

Benefit Matters

For Employers

October/November 2016

Two Benefit Changes for 2017

Vision care network change

To better serve our customers, we will finish transitioning from VSP® Vision Care back to the PacificSource network for vision services in 2017. Any group that still has a VSP in their policy will be moved to the PacificSource network upon renewal in 2017. To see if a vision provider is in our PacificSource network, please check our directory at PacificSource.com/find-a-vision-provider.



Simplified prescription drug tiers

If you've looked at our online state and PDL drug lists, you may have noticed each drug has a tier associated with it. For example, all generics were tier 1 and "preferred" drugs were tier 2.

In 2017, the tier categories will change to better represent general copayment or coinsurance amounts. (Please note that some groups have separate PacificSource Preventive Care or Incentive drug lists. Those lists remain the same.) The new categories are:

- Tier 0 drug copays are waived under the Affordable Care Act.
- Tier 1 drugs have the lowest copay and are typically generics.
- Tier 2 drugs have a mid-range copay.
- Tier 3 drugs have a high copay.
- Tier 4 drugs are specialty drugs.



Reminder: Medicare Part D Notices

All employers are required to provide a notice of creditable (or noncreditable) prescription drug coverage to Medicare-eligible individuals covered under a health plan before the enrollment period begins. The Medicare annual enrollment period is October 15 through December 7.

Our Medicare Part D creditability matrix and sample member notices are available at PacificSource.com under Employer > Forms and Materials > Manage Employee Coverage > Medicare Part D Notices.

Renewal Notices Mail Soon

Annual renewal and discontinuation letters will mail soon to employers who have health plans renewing in January.

Take Our Reader Survey

We'd like to get your thoughts. Are you an "online all the time" type of person? Or do you enjoy a freshly opened ream of premium bond? Are you an "enrollment engineer" or a "workplace-wellness wizard"?

Please take our quick, online survey. More than one person at your company may take the survey. Your feedback will help us shape our communication to better fill your needs.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/psbm-reader>



Coming Soon: Flu Season

Peak flu season can begin as early as October and last through May. That means the best time to get the flu shot is in September or October. You can help your employees and their families prepare for flu season by encouraging them to use their PacificSource benefits and get their flu shots. The earlier the better—it takes about two weeks for the flu shot to be most effective.

Your employees can get a flu shot at no cost to them when they visit a participating provider or pharmacy. Participating providers and pharmacies are listed on our website at PacificSource.com/flu.

Posters and fliers for your workplace

Colorful posters, fliers, payroll stuffers, and table tents can help you promote flu prevention in your workplace. Download these materials for free from our website at PacificSource.com/flu.

Workplace flu clinic

You can host an on-site flu vaccine clinic for covered employees, regardless of company size.

- One vaccine per member per flu season is covered. The high dose vaccine is not available at these clinics.
- You can arrange for flu vaccine clinics by contacting one of our participating flu vaccine clinic vendors directly—there's no need for employers to submit a PacificSource Flu Shot Clinic form. Please see our list of contracted Employer Flu Vaccination Clinic Participating Providers our website at PacificSource.com/flu.

Please note, you must use a vendor that has a current agreement with us to provide this service; no other vendors will be reimbursed.

If you have questions about your company's flu shot benefits, or hosting a flu shot clinic at your workplace, contact your PacificSource Client Service Representative.

Whooping Cough—the other vaccine

Whooping cough (pertussis) is still a concern. The best way to prevent pertussis is to get a vaccination. However, you may be surprised to learn that the vaccination wears off over time. Preteen children and adults may need a booster.

All PacificSource medical plans have pertussis vaccine coverage under your medical plan's immunization benefit. Check your plan's specific benefit, but the vaccine is covered by most plans at little or no cost to members. DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis) is covered for children under age 7, and Tdap (diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis) booster is covered for children ages 11 to 18 and adults ages 19 to 64.



Consejos para **Combatir la Gripe**

- Cubra su boca con un pañuelo al toser o estornudar.
- Permanezca en casa si usted se siente enfermo y tiene fiebre.
- Lávese las manos frecuentemente durante 20 segundos cada vez. Utilice un sanitizante para manos solamente cuando no sea posible lavarse las manos.
- Vacúnese contra la gripe.
- Exhorte a los miembros de su familia a que se vacunen contra la gripe.

Obtenga PacificSource



Tips to **Fight the Flu**

- Cover your cough with a tissue.
- Wash your hands frequently for a full 20 seconds each time. Use hand sanitizer only when handwashing isn't an option.
- If you feel sick and have a fever, stay home.
- Get a flu shot.
- Encourage your family members to get flu shots.

Have fun days.



Not sick days.

PacificSource makes it easy for you to get a flu shot—provided at no cost to you! Stop by the flu shot clinic at work.

Date: _____

Time: _____

Location: _____

