



If you or your family member(s) have any questions,  
call HEALTH CARE OPTIONS, toll-free, at the numbers listed below.

234V291C-000001

Representatives are available between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

LANGUAGE	TELEPHONE	LANGUAGE	TELEPHONE
ENGLISH	1-800-430-4263	한국어 (Korean)	1-800-576-6883
العربية (Arabic)	1-800-576-6881	国語 (Mandarin)	1-800-576-6885
ՀԱՅԵՐԵՆ (Armenian)	1-800-840-5032	РУССКИЙ (Russian)	1-800-430-7007
ខ្មែរ (Cambodian)	1-800-430-5005	ESPAÑOL (Spanish)	1-800-430-3003
粵語 (Cantonese)	1-800-430-6006	TAGALOG (Tagalog)	1-800-576-6890
فارسی (Farsi)	1-800-840-5034	Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese)	1-800-430-8008
HMOOB (Hmong)	1-800-430-2022	LANGUAGES NOT LISTED	1-800-430-4263

For TDD users, call 1-800-430-7077

**PLEASE TEAR  
OFF CARD AND  
KEEP FOR YOUR  
REFERENCE!**

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MU\_0003507\_ENG4\_0105

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES**  
Health Care Options, P.O. Box 989009  
West Sacramento, CA 95798-9850

**RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED**  
To the addressee or guardian of:

234V291C-000001-19-7-M-M

► 3 -  3-1111111111-08/16/11 ◀

JOHN SAMPLE  
123 SAMPLE ST  
SAMPLE CITY, CA 99999



**ENGLISH**  
1-800-430-4263  
Written materials are available

**العربية**  
ARABIC  
1-800-576-6881  
لِغَةِ عَرَبِيَّةٍ مُوْجَّهٌ إِلَيْهَا

**ՀԱՅԵՐԵՆ**  
ARMENIAN  
1-800-840-5032  
Գաղվար նյութը գոյություն ունեն

**ខ្មែរ**  
CAMBODIAN  
1-800-430-5005  
បន្ទាន់អាសយដ្ឋាននៃយុទ្ធសាស្ត្រ

**粵語**  
CANTONESE  
1-800-430-6006  
可以提供書面材料

**فارسی**  
FARSI  
1-800-840-5034  
مطلوب به زبان های زیر موجود است:

**HMOOB**  
HMONG  
1-800-430-2022  
Coy lus uas san hauy ntawv los muaj thiab

**한국어**  
KOREAN  
1-800-576-6883  
서면자료의 이용이 가능합니다

**國語**  
MANDARIN  
1-800-576-6885

**Русский**  
RUSSIAN  
1-800-430-7007  
Доступны материалы в письменном виде



**Health Care Options**  
[www.healthcareoptions.dhcs.ca.gov](http://www.healthcareoptions.dhcs.ca.gov)

3

**ESPAÑOL**  
SPANISH  
1-800-430-3003  
Se dispone de material escrito.

**TAGALOG**  
TAGALOG  
1-800-576-6890  
May mga nakasulat na materyales

**Tiếng Việt**  
VIETNAMESE  
1-800-430-8008  
Có các tài liệu dưới dạng văn bản

**TDD/TTY**  
1-800-430-7077



234V291C-000001

MU\_0003507\_ENG2\_1204

If you or your family member(s) have any questions,  
call HEALTH CARE OPTIONS, toll-free, at the numbers listed below.

Representatives are available between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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اللغة العربية (Arabic)	1-800-576-6881	國語 (Mandarin)	1-800-576-6885
Հայերեն (Armenian)	1-800-840-5032	Русский (Russian)	1-800-430-7007
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HMOOB (Hmong)	1-800-430-2022	LANGUAGES NOT LISTED	1-800-430-4263

For TDD users, call 1-800-430-7077

MU\_0003552\_ENG3\_0511

State of California-Health and Human Services Agency  
**Department of Health Care Services**

P.O. Box 989009  
West Sacramento, CA 95798-9850

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED  
To the addressee or guardian of:



JOHN SAMPLE  
123 SAMPLE ST  
SAMPLE CITY CA 99999

August 16, 2011

The Medi-Cal health care packet with a choice form and instructions you requested is enclosed.

After making your choice, mail the completed choice form in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. Please keep the last copy of the choice form for your records.

If you or your family member(s) have any questions, call Health Care Options, toll-free, at 1-800-430-4263, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Complete a choice form today! Get a good start on the road to health!





# Table of Contents

The material in this packet will help you decide whether you want to choose a Medi-Cal Managed Care Health Plan.

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- A Guide to the Quality of Medi-Cal Health Plan(s) in your area, if available
- Health Care Options Presentation Schedules, if available
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- Join or Change A Health Plan
- Working With Your Health Plan
- Special Services - County Projects (if applicable)
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# MEDI-CAL CHOICE FORM

Use this form to join or change a health plan or to choose Regular Medi-Cal. If you need help filling out this form, call 1-800-430-4263.  
Mail Completed form to: California Department of Health Care Services • Health Care Options • Box 989009, W. Sacramento, CA 95798-9850.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY USING BLUE OR BLACK INK ONLY. COMPLETELY FILL IN THE OVALS  TO INDICATE YOUR CHOICE. SEE BACK FOR EXAMPLE

JOHN SAMPLE	<input type="radio"/> M	<input checked="" type="radio"/> F	2) Sex	3) Telephone Number	
1 2 3 S A M P L E S T S A M P L E C I T Y 9 9 9 9 9					
4) Home Address (House Number, Street, Apartment Number, City, and Zip Code)					

Please choose a Health Plan from the list for each member listed. The Doctor/Clinic Codes can be found in the Health Plan Provider Directory.  
If you do not want to join a Medi-Cal Health Plan, fill in the oval for Regular Medi-Cal (Fee-For-Service).

HEALTH PLANS	JOHN SAMPLE	<input type="radio"/> M	<input checked="" type="radio"/> F	6) Sex	
	5) Applicant's Name (First Name, Last Name)	6a) Due Date (if pregnant)			
<input type="radio"/> <u>I wish to JOIN or change my plan to:</u> <input type="radio"/> <u>NO Plan change</u> <input type="radio"/> 304 L.A. Care Health Plan <input type="radio"/> 352 Health Net Comm Solutions <input type="radio"/> 000 Regular Medi-Cal (FFS)					
Doctor/Clinic Code <input type="text"/> Plan Partner Name (see back of choice form) Enter plan change reason code*. <input type="checkbox"/>					
<input type="radio"/> BC <input type="radio"/> CF <input type="radio"/> CH <input type="radio"/> KA <input type="radio"/> LA <input type="radio"/> HN <input type="radio"/> MO					

