



**This is only a summary.** If you want more detail about your coverage and costs, you can get the complete terms in the policy or plan document at [www.BlueChoiceSC.com](http://www.BlueChoiceSC.com) or by calling 1-800-868-2528.

Important Questions	Answers	Why this Matters:
<b>What is the overall <u>deductible</u>?</b>	\$3,500 per person / \$7,000 per family for in-network. Copays do not accumulate towards deductible. Doesn't apply to preventive care.	You must pay all the costs up to the <b>deductible</b> amount before this plan begins to pay for covered services you use. Check your policy or plan document to see when the <b>deductible</b> starts over (usually, but not always, January 1st). See the chart starting on page 2 for how much you pay for covered services after you meet the <b>deductible</b> .
<b>Are there other <u>deductibles</u> for specific services?</b>	No	You don't have to meet <b>deductibles</b> for specific services, but see the chart starting on page 2 for other costs for services this plan covers.
<b>Is there an <u>out-of-pocket limit</u> on my expenses?</b>	Yes. \$3,500 per person / \$7,000 per family for in-network providers.	The <b>out-of-pocket limit</b> is the most you could pay during a coverage period (usually one year) for your share of the cost of covered services. This limit helps you plan for health care expenses. All family members can contribute with no one member contributing more than the individual amount.
<b>What is not included in the <u>out-of-pocket limit</u>?</b>	Premiums, balance-billed charges and health care this plan doesn't cover.	Even though you pay these expenses, they don't count toward the <b>out-of-pocket limit</b> .
<b>Does this plan use a <u>network of providers</u>?</b>	Yes. For a list of in-network providers, see <a href="http://www.BlueChoiceSC.com">www.BlueChoiceSC.com</a> or call 1-800-868-2528	If you use an in-network doctor or other health care <b>provider</b> , this plan will pay some or all of the costs of covered services. Be aware, your in-network doctor or hospital may use an out-of-network <b>provider</b> for some services. Plans use the term in-network, <b>preferred</b> , or participating for <b>providers</b> in their <b>network</b> . See the chart starting on page 2 for how this plan pays different kinds of <b>provider</b> .
<b>Do I need a referral to see a <u>specialist</u>?</b>	No. You don't need a referral to see a specialist.	You can see the <b>specialist</b> you choose without permission from this plan.
<b>Are there services this plan doesn't cover?</b>	Yes	Some of the services this plan doesn't cover are listed on pages 5-6. See your policy or plan document for additional information about <b>excluded services</b> .

**Questions:** Call 1-800-868-2528 or visit us at [www.BlueChoiceSC.com](http://www.BlueChoiceSC.com). If you aren't clear about any of the bolded terms used in this form, see the Glossary. You can view the Glossary at <http://dol.gov/ebsa/pdf/SBCUniformGlossary.pdf> or call 1-800-868-2528 to request a copy. BlueChoice HealthPlan is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.



- **Copayments** are fixed dollar amounts (for example, \$15) you pay for covered health care, usually when you receive the service.
- **Coinsurance** is *your* share of the costs of a covered service, calculated as a percent of the **allowed amount** for the service. For example, if the plan's **allowed amount** for an overnight hospital stay is \$1,000, your **coinsurance** payment of 20% would be \$200. This may change if you haven't met your **deductible**.
- The amount the plan pays for covered services is based on the **allowed amount**. If an out-of-network **provider** charges more than the **allowed amount**, you may have to pay the difference. For example, if an out-of-network hospital charges \$1,500 for an overnight stay and the **allowed amount** is \$1,000, you may have to pay the \$500 difference. (This is called **balance billing**.)
- This plan may encourage you to use participating **providers** by charging you lower **deductibles, copayments** and **coinsurance** amounts.

Common Medical Event	Services You May Need	Your cost if you use an		Limitations & Exceptions
		In-Network Provider	Out-of-Network Provider	
If you visit a health care <u>provider's</u> office or clinic	Primary care visit to treat an injury or illness	0% coinsurance	50% coinsurance	-----none-----
	Specialist visit	0% coinsurance	50% coinsurance	-----none-----
	Other practitioner office visit	0% coinsurance	50% coinsurance	-----none-----
	Preventive care/screening/immunization	\$0	50% coinsurance	-----none-----
If you have a test	Diagnostic test (x-ray, blood work)	0% coinsurance	50% coinsurance	-----none-----
	Imaging (CT/PET scans, MRIs)	0% coinsurance	50% coinsurance	-----none-----
If you need drugs to treat your illness or condition	Tier 1	0% coinsurance	Not Covered	Covers up to a 31-day supply (retail). You will have to pay more if you select a brand name drug over a generic drug. Certain prescriptions may require prior authorization or have dosage limits.
	Tier 2	0% coinsurance	Not Covered	
	Tier 3	0% coinsurance	Not Covered	Covers up to a 31-day supply (retail). You will have to pay more if you select a brand name drug over a generic drug. Certain prescriptions may require prior authorization or have dosage limits.

