Samaritan Health Plans

Samaritan Advantage Conventional Plan (HMO) offered by Samaritan Health Plans

Annual Notice of Changes for 2022

You are currently enrolled as a member of Samaritan Advantage Conventional Plan. Next year, there will be some changes to the plan's costs and benefits. *This booklet tells about the changes.*

- **You have from October 15 until December 7 to make changes to your Medicare coverage for next year.**

What to do now

1. **ASK:** Which changes apply to you?

☐ Check the changes to our benefits and costs to see if they affect you.

- It's important to review your coverage now to make sure it will meet your needs next year.
- Do the changes affect the services you use?
- Look in Section 1 for information about benefit and cost changes for our plan.

☐ Check to see if your doctors and other providers will be in our network next year.

- Are your doctors, including specialists you see regularly, in our network?
- What about the hospitals or other providers you use?
- Look in Section 1.3 for information about our *Provider Directory*.

☐ Think about your overall health care costs.

- How much will you spend out-of-pocket for the services and prescription drugs you use regularly?
- How much will you spend on your premium and deductibles?
- How do your total plan costs compare to other Medicare coverage options?

☐ Think about whether you are happy with our plan.

2. **COMPARE:** Learn about other plan choices.

☐ Check coverage and costs of plans in your area.

- Use the personalized search feature on the Medicare Plan Finder at **www.medicare.gov/plan-compare** website.
- Review the list in the back of your *Medicare & You 2022* handbook.
- Look in Section 2.2 to learn more about your choices.

☐ Once you narrow your choice to a preferred plan, confirm your costs and coverage on the plan's website.

OMB Approval 0938-1051 (Expires: February 29, 2024)

3. **CHOOSE:** Decide whether you want to change your plan.
   - If you don't join another plan by December 7, 2021, you will be enrolled in Samaritan Advantage Conventional Plan.
   - To change to a **different plan** that may better meet your needs, you can switch plans between October 15 and December 7.

4. **ENROLL:** To change plans, join a plan between **October 15** and **December 7, 2021**.
   - If you don’t join another plan by **December 7, 2021**, you will be enrolled in Samaritan Advantage Conventional Plan.
   - If you join another plan by **December 7, 2021**, your new coverage will start on **January 1, 2022.** You will be automatically disenrolled from your current plan.

Additional Resources

- Please contact our Customer Service number at 800-832-4580 for additional information. (TTY users should call 800-735-2900). Hours are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily October 1 through March 31 and 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Friday April 1 through September 30.
- This document is available in alternative formats (e.g., braille, large print, audio tape).
- **Coverage under this plan qualifies as Qualifying Health Coverage (QHC)** and satisfies the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act’s (ACA) individual shared responsibility requirement. Please visit the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) website at **www.irs.gov/Affordable-Care-Act/Individuals-and-Families** for more information.

About Samaritan Advantage Conventional Plan

- Samaritan Advantage Health Plan is an HMO with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in Samaritan Advantage Health Plan depends on contract renewal.
- When this booklet says “we,” “us,” or “our,” it means Samaritan Health Plans. When it says “plan” or “our plan,” it means Samaritan Advantage Conventional Plan.

Summary of Important Costs for 2022

The table below compares the 2021 costs and 2022 costs for Samaritan Advantage Conventional Plan in several important areas. **Please note this is only a summary of changes.** A copy of the *Evidence of Coverage* is located on our website at **samhealthplans.org/Advantage**. You may also call Customer Service to ask us to mail you an *Evidence of Coverage.*

Cost	2021 (this year)	2022 (next year)
Monthly plan premium	$70	$50
Maximum out-of-pocket amount This is the most you will pay out-of-pocket for your covered Part A and Part B services (See Section 1.2 for details.)	$4,600	$4,600
Doctor office visits	Primary care visits: $10 per visit Specialist visits: $20 per visit	Primary care visits: $10 per visit Specialist visits: $20 per visit
Inpatient hospital stays Includes inpatient acute, inpatient rehabilitation, long-term care hospitals and other types of inpatient hospital services. Inpatient hospital care starts the day you are formally admitted to the hospital with a doctor's order. The day before you are discharged is your last inpatient day.	Maximum out-of-pocket limit: There is no OOP limit. Days 1-5: $350 per day Days 6-90: $0 per day	Maximum out-of-pocket limit: There is no OOP limit. Days 1-5: $350 per day Days 6-90: $0 per day

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SECTION 1 Changes to Benefits and Costs for Next Year

Section 1.1 – Changes to the Monthly Premium

Cost	2021 (this year)	2022 (next year)
Monthly premium (You must also continue to pay your Medicare Part B premium.)	$70	$50

Section 1.2 – Changes to Your Maximum Out-of-Pocket Amount

To protect you, Medicare requires all health plans to limit how much you pay "out-of-pocket" during the year. This limit is called the "maximum out-of-pocket amount." Once you reach this amount, you generally pay nothing for covered Part A and Part B services for the rest of the year.