HEALTH PLANS	JOHN SAMPLE	<input type="radio"/> M	<input checked="" type="radio"/> F	6) Sex	
	5) Applicant's Name (First Name, Last Name)	6a) Due Date (if pregnant)			
<input type="radio"/> <u>I wish to JOIN or change my plan to:</u> <input type="radio"/> 304 L.A. Care Health Plan <input type="radio"/> 352 Health Net Comm Solutions <input type="radio"/> 000 Regular Medi-Cal (FFS)					
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HEALTH PLANS	JOHN SAMPLE	<input type="radio"/> M	<input checked="" type="radio"/> F	6) Sex	
	5) Applicant's Name (First Name, Last Name)	6a) Due Date (if pregnant)			
<input type="radio"/> <u>I wish to JOIN or change my plan to:</u> <input type="radio"/> 304 L.A. Care Health Plan <input type="radio"/> 352 Health Net Comm Solutions <input type="radio"/> 000 Regular Medi-Cal (FFS)					
Doctor/Clinic Code <input type="text"/> Plan Partner Name (see back of choice form) Enter plan change reason code*. <input type="checkbox"/>					
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**\*PLAN CHANGE REASON CODES:**

**Code 1:** I could not choose the doctor or dentist I wanted  
**Code 2:** The health/dental plan did not meet my needs  
**Code 3:** My doctor/dentist did not meet my needs

**Code 4:** Too far to go  
**Code 5:** I did not choose this plan  
**Code 6:** Moving out of the county

**Code 7: DO NOT USE**  
**Code 8: DO NOT USE**  
**Code 9: Other**

**NOTICE:** I have read the plan description. I understand that Kaiser requires the use of binding neutral arbitration to resolve certain disputes. This includes disputes about whether the right medical treatment was provided (called medical malpractice) and other disputes relating to benefits or the delivery of services. If I pick Kaiser, I give up my right to a jury or court trial for those certain disputes. I also agree to use binding neutral arbitration to resolve those certain disputes. I do not give up my right to a State hearing of any issue, which is subject to the State hearing process.

**CHOICE STATEMENT:** I/We have made written choice to receive Medi-Cal benefits by joining in the medical plan or by receiving Regular Medi-Cal (Fee-For-Service). If eligible for Medi-Cal, I/we understand that each family member will receive health care benefits as I/we have indicated on this form. I/We have read and understand the conditions of this agreement. I/We understand that in order to disenroll from my/our current Medi-Cal Health plan, I/we must complete this form.

Head of Household's Signature

Date

Other Adult's Signature

Date

Other Adult's Signature

Date

2549158064

Highly Confidential



MU\_0003451\_ENG\_0707

**Please use the following example when you fill in the form:**

**PLEASE PRINT IN CAPITAL LETTERS ONLY.**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	,	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	-

**PLAN PARTNER INFORMATION FOR:**

**304 L.A. Care Health Plan**

BC      Anthem Blue Cross Partnrshp  
CF      Care1st Partner Plan, LLC  
CH      Community Health Plan  
KA      KP Cal, LLC  
LA      L.A. Care Health Plan

**352 Health Net Comm Solutions**

HN      Health Net Comm Solutions  
MO      Molina Healthcare Partner

**PRIVACY STATEMENT**

The Department of Health Care Services will keep the information you provide. It is used only to enroll and/or disenroll people that are eligible for Medi-Cal managed care. The laws that allow this are in the Welfare and Institutions Code, Sections 14016.5, 14016.6, 14087.305, 14087.31, 14087.35, 14087.36, 14087.38, 14087.96, 14088, 14089, 14089.5, and 14631, and California Code of Regulations, Section 51085.5. If any information asked for on the choice form is missing, then someone on the form may not be able to join a health plan, get out of a plan, or choose the plan he or she wants.

Only other government agencies that relate to the Medi-Cal program can see the information you provide. The persons listed on the form can look at the files that Medi-Cal keeps on them. However, any information that is being used in an investigation or lawsuit cannot be seen. If you want to see your Medi-Cal file, contact the Department of Health Care Services at the address on the other side of this form.



# MEDI-CAL CHOICE FORM

Use this form to join or change a health plan or to choose Regular Medi-Cal. If you need help filling out this form, call 1-800-430-4263.  
Mail Completed form to: California Department of Health Care Services • Health Care Options • Box 989009, W. Sacramento, CA 95798-9850.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY USING BLUE OR BLACK INK ONLY. COMPLETELY FILL IN THE OVALS  TO INDICATE YOUR CHOICE. SEE BACK FOR EXAMPLE

JOHN SAMPLE	<input type="radio"/> M	<input checked="" type="radio"/> F	2) Sex	3) Telephone Number	
1 2 3 S A M P L E S T S A M P L E C I T Y 9 9 9 9 9					
4) Home Address (House Number, Street, Apartment Number, City, and Zip Code)					

Please choose a Health Plan from the list for each member listed. The Doctor/Clinic Codes can be found in the Health Plan Provider Directory.  
If you do not want to join a Medi-Cal Health Plan, fill in the oval for Regular Medi-Cal (Fee-For-Service).

HEALTH PLANS	JOHN SAMPLE	<input type="radio"/> M	<input checked="" type="radio"/> F		
	5) Applicant's Name (First Name, Last Name)	6) Sex	6a) Due Date (if pregnant)	V- 999999999-3	
<input type="radio"/> <u>I wish to JOIN or change my plan to:</u> <input type="radio"/> <u>NO Plan change</u> <input type="radio"/> 304 L.A. Care Health Plan <input type="radio"/> 352 Health Net Comm Solutions <input type="radio"/> 000 Regular Medi-Cal (FFS)					
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HEALTH PLANS	JOHN SAMPLE	<input type="radio"/> M	<input checked="" type="radio"/> F		
	5) Applicant's Name (First Name, Last Name)	6) Sex	6a) Due Date (if pregnant)	6b) Social Security Number	
<input type="radio"/> <u>I wish to JOIN or change my plan to:</u> <input type="radio"/> 304 L.A. Care Health Plan <input type="radio"/> 352 Health Net Comm Solutions <input type="radio"/> 000 Regular Medi-Cal (FFS)					
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Date

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Other Adult's Signature

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Highly Confidential



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# Health Information Form

You are receiving this form because you are eligible to enroll in a new Medi-Cal health plan. Your new plan will use this form to make sure you get needed care.

Please fill in the circle with black or blue pen for the answers that apply to you. Complete one form for each person in your family who is enrolling in a new Medi-Cal health plan.

If you have questions, please call Health Care

Options, toll free at 1-800-430-4263 Monday through Friday, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. TDD/TTY users should dial 1-800-430-7077.

