pharmacy<and receive authorization from <MCO Name>>.]

### **Prescription Drugs (for members who have Medicare)**

#### **Covered Services:**

- Some over-the-counter products, some prescription cough and cold products, and some vitamins that are not covered under the Medicare Prescription Drug Program (Medicare Part D)

#### **Not Covered Services:**

- Prescription drugs that are eligible to be covered under the Medicare Prescription Drug Program (Medicare Part D)
- Drugs used to treat erectile or sexual dysfunction
- Drugs used to enhance fertility
- Drugs used for cosmetic purposes including drugs to treat hair loss
- Drugs or products to promote weight loss
- Drugs not clinically proven to be effective
- Experimental or investigational drugs
- Medical cannabis

#### **Notes:**

Medicare pays for most of your prescription drugs through the Medicare Prescription Drug Program (Medicare Part D). **You must enroll in a Medicare**

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

**prescription drug plan** to receive most of your prescription drug services. You will get your prescription drug services through your Medicare prescription drug plan – not through our Plan. You may have to pay a copay for prescriptions covered by your Medicare prescription drug plan.

### **Preventive Care and Screening Tests**

#### **Covered Services:**

- Immunizations
- Age and risk appropriate routine examinations (e.g., physical, vision, and hearing)
- Cancer screenings (including mammography, pap test, prostate cancer screening, colorectal cancer screening)
- Health education and counseling (e.g., smoking cessation, nutrition counseling, diabetes education)
- Family planning visit - **open access service**
- Bone mass measurement

### **Rehabilitation**

#### **Covered Services:**

- Rehabilitation therapies to restore function: physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy
- Audiology services including hearing tests

#### **Not Covered Services:**

- Vocational rehabilitation
- Health clubs and spas

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

## **Substance Use Disorder Services (SUD)**

### **Covered Services:**

- Screening, Assessment and Diagnosis
- Outpatient treatment
- Inpatient hospital
- Residential non-hospital treatment
- Outpatient methadone treatment
- Detoxification (only when inpatient hospitalization is medically necessary because of conditions resulting from injury or accident or medical complications during detoxification)
- SUD treatment coordination
- Peer recovery support
- Withdrawal Management

### **Not Covered Services:**

Payment for room and board determined necessary by substance use disorder assessment is the responsibility of the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

### **Notes:**

See Section 1 for Substance Use Disorder Services contact information.

A qualified assessor who is part of the Plan network will decide what type of substance use disorder care you need. You may get a second assessment if you do not agree with the first one. To get a second assessment you must send us a request. We must get your request within five working days of when you get the results of your first assessment or before you begin treatment (whichever is first). We will cover a second assessment by a different qualified assessor. We will do this within five working days of when we get your request. If you agree with the second assessment, we will authorize services according to substance use disorder standards and the second assessment. You have the right to appeal. See Section 13 of this Member Handbook.

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

## **Surgery**

### **Covered Services:**

- Office, clinic visits and surgery
- Removal of port wine stain birthmarks
- Reconstructive surgery (for example, following mastectomy, following surgery for injury, sickness or other diseases; for birth defects)
- Anesthesia services
- Circumcision when medically necessary
- Gender confirmation surgery

### **Not Covered Services:**

- Cosmetic surgery

## **Telemedicine Services**

- Telemedicine services covers medically necessary services and consultations delivered by a licensed health care provider while the patient is at an originating site and the health care provider is at a distant site. Coverage is limited to three (3) telemedicine services, per member, per calendar week.

## **Transplants**

### **Covered Services:**

- Organ and tissue transplants, including: bone marrow, cornea, heart, heart-lung, intestine, intestine-liver, kidney, liver, lung, pancreas, pancreas-kidney, pancreatic islet cell, stem cell, and other transplants
- Ventricular Assist Device: inserted as a bridge to a heart transplant or as a destination therapy treatment

**Notes:**

The type of transplant must be: 1) listed in the Minnesota Department of Human Services Provider Manual; 2) a type covered by Medicare; or 3) approved by the state’s medical review agent.

Transplants must be done at a transplant center that is a Medicare approved transplant center.

