

Excellus BCBS:Blue Choice 25

A nonprofit independent licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association

New York State (NYSHIP)
Coverage Period: 01/01/2014-12/31/2014

Summary of Benefits and Coverage: What this Plan Covers & What it Costs

Coverage for: Ind/Family Plan Type:HMO

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 excellusbcs.com or by calling 1-800-499-1275.

Important Questions	Answers	Why this Matters:
What is the overall deductible?	\$0	See the chart starting on page 2 for your costs for services this plan covers.
Are there other deductibles for specific services?	No.	You don't have to meet deductibles for specific services, but see the chart starting on page 2 for other costs for services this plan covers.
Is there an out-of-pocket limit on my expenses?	Yes, \$6350 Individual / \$12700 Family, In Network	The out-of-pocket limit 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.
What is not included in the out-of-pocket limit?	Premiums, balance-billed charges, and health care this plan doesn't cover.	Even though you pay these expenses, they don't count toward the out-of-pocket limit .
Is there an overall annual limit on what the plan pays?	No.	The chart starting on page 2 describes any limits on what the plan will pay for <i>specific</i> covered services, such as office visits.
Does this plan use a network of providers?	Yes. See www.excellusbcs.com or call 1-800-499-1275 for a list of participating providers.	If you use an in-network doctor or other health care provider , 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 provider for some services. Plans use the term in-network, preferred , or participating for providers in their network . See the chart starting on page 2 for how this plan pays different kinds of providers .
Do I need a referral to see a specialist?	No. You don't need a referral to see a specialist.	You can see the specialist you choose without permission from this plan.
Are there services this plan doesn't cover?	Yes.	Some of the services this plan doesn't cover are listed on page [4 or 5]. See your policy or plan document for additional information about excluded services .

Questions: Call 1-800-499-1275 or visit us at excellusbcs.com

If you aren't clear about any of the underlined terms used in this form, see the Glossary. You can view the glossary at

www.cciio.cms.gov or call 1-800-499-1275 to request a copy.

- **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 in-network **providers** by charging you lower **deductibles**, **copayments** and **coinsurance** amounts.

Common Medical Event	Services You May Need	Your Cost If You Use an In-network Provider	Your Cost If You Use an Out-of-network Provider	Limitations & Exceptions
If you visit a health care provider's office or clinic	Primary care visit to treat an injury or illness	Adult \$25.00 co-pay Child \$5 co-pay	Not Covered	Child up to age 26 for In-Network Providers
	Specialist visit	\$40.00 co-pay	Not Covered	-----none-----
	Other practitioner office visit	Acupuncture Not Covered Chiropractic \$40.00 co-pay	Not Covered	-----none-----
	Preventive care/screening/immunization	No Charge	Not Covered	Adult Physical 1 Visit(s) per year
If you have a test	Diagnostic test (x-ray, blood work)	X-Ray \$40.00 co-pay Lab Services \$25.00 co-pay	Not Covered	-----none-----
	Imaging (CT/PET scans, MRIs)	\$40.00 co-pay	Not Covered	-----none-----

Common Medical Event	Services You May Need	Your Cost If You Use an In-network Provider	Your Cost If You Use an Out-of-network Provider	Limitations & Exceptions
If you need drugs to treat your illness or condition More information about prescription drug coverage is available at excellusbcb.com	Generic drugs	Child copay No Charge Retail Prescription \$10.00 co-pay Mail Order Prescription \$20.00 co-pay	Not Covered	Child copay up to age 19 30 day retail supply 90 day mail order supply
	Preferred brand drugs	Retail Prescription \$30.00 co-pay Mail Order Prescription \$60.00 co-pay	Not Covered	30 day retail supply 90 day mail order supply
	Non-preferred brand drugs	Retail Prescription \$50.00 co-pay Mail Order Prescription \$100.00 co-pay	Not Covered	30 day retail supply 90 day mail order supply
	Specialty drugs	Retail Prescription \$50.00 co-pay	Not Covered	After initial fill, prescription must be filled by a participating Specialty Pharmacy. Specialty drugs are not eligible for mail order.
If you have outpatient surgery	Facility fee (e.g., ambulatory surgery center)	\$50.00 co-pay	Not Covered	-----none-----
	Physician/surgeon fees	\$40.00 co-pay	Not Covered	-----none-----
If you need immediate medical attention	Emergency room services	\$100.00 co-pay	\$100.00 co-pay	-----none-----
	Emergency medical transportation	\$100.00 co-pay	\$100.00 co-pay	-----none-----
	Urgent care	\$35.00 co-pay	Not Covered	-----none-----

Common Medical Event	Services You May Need	Your Cost If You Use an In-network Provider	Your Cost If You Use an Out-of-network Provider	Limitations & Exceptions
If you have a hospital stay	Facility fee (e.g., hospital room)	No Charge	Not Covered	-----none-----
	Physician/surgeon fee	Lesser of \$200.00 co-pay or 20% co-insurance	Not Covered	-----none-----
If you have mental health, behavioral health, or substance abuse needs	Mental/Behavioral health outpatient services	\$40.00 co-pay	Not Covered	-----none-----
	Mental/Behavioral health inpatient services	No Charge	Not Covered	-----none-----
	Substance use disorder outpatient services	\$25.00 co-pay	Not Covered	-----none-----
	Substance use disorder inpatient services	No Charge	Not Covered	-----none-----
If you are pregnant	Prenatal and postnatal care	Prenatal No Charge Postnatal No Charge	Prenatal Not Covered Postnatal Not Covered	-----none-----
	Delivery and all inpatient services	Facility No Charge Physician \$50 co-pay Anesthesia No Charge	Not Covered	-----none-----
If you need help recovering or have other special health needs	Home health care	No Charge	Not Covered	40 Visit(s) per year
	Rehabilitation services	Outpatient \$40.00 co-pay Inpatient No Charge	Not Covered	Outpatient 30 Visit(s) per year Inpatient 60 Day(s) per year
	Habilitation services	\$40.00 co-pay	Not Covered	30 Visit(s) per year
	Skilled nursing care	No Charge	Not Covered	45 Day(s) per year
	Durable medical equipment	50% co-insurance	Not Covered	-----none-----
	Hospice service	No Charge	Not Covered	210 Day(s)per Lifetime Family Bereavement 5 Visit(s) per year
If your child needs dental or eye care	Eye exam	Not Covered	Not Covered	-----none-----
	Glasses	Not Covered	Not Covered	-----none-----
	Dental check-up	Not Covered	Not Covered	-----none-----

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
- Routine eye care (Adult)
- Cosmetic surgery
- Long term care
- Routine foot care
- Dental Care (Adult)
- Private-duty nursing
- 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.)

- Bariatric Surgery
- Infertility treatment
- Chiropractic care
- Non-emergency care when traveling outside the U.S.
- Hearing aids (Children up to age 19)

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 1-800-499-1275. 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, or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services at 1-877-267-2323 x61565 or 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 Customer Service at 1-800-499-1275.

- For group health coverage subject to ERISA, you can contact your plan at 1-800-499-1275. You can also contact the Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration at 1-866-444-EBSA (3272) or www.dol.gov/ebsa/healthreform. If coverage is insured, you can contact New York State Department of Financial Services at 1-800-342-3736

- For non-federal governmental group health plans and church plans that are group health plans, call 1-800-499-1275. If coverage is insured, you can contact New York State Department of Financial Services at 1-800-342-3736

- Additionally, a consumer assistance program can help you file your appeal. Contact Community Health Advocates, the State's consumer assistance program, at 1-888-614-5400 or at www.communityhealthadvocates.org.

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?

In order for certain types of health coverage (for example, individually purchased insurance or job-based coverage) to qualify as minimum essential coverage, the plan must pay, on average, at least 60 percent of allowed charges for covered services. This is called the "minimum value standard". **This health coverage does meet the minimum value standard for the benefits it provides.**

Language Access Services:

Español: Para obtener asistencia en Español, llame al 1-800-499-1275.

Tagalog: Kung kailangan ninyo ang tulong sa Tagalog tumawag sa 1-800-499-1275.

中文: 如果需要中文的帮助, 请拨打这个号码 1-800-499-1275.

Dine: Dinek'ehgo shika at'ohwol ninisingo, kwijjigo holne' 1-800-499-1275.

—————*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: **\$7,230**
- Patient pays: **\$310**

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
Total	\$7,540

Patient pays:

Deductibles	\$0
Copays	\$160
Coinsurance	\$0
Limits or exclusions	\$150
Total	\$310

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

- Amount owed to providers: **\$5,400**
- Plan pays: **\$3,790**
- Patient pays: **\$1,610**

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
Total	\$5,400

Patient pays:

Deductibles	\$0
Copays	\$1,570
Coinsurance	\$0
Limits or exclusions	\$40
Total	\$1,610

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Questions and answers about the Coverage Examples:

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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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