**Please return completed form with your Medi-Cal Choice Form or mail separately to:**

CA Department of Health Care Services  
Health Care Options - PO Box 989009  
West Sacramento, CA 95798-9850

**Filling out this form is voluntary. You will not be denied care based on your confidential answers.**

JOHN SAMPLE

Date of birth:

01/01/1111



1111111111 - 0000000000

Name of Person Completing Form:

1. Do you need to see a doctor within the next 60 days? .....  Yes  No
2. Do you take 3 or more prescription medicines each day? .....  Yes  No
3. Do you see a doctor regularly for a mental health condition such as depression, bipolar disorder, or schizophrenia? .....  Yes  No
4. Have you been to the emergency room two or more times in the last 12 months? .....  Yes  No
5. Have you been admitted to the hospital in the last 12 months? .....  Yes  No
6. Have you needed help with personal care, such as bathing, getting dressed, or changing bandages in the last 6 months? .....  Yes  No
7. Are you using medical equipment or supplies, such as a hospital bed, wheelchair, walker, oxygen, or ostomy bags? .....  Yes  No
8. Do you have a condition that limits your activities or what you can do? .....  Yes  No
9. Are you pregnant? .....  Yes  No
- 9a. If Yes, are you currently seeing a doctor for this pregnancy? .....  Yes  No
10. Do you see a doctor regularly for a chronic medical condition? .....  Yes  No

*If Yes, fill in all that apply:*

<input type="radio"/> a. Asthma	<input type="radio"/> b. Cancer	<input type="radio"/> c. Cystic Fibrosis	<input type="radio"/> d. Diabetes
<input type="radio"/> e. Heart Problems	<input type="radio"/> f. Hepatitis	<input type="radio"/> g. High Blood Pressure	<input type="radio"/> h. HIV or AIDS
<input type="radio"/> i. Kidney Disease	<input type="radio"/> j. Seizures	<input type="radio"/> k. Sickle Cell Anemia	<input type="radio"/> l. Tuberculosis
<input type="radio"/> m. Other _____			

When you become a health plan member, DHCS will send this information to your Medi-Cal health plan.

If you think you need to see a doctor before your Medi-Cal health plan contacts you, you should go to the doctor or hospital at that time.

*I understand that this information will be disclosed to Health Care Options and my new plan.*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

If not signed by beneficiary, specify relationship:  Parent of minor  Guardian  Other representative

**CONFIDENTIAL**

MU\_0003754\_ENG\_1010



# How To Fill Out the Medi-Cal Choice Form

Use the **Medi-Cal Choice Form(s)** in this packet to join or change a health plan or to choose Regular Medi-Cal (Fee-For-Service). Benefits will not change for voluntary beneficiaries who remain in Regular Medi-Cal (Fee-For-Service). You can use each form for up to three family members. You can get more forms by calling Health Care Options at 1-800-430-4263.

**Please print clearly, using blue or black ink only.** Write in block letters, and completely fill in all areas to indicate your choice. See the backside of the choice form for an example.

## Head of Household Name

*This section is to be completed by the Medi-Cal head of household.*

### 1. HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD NAME

Print your full name  
(First and Last Name).

### 2. SEX

Fill in oval M for male  
or F for female.

## MEDI-CAL CHOICE FORM

Use this form to join or change a health plan or to choose Regular Medi-Cal. If you need help filling out this form, call 1-800-430-4263.  
Mail Completed form to: California Department of Health Care Services • Health Care Options • Box 989009, W. Sacramento, CA 95798-9850.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY USING BLUE OR BLACK INK ONLY. COMPLETELY FILL IN THE OVALS  TO INDICATE YOUR CHOICE. SEE BACK FOR EXAMPLE.

1) Head of Household Name (First Name, Last Name)

M       F      2) Sex      3) Telephone Number

4) Home Address (House Number, Street, Apartment Number, City, and Zip Code)

### 4. HOME ADDRESS

Print your home address including the House Number, Street, Apartment Number, City and Zip Code.

### 3. TELEPHONE NUMBER

Write your home area code and telephone number.

## Making The Choice

Think about the things that are important to you when you receive health care. You may want to talk to your family, friends, or your current doctor or clinic staff. The material in this packet will help you make a choice. After you have made your health care choice, you can complete the Medi-Cal Choice Form.

## **Join or Change a Health Plan**

*Please complete sections for all members who want to join or change a health plan.  
Parts of this section may already be filled out for you.*

### **5. APPLICANT'S NAME**

Print the full name  
(First and Last Name)  
of an individual member  
of your family.

### **6. SEX**

Fill in oval M for  
male or F for  
female.

### **6a. DUE DATE**

The due date is the day the  
baby is expected to be born.  
Please write the due date by  
month, day, and year. For  
example, December 2, 2003  
would be entered as  
12/02/03.

### **6b. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER**

Do nothing if there is a  
barcode  in this space.  
Otherwise, enter your  
Social Security Number.

5) Applicant's Name (First Name, Last Name)	M	6) Sex	6a) Due Date (if pregnant)	6b) Social Security Number
<input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> M	<input type="radio"/> F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

*I wish to JOIN or change my plan to:*       *NO plan change*

000 Health Plan  
 000 Regular Medi-Cal (FFS)

Doctor/Clinic Code

Plan Partner Name (see back of choice form)

Enter plan change reason code\*

XX     XX     XX     XX     XX     XX     XX

#### **\*PLAN CHANGE REASON CODES:**

Code 1: I could not choose the doctor or dentist I wanted  
Code 2: The health/dental plan did not meet my needs  
Code 3: My doctor/dentist did not meet my needs

Code 4: Too far to go  
Code 5: I did not choose this plan  
Code 6: Moving out of the county

Code 7: DO NOT USE  
Code 8: DO NOT USE  
Code 9: Other

## **Join or Change A Health Plan**

### **• Join a Health Plan:**

Fill in the oval next to "I wish to JOIN or change my plan to:". Then, fill in the oval for your health plan choice.

### **• Change a Health Plan:**

Choose a reason for leaving the health plan from the shaded box called "\*PLAN CHANGE REASON CODES" located at the bottom of the form. Write this code number in the box next to "Enter plan change reason code\*".

### **• If the "No Plan Change" oval is available:**

Fill in the oval for "No Plan Change" if any member of the family listed on the choice form does not want to change health plans.

**To choose a health plan, fill in the Doctor/Clinic Code. If you have selected Regular Medi-Cal (Fee-For-Service), then skip to instructions on Completing and Mailing the Form.**

**• Doctor/Clinic Code:**

Write the code number for the doctor or clinic. This information can be found in the Plan Provider Directory. If there is no number or if the Plan Provider Directory is not in this packet, leave this blank.

*For example, the code number may be listed in the Provider Directory as:*

- **Doctor's Provider #**
- **PCP #**
- **Identification Number (ID)**
- **Doctor I.D. Number**
- **PIN (Provider Identification Number)**
- **Provider 0000** (ex. provider 3322)
- **# 0000, \* 00000 or 00000** (ex. # 3322 above or next to the Doctor's name)

### **Completing and Mailing the Form**

**NOTICE:** I have read the plan description. I understand that Kaiser requires the use of binding neutral arbitration to resolve certain disputes. This includes disputes about whether the right medical treatment was provided (called medical malpractice) and other disputes relating to benefits or the delivery of services. If I pick Kaiser, I give up my right to a jury or court trial for those certain disputes. I also agree to use binding neutral arbitration to resolve those certain disputes. I do not give up my right to a State hearing of any issue, which is subject to the State hearing process.

**CHOICE STATEMENT:** I/We have made written choice to receive Medi-Cal benefits by joining in the medical plan or by receiving Regular Medi-Cal (Fee-For-Service). If eligible for Medi-Cal, I/we understand that each family member will receive health care benefits as I/we have indicated on this form. I/We read and understand the conditions of this agreement. I/We understand that in order to change from my/our current Medi-Cal Health plan, I/we must complete this form.