Stem cell or bone marrow transplants centers must meet the standards set by the Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy (FACT).

*[MCOs may include additional information about their processes for transplant services if not contrary to contractual requirements.]*

**Transportation to and from Medical Services**

**Covered Services:**

- Ambulance (air or ground includes transport on water)
- Volunteer driver transport
- Unassisted transport (taxicab or public transit)
- Assisted transport
- Lift-equipped or ramp transport
- Protected transport
- Stretcher transport

**Not Covered Services:**

- Mileage reimbursement (for example, when you use your own car), meals, lodging, and parking also including out of state travel. These services are

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

not covered under the Plan, but may be available through the local county or tribal agency. Call your local county or tribal agency for more information.

**Notes:**

If you need transportation to and from health services that we cover, call the transportation phone number in Section 1. We will provide the most appropriate and cost-effective form of transportation.

The Plan is not required to provide transportation to your primary care clinic if it is more than 30 miles from your home or if you choose a specialty provider that is more than 60 miles from your home. Call the transportation phone number in Section 1 if you do not have a primary care clinic that is available within 30 miles of your home or if you do not have a specialty provider that is available within 60 miles of your home.

[MCOs may include additional information on how to access transportation services. *MCOs are not allowed to include information regarding a penalty for missed rides.*]

**Urgent Care**

**Covered Services:**

- Urgent care within the Plan service area
- Urgent care outside of the Plan service area

**Not Covered Services:**

- Urgent, emergency, or other health care services delivered or items supplied from providers located outside of the United States (U.S.). We will not make payment for health care to a provider or any entity outside of the U.S.

**Notes:**

An urgent condition is not as serious as an emergency. This is care for a condition that needs prompt treatment to stop the condition from getting worse. Urgent care is available 24 hours a day.

Call <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number in Section 1 as soon as possible when you get urgent care outside the Plan service area.

## Section 8. Services we do not cover

If you get services or supplies that are not covered, you may have to pay for them yourself. Some “not covered” services and supplies are listed under each category in Section 7. The following is a list of other services and supplies that are not covered under the Plan. This is not a complete list. Call <Member/Customer Services> for more information.

- Autopsies (exams that are done on the bodies of people who have died to find out the cause of death)
- Cosmetic procedures or treatments
- Emergency, urgent, or other health care services delivered or items supplied from providers located outside of the United States (U.S.). We will not make payment for health care to a provider or any entity outside of the U.S.
- Experimental or investigative services
- Health care services or supplies that are not medically necessary
- Homeopathic and herbal products
- Hospital inpatient and nursing home incidental services, such as TV, phone, barber and beauty services, and guest services
- Supplies that are not used to treat a medical condition

## **Section 9. Services that are not covered under the Plan but may be covered through another source**

These services are not covered under the Plan, but may be covered through another source, such as the state, county, federal government, tribe, or a Medicare prescription drug plan. To find out more about these services, call the Minnesota Health Care Programs Member Helpdesk at 651-431-2670 or 1-800-657-3739 (toll free) or 711 (TTY).

- Case management for members with developmental disabilities
- Day training and habilitation services
- Except Elderly Waiver services, other waiver services provided under Home and Community Based Services waivers
- HIV case management
- Intermediate care facility for members with developmental disabilities (ICF/DD)
- Job training and educational services
- Mileage reimbursement (for example, when you use your own car), meals, lodging, and parking. Contact your county for more information.
- Nursing home stays
- Prescriptions covered under the Medicare Prescription Drug Program (Medicare Part D). You must be enrolled in a Medicare prescription drug plan to get these services.
- Room and board associated with Intensive Residential Treatment Services (IRTS)
- Services provided by federal institutions
- Services provided by a state regional treatment center or a state-owned long-term care facility unless approved by us or the service is ordered by a court under conditions specified in law
- Treatment at Rule 36 facilities that are not licensed as Intensive Residential Treatment Services (IRTS)

## **Section 10. When to call your county worker**

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

Call your county worker to report these changes:

