

# Required Notices

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## **HIPAA Notice of Special Enrollment Rights**

If you are declining enrollment for yourself or your dependents (including your spouse) because of other health insurance or group health plan coverage, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan if you or your dependents lose eligibility for that other coverage (or if the employer stops contributing towards your or your dependents' other coverage). However, you must request enrollment within 30 days after your or your dependents' other coverage ends (or after the employer stops contributing toward the other coverage).

If you have a new dependent as a result of marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents. However, you must request enrollment within 30 days after the marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption.

If you decline enrollment for yourself or for an eligible dependent (including your spouse) while Medicaid coverage or coverage under a state children's health insurance program is in effect, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan if you or your dependents lose eligibility for that other coverage. However, you must request enrollment within 60 days after your or your dependents' coverage ends under Medicaid or a state children's health insurance program.

If you or your dependents (including your spouse) become eligible for a state premium assistance subsidy from Medicaid or through a state children's health insurance program with respect to coverage under this plan, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan. However, you must request enrollment within 60 days after your or your dependents' determination of eligibility for such assistance.

To request special enrollment or obtain more information, contact C.A.R.'s Benefit Administrator, RealCare Insurance Marketing, Inc. at (800) 939-8088.

## **Newborns' and Mothers' Health Protection Act**

Group health plans and health insurance issuers generally may not, under Federal law, restrict benefits for any hospital length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child to less than 48 hours following a vaginal delivery, or less than 96 hours following a cesarean section. However, Federal law generally does not prohibit the mother's or newborn's attending provider, after consulting with the mother, from discharging the mother or her newborn earlier than 48 hours (or 96 hours as applicable). In any case, plans and issuers may not, under Federal law, require that a provider obtain authorization from the plan or the insurance issuer for prescribing a length of stay not in excess of 48 hours (or 96 hours).

## **Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act Enrollment Notice**

If you have had or are going to have a mastectomy, you may be entitled to certain benefits under the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 (WHCRA). For individuals receiving mastectomy-related benefits, coverage will be provided in a manner determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient, for:

- all stages of reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy was performed;
- surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance;
- prostheses; and
- treatment of physical complications of the mastectomy, including lymphedema.

These benefits will be provided subject to the same deductibles and coinsurance applicable to other medical and surgical benefits provided under this plan. Therefore, the deductibles and coinsurance outlined in your benefit summary will apply.

If you would like more information on WHCRA benefits, contact your Human Resources Department or Benefits Administrator.

## **Patient Protections Notice**

Kaiser Permanente and Anthem Blue Cross HMO plans generally require the designation of a primary care provider. You have the right to designate any primary care provider who participates in the plan's network and who is available to accept you or your family members. Until you make this designation, Kaiser or Anthem designates one for you. For children, you may designate a pediatrician as the primary care provider.

For information on how to select a primary care provider, and for a list of the participating primary care providers, contact the Kaiser or Anthem directly at the number on your ID card, or call RealCare at (800) 939-8088.

You do not need prior authorization from C.A.R. or from Kaiser or Anthem or from any other person (including a primary care provider) in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a health care professional in the plan's network who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology. The health care professional, however, may be required to comply with certain procedures, including obtaining prior authorization for certain services, following a pre-approved treatment plan, or procedures for making referrals. For a list of participating health care professionals who specialize in obstetrics or gynecology, contact the health plan at the number on your ID card or call RealCare at (800) 939-8088.

## Your Rights and Protections Against Surprise Medical Bills

When you get emergency care or get treated by an out-of-network provider at an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center, you are protected from surprise billing or balance billing.

### **What is “balance billing” (sometimes called “surprise billing”)?**

When you see a doctor or other health care provider, you may owe certain out-of-pocket costs, such as a copayment, coinsurance, and/or a deductible. You may have other costs or have to pay the entire bill if you see a provider or visit a health care facility that isn't in your health plan's network.

“Out-of-network” describes providers and facilities that haven't signed a contract with your health plan. Out-of-network providers may be permitted to bill you for the difference between what your plan agreed to pay and the full amount charged for a service. This is called “**balance billing**.” This amount is likely more than in-network costs for the same service and might not count toward your annual out-of-pocket limit.

“Surprise billing” is an unexpected balance bill. This can happen when you can't control who is involved in your care—like when you have an emergency or when you schedule a visit at an in-network facility but are unexpectedly treated by an out-of-network provider.