Head of Household's Signature	Date	Other Adult's Signature	DHCS Date	Other Adult's Signature	Date
<b>Highly Confidential</b>					
<b>SIGNATURE</b>					

Make sure that you and any other adults listed on the form SIGN and date the form on the bottom.

## **You're Done!**

**Use the envelope included in this packet to mail the form. It does not need a stamp. Keep the last copy of the form for your records.**

If you have questions or need help filling out this form, call Health Care Options at 1-800-430-4263. There are also meetings you can attend to discuss health plan choices. See the Health Care Options Presentation Schedule in this packet, if available.

**DO NOT CALL YOUR ELIGIBILITY WORKER IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR MEDI-CAL CHOICE FORM. Your Eligibility Worker can only help you with questions about Medi-Cal benefits or eligibility.**



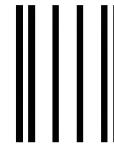
▼ TEAR HERE

TEAR HERE ▼

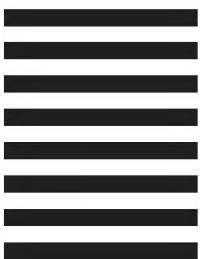
Sign and date your Choice Form?  
Keep the last copy?

**DID YOU REMEMBER TO ...**

10Z\_0003491\_ENG1\_0211a



NO POSTAGE  
NECESSARY  
IF MAILED  
IN THE  
UNITED STATES



## BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST-CLASS MAIL

PERMIT NO. 238

SACRAMENTO, CA

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

CA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES  
HEALTH CARE OPTIONS  
PO BOX 989009  
WEST SACRAMENTO, CA 95798-9850



◀ PEEL OFF  
AND WET GUM  
TO SEAL

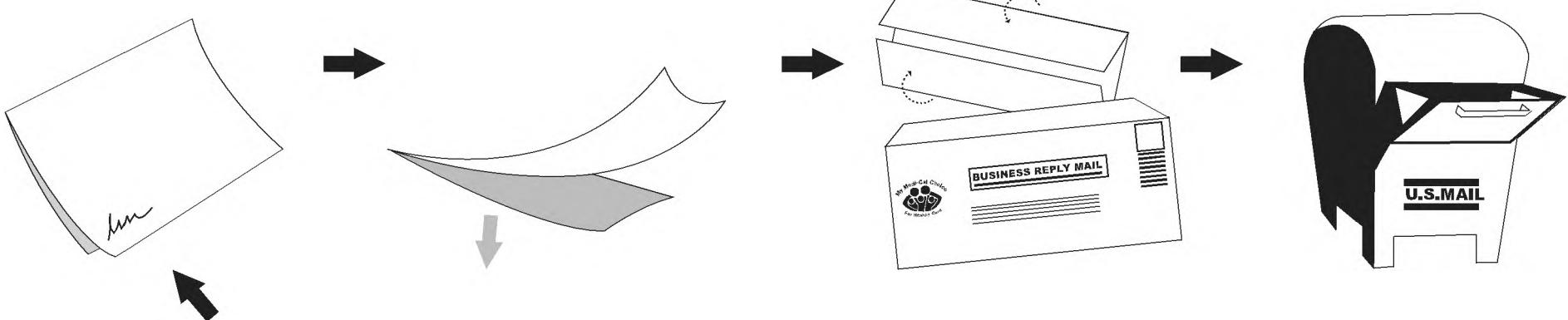
◀ PLEASE MAKE SURE TO: ① PEEL OFF THIS STRIP ② INSERT FORM ③ WET AND SEAL THE FLAP ▶

▲ FOLD HERE

▲ FOLD HERE

◀ PEEL OFF  
AND WET GUM  
TO SEAL ▶

**Do not put more than 4 forms in this envelope**





# Medi-Cal Managed Care Comparison Chart

The information is being provided for INFORMATION purposes only. To order an enrollment package, or for assistance filling one out, call 1-800-430-4263. Translators are available. For TDD/TTY users, call 1-800-430-7077.

L.A. Care Health Plan		
<b>Standard Benefits</b>	Doctors and specialist visits Annual check-ups Immunizations (shots) Prescriptions Hospital Care	Emergency Care (24 hours a day, 7 days a week) Pregnancy and baby care Urgent and emergency care is covered everywhere you go - even when you travel outside of Los Angeles county.  Plus some of our health plans offer extra services, like transportation, rewards for seeing the doctor when you're well, and the ability to talk to a nurse anytime, day or night. Call the health plan toll-free to find out about their extra services!
<b>Plan Network Hospitals*</b>	Many hospitals in your community work with our doctors. Look in the L.A. Care Provider Directory to see which of our participating hospitals work with the doctor you want. Or, call us at 1-888-4LA-CARE (1-888-452-2273).	
<i>*In the event of an emergency, call 911</i>		
<b>Doctors you can go to</b>	Choose the doctor near you to give you most of your care. We have over 4,000 primary care physicians (doctors) and clinics to choose from. We also have clinics and medical groups that allow you to get most of your care in one place. Call us to see if your current doctor is in our network, 1-888-4LA-CARE (1-888-452-2273).	
<b>Urgent Care Centers</b>	You are always covered for medically necessary urgent or emergency care.	
<b>Pharmacies</b>	You pick where to get your prescriptions filled from our list of over 1,200 pharmacies. We work with CVS, Rite Aid, Walgreens and many other pharmacies in your neighborhood.	
<b>Assistance with Public Transportation</b>	Some of our health plan partners offer free transportation to your appointments. Call the health plan to find out more about this service.	
<b>Health Education</b>	L.A. Care and the health plans that work with us offer health education programs to help you take care of yourself and your family. These programs on asthma, diabetes, heart disease and more - are free and easy to access with classes, audio, or health education materials.  L.A. Care also offers free health education classes at our Family Resource Centers, located in Lynwood and Inglewood. Classes include salsa dance aerobics, nutrition, pilates for children, and more – call L.A. Care at 1-888-4LA-CARE (1-888-452-2273) or visit the website at <a href="http://www.lacare.org">www.lacare.org</a> for more information.	
<b>Languages</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Many of our doctors' offices have multilingual staff. Plus, you can have an interpreter for free at your doctor appointments.</li> <li>All of our health plans' Member Services departments speak Spanish, Armenian, Farsi, Cambodian, Tagalog, Mandarin and Vietnamese and many more languages. If someone on staff isn't available to speak to you in your language, we will get an interpreter on the phone.</li> <li>L.A. Care and our health plans also send you information in the language or format you need, including English, Spanish, Korean, Khmer, Chinese, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Russian, Armenian, Farsi, and large print, Braille, or audio (cassette or CD) format.</li> </ul>	
<b>Member Services Hotline</b>	If you have questions, call the 24-hour Member Service Department of the Health Plan Partner you picked. You can also call L.A. Care Health Plan toll free at 1-888-4LA-CARE (1-888-452-2273).  <b>L.A. Care and our professional after-hours staff are available when you need us - 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</b>	
	L.A. Care Health Plan Anthem Blue Cross Care1st Partner Plan, LLC Community Health Plan	1-888-452-2273 1-888-285-7801 1-800-605-2556 1-800-475-5550

# Medi-Cal Managed Care Comparison Chart

The information is being provided for INFORMATION purposes only. To order an enrollment package, or for assistance filling one out, call 1-800-430-4263. Translators are available. For TDD/TTY users, call 1-800-430-7077.

