

End of COVID Emergencies

April 2023

Dear Valued Member of the Woods Health Benefit Plan:

Based on current COVID-19 trends, the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is planning for the federal Public Health Emergency for COVID-19 to expire at midnight on May 11, 2023. While addressing COVID-19 remains a significant public health priority for the government, it is moving out of the emergency phase and into traditional health care coverage. **This decision by HHS may impact you and your family members when it comes to coverage of health care services. Please read the important information below.**

VACCINES

To help keep communities safe from COVID-19, HHS remains committed to maximizing continued access to COVID-19 vaccines. **You will continue to pay nothing out-of-pocket for COVID-19 vaccines.** They remain **free** to you.

COVID-19 TESTING AND DOCTOR VISITS

Out-of-pocket expenses for testing and doctor visits will change, depending on your benefit plan. The expenses will be the same as the costs you have today for visits to a doctor for other illnesses, injuries, or diseases, and for prescription drugs. **As of May 12, the cost-sharing described in your plan document will be applicable. Depending on your plan, this could mean you will need to pay co-payments, deductible, and/or co-insurance. COVID testing must be ordered by a medical provider in order to be considered for coverage.**

OVER-THE-COUNTER TESTS

As of May 12, 2023, expenses for over-the-counter COVID-19 tests, for example those you get from your local CVS or other pharmacy, will be excluded under the terms of your medical and pharmacy plan. **You will be responsible for the full cost of any over-the-counter test purchased on or after May 12, 2023.**

PRESCRIPTION REFILLS

As a convenience to you, prescription refill limitations for maintenance medications were relaxed in 2020. While most of those relaxed restrictions have ended, **the plan will go back to the refill restrictions that were in place prior to the pandemic.** Please consult with your physician and pharmacy on refill dates to ensure you have the prescriptions you need when you need them.

Attached is a Summary of Material Modifications showing the changes to your Plan Document and health plan. **Please call the Member Services number on the front of your medical ID card if you have any questions.**