### **You are protected from balance billing for:**

#### **Emergency services**

If you have an emergency medical condition and get emergency services from an out-of-network provider or facility, the most the provider or facility may bill you is your plan's in-network cost-sharing amount (such as copayments and coinsurance). You **can't** be balance billed for these emergency services. This includes services you may get after you're in stable condition, unless you give written consent and give up your protections not to be balance billed for these post-stabilization services.

#### **Certain services at an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center**

When you get services from an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center, certain providers there may be out-of-network. In these cases, the most those providers may bill you is your plan's in-network cost-sharing amount. This applies to emergency medicine, anesthesia, pathology, radiology, laboratory, neonatology, assistant surgeon, hospitalist, or intensivist services. These providers **can't** balance bill you and may **not** ask you to give up your protections not to be balance billed.

If you get other services at these in-network facilities, out-of-network providers **can't** balance bill you, unless you give written consent and give up your protections.

California anti-balance billing laws enacted by AB72 (Health and Safety Code Sections 1371.30, 1371.31, and 1371.9) prohibit plans and non-contracting providers from collecting more than the in-network cost share amount for covered services obtained at a contacted facility including hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, laboratories, radiology or imaging centers.

**You're never required to give up your protections from balance billing. You also aren't required to get care out-of-network. You can choose a provider or facility in your plan's network.**

**When balance billing isn't allowed, you also have the following protections:**

- You are only responsible for paying your share of the cost (like the copayments, coinsurance, and deductibles that you would pay if the provider or facility was in-network). Your health plan will pay out-of-network providers and facilities directly.
- Your health plan generally must:
  - Cover emergency services without requiring you to get approval for services in advance (prior authorization).
  - Cover emergency services by out-of-network providers.
  - Base what you owe the provider or facility (cost-sharing) on what it would pay an in-network provider or facility and show that amount in your explanation of benefits.
  - Count any amount you pay for emergency services or out-of-network services toward your deductible and out-of-pocket limit.

**If you believe you've been wrongly billed**, you may contact the California Department of Managed Health Care at (888) 466-2219 or visit [www.healthhelp.ca.gov](http://www.healthhelp.ca.gov) for assistance.

Visit <http://www.cms.gov/nosurprises> for more information about your rights under federal law.



## RealCare Insurance Marketing, Inc. Privacy Notice

FACTS	WHAT DOES REALCARE DO WITH YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION?
Why?	Financial companies choose how they share your personal information. Federal law gives consumers the right to limit some, but not all sharing. Federal law also requires us to tell you how we collect, share, and protect your personal information. Please read this notice carefully to understand what we do.
What?	<p>The types of personal information we collect and share depend on the product or service you have with us. This information may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social security number</li> <li>• Income</li> <li>• Credit Based Insurance Scores</li> <li>• Insurance Claim History</li> <li>• Medical Information</li> <li>• Employment Information</li> </ul> <p>When you are <i>no longer</i> our customer, we continue to share your information as described in this notice.</p>
How?	All financial companies need to share customers' personal information to run their everyday business. In the section below, we list the reasons financial companies can share their customers' personal information; the reasons RealCare chooses to share; and whether you can limit this sharing.

Reasons we can share your personal information	Does RealCare share?	Can you limit this sharing?
<b>For our everyday business purposes –</b> such as to process your transactions, maintain your account(s), respond to court orders and legal investigations, or report to credit bureaus	Yes	No
<b>For our marketing purposes –</b> to offer our products and services to you	Yes	No
<b>For joint marketing with other financial companies</b>	No	We Don't Share
<b>For our affiliates' everyday business purposes –</b> information about your transactions and experiences	No	We Don't Share
<b>For our affiliates' everyday business purposes –</b> information about your creditworthiness	No	We Don't Share
<b>For non-affiliates to market to you</b>	No	We Don't Share

<b>Questions?</b>	Call (800) 939-8088 or email us at: <a href="mailto:info@realcare.biz">info@realcare.biz</a> .
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What we do	
<b>How does RealCare protect my personal information?</b>	To protect your personal information from unauthorized access and use, we use security measures that comply with federal law. These measures include computer safeguards and secured files and buildings.
<b>How does RealCare collect my personal information?</b>	<p>We collect your personal information, for example, when you</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• apply for insurance</li> <li>• pay insurance premiums</li> <li>• file an insurance claim</li> <li>• provide employment information</li> <li>• give us your contact information</li> </ul> <p>We also collect your personal information from other companies.</p>
<b>Why can't we limit all sharing?</b>	<p>Federal law gives you the right to limit only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sharing for affiliates' everyday business purposes – information about your creditworthiness</li> <li>• affiliates from using your information to market to you</li> <li>• sharing for non-affiliates to market to you</li> </ul> <p>State laws and individual companies may give you additional rights to limit sharing.</p>