- Name changes
- Address changes including moving out of Minnesota
- Pregnancy begin and end dates
- Addition or loss of a household member
- Lost or stolen Minnesota Health Care Program ID card
- New insurance or Medicare – begin and end dates
- Change in income including employment changes

## **Section 11. Using the Plan coverage with other insurance**

If you have other insurance, tell us before you get care. We will let you know if you should use the Plan network providers or the health care providers used by your other insurance. We will coordinate our payments with them. This is called “coordination of benefits.” Examples of other insurance include:

- No-fault car insurance
- Workers’ compensation
- Medicare
- Tricare
- Other Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) coverage
- Other commercial insurance

When you become a member of the Plan, you agree to:

- Let us send bills to your other insurance
- Let us get information from your other insurance
- Let us get payments from your other insurance instead of having payments sent to you
- Help us get payments from your other insurance

If your other insurance changes, call your county worker.

## **Section 12. Subrogation or other claim**

You may have other sources of payment for your medical care. They might be from another person, group, insurance company or other organization. Federal and state laws provide that Medical Assistance (Medicaid) benefits pay only if no other source of payment exists. If you have a claim against another source for injuries, we will make a separate claim for medical care we covered for you. The laws require you to help us do this. The claim may be recovered from any source that may be responsible for payment of the medical care we covered for you. The amount of the claim will not be more than federal and state laws allow.

### **Section 13. Grievance, appeal and state appeal (Fair Hearing with the State) process**

This section tells you about the grievance and appeal system including notices, grievances (complaints), health plan appeals, and state appeals (Fair Hearings with the state). It tells you how and when to use the grievance and appeal system if you are not satisfied with your health care or disagree with a decision we made. It tells you about your rights when using the grievance and appeal system.

Please call <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number in Section 1 if you have questions or want help filing a grievance or appeal.

### **Grievance and appeal system terms to know:**

**A grievance** is when you are not satisfied with the services you have received and may include any of the following:

- quality of care or services provided
- failure to respect your rights
- rudeness of a provider or health plan employee
- delay in appropriate treatment or referral
- not acting within required time frames for grievances and appeals

**A denial, termination or reduction (DTR) (notice of action)** is a form or letter we send you to tell you about a decision we made on a request for service, payment of a claim, or any other request. The notice will tell you how to file an appeal with the health plan or request a state appeal (Fair Hearing with the state) if you disagree with our decision.

**A health plan appeal** is your request for us to review a decision we made. You may ask for an appeal if you disagree with our decision in any of the following **actions** (decisions):

- denial or limited authorization of the type or level of service requested by your provider
- reduction, suspension, or stopping of a service that was approved before
- denial of all or part of payment for a service
- not providing services (including transportation) in a reasonable amount of time
- denial of a member's request to get services out of network for members living in a rural area with only one health plan

- not providing a response to your grievance or appeal in the required timelines
- denial of your request to dispute your financial liability including copayments and other cost sharing

Your provider may Appeal on your behalf with your written consent. Your treating provider may Appeal a <Prior/Service> Service Authorization decision without your consent.

**A state appeal (Fair Hearing with the state)** is your request for the state to review a decision we made. You must appeal to <MCO name> before asking for a state appeal. If we take more than 30 days to decide your appeal and we have not asked for an extension, you do not need to wait for our decision to ask for a state appeal. You may appeal any of these actions (decisions):

- denial or limited authorization of the type or level of service
- reduction, suspension, or stopping of a service that was approved before
- denial of all or part of a payment for a service
- not providing services in a reasonable amount of time
- our failure to act within required timelines for <prior/service> authorizations and appeals
- financial liability including copayments or other cost sharing
- any other action

### **Important Timelines for Appeals**

**You must follow the timelines for filing health plan appeals and state appeals (Fair Hearing with the state). If you go over the time allowed, we may not review your appeal and the state may not accept your request for an appeal.**

You must appeal to us **within 60 days** from the date of the DTR (notice of action). We can give you more time if you have a good reason for missing the deadline. You must file an appeal with us **before** you request a state appeal. If we take more than 30 days to decide your appeal and we have not asked for an extension, you can request a state appeal without waiting for us.