Cost	2021 (this year)	2022 (next year)
Maximum out-of-pocket amount Your costs for covered medical services (such as copays) count toward your maximum out-of-pocket amount. Your plan premium does not count toward your maximum out-of-pocket amount.	$4,600	$4,600 Once you have paid $4,600 out-of-pocket for covered Part A and Part B services, you will pay nothing for your covered Part A and Part B services for the rest of the calendar year.

Section 1.3 – Changes to the Provider Network

There are changes to our network of providers for next year. An updated *Provider Directory* is located on our website at **samhealthplans.org/Advantage**. You may also call Customer Service for updated provider information or to ask us to mail you a *Provider Directory*. **Please review the 2022 *Provider Directory* to see if your providers (primary care provider, specialists, hospitals, etc.) are in our network.**

It is important that you know that we may make changes to the hospitals, doctors and specialists (providers) that are part of your plan during the year. There are a number of reasons why your provider might leave your plan but if your doctor or specialist does leave your plan, you have certain rights and protections summarized below:

- Even though our network of providers may change during the year, we must furnish you with uninterrupted access to qualified doctors and specialists.
- We will make a good faith effort to provide you with at least 30 days notice that your provider is leaving our plan so that you have time to select a new provider.

- We will assist you in selecting a new qualified provider to continue managing your health care needs.
- If you are undergoing medical treatment you have the right to request, and we will work with you to ensure, that the medically necessary treatment you are receiving is not interrupted.
- If you believe we have not furnished you with a qualified provider to replace your previous provider or that your care is not being appropriately managed, you have the right to file an appeal of our decision.
- If you find out your doctor or specialist is leaving your plan, please contact us so we can assist you in finding a new provider to manage your care.

Section 1.4 – Changes to Benefits and Costs for Medical Services

We are changing our coverage for certain medical services next year. The information below describes these changes. For details about the coverage and costs for these services, see Chapter 4, *Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)*, in your *2022 Evidence of Coverage.*

Opioid treatment program services

Members of our plan with opioid use disorder (OUD) can receive coverage of services to treat OUD through an Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) which includes the following services:

- U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved opioid agonist and antagonist medication-assisted treatment (MAT) medications.
- Dispensing and administration of MAT medications (if applicable).
- Substance use counseling.
- Individual and group therapy.
- Toxicology testing.
- Intake activities.
- Periodic assessments.

Cost	2021 (this year)	2022 (next year)
Acupuncture for chronic low back pain	You pay a $20 copay per visit for Medicare-covered acupuncture for chronic low back pain when performed by a specialist. You pay a $10 copay per visit for Medicare-covered acupuncture for chronic low back pain when performed by a primary care physician.	You pay a $20 copay per visit for Medicare-covered acupuncture for chronic low back pain.
Cardiac rehabilitation services	You pay a $25 copay for Medicare-covered cardiac rehabilitation services.	You pay a $0 copay per visit for Medicare-covered cardiac rehabilitation services.

Cost	2021 (this year)	2022 (next year)
Dental services	You pay a $15 copay for Medicare-covered dental benefits. You pay a $20 copay for 2 preventive dental exams and/or cleanings every calendar year. You pay a $0 copay for dental x-rays. Supplemental comprehensive dental services are not covered.	You pay a $20 copay for Medicare-covered dental benefits. You have a $750 combined benefit limit for preventive and comprehensive dental services every calendar year. Easily pay for these services with our new Flex-card.
Durable medical equipment (DME)	Miscellaneous DME codes do not require prior authorization.	Prior authorization is required for all miscellaneous DME codes.
Hearing aids	Hearing aids are not covered.	You have a $500 limit every calendar year for hearing aids and hearing aid equipment. Easily pay for your hearing aids with our new Flex-card.
Hearing exams	Hearing aid fitting/evaluation is not covered.	You pay a $20 copay for 1 hearing aid fitting/evaluation every calendar year.
Inpatient hospital care	You pay a $350 copay per day for days 1-5. You pay a $0 copay per day for days 6 and beyond. There is no limit to the number of days covered by the plan for each defined benefit period.	You pay a $350 copay per day for days 1-5. You pay a $0 copay per day for days 6-90. You are covered for 90 days each benefit period.
Magnetic resonance angiography (MRA)	MRA's do not require prior authorization.	Prior authorization is required for MRA's.
Outpatient hospital observation	You pay a $150 copay for Medicare-covered outpatient hospital observation.	You pay a $90 copay for Medicare-covered outpatient hospital observation.
Outpatient hospital surgery and services	You pay a $150 copay for Medicare-covered outpatient hospital surgery and services.	You pay a $200 copay for Medicare-covered outpatient hospital surgery and services.