Definitions	
<b>Affiliates</b>	<p>Companies related by common ownership or control. They can be financial and nonfinancial companies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>RealCare does not share with our affiliates.</i></li> </ul>
<b>Nonaffiliates</b>	<p>Companies not related by common ownership or control. They can be financial and nonfinancial companies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>RealCare does not share with nonaffiliates so they can market to you.</i></li> </ul>
<b>Joint Marketing</b>	<p>A formal agreement between nonaffiliated financial companies that together market financial products or services to you.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>RealCare does not jointly market.</i></li> </ul>

# Information that's important to you



Every year, we're required to send you specific information about your rights, your benefits and more. This can use up a lot of trees, so we've combined a couple of these required annual notices. Please take a few minutes to read about:

- State notice of privacy practices.
- HIPAA notice of privacy practices.
- Breast reconstruction surgery benefits.

Want to save more trees? Go to [anthem.com/ca](http://anthem.com/ca) and sign up to receive these types of notices by email.

## State notice of privacy practices

As mentioned in our Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) notice, we must follow state laws that are stricter than the federal HIPAA privacy law. This notice explains your rights and our legal duties under state law. This applies to life insurance benefits, in addition to health, dental and vision benefits that you may have.

## Your personal information

We may collect, use and share your nonpublic personal information (PI) as described in this notice. PI identifies a person and is often gathered in an insurance matter.

We may collect PI about you from other persons or entities, such as doctors, hospitals or other carriers. We may share PI with persons or entities outside of our company — without your OK in some cases. If we take part in an activity that would require us to give you a chance to opt out, we will contact you. We will tell you how you can let us know that you do not want us to use or share your PI for a given activity. You have the right to access and correct your PI. Because PI is defined as any information that can be used to make judgments about your health, finances, character, habits, hobbies, reputation, career and credit, we take reasonable safety measures to protect the PI we have about you. A more detailed state notice is available upon request. Please call the phone number printed on your ID card.

## HIPAA notice of privacy practices

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW HEALTH, VISION AND DENTAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED, AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION WITH REGARD TO YOUR HEALTH BENEFITS. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

We keep the health and financial information of our current and former members private, as required by law, accreditation standards and our rules. This notice explains your rights. It also explains our legal duties and privacy practices. We are required by federal law to give you this notice.

## Your Protected Health Information

We may collect, use and share your Protected Health Information (PHI) for the following reasons and others as allowed or required by law, including the HIPAA Privacy Rule:

**For payment:** We use and share PHI to manage your account or benefits; or to pay claims for health care you get through your plan.

**For health care operations:** We use and share PHI for health care operations.

**For treatment activities:** We do not provide treatment. This is the role of a health care provider, such as your doctor or a hospital. **Examples of ways we use your information for payment, treatment and health care operations:**

- We keep information about your premium and deductible payments.
- We may give information to a doctor's office to confirm your benefits.
- We may share explanation of benefits (EOB) with the subscriber of your plan for payment purposes.
- We may share PHI with your health care provider so that the provider may treat you.
- We may use PHI to review the quality of care and services you get.
- We may use PHI to provide you with case management or care coordination services for conditions like asthma, diabetes or traumatic injury.
- We may also use and share PHI directly or indirectly with health information exchanges for payment, health care operations and treatment. If you do not want your PHI to be shared for payment, health care operations, or treatment purposes in health information exchanges, please visit [ca/anthem.com/health-insurance/about-us/privacy](http://ca/anthem.com/health-insurance/about-us/privacy) for more information.

**To you:** We must give you access to your own PHI. We may also contact you to let you know about treatment options or other health-related benefits and services. When you or your dependents reach a certain age, we may tell you about other products or programs for which you may be eligible. This may include individual coverage. We may also send you reminders about routine medical checkups and tests.