Health Net Community Solutions, Inc. (Health Net)		
<b>Standard Benefits</b>	Doctor Visits Specialty Care Prescription Medicines Emergency and Urgent Care Prenatal and Newborn Care Health Education Services	CHDP Examinations Family Planning Services Hospital Care Immunizations Vision Care (exams and glasses) Lab and X-Rays
<b>Plan Network Hospitals*</b>	85 Hospitals located in and around Los Angeles County*. Look in the Health Net Provider Directory to see which participating hospitals work with your doctor. Health Net's Medi-Cal plan will cover emergency services anywhere outside of Health Net's service area, including outside of the United States.  *Includes hospitals contracted with Health Net through Molina Healthcare of California Partner Plan, Inc.	
<b>Doctors you can go to</b>	Choose from nearly 2,000 participating primary care providers in nearly 2,400 locations and over 4,400 specialists in over 7,300 locations. Our network includes most of the major clinics and medical groups in Los Angeles County. * Our provider directory can help you find a doctor close to where you live or work.  *Includes providers contracted with Health Net through Molina Healthcare of California Partner Plan, Inc.	
<b>Urgent Care Centers</b>	Many available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. 24-hour nationwide emergency services at no cost to you. Your Health Net primary care physician office staff will help you find an urgent care center close to you. Call our Member Services Department 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 1-800-675-6110 for assistance.  Please Note: Health Net's Medi-Cal plan covers emergency services anywhere, including outside of the United States.	
<b>Pharmacies</b>	You can choose from a large selection of over 1,600 pharmacies throughout Los Angeles County. Our Provider Directory can help you find a pharmacy close to where you live or work. Our network includes many chain and independent pharmacies including Costco, CVS, K-Mart, Rite Aid, Sav-On, Target, Vons, Walgreens, Wal-Mart, and many others!	
<b>Vision Plan</b>	Choose from qualified eye care providers to meet your vision care needs. Our provider directory can help you find an eye care professional close to where you live or work. Call us at 1-800-675-6110 for assistance.	
<b>Assistance with Public Transportation</b>	24-Hour Emergency Transportation is available. Call our 24-hour Health Net Member Services line at 1-800-675-6110 if you need assistance with non-emergency transportation. Just call us!	
<b>Health Education</b>	<p><b>We offer many Health Education resources at no cost to our members including:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Written materials on over 20 topics</li> <li>Health Education Classes</li> <li>Community Events</li> <li>Member Newsletters</li> <li>Programs in weight management, nutrition, smoking cessation, asthma and diabetes</li> </ul> <p>Call 1-800-804-6074 for more information.</p>	
<b>Languages</b>	We speak your language – Our representatives speak Spanish, Hmong, and many other dialects and languages. TDD/TTY (Telecommunication Device for the Hearing and Speech Impaired): 1-800-431-0964. Interpreting services available for ALL languages at no cost to you. Call 1-800-675-6110.	
<b>Member Services Hotline</b>	We want to know! How are you? Do you have questions? Call our Member Services Department/Nurse Advice Line 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 1-800-675-6110. Call Health Net toll-free at 1-800-327-0502 if you have any questions about Medi-Cal Managed Care or want to learn more about Health Net.	



A guide to help you  
**Choose the Best Medi-Cal Health Plan**  
for you and your family



Look inside this guide for this helpful information:

- Page 2      How this guide can help you
- Page 2      Help for people who speak little or no English
- Page 3      Programs to help you stay healthy
- Page 4      How Medi-Cal plans compare on quality of care for children
- Page 5      How Medi-Cal plans compare on quality of care for adults
- Last Page    Where to get answers if you have questions

# How this guide can help you

When you sign up for Medi-Cal, you may have to choose a health plan. The more you know about your plan, the easier it is to get the best care for you and your family.

Please take a minute to read through this guide. You will learn about quality of care and important services in your plan. You may want to save this guide in case you have questions later.

If you are ready to sign up for a Medi-Cal health plan, you will need to fill out the Medi-Cal Choice Form in the Medi-Cal enrollment booklet. (This booklet is called *My Medi-Cal Choice for Healthy Care*.) This booklet is mailed in a packet with plan Provider Directories. These Provider Directories have other important information, like the names of the doctors and hospitals in each plan.

You will probably have some questions. The last page of this guide tells you how to get answers to your questions.

## Help for people who speak little or no English

If you need help understanding English, your Medi-Cal health plan must make sure you have a qualified interpreter any time you need medical care. Your plan must provide an interpreter no matter what language you speak. This is true even when you need medical care at night. This service is free – you do not have to pay when your plan provides an interpreter.

You should ask for an interpreter any time you need to talk to a doctor or nurse about a medical problem or talk to someone at the plan.

There are different ways that plans might provide an interpreter for you:

- The plan can help you find a doctor's office where the doctor, a nurse or other person in the office speaks your language.
- The plan might have an interpreter meet you at the doctor's office.
- The plan might have a person interpret by talking to you and your doctor on the telephone.

Usually, it is best if you use the plan's interpreter. If you want to use an adult family member or friend to interpret instead, you must sign a paper saying that you did not want to use the plan's interpreter.

Your health plan has written information that tells you about the health plan's services and programs and tells how to get medical care. In your county, written information is available in these languages:

■ Armenian	■ Mandarin
■ Cambodian	■ Russian
■ Cantonese	■ Spanish
■ English	■ Tagalog
■ Farsi	■ Vietnamese
■ Korean	

If the plan does not send you materials in your language, you should ask for them. If you cannot read or understand the materials, you should ask for an interpreter who will explain what the materials say.

If you have trouble getting an interpreter when you need one, or if you have trouble getting written information translated, you have the right to file a grievance. Look at the last page of this guide to learn how to file a grievance.

# Programs to help you stay healthy

Each Medi-Cal health plan has programs to help you and your family stay healthy and manage illness. These are called **health education programs**. You do not have to pay to join these programs when you are enrolled in a Medi-Cal health plan.

Medi-Cal health plans offer programs that help you learn how to:

- Stay healthy when you are pregnant
- Keep your children safe and healthy
- Maintain good nutrition and exercise
- Manage and control your weight
- Manage and control your asthma
- Manage and control your diabetes
- Keep your heart healthy
- Control high blood pressure and cholesterol
- Quit smoking
- Prevent sexually transmitted disease and HIV/AIDS
- Prevent unplanned pregnancy
- Use new parenting skills
- Prevent dependence on drugs and alcohol

Plans offer these programs in lots of different ways. You might like one way better than another. The different ways that you can join a health education program are:

---

<b>Booklets and tapes</b>	Ask the plan to send you booklets, workbooks, videos and tapes that you can take home with you to learn.
<b>Classes</b>	Join a class where a health expert will show you how to manage your illness and stay healthy.
<b>One-on-one learning</b>	Talk to a health expert in-person or by telephone to ask questions and solve problems as you learn how to manage your illness and stay healthy.
<b>Support groups</b>	Join a group of people who are like you. People in the group learn from each other and help each other.