Cost	2021 (this year)	2022 (next year)
Outpatient mental health and psychiatric care	You pay a $20 copay for Medicare-covered individual or group therapy sessions.	You pay a $10 copay for Medicare-covered individual or group therapy sessions.
Over-the-counter (OTC) benefit	Over-the-counter items are not a covered benefit.	You have a $100 allowance every quarter for over-the-counter items. Easily pay for eligible OTC items with a pre-loaded card. Any unused amount does not carry over to the next quarter.
Pulmonary rehabilitation services	You pay a $25 copay for Medicare-covered pulmonary rehabilitation services.	You pay a $0 copay per visit for Medicare-covered pulmonary rehabilitation services.
Routine vision hardware	You have a $125 vision hardware benefit limit for eyeglasses or contact lenses every calendar year. This is limited to one pair of eyeglasses or 12 pairs of contact lenses.	You have a $125 vision hardware benefit limit for eyeglasses or contact lenses every calendar year. Easily pay for these services with our new Flex-card.
Supervised exercise therapy (SET)	You pay a $25 copay per visit for Medicare-covered SET.	You pay a $0 copay per visit for Medicare-covered SET.
Transportation services	Non-emergent transportation is not covered.	You have 12 one-way non-emergent medical transportation trips to any health-related location, every calendar year.
Urine drug tests	Prior authorization is required for urine drug tests after 12 units per year.	Urine drug tests do not require prior authorization.

SECTION 2 Deciding Which Plan to Choose

Section 2.1 – If you want to stay in Samaritan Advantage Conventional Plan

To stay in our plan you don't need to do anything. If you do not sign up for a different plan or change to Original Medicare by December 7, you will automatically be enrolled in our Samaritan Advantage Conventional Plan.

Section 2.2 – If you want to change plans

We hope to keep you as a member next year but if you want to change for 2022 follow these steps:

Step 1: Learn about and compare your choices

- You can join a different Medicare health plan timely.
- *- OR -* You can change to Original Medicare. If you change to Original Medicare, you will need to decide whether to join a Medicare drug plan. If you do not enroll in a Medicare drug plan, there may be a potential Part D late enrollment penalty.

To learn more about Original Medicare and the different types of Medicare plans, read the *Medicare & You 2022* handbook, call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) (see Section 4), or call Medicare (see Section 6.2).

You can also find information about plans in your area by using the Medicare Plan Finder on the Medicare website. Go to **www.medicare.gov/plan-compare**. **Here, you can find information about costs, coverage, and quality ratings for Medicare plans.**

As a reminder, Samaritan Advantage Health Plans offers other Medicare health plans and Medicare prescription drug plans. These other plans may differ in coverage, monthly premiums and cost sharing amounts.

Step 2: Change your coverage

- To **change to a different Medicare health plan**, enroll in the new plan. You will automatically be disenrolled from Samaritan Advantage Conventional Plan.
- To **change to Original Medicare with a prescription drug plan,** enroll in the new drug plan. You will automatically be disenrolled from Samaritan Advantage Conventional Plan.
- To **change to Original Medicare without a prescription drug plan**, you must either:
    - Send us a written request to disenroll. Contact Customer Service if you need more information on how to do this (phone numbers are in Section 6.1 of this booklet).
    - *– OR –* Contact **Medicare**, at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and ask to be disenrolled. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

SECTION 3 Deadline for Changing Plans

If you want to change to a different plan or to Original Medicare for next year, you can do it from **October 15 until December 7.** The change will take effect on January 1, 2022.

Are there other times of the year to make a change?