**To others:** In most cases, if we use or disclose your PHI outside of treatment, payment, operations or research activities, we must get your OK in writing first. We must receive your written OK before we can use your PHI for certain marketing activities. We must get your written OK before we sell your PHI. If we have them, we must get your OK before we disclose your provider's psychotherapy notes. Other uses and disclosures of your PHI not mentioned in this notice may also require your written OK. You always have the right to revoke any written OK you provide.

You may tell us in writing that it is OK for us to give your PHI to someone else for any reason. Also, if you are present and tell us it is OK, we may give your PHI to a family member, friend or other person. We would do this if it has to do with your current treatment or payment for your treatment. If you are not present, if it is an emergency, or you are not able to tell us it is OK, we may give your PHI to a family member, friend or other person if sharing your PHI is in your best interest.

As allowed or required by law: We may also share your PHI for other types of activities including:

- Health oversight activities.
- Judicial or administrative proceedings, with public health authorities, for law enforcement reasons, and with coroners, funeral directors or medical examiners (about decedents).
- Organ donation groups for certain reasons, for research, and to avoid a serious threat to health or safety.
- Special government functions, for Workers' Compensation, to respond to requests from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and to alert proper authorities if we reasonably believe that you may be a victim of abuse, neglect, domestic violence or other crimes; and
- As required by law.

If you are enrolled with us through an employer-sponsored group health plan, we may share PHI with your group health plan. If your employer pays your premium or part of your premium, but does not pay your health insurance claims, your employer is not allowed to receive your PHI — unless your employer promises to protect your PHI and makes sure the PHI will be used for legal reasons only.

**Authorization:** We will get an OK from you in writing before we use or share your PHI for any other purpose not stated in this notice. You may take away this OK at any time, in writing. We will then stop using your PHI for that purpose. But if we have already used or shared your PHI based on your OK, we cannot undo any actions we took before you told us to stop.

**Genetic information:** We cannot use or disclose PHI that is an individual's genetic information for underwriting.

### Your rights

Under federal law, you have the right to:

- Send us a written request to see or get a copy of certain PHI, or ask that we correct your PHI that you believe is missing or incorrect. If someone else (such as your doctor) gave us the PHI, we will let you know so you can ask him or her to correct it.
- Send us a written request to ask us not to use your PHI for treatment, payment or health care operations activities. We are not required to agree to these requests.
- Give us a verbal or written request to ask us to send your PHI using other means that are reasonable. Also, let us know if you want us to send your PHI to an address other than your home if sending it to your home could place you in danger.
- Send us a written request to ask us for a list of certain disclosures of your PHI. Call Customer Service at the phone number printed on your identification (ID) card to use any of these rights. Customer Service representatives can give you the address to send the request. They can also give you any forms we have that may help you with this process.
- Right to a restriction for services you pay for out of your own pocket: If you pay in full for any medical services out of your own pocket, you have the right to ask for a restriction. The restriction would prevent the use or disclosure of that PHI for treatment, payment or operations reasons. If you or your provider submits a claim to Anthem Blue Cross (Anthem), Anthem does not have to agree to a restriction (see Your Rights section above). If a law requires the disclosure, Anthem does not have to agree to your restriction.



## How we protect information

We are dedicated to protecting your PHI, and have set up a number of policies and practices to help make sure your PHI is kept secure.

We have to keep your PHI private. If we believe your PHI has been breached, we must let you know.

We keep your oral, written and electronic PHI safe using physical, electronic, and procedural means. These safeguards follow federal and state laws. Some of the ways we keep your PHI safe include securing offices that hold PHI, password-protecting computers, and locking storage areas and filing cabinets. We require our employees to protect PHI through written policies and procedures. These policies limit access to PHI to only those employees who need the data to do their job. Employees are also required to wear ID badges to help keep people who do not belong out of areas where sensitive data is kept. Also, where required by law, our affiliates and nonaffiliates must protect the privacy of data we share in the normal course of business. They are not allowed to give PHI to others without your written OK, except as allowed by law and outlined in this notice.

## Potential impact of other applicable laws

HIPAA (the federal privacy law) generally does not pre-empt, or override, other laws that give people greater privacy protections. As a result, if any state or federal privacy law requires us to provide you with more privacy protections, then we must also follow that law in addition to HIPAA.

## Contacting you

We, including our affiliates or vendors, may call or text any telephone numbers provided by you using an automated telephone dialing system and/or a prerecorded message. Without limitation, these calls may concern treatment options, other health-related benefits and services, enrollment, payment, or billing.