The plans want to offer these programs in ways that will work best to help you learn. To find out the details about how these programs work and how you can sign up, call your health plan. Look at the last page of this guide for phone numbers.

This is what the symbols mean:

**higher** = Scored **higher than the average** for Medi-Cal plans in California.

**average** = Scored **about the same as the average** for Medi-Cal plans in California.

**lower** = Scored **lower than the average** for Medi-Cal plans in California.

**no results** = Too few Medi-Cal plan members to report OR results were not available.

## How Medi-Cal plans compare on quality of care for children

This information comes from two sources. The State of California did a survey\* to ask people in Medi-Cal about the quality of care and service they were getting from their health plan. Medi-Cal also collected information from each plan to see how many people in the plan got the care and services they needed when they needed them.

	Health Net Comm Solutions	L.A. Care Health Plan
<b>Getting needed care</b> Children got the care they needed without problems.	<b>average</b>	<b>average</b>
<b>Getting care quickly</b> Children got appointments and treatment without long waits.	<b>average</b>	<b>average</b>
<b>How well doctors communicate</b> Doctors listened carefully, gave good explanations, and showed respect.	<b>average</b>	<b>average</b>
<b>Shared decision making</b> Doctors talked with parents about treatment choices for the child and asked which was best for the child.	<b>average</b>	<b>average</b>
<b>Plan customer service</b> Parents got the help they needed from plan customer service and plan written material.	<b>average</b>	<b>average</b>
<b>Vaccines (shots) for children</b> Children got all of the vaccines (shots) they were supposed to have to prevent illness.	<b>average</b>	<b>higher</b>
<b>Check-ups for teenagers</b> Teenagers got all of the check-ups they were supposed to have.	<b>lower</b>	<b>higher</b>
<b>Care for children with colds and flu</b> Children with colds and flu got the right kinds of treatment.	<b>lower</b>	<b>lower</b>

This is what the symbols mean:

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**lower** = Scored **lower than the average** for Medi-Cal plans in California.

**no results** = Too few Medi-Cal plan members to report OR results were not available.

## How Medi-Cal plans compare on quality of care for adults

This information comes from two sources. The State of California did a survey\* to ask people in Medi-Cal about the quality of care and service they were getting from their health plan. Medi-Cal also collected information from each plan to see how many people in the plan got the care and services they needed when they needed them.

	Health Net Comm Solutions	L.A. Care Health Plan
<b>Getting needed care</b> People got the care they needed without problems.	<b>lower</b>	<b>average</b>
<b>Getting care quickly</b> People got appointments and treatment without long waits.	<b>average</b>	<b>average</b>
<b>How well doctors communicate</b> Doctors listened carefully, gave good explanations, and showed respect.	<b>average</b>	<b>average</b>
<b>Shared decision making</b> Doctors talked with patient about treatment choices and asked which was best for the patient.	<b>lower</b>	<b>average</b>
<b>Plan customer service</b> People got the help they needed from plan customer service and plan written materials.	<b>average</b>	<b>average</b>
<b>Pregnancy care</b> Pregnant women got regular check-ups before their baby was born.	<b>average</b>	<b>average</b>
<b>Care after childbirth</b> New mothers got regular check-ups after their baby was born.	<b>average</b>	<b>average</b>
<b>Care for adults with bronchitis</b> Adults with bronchitis got the right kinds of treatment.	<b>higher</b>	<b>average</b>

# Where to get answers if you have questions

## Questions about Medi-Cal

-  Look in your enrollment booklet, called *My Medi-Cal Choice for Healthy Care*.
-  Call 1-800-430-4263 to talk to someone at Health Care Options. It's a free call.
- The TDD/TTY number is 1-800-430-7077. This phone number is for people who have difficulties with hearing or speech. You need special equipment to use it.
-  Medi-Cal holds meetings all over the state to help people understand the Medi-Cal program and how to sign up. You can come to one of these meetings if you want to hear about your choices and ask questions in person. To find out where and when meetings are held, look in the booklet *My Medi-Cal Choice for Healthy Care* or call Health Care Options at 1-800-430-4263.

## How to file a grievance

If you have trouble getting an interpreter when you need one, or getting important written materials translated, you have the right to file a grievance. To file a grievance you may call your health plan or send them a letter.

At the same time that you file a grievance with your health plan, you can ask for a State Hearing. Call 1-800-952-5253 (TDD/TTY: 1-800-952-8349) to ask for a State Hearing or send a letter to:

California Department of Social Services  
State Hearing Division  
P.O. Box 944243, MS 19-37  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2430

## Questions about the health plans

If you have questions about how to use the plans and the programs or services they offer, you can call these phone numbers:

- Health Net Comm Solutions**  
1-800-675-6110  
TDD/TTY: 1-800-735-2929
- L.A. Care Health Plan**  
1-888-452-2273  
TDD/TTY: 1-800-735-2929

Para recibir una copia de esta guía en español, llame al 1-800-430-3003. ¡Llamada gratis! Esta guía se llama *Una Guía para Ayudarle a Escoger el Mejor Plan de Salud de Medi-Cal para Usted y su Familia*. Tiene información importante sobre la calidad de la atención médica de los planes de salud de Medi-Cal que puede escoger.



Funding for the development of this guide was provided by the California HealthCare Foundation.



# Health Care Options Presentations

Attend an informative session at one of these convenient locations.

## California Health Care Options (HCO) Presentation Sites Los Angeles County September 2011 Schedule

- ◆ In-Person Medi-Cal Managed Care Information
- ◆ No Appointment Necessary
- ◆ Free Help To Complete Forms

Just ask for the  
"Health Care Options"  
Representative

CITY	LOCATION	DAY	HCO SITE HOURS	LANGUAGES
Canyon Country	Santa Clarita #51 27233 Camp Plenty Road	M & T	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish
		F	8:00am - 12:30pm	
Chatsworth	West Valley #82 21415 Plummer Street	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish
Compton	Compton #26 211 E. Alondra Boulevard	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish
Cudahy	Cudahy #06 8130 S. Atlantic Avenue	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish
El Monte	El Monte #04 3350 Aero Jet Avenue	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish / Vietnamese / Cantonese / Mandarin
	San Gabriel #20 3352 Aero Jet Avenue	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish / Vietnamese / Cantonese / Mandarin

**Presentation times, dates, and locations are subject to change.** Please contact the Health Care Options toll-free number **1 (800) 430-4263** to verify the schedule before attending. Additional sites may be available at the time of your call. **Health Care Options will not be conducting presentations on September 5<sup>th</sup> due to the holiday and on September 16<sup>th</sup> due to a staff meeting.**