In certain situations, changes are also allowed at other times of the year. For example, people with Medicaid, those who get "Extra Help" paying for their drugs, those who have or are leaving employer coverage, and those who move out of the service area may be allowed to make a change at other times of the year. For more information, see Chapter 8, Section 2.3 of the *Evidence of Coverage.*

If you enrolled in a Medicare Advantage plan for January 1, 2022, and don't like your plan choice, you can switch to another Medicare health plan (either with or without Medicare prescription drug coverage) or switch to Original Medicare (either with or without Medicare prescription drug coverage) between January 1 and March 31, 2022. For more information, see Chapter 8, Section 2.2 of the *Evidence of Coverage.*

SECTION 4 Programs That Offer Free Counseling about Medicare

The State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) is a government program with trained counselors in every state. In Oregon, the SHIP is called Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance (SHIBA).

SHIBA is independent (not connected with any insurance company or health plan). It is a state program that gets money from the Federal government to give **free** local health insurance counseling to people with Medicare. SHIBA counselors can help you with your Medicare questions or problems. They can help you understand your Medicare plan choices and answer questions about switching plans. You can call SHIBA at 800-722-4134.You can learn more about SHIBA by visiting their website (**shiba.oregon.gov**).

SECTION 5 Programs That Help Pay for Prescription Drugs

You may qualify for help paying for prescription drugs. Below we list different kinds of help:

- **"Extra Help" from Medicare.** People with limited incomes may qualify for "Extra Help" to pay for their prescription drug costs. If you qualify, Medicare could pay up to 75% or more of your drug costs including monthly prescription drug premiums, annual deductibles and coinsurance. Additionally, those who qualify will not have a coverage gap or late enrollment penalty. Many people are eligible and don't even know it. To see if you qualify, call:
    - 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
    - The Social Security Office at 1-800-772-1213 between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. TTY users should call, 1-800-325-0778 (applications).
    - – *OR* – Your State Medicaid Office (applications).
- **What if you have coverage from an AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)?** The AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) helps ADAP-eligible individuals living with HIV/AIDS have access to life-saving HIV medications. Medicare Part D prescription drugs that are also covered by ADAP qualify for prescription cost sharing assistance through CAREAssist. Note: To be eligible for the ADAP operating in your State, individuals must meet certain criteria, including proof of State residence and HIV status, low income as defined by the State, and uninsured/under-insured status.

If you are currently enrolled in an ADAP, it can continue to provide you with Medicare Part D prescription cost sharing assistance for drugs on the ADAP formulary. In order to be sure you continue receiving this assistance, please notify your local ADAP enrollment worker of any changes in your Medicare Part D plan name or policy number by calling CAREAssist at 800-805-2313.

For information on eligibility criteria, covered drugs, or how to enroll in the program, please call CAREAssist at 800-805-2313.

SECTION 6 Questions?

Section 6.1 – Getting Help from Samaritan Advantage Conventional Plan

Questions? We're here to help. Please call Customer Service at 800-832-4580 (TTY only, call 800-735-2900). We are available for phone calls 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily October 1 through March 31 and 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Friday April 1 through September 30. Calls to these numbers are free.

Read your 2022 *Evidence of Coverage* (it has details about next year's benefits and costs)

This *Annual Notice of Changes* gives you a summary of changes in your benefits and costs for 2022. For details, look in the 2022 *Evidence of Coverage* for Samaritan Advantage Conventional Plan. The *Evidence of Coverage* is the legal, detailed description of your plan benefits. It explains your rights and the rules you need to follow to get covered services and prescription drugs. A copy of the *Evidence of Coverage* is located on our website at **samhealthplans.org/Advantage**. You may also call Customer Service to ask us to mail you an *Evidence of Coverage.*

Visit Our Website

You can also visit our website at **samhealthplans.org/Advantage**. As a reminder, our website has the most up-to-date information about our provider network (*Provider Directory*).

Section 6.2 – Getting Help from Medicare

To get information directly from Medicare:

Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)

You can call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

Visit the Medicare Website

You can visit the Medicare website (**www.medicare.gov**). It has information about cost, coverage, and quality ratings to help you compare Medicare health plans. You can find information about plans available in your area by using the Medicare Plan Finder on the Medicare website. (To view the information about plans, go to **www.medicare.gov/plan-compare**).

Read *Medicare & You 2022*

You can read the *Medicare & You 2022* handbook. Every year in the fall, this booklet is mailed to people with Medicare. It has a summary of Medicare benefits, rights and protections, and answers to the most frequently asked questions about Medicare. If you don't have a copy of this booklet, you can get it at the Medicare website (**www.medicare.gov**) or by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, seven days a week. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.