Common Medical Event	Services You May Need	Your cost if you use an		Limitations & Exceptions
		In-Network Provider	Out-of-Network Provider	
More information about <b>prescription drug coverage</b> is available at <a href="http://www.Caremark.com">www.Caremark.com</a>	Tier 4	0% coinsurance	Not Covered	Covers up to a 31-day supply (retail). You will have to pay more if you select a brand name drug over a generic drug. Certain prescriptions may require prior authorization or have dosage limits.
	Tier 5 Tier 6	0% coinsurance 0% coinsurance	Not Covered Not Covered	Covers up to a 31-day supply (retail). You will have to pay more if you select a brand name drug over a generic drug. Certain prescriptions may require prior authorization or have dosage limits.
If you have outpatient surgery	Facility fee (e.g., ambulatory surgery center)	0% coinsurance	50% coinsurance	-----none-----
	Physician/surgeon fees	0% coinsurance	50% coinsurance	-----none-----
If you need immediate medical attention	Emergency room services	0% coinsurance	0% coinsurance	-----none-----
	Emergency medical transportation	0% coinsurance	50% coinsurance	-----none-----
	Urgent care	0% coinsurance	50% coinsurance	Must be at a participating Urgent Care provider.
If you have a hospital stay	Facility fee (e.g., hospital room)	0% coinsurance	50% coinsurance	Prior authorization required
	Physician/surgeon fee	0% coinsurance	50% coinsurance	-----none-----
If you have mental health, behavioral health, or substance abuse needs	Mental/Behavioral health outpatient services	0% coinsurance	50% coinsurance	Prior authorization required except for urgent care.
	Mental/Behavioral health inpatient services	0% coinsurance	50% coinsurance	Prior authorization required except for urgent care.
	Substance use disorder outpatient services	0% coinsurance	50% coinsurance	Prior authorization required except for urgent care.

Common Medical Event	Services You May Need	Your cost if you use an		Limitations & Exceptions
		In-Network Provider	Out-of-Network Provider	
	Substance use disorder inpatient services	0% coinsurance	50% coinsurance	Prior authorization required except for urgent care.
<b>If you are pregnant</b>	Prenatal and postnatal care	0% coinsurance	50% coinsurance	-----none-----
	Delivery and all inpatient services	0% coinsurance	50% coinsurance	Home births are not covered. Prior Authorization required.
<b>If you need help recovering or have other special health needs</b>	Home health care	0% coinsurance	50% coinsurance	60 visits per Benefit Period. Prior Authorization required.
	Rehabilitation services	0% coinsurance	50% coinsurance	30 combined visits per Benefit Period for occupational, physical, speech therapy and habilitation
	Habilitation services	0% coinsurance	50% coinsurance	30 combined visits per Benefit Period for occupational, physical, speech therapy and habilitation
	Skilled nursing care	0% coinsurance	50% coinsurance	60 days per Benefit Period; Prior authorization required
	Durable medical equipment	0% coinsurance	50% coinsurance	Prior Authorization required. Up to purchase price.
	Hospice service	0% coinsurance	50% coinsurance	6 months per episode. Prior Authorization required.
<b>If your child needs dental or eye care</b>	Eye exam	\$25	Not Covered	One comprehensive exam every Benefit Period. Refer to your plan document for a full list of limits.
	Glasses	\$50	Not Covered	One pair from a designated selection every Benefit Period. Refer to your plan document for a full list of limits/exceptions.
	Dental check-up	Balance over \$27 for 1st visit and balance over \$20 for periodic	Balance over \$27 for 1st visit and balance over \$20 for periodic	No network limitations

## Excluded Services & Other Covered Services:

### Services Your Plan Does NOT Cover (This isn't a complete list. Check your policy or plan document for other excluded services.)

- Acupuncture
- Hearing aids
- Private Duty Nursing
- Bariatric Surgery
- Infertility treatment
- Routine foot care (adult)
- Cosmetic Surgery
- Long-term care
- Weight loss programs.

### Other Covered Services.(This isn't a complete list. Check your policy or plan document for other covered services and your costs for these services.)

- Chiropractic care
- Routine eye care (adult)
- Dental Care (Adult)
- Non-emergency care when traveling outside the U.S. See [www.SouthCarolinaBlues.com/members/findaprovider.aspx](http://www.SouthCarolinaBlues.com/members/findaprovider.aspx)

## Your Rights to Continue Coverage:

If you lose coverage under the plan, then, depending upon the circumstances, Federal and State laws may provide protections that allow you to keep health coverage. Any such rights may be limited in duration and will require you to pay a **premium**, which may be significantly higher than the premium you pay while covered under the plan. Other limitations on your rights to continue coverage may also apply.

For more information on your rights to continue coverage, contact the plan at 1-800-868-2528. You may also contact your state insurance department, the U.S. Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration at 1-866-444-3272 or [www.dol.gov/ebsa](http://www.dol.gov/ebsa), or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services at 1-877-267-2323 x61565 or [www.cciio.cms.gov](http://www.cciio.cms.gov).

## Your Grievance and Appeals Rights:

If you have a complaint or are dissatisfied with a denial of coverage for claims under your plan, you may be able to **appeal** or file a **grievance**. For questions about your rights, this notice, or assistance, you can contact BlueChoice HealthPlan at 1-800-868-2528 or visit [www.BlueChoiceSC.com](http://www.BlueChoiceSC.com), the U.S. Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration at 1-866-444-3272 or [www.dol.gov/ebsa/healthreform](http://www.dol.gov/ebsa/healthreform), or the South Carolina Department of Insurance, Consumer Services Division, Post Office Box 100105, Columbia, SC 29202-3105, telephone: 803-737-6180, Email: [consumers@doi.sc.gov](mailto:consumers@doi.sc.gov).

## Does this Coverage Provide Minimum Essential Coverage?

The Affordable Care Act requires most people to have health care coverage that qualifies as "minimum essential coverage." **This plan or policy does provide minimum essential coverage.**

## Does this Coverage Meet the Minimum Value Standard?

The Affordable Care Act establishes a minimum value standard of benefits of a health plan. The minimum value standard is 60% (actuarial value). **This health coverage does meet the minimum value standard for the benefits it provides.**

## Language Access Services:

To obtain assistance in your specific language, call the customer service number shown on the first page of this notice.

Spanish: Para obtener asistencia en español, llame al número de atención al cliente que aparece en la primera página de esta notificación.

—————*To see examples of how this plan might cover costs for a sample medical situation, see the next page.*—————

## About these Coverage Examples:

These examples show how this plan might cover medical care in given situations. Use these examples to see, in general, how much financial protection a sample patient might get if they are covered under different plans.



**This is not a cost estimator.**

Don't use these examples to estimate your actual costs under this plan. The actual care you receive will be different from these examples, and the cost of that care will also be different.

See the next page for important information about these examples.

### Having a baby (normal delivery)

- Amount owed to providers: \$7,540
- Plan pays \$3,890
- Patient pays \$3,650

#### Sample care costs:

Hospital charges (mother)	\$2,700
Routine obstetric care	\$2,100
Hospital charges (baby)	\$900
Anesthesia	\$900
Laboratory tests	\$500
Prescriptions	\$200
Radiology	\$200
Vaccines, other preventive	\$40
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,540</b>

#### Patient pays:

Deductibles	\$3,500
Co-pays	\$0
Co-insurance	\$0
Limits or exclusions	\$150
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,650</b>

### Managing type 2 diabetes (routine maintenance of a well-controlled condition)

- Amount owed to providers: \$5,400
- Plan pays \$2,900
- Patient pays \$2,500

#### Sample care costs:

Prescriptions	\$2,900
Medical Equipment and Supplies	\$1,300
Office Visits and Procedures	\$700
Education	\$300
Laboratory tests	\$100
Vaccines, other preventive	\$100
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,400</b>

#### Patient pays:

Deductibles	\$2,420
Co-pays	\$0
Co-insurance	\$0
Limits or exclusions	\$80
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>

# Questions and answers about the Coverage Examples:

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## What are some of the assumptions behind the Coverage Examples?

- Costs don't include **premiums**.
- Sample care costs are based on national averages supplied by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and aren't specific to a particular geographic area or health plan.
- The patient's condition was not an excluded or preexisting condition.
- All services and treatments started and ended in the same coverage period.
- There are no other medical expenses for any member covered under this plan.
- Out-of-pocket expenses are based only on treating the condition in the example.
- The patient received all care from in-network **providers**. If the patient had received care from out-of-network **providers**, costs would have been higher.

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## What does a Coverage Example show?

For each treatment situation, the Coverage Example helps you see how **deductibles**, **copayments**, and **coinsurance** can add up. It also helps you see what expenses might be left up to you to pay because the service or treatment isn't covered or payment is limited.

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## Does the Coverage Example predict my own care needs?

✗ **No**. Treatments shown are just examples. The care you would receive for this condition could be different based on your doctor's advice, your age, how serious your condition is, and many other factors.

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## Does the Coverage Example predict my future expenses?

✗ **No**. Coverage Examples are **not** cost estimators. You can't use the examples to estimate costs for an actual condition. They are for comparative purposes only. Your own costs will be different depending on the care you receive, the prices your **providers** charge, and the reimbursement your health plan allows.

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## Can I use Coverage Examples to compare plans?

✓ **Yes**. When you look at the Summary of Benefits and Coverage for other plans, you'll find the same Coverage Examples. When you compare plans, check the "Patient Pays" box in each example. The smaller that number, the more coverage the plan provides.

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## Are there other costs I should consider when comparing plans?

✓ **Yes**. An important cost is the **premium** you pay. Generally, the lower your **premium**, the more you'll pay in out-of-pocket costs, such as **copayments**, **deductibles**, and **coinsurance**. You should also consider contributions to accounts such as health savings accounts (HSAs), flexible spending arrangements (FSAs) or health reimbursement accounts (HRAs) that help you pay out-of-pocket expenses.

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