You must request a state appeal **within 120 days** of our appeal decision.

If we are stopping or reducing a service, you can keep getting the service if you file a health plan appeal **within 10 days** from the date on the notice, or before the service is stopped or reduced, whichever is later. **You must ask to keep getting the service when you file an appeal.** The service can continue until the appeal is decided. If you lose the appeal, you may be billed for these services, but only if state policy allows it.

If you lose the appeal, you may keep getting the service during a state appeal if you request a state appeal within 10 days from the date of the decision on your plan appeal.

For the Restricted Recipient Program, a member who receives a notice of restriction may file an appeal with us. You must file an appeal **within 60 days** from the date on the notice. You must appeal within 30 days to prevent the restriction from being implemented during your appeal. You may request a state appeal after receiving our decision.

**To file an oral or written appeal with us:**

You may appeal by phone, writing, fax, or in person. The contact information and address is found in section 1 under “Appeals and Grievances.”

If you call us with your appeal, it must be followed by a written appeal, unless you are requesting a fast resolution. We will help you complete a written appeal. We will ask you to sign and return the written appeal.

Fast appeals are for urgently needed services. If we agree that it is urgent, we will give you a decision within 72 hours. We will try to call you with the decision before we send the decision in writing.

We may take up to 14 extra days if we need more information and it is in your best interest or if you request extra time. We will tell you why we are taking the extra time.

If your appeal is not urgent, we will tell you within 10 days that we received it. We will give you a written decision within 30 days. We may take up to 14 extra

days if we need more information and it is in your best interest or if you request extra time. We will tell you we are taking the extra time and why.

The person making the decision will not be the same person who was involved in the prior review or decision-making.

If we are deciding an appeal about a service that was denied because it was not medically necessary, the decision will be made by a health care professional with appropriate clinical expertise in treating your condition or disease.

You or your representative may present your information in person, by telephone, or in writing.

If you appeal, we will send you or your representative the case file upon request, including medical records and any other documents and records considered by us during the appeal process.

**To file a state appeal (Fair Hearing with the state) with the Minnesota Department of Human Services:**

You must file a health plan Appeal with us **before** you ask for a State Appeal. You must ask for a state appeal **within 120 days** from the date of our appeal decision (resolution).

Your appeal to the state must be in writing. You can write to the Minnesota Department of Human Services to request a state appeal.

Write to:                Minnesota Department of Human Services  
                                 Appeals Office  
                                 P.O. Box 64941  
                                 St. Paul, MN 55164-0941

File online at:        <https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-0033-ENG>

Or fax to:              651- 431-7523

Tell the state why you disagree with the decision we made. You can ask a friend, relative, advocate, provider, or lawyer to help you. Your provider must have your written permission to request a state appeal for you.

A human services judge from the state Appeals Office will hold a hearing. You may ask to attend the hearing by telephone, by video, or in person. You can ask your providers or others to give testimony. You can provide documents for the judge to consider.

The process can take 90 days. If your hearing is about an urgently needed service, tell the Judge or the Ombudsman when you call or write to them.

If your hearing is about a service that was denied because it was not medically necessary, you may ask for review by a medical expert. The medical expert is independent of both the state and <Health Plan>. The state pays for this review. There is no cost to you.

If you do not agree with the human service judge's decision, you may ask the state to reconsider their decision. Send a written request for reconsideration to the Minnesota Department of Human Services Appeals Office within 30 days from the date of the decision. The contact information is listed earlier in this section.

If you do not agree with the state's decision, you may appeal to the district court in your county.

### **Grievances (Complaints)**

You may file a Grievance with us **at any time**. There is no timeline for filing a grievance with us. **To file an oral grievance with us:**

Call <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number in Section 1 and tell us about the problem.

We will give you a decision within 10 days. We may take up to 14 more days to make a decision if we need more information and it will be in your best interest or if you or your provider requests extra time. We will tell you within 10 days that we are taking extra time and the reasons why.

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

If your grievance is about our denial of a fast appeal or a grievance about urgent health care issues, we will give you a decision within 72 hours.

**To file a written grievance with us:**

Send a letter to us about your grievance. Write to the address listed in Section 1 under “Appeals and Grievances.”

We can help you put your grievance in writing. Call <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number in Section 1 if you need help.

We will tell you that we received your grievance within 10 days.

We will give you a written decision within 30 days. We may take up to 14 extra days if we need more information and it is in your best interest. We will tell you we are taking the extra time and why.

If you do not agree with our decision, you can file your complaint with the Minnesota Department of Health.

Write to: Minnesota Department of Health  
Health Policy and Systems Compliance Monitoring Division  
Managed Care Systems  
P.O Box 64882  
St. Paul, MN 55164-0882

Call: 1-800-657-3916 (toll free) or (651) 201-5100  
711 (TTY)

Visit:  
<https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/insurance/clearinghouse/complaints.html>

You can also call the Ombudsman for Public Managed Health Care Programs for help. The contact information is listed after this section.

**Important information about your rights when filing a grievance, appeal, or requesting a state appeal (Fair Hearing with the state):**

If you decide to file a grievance or appeal, or request a state appeal, it will not affect your eligibility for medical services. It will also not affect your enrollment in our health plan.

You can have a relative, friend, advocate, provider, or lawyer help with your grievance, appeal, or a state appeal.

There is no cost to you for filing a health plan appeal, grievance, or a state appeal. We may pay for some expenses such as transportation, childcare, photocopying, etc.

If you ask to see your medical records or other documents, we used to make our decision or want copies, we or your provider must provide them to you at no cost. If you ask, we must give you a copy of the guidelines we used to make our decision, at no cost to you. You may need to put your request in writing.

If you need help with your grievance, appeal or a state appeal, you can call or write to the Ombudsman for Public Managed Health Care Programs. They may be able to help you with access, service, or billing problems. They can also help you file a grievance or appeal with us or request a state appeal.

Call: 651-431-2660 (Twin Cities metro area),

Toll-free 1-800-657-3729 (non-metro area) or 711 (TTY). Hours of service are Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. *[Non-metro MCOs can choose to change the order of the numbers to list non-metro phone number first.]*

Or

Write to: Ombudsman for Public Managed Health Care Programs

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

P.O. Box 64249  
St. Paul, MN 55164-0249

Fax to: 651-431-7472

## Section 14. Definitions

These are the meanings of some words in this Member Handbook.

Action: This includes:

- denial or limited authorization of the type or level of service
- reduction, suspension, or stopping of a service that was approved before
- denial of all or part of payment for a service
- not providing services in a reasonable amount of time
- not acting within required time frames for grievances and appeals
- denial of a member's request to get services out-of-network for members living in a rural area with only one health plan

Anesthesia: Drugs that make you fall asleep for an operation.

Appeal: A way for you to challenge our action if you think we made a mistake. You can ask us to change a coverage decision by filing a written or oral appeal.

Care Coordinator: A person who develops, coordinates and provides (in some cases) supports and services stated in the care plan. This person works with us.

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

Clinical Trial: A qualified medical study test that is: subject to a defined peer review; sponsored by a clinical research program that meets federal and state rules and approved standards; and whose true results are reported.

Coinsurance: An amount you may be required to pay as your share of the cost for services or items. Coinsurance is usually a percentage (for example, 10%).

Copay/Copayment: A fixed amount you may pay as your share of the cost each time you get certain services, supplies, or prescription drugs. Co-pays are usually paid at the time services, supplies, or prescription drugs are provided. For example, you might pay \$1 - \$3.50 for services, supplies or prescription drugs.

Cost Sharing: Amounts you may be responsible to pay toward your medical services. See Section 6 for information on cost sharing.

Covered Services: The health care services that are eligible for payment.

Cultural Competency: Cultural and language competence is the ability of managed care organizations and the providers within their network to provide care to members with diverse values, beliefs and behaviors, and to tailor the delivery of care to meet social, cultural, and linguistic needs. The ultimate goal is a health care delivery system and workforce that can deliver the highest quality of care to every patient, regardless of race, ethnicity, cultural background, language proficiency, literacy, age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, religion, or socioeconomic status.

Denial, Termination or Reduction (DTR) (Notice of Action): A form or letter we send you to tell you about a decision on a claim, service, or any other action taken by us.

Direct Access Services: You can go to any provider in the Plan network to get these services. You do not need a referral or <prior/service> authorization from your PCP or PCC before getting services.

Durable Medical Equipment (DME): Certain medical equipment that is ordered by your doctor for use at home. Examples are walkers, wheelchairs, oxygen equipment and supplies.

Emergency: A medical emergency is when you, or any other person with an average knowledge of health and medicine, believe that you have medical symptoms that need immediate medical attention to prevent death, loss of a body part, or loss of function of a body part or could cause serious physical or mental harm. The medical symptoms may be a serious injury or severe pain. This is also called Emergency Medical Condition.

Emergency Care/Services: Covered services that are given by a provider trained to give emergency services and needed to treat a medical emergency. This is also called Emergency Room Care.

Emergency Medical Transportation: Ambulance services for an emergency medical condition.

Excluded Services: Services the plan does not pay for. Medical Assistance (Medicaid) will not pay for them either.

Experimental Service: A service that has not been proven to be safe and effective.

External Quality Review Study: A study about how quality, timeliness and access of care are provided by <Insert name of MCO>. This study is external and independent.

Family Planning: Information, services, and supplies that help a person decide about having children. These decisions include choosing to have a child, when to have a child, or not to have a child.

Fee-for-Service (FFS): A method of payment for health services. The medical provider bills the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) directly. DHS pays the provider for the medical services. This method is used when you are eligible for Minnesota Health Care Programs but are not enrolled in a health plan.

Formulary: The list of drugs covered under the Plan.

Grievance: A complaint you make about us or one of our network providers or pharmacies. This includes a complaint about the quality of your care.

Home and Community Based Services: Additional home health care services that are provided to help you remain in your home.

Home Health Care: Health care services for an illness or injury given in the home or in the community where normal life activities take the member.

Hospice: A special program for members who are terminally ill and not expected to live more than six months to live comfortably for the rest of the member's time. It offers special services for the member and his or her family. This is also known as Hospice Services.

Hospitalization: Care in a hospital that requires admission as an inpatient and usually requires an overnight stay.

Hospital Outpatient Care: Care in a hospital that usually doesn't require an overnight stay.

Housing Stabilization Services: Services to help people with disabilities, including mental illness and substance use disorder, and seniors find and keep housing. The purpose of these services is to support a person's transition into housing, increase long-term stability in housing in the community, and avoid future periods of homelessness or institutionalization.

Inpatient Hospital Stay: A stay in a hospital or treatment center that usually lasts 24 hours or more.

Investigative Service: A service that has not been proven to be safe and effective.

Medically Necessary: This describes services, supplies, or drugs you need to prevent, diagnose, or treat your medical condition or to maintain your current health status. This includes care that keeps you from going into a hospital or nursing home. It also means the services, supplies, or drugs meet accepted

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

standards of medical practice. Medically necessary care is appropriate for your condition. This includes care related to physical conditions and behavioral health (including Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder). It includes the kind and level of services. It includes the number of treatments. It also includes where you get the services and how long they continue. Medically necessary services must:

- be the services, supplies and prescription drugs other providers would usually order.
- help you get better or stay as well as you are.
- help stop your condition from getting worse.
- help prevent or find health problems

Medicare: The federal health insurance program for people age 65 or over. It is also for some people under age 65 with disabilities, and people with End-Stage Renal Disease.

Medicare Prescription Drug Plan: An insurance plan that offers Medicare Prescription Drug Program (Medicare Part D) drug benefits.

Medicare Prescription Drug Program: The prescription drug benefit for Medicare members. It is sometimes called Medicare Part D. Drug coverage is provided through a Medicare prescription drug plan.

Member: A person who is receiving services through a certain program, such as a Minnesota Health Care Program or Medicare

Member Handbook: This is the document you are reading. This document tells you what services are covered under the Plan. It tells what you must do to get covered services. It tells your rights and responsibilities. It also tells our rights and responsibilities.