## Complaints

If you think we have not protected your privacy, you can file a complaint with us. You may also file a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. We will not take action against you for filing a complaint.

## Contact information

Please call Customer Service at the phone number printed on your ID card. Representatives can help you apply your rights, file a complaint or talk with you about privacy issues.

## Copies and changes

You have the right to get a new copy of this notice at any time. Even if you have agreed to get this notice by electronic means, you still have the right to a paper copy. We reserve the right to change this notice. A revised notice will apply to PHI we already have about you, as well as any PHI we may get in the future. We are required by law to follow the privacy notice that is in effect at this time. We may tell you about any changes to our notice in a number of ways. We may tell you about the changes in a member newsletter or post them on our website. We may also mail you a letter that tells you about any changes.

## Effective date of this notice

The original effective date of this Notice was April 14, 2003. The most recent revision date is indicated in the footer of this Notice.

## Breast reconstruction surgery benefits

If you ever need a benefit-covered mastectomy, we hope it will give you some peace of mind to know that your Anthem benefits comply with the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998, which provides for:

- Reconstruction of the breast(s) that underwent a covered mastectomy.
- Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to restore a symmetrical appearance.
- Prostheses and coverage for physical complications related to all stages of a covered mastectomy, including lymphedema.

All applicable benefit provisions will apply, including existing deductibles, copayments and/or coinsurance. Contact your plan administrator for more information.



## **IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS REGARDING GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

If you have a question about your eligibility, your benefits of your plan, or concerning a claim, please call our customer service department (800) 627-8797, or you may write to us marked to the attention of the customer service department. Our customer service staff will answer your questions or assist you in resolving your issue.

If you are not satisfied with the resolution based on your initial inquiry, you may request a copy of the Plan Grievance Form to complete and return to us, or ask the customer service representative to complete the form for you over the telephone. The Plan Grievance Form should be mailed to 21555 Oxnard Street, Woodland Hills, CA 91367. Your issue will then become part of our formal grievance process and will be resolved accordingly.

All grievances received by us will be acknowledged in writing. After we have reviewed your grievance, we will send you a written statement on its resolution or pending status. If your case involves an imminent threat to your health, including, but not limited to, the potential loss of life, limb, or major bodily function, review of your grievance will be expedited.

If you are dissatisfied with the resolution of your grievance, or if your grievance has not been resolved after at least thirty (30) days, you may submit your grievance to the Department of Managed Health Care for review prior to binding arbitration. If your case involves an imminent threat to your health, as described above, you are not required to complete our grievance process or to wait at least thirty (30) days, but may immediately submit your grievance to the Department of Managed Health Care for review.

If a Member has had coverage denied because proposed treatment is determined by us to be Investigative or Experimental, that Member may ask for review of that denial by an external, independent medical review organization contracting with the Department of Managed Health Care.

The California Department of Managed Health Care is responsible for regulating health care service plans. If you have a grievance against your health plan, you should first telephone your health plan at **(800) 627-8797** and use your health plan's grievance process before contacting the department. Utilizing this grievance procedure does not prohibit any potential legal rights or remedies that may be available to you. If you need help with a grievance involving an emergency, a grievance that has not been satisfactorily resolved by your health plan, or a grievance that has remained unresolved for more than 30 days, you may call the department for assistance. You may also be eligible for an Independent Medical Review (IMR). If you are eligible for IMR, the IMR process will provide an impartial review of medical decisions made by a health plan related to the medical necessity of a proposed service or treatment, coverage decisions for treatments that are Experimental or Investigational in nature and payment disputes for emergency or urgent medical services. The department also has a toll-free telephone number **(1-888-HMO-2219)** and a TDD line **(1-877-688-9891)** for the hearing and speech impaired. The department's Internet Web site (<http://www.hmohelp.ca.gov>) has complaint forms, IMR application forms and instructions on-line.



## HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practices

Effective July 1, 2007

### **THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.**

We keep the health and financial information of our current and former members private as required by law, accreditation standards, and our rules. This notice explains your rights. It also explains our legal duties and privacy practices. We are required by federal law to give you this notice.

#### **Your Protected Health Information**

We may collect, use, and share your Protected Health Information (PHI) for the following reasons and others as allowed or required by law, including the HIPAA Privacy rule:

**For Payment:** We use and share PHI to manage your account or benefits; or to pay claims for health care you get through your plan. For example, we keep information about your premium and deductible payments. We may give information to a doctor's office to confirm your benefits.

