

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.**