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CITY	LOCATION	DAY	HCO SITE HOURS	LANGUAGES
Glendale	Glendale #02 4680 San Fernando Road	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish / Armenian / Russian / Farsi
Lancaster	Lancaster #34 349-B E. Avenue K-6	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish
Los Angeles	Belvedere #05 5445 Whittier Boulevard	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish
	Exposition Park #12 3833 S. Vermont Avenue	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish
	Florence #17 1740 E. Gage Avenue	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish
	Lincoln Heights #66 4077 N. Mission Road	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish

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Representative

CITY	LOCATION	DAY	HCO SITE HOURS	LANGUAGES
Los Angeles	Metro East #15 2855 E. Olympic Boulevard	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish
	Metro Family #13 2615 S. Grand Avenue Co-located Room	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish
	Metro North #38 2601 Wilshire Boulevard	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish
	Metro Special #70 2707 S. Grand Avenue	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish
	Rancho Park #60 11110 W. Pico Blvd	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish
	South Central #27 10728 S. Central Avenue	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish
	Southwest Family #83 8300 S. Vermont Ave	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish

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"Health Care Options"  
Representative

CITY	LOCATION	DAY	HCO SITE HOURS	LANGUAGES
Los Angeles	Southwest Special #08 1819 W. 120 <sup>th</sup> Street	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish
	Wilshire Special #10 2415 W. 6 <sup>th</sup> Street Booth #17	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish
Norwalk	Norwalk #40 12727 Norwalk Blvd.	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish
Panorama City	East Valley #11 14545 Lanark Street	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish
Pasadena	Pasadena #03 955 N. Lake Avenue	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish
Pomona	Pomona #36 2040 W. Holt Avenue	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish
Rancho Dominguez	Paramount #62 2961 East Victoria Street	M - F	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish
	South Family #31 17600 "A" Santa Fe Ave.	M - F T & TH	8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm 8:00am - 12:30pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm	English / Spanish Cambodian

**Presentation times, dates, and locations are subject to change.** Please contact the Health Care Options toll-free number **1 (800) 430-4263** to verify the schedule before attending. Additional sites may be available at the time of your call. **Health Care Options will not be conducting presentations on September 5<sup>th</sup> due to the holiday and on September 16<sup>th</sup> due to a staff meeting.**

# How is Medi-Cal Managed Care Different from Regular Medi-Cal?

- Medi-Cal Managed Care Health Plans have their own doctors, specialists, clinics, pharmacies, and hospitals.
- If you join a plan, you must choose one of the doctors or clinics from their list as your primary care doctor for all your health care needs.
- If you join a health plan, you will select a primary care doctor. If you want to continue seeing the doctor(s) you have now, talk to them before you decide to enroll. Call their office(s) and find out which health plans they belong to. You do not have to ask the doctors if they take Medi-Cal.
- If you are in a plan you must go to your primary care doctor first, unless it is an emergency or a family planning visit. A woman will still be able to see a women's health care specialist without going to the Plan or her primary care doctor first. You may not be able to go to other specialists or a physical therapist unless you go to the primary care doctor first.
- When you join a plan you may not be able to continue to go to the doctors, specialists, clinics, hospitals, physical therapists or pharmacies that you go to now if they are not part of the plan. To find out if your current doctors or clinic are in a Health Plan, see the provider directory included in this package.
- If you join a plan you may still call 911 or go to an emergency room if it is a real emergency. If it is not a real emergency, the hospital may send you to the health plan's doctor or clinic.
- The health plan has a Member Services Department and a 24-hour medical advice number that you can call.
- A plan should arrange transportation and interpreters - at no cost for you.
- When you join a plan, the plastic card (Medi-Cal Benefits Identification Card or BIC) that you use for your Medi-Cal benefits stays the same. Plans do not give all your Medi-Cal services such as dental care, specialty mental health services or care in a nursing home, but they may help to arrange for other places to provide the services. Otherwise, you can use your Medi-Cal plastic card to find these services yourself.

# Description of Health Plan Benefits

## THESE ARE BENEFITS YOU GET WITH A HEALTH PLAN

- Doctors, Specialists or Specialty Care Doctors, Clinics, Hospitals
- Help Finding or Changing Doctors or Clinics
- No Cost, No Co-Payment Health Care
- Pharmacy Services and Drugs
- Services from Other Professionals (therapies)
- Direct Access to Women's Health Services
- Family Planning services
- Medical Equipment and Supplies
- Drugs for Mental Health Conditions
- Health Education Classes
- Medical Second Opinion
- Drugs to Treat HIV+ or AIDS
- Professional Mental Health Services\*

\* Not offered by Plan, but available to health plan members.

## YOU CAN JOIN A MANAGED CARE HEALTH PLAN AND STILL USE THESE SPECIAL SERVICES IF YOU NEED THEM

- AIDS and AIDS-related Conditions Waiver Program
- California Children's Services
- Childhood Lead Poisoning Case Management
- Child or Adult Day Health Care Center Services
- Directly Observed Therapy for Treatment of Tuberculosis
- Local Education Agency Services
- Specialty Mental Health Services Waiver Program
- Multipurpose Senior Services Waiver Program
- Newborn Hearing Screening Program

# How To Choose A Health Plan

Think about what is important to you when you get health care. Talk to your family, friends, and doctor. Look at the Health Plan Comparison Chart(s) to help you decide which health plan you want. Look at the provider directories to help you decide which doctor you want.

**Here are some things to think about before you make your choice:**

## Doctor

- Am I happy with the doctor I have right now?
- Does my doctor belong to a health plan?
- Which health plan?
- Do I have to wait long to get an appointment?
- Are they open when I can go?
- Does the doctor have experience with my child's or my medical problem?

## Language

- Does the doctor speak my language or provide interpreters who do?

## Location

- Is the doctor's office or clinic near by?
- Is it easy to get to?
- Does the health plan or doctor provide transportation?

# Join or Change A Health Plan

## Join a Health Plan

- You must be eligible for Medi-Cal to join a health plan.
- You can use your Medi-Cal Benefits Identification Card (BIC) for services through Regular Medi-Cal (Fee-For-Service) until you are a health plan member.
- Health Care Options will send you a letter within 15 to 45 days telling you that the health plan change has taken place.
- Your health plan will send you information about its services and a health plan member card.
- Take your health plan member card and BIC card with you when you visit your doctor, your pharmacy, or going for x-rays.

## Change a Health Plan

- If you are not happy with your health plan, you can choose another health plan, if available, or return to Regular Medi-Cal (Fee-For-Service).
- Call Health Care Options at 1-800-430-4263 and ask for a Medi-Cal Choice Form.
- Mail the completed choice form.
- Health Care Options will send you a letter within 15 to 45 days telling you that the health plan change has taken place.
- You must see your present doctor until you get the letter from Health Care Options.

## Aid Status Change

- If your aid status changes, you may still be able to receive Medi-Cal through your Medi-Cal Managed Care Health Plan.
- Call Health Care Options at 1-800-430-4263 to find out.

# Working With Your Health Plan

It is very important for you to know how to use your health plan as soon as you become a member. Read all the information your health plan sends you. Call your health plan's Member Services Department and ask any questions you have about your health plan. Member services staff will be glad to help you.

## What if:

- I am no longer happy with the doctor I am going to?
- I disagree with my doctor about what is best for my family or me?
- My doctor denies or delays my request to see a specialist, to have more visits, or to get certain medicines?
- My doctor or health plan denies or limits medical services?
- My health plan reduces or stops a service that I was getting before I changed plans?
- I received a "Notice of Action" that denied, delayed, modified, or reduced my treatment request, or terminated treatment I've been receiving?

**You have a right to do any or all of these:**

## Change Your Health Plan

- Call Health Care Options at 1-800-430-4263 and ask for an informing packet.
- Complete the choice form and follow the mailing instructions.

## File A Complaint Or Grievance With Your Health Plan

- Call the health plan's Member Services Department. A member services worker may be able to help you with your complaint.
- If member services staff cannot assist you with your complaint, ask them to mail a grievance form to you at your home address. Your doctor will also have grievance forms or you can send a letter to your health plan.
- Complete the grievance form and mail the original to the health plan's Member Services Department (keep a copy for your records).
- Your health plan will review its decision based on your grievance and you will get an answer within 30 days. If you think that waiting 30 days will harm your health, be sure to say why when you ask for your grievance. Then you might be able to get an answer within 3 days.

## Report The Problem To The California Department Of Health Services' State Ombudsman

- Call 1-888-452-8609, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Report The Problem To The California Department Of Managed Health Care's Office Of Patient Advocacy**

- Call 1-888-466-2219, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

**Ask For A State Fair Hearing With An Administrative Law Judge**

- If you want a State Fair Hearing, you must ask for it within **90 days** from the date of the "Notice of Action" or "Grievance Resolution" letter that you receive from your health plan, or from the date of the order or action you are complaining of.
- If the "Notice of Action" letter states that your requested treatment is terminated or reduced and you want to keep your treatment going, you must ask for a State Fair Hearing within **10 days** from the date the letter was postmarked or personally delivered to you, or before the effective date of the action you're disputing, whichever is earlier.
- Complete the "Form To File A State Fair Hearing" that is included with your "Notice of Action" letter.
- You can also send a personal letter to ask for a State Fair Hearing. Be sure to include your name, address, phone number, Social Security Number, and the reason you want a State Fair Hearing. If someone is helping you ask for a State Fair Hearing, add his/her name, address, and phone number to the letter.
- If you want to keep your treatment going during the hearing process, be sure to state that in the "Form To File A State Fair Hearing" or in your personal letter.
- If you need a free interpreter, state that in the "Form To File A State Fair Hearing" or in your personal letter. Include the language that you speak.
- It takes up to **90 days** after you ask for a hearing to get an answer. If you think waiting that long will threaten your health, ask your doctor or health plan for a letter. Make sure the letter explains how waiting will threaten your health. Then, ask for an expedited hearing and include the letter with the "Form To File A State Fair Hearing" or with your own personal letter.

**State Fair Hearing**

Write to:

California Department of Social Services  
State Fair Hearing Division  
PO Box 944243, MS 19-37  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2430

Call:  
1-800-952-5253  
TDD:  
1-800-952-8349

# A List of Useful Words

- **Benefits Identification Card or BIC**

The plastic card sent to everyone who is eligible for Medi-Cal. All Medi-Cal providers use the BIC to check eligibility. Also called "Medi-Cal Card".

- **Emergency**

Immediate need for medical attention for an injury or illness that is life-threatening or disabling.

- **Grievance**

Your written or verbal feelings of your dissatisfaction with your health plan provider, or medical care service.

- **Health Care Options**

The company that works for the Medi-Cal Program to help you choose or change health plans.

- **Medi-Cal**

The California government program that pays providers who give health care services to eligible beneficiaries.

- **Medi-Cal Choice Form**

The form you fill out to choose or change health plans.

- **Medi-Cal Managed Care Health Plan**

Organizations with doctors, specialists, clinics, pharmacies, and hospitals that provide health care services to their members.

- **Member Services Department**

The office in a Medi-Cal Managed Care Health Plan that can answer your questions and help you use your health plan's services.

- **Primary Care Provider**

The doctor, nurse practitioner, nurse midwife, or physician's assistant who provides your health care.

- **Provider Directory**

A list of doctors, clinics, pharmacies, and hospitals you can choose from when you join a health plan.

- **Specialist or Specialty Care Doctor**

A doctor who only treats certain kinds of health problems like broken bones, asthma, or heart problems. To get this special care, your primary care provider must send you to the specialist or specialty care doctor. OB/GYN (Obstetrics and Gynecology) services may be contacted directly.



# 10 reasons to **choose** **L.A. Care Health Plan**



[www.lacare.org](http://www.lacare.org)

Call 1-888-4LA-CARE or visit  
**[www.lacare.org](http://www.lacare.org).**

1. More than **10,000 providers**, including doctors, specialists, hospitals and pharmacies.
2. A personal doctor who is **close to your home, work or school**.
3. Freedom to change your doctor **anytime, for any reason**.
4. More than **1,600 pharmacies** throughout Los Angeles, including Rite Aid, Walgreens, CVS, and many neighborhood pharmacies.
5. **Advice from a nurse at no cost**, anytime day or night.
6. Friendly, helpful customer service available **24 hours a day, 7 days a week**.
7. Information and help in a **language you understand**.
8. We have member advisory committees in your neighborhood.
9. **Health education classes at no cost** – including classes in weight control, diabetes and nutrition - available at our Family Resource Centers.
10. Emergency room care in an emergency – **anywhere, anytime**.

As an L.A. Care member, you can choose L.A. Care as your health plan choice or any of our fine health plan partners: Anthem Blue Cross, Community Health Plan, Care1st Health Plan, and Kaiser Permanente.\* Choose the one that's best for you.

\* Kaiser Permanente has restricted enrollment. Please call L.A. Care for details.

For a Healthy Life



# Health Net!

*Helping California stay healthy for 27 years*

Health Net offers local, quality health care for your family. Our Community Solutions Specialists can help you manage your health.

**And here are more reasons to choose us:**

- In your area, Health Net has teamed up with Molina Health Care to **give you more choices**. With a combined network of over 8000 doctors, you can choose one in a medical group close to you.
- Need health care? Health Net can help. Call our **Customer Contact Center**, **1-800-675-6110**, **24 hours a day, seven days a week**.
- You can have your **prescriptions filled** at over 3900 major retail chains in the state plus other local pharmacies
- We have many **bilingual doctors and staff** members who can speak your language.
- Stay healthy with the extra help of our **no-cost health education classes** on pregnancy, diabetes, heart disease, and more.

Make Health Net your choice. For more information or to enroll, call **1-800-327-0502**, or call Health Care Options at **1-800-952-5253**.