**For Health Care Operations:** We use and share PHI for our health care operations. For example, we may use PHI to review the quality of care and services you get. We may also use PHI to provide you with case management or care coordination services for conditions like asthma, diabetes, or traumatic injury.

**For Treatment Activities:** We do not provide treatment. This is the role of a health care provider such as your doctor or a hospital. But, we may share PHI with your health care provider so that the provider may treat you.

**To You:** We must give you access to your own PHI. We may also contact you to let you know about treatment options or other health-related benefits and services. When you or your dependents reach a certain age, we may tell you about other products or programs for which you may be eligible. This may include individual coverage. We may also send you reminders about routine medical checkups and tests.

**To Others:** You may tell us in writing that it is OK for us to give your PHI to someone else for any reason. Also, if you are present, and tell us it is OK, we may give your PHI to a family member, friend or other person. We would do this if it has to do with your current treatment or payment for your treatment. If you are not present, if it is an emergency, or you are not able to tell us it is

OK, we may give your PHI to a family member, friend or other person if sharing your PHI is in your best interest.

**As Allowed or Required by Law:** We may also share your PHI, as allowed by federal law, for many types of activities. PHI can be shared for health oversight activities. It can also be shared for judicial or administrative proceedings, with public health authorities, for law enforcement reasons, and to coroners, funeral directors or medical examiners (about decedents). PHI can also be shared for certain reasons with organ donation groups, for research, and to avoid a serious threat to health or safety. It can be shared for special government functions, for workers' compensation, to respond to requests from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and to alert proper authorities if we reasonably believe that you may be a victim of abuse, neglect, domestic violence or other crimes. PHI can also be shared as required by law.

If you are enrolled with us through an employer sponsored group health plan, we may share PHI with your group health plan. We and/or your group health plan may share PHI with the sponsor of the plan. Plan sponsors that receive PHI are required by law to have controls in place to keep it from being used for reasons that are not proper.

**Authorization:** We will get an OK from you in writing before we use or share your PHI for any other purpose not stated in this notice. You may take away this OK at any time, in writing. We will then stop using your PHI for that purpose. But, if we have already used or shared your PHI based on your OK, we cannot undo any actions we took before you told us to stop.

#### **Your Rights**

Under federal law, you have the right to:

- Send us a written request to see or get a copy of certain PHI or ask that we correct your PHI that you believe is missing or incorrect. If someone else (such as your doctor) gave us the PHI, we will let you know so you can ask them to correct it.
- Send us a written request to ask us not to use your PHI for treatment, payment or health care operations activities. We are not

required to agree to these requests.

- Give us a verbal or written request to ask us to send your PHI using other means that are reasonable. Also let us know if you want us to send your PHI to an address other than your home if sending it to your home could place you in danger.
- Send us a written request to ask us for a list of certain disclosures of your PHI.

Call Customer Service at the phone number printed on your identification (ID) card to use any of these rights. They can give you the address to send the request. They can also give you any forms we have that may help you with this process.

### **How we protect information**

We are dedicated to protecting your PHI. We set up a number of policies and practices to help make sure your PHI is kept secure.

We keep your oral, written, and electronic PHI safe using physical, electronic, and procedural means. These safeguards follow federal and state laws. Some of the ways we keep your PHI safe include offices that are kept secure, computers that need passwords, and locked storage areas and filing cabinets. We require our employees to protect PHI through written policies and procedures. The policies limit access to PHI to only those employees who need the data to do their job. Employees are also required to wear ID badges to help keep people who do not belong, out of areas where sensitive data is kept. Also, where required by law, our affiliates and non-affiliates must protect the privacy of data we share in the normal course of business. They are not allowed to give PHI to others without your written OK, except as allowed by law.

### **Potential Impact of Other Applicable Laws**

HIPAA (the federal privacy law) generally does not preempt, or override other laws that give people greater privacy protections. As a result, if any state or federal privacy law requires us to provide you with more privacy protections, then we must also follow that law in addition to HIPAA.

### **Complaints**

If you think we have not protected your privacy, you can file a complaint with us. You may also file a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. We will not take action against you for filing a complaint.

### **Contact Information**

Please call Customer Service at the phone number printed on your ID card. They can help you apply your rights, file a complaint, or talk with you about privacy issues.

### **Copies and Changes**

You have the right to get a new copy of this notice at any time. Even if you have agreed to get this notