



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

April 3, 2020

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Community Health Options to waive member cost sharing for COVID-19 treatment

Lewiston, Maine: Community Health Options is waiving member cost sharing for COVID-19-related admissions. This expanded benefit is designed to eliminate financial barriers for members seeking COVID-19 treatment at in-network hospitals. The new policy will be in effect until June 30, 2020 and is subject to change if the public health emergency continues. If members received COVID-19 treatment prior to this announcement, their claims will be covered and reprocessed.

With 432 confirmed cases of COVID-19 today in Maine, the non-profit health insurer is doing its part to help flatten the coronavirus curve. Its medical division and service center employees have been proactively calling members across the state to address questions and concerns about the novel coronavirus, their insurance coverage, early prescription refills, and related topics. "These calls have been well received and our members really appreciate having a personal connection with one of our clinicians. They also have the clinician's direct call back-number if they need future help," says Chief Clinical Officer Maggie Kelley, NP.

Health Options is also supporting the medical community by providing flexibility with certain processes and procedures. "We want the frontline caregivers to know that we are here to provide wrap-around support so they can focus on the needs of their patients," says Kelley. "We are all in this together, and our goal is to make this challenging time as easy as we can for them."

In response to the pandemic, Health Options previously waived Member cost-sharing for COVID-19 testing and related office visits, urgent care visits, ER visits, and telemedicine visits. The organization is also making changes to help employers retain insurance coverage for their furloughed employees and providing supportive resources for its own employees as they work from home.

Coronavirus updates are available on the company's website at www.HealthOptions.org.

About Community Health Options – *Community Health Options (Health Options) is the only Maine-based, nonprofit, Member-led health plan providing comprehensive, Member-focused health insurance benefits for individuals, families, and businesses. For more information about Health Options, visit the website: HealthOptions.org*