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+): A program in which the State contracts with health plans to cover and manage health care and Elderly Waiver services for Medical Assistance (Medicaid) members age 65 and older.

Network: Our contracted health care providers for the Plan.

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

Network Providers: These are providers who agree to work with the health plan and accept our payment and not charge our members an extra amount. While you are a member of our plan, you must use network providers to get covered services. Network providers are also called plan providers or participating providers.

Nursing Home Certifiable: A decision that you need a nursing home level of care. A screener uses a process called a Long Term Care Consultation to decide.

Ombudsman for Public Managed Health Care Programs: A person at the Minnesota Department of Human Services who can help you with access, service or billing problems. The ombudsman can also help you file a grievance or appeal or request a state appeal (Fair Hearing with the State).

Open Access Services: Federal and state law allow you to choose any <Insert “physician” or “qualified health care provider”>, clinic, hospital, pharmacy, or family planning agency - even if not in our network - to get these services.

Outpatient Hospital Services: Services provided at a hospital or outpatient facility that are not at an inpatient level of care. These services may also be available at your clinic or another health facility.

Out-of-Area Services: Health care provided to a member by an out-of-network provider outside of the Plan service area.

Out-of-Network Provider or Out-of-Network Facility: A provider or facility that is not employed, owned, or operated by our plan and is not under contract to provide covered services to members of our plan. This is also known as a non-participating provider

Out-of-Network Services: Health care provided to a member by a provider who is not part of the Plan network.

Physician Incentive Plan: Special payment arrangements between us and the doctor or doctor group that may affect the use of referrals. It may also affect other services that you might need.

Physician Services: Services provided by an individual licensed under state law to practice medicine or osteopathy. Health care services a licensed medical physician (M.D. – Medical Doctor or D.O. – Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine) provides or coordinates.

Plan: An organization that has a network of doctors, hospitals, pharmacies, providers of long-term services, and other providers. It also has care coordinators [plans should change “care coordinator” to the term used by the state and/or plan] to help you

Post-stabilization Care: A hospital service needed to help a person’s conditions stay stable after having emergency care. It starts when the hospital asks for our approval for coverage. It continues until: the person is discharged; our Plan network <doctor/ qualified health care provider> begins care; or we, the hospital, and <doctor/qualified health care provider> agree to a different arrangement.

Premium: The periodic payment to Medicare, an insurance company, or a health care plan for health or prescription drug coverage.

Prescriptions: Medicines and drugs ordered by a medical provider.

Prescription Drug Coverage: A health plan that helps pay for prescription drugs and medications. Also see “Medicare Prescription Drug Program.”

Preventive Services: Services that help you stay healthy, such as routine physicals, immunizations, and well-person care. These services help find and prevent health problems. Follow-up on conditions that have been diagnosed (like a diabetes checkup) are **not** preventive.

Primary Care Clinic: The primary care clinic (PCC) you choose for your routine care. This clinic will provide [*Insert if applicable*: or approve] most of your care. [The name of your clinic appears on your member ID card.]

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

*MCO must select Primary Care Physician OR Primary Care Provider*

Primary Care Physician: Your primary care physician (PCP) is the doctor or other provider you see first for most health problems. He or she makes sure you get the care you need to keep you healthy. He or she also may talk with other doctors and health care providers about your care and refer you to them. In many Medicare health plans, you must see your primary care provider before you see any other health care provider.]

Primary Care Provider: Your primary care provider (PCP) is the doctor or other qualified health care provider you see at your primary care clinic. This person will manage your health care.]

Prior Authorization: Our approval that is needed for some services before you get them. This is also known as preauthorization or service authorization.

Provider: A qualified health care professional or facility approved under state law to provide health care.

Quality of care complaint: For purposes of this handbook, "quality of care complaint" means an expressed dissatisfaction regarding health care services resulting in potential or actual harm to a member. Quality of care complaints may include: access; provider and staff competence; clinical appropriateness of care; communications; behavior; facility and environmental considerations; and other factors that could impact the quality of health care services.

Referral: Written consent from your primary care <physician/provider/ clinic> that you may need to get before you see certain providers, such as specialists, for covered services. Your primary care <physician/provider/clinic> must write you a referral.

Rehabilitation Services and Devices: Treatment and equipment you get to help you recover from an illness, accident or major operation.

Restricted Recipient Program (RRP): A program for members who have received medical care and have not followed the rules or have misused services. If you are

in this program, you must get health services from one designated <primary care provider>, one pharmacy, one hospital or other designated health care provider. You must do this for at least 24 months of eligibility for Minnesota Health Care Programs. Members in this program who fail to follow program rules will be required to continue in the program for an additional 36 months.

Second Opinion: If you do not agree with an opinion you get from a Plan network provider, you have the right to get an opinion from another provider. We will pay for this. For mental health services, the second opinion may be from an out-of-network provider. For substance use disorder services, the second opinion will be from a different qualified assessor who does not need to be in the Plan network. We must consider the second opinion but do not have to accept a second opinion for substance use disorder or mental health services.

Service Area: The area where a person must live to be able to become or remain a member of the Plan. Contact <Member/Customer Services> at the phone number in Section 1 for details about the service area.

Service Authorization: Our approval that is needed for some services before you get them. This is also known as preauthorization or prior authorization.

Skilled Nursing Care: Care or treatment that can only be done by licensed nurses.

Skilled Nursing Facility: A facility which provides inpatient skilled nursing care, rehabilitation services or other related health services. Medicare must certify this facility if you are receiving Medicare benefits.

Specialist: A doctor who provides health care for a specific disease or part of the body.

*[MCOs with referral models, insert: [Standing Referral: Written consent from your Primary Care Clinic to see a specialist more than one time (for ongoing care.)]*

*[MCOs with direct access models, insert: [Standing Authorization: Written consent from us to see an out-of-network specialist more than one time (for ongoing care.)]*

State Appeal (Fair Hearing with the state): A hearing at the state to review a decision made by us. You must request a hearing in writing. Your provider may request a state appeal with your written consent. You may ask for a hearing if you disagree with any of the following:

- a denial, termination, or reduction of services
- enrollment in the Plan
- denial of part or all of a claim for a service
- our failure to act within required timelines for <prior/service> authorizations and appeals
- any other action

Subrogation: Our right to collect money in your name from another person, group, or insurance company. We have this right when you get medical coverage under this Plan for a service that is covered by another source or third party payer.

Substance Use Disorder: Using alcohol or drugs in a way that harms you.

United States: For the purpose of this Member Handbook, the United States includes the fifty states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, The Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

Urgently Needed Care: Care you get for a sudden illness, injury, or condition that is not an emergency but needs care right away. This is also known as Urgent Care.

## **[Section 15. Additional information]**

*[MCO may include Additional Health Benefits and Services information here but may not include information about incentives. Marketing statements should not include false or misleading information]*

Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Member Handbook Guidelines/Requirements, Effective for January 2021

- *If the Additional Health Benefits and Services are offered to all of the MCO's members who meet the criteria for the program.*
- *If the Additional Health Benefits and Services are specifically linked to a preventive service or expected health outcome and the link between the two is clearly stated on the marketing materials.*
- *If the Additional Health Benefits and Services are included in marketing materials beyond those materials given to members*

*[MCOs may also include information on the following topics:*

- Health Care Directives
- Provider payment methodology (including physician incentive plans)  
*{MCOs must MCO must follow the language in accordance with 62J.72*  
<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/62J.72>  
*Language for editing if an MCO chooses to include IHP payments in their disclosure of provider payment methods :}*  
 <<MCO > participates in the Integrated Health Partnership (IHP) program with the MN Department of Human Services. Through the IHP program, providers are given a cost target for an attributed population. Providers who met quality goals may be paid a portion of the savings from reducing the overall total cost of care. This payment methodology incentivizes well-coordinated, high quality care at lower costs.>
- Federal Women's Health and Cancer Rights requirements
- Privacy notice
- NCQA Information (*MCOs must submit the NCQA standards along with member handbook as supporting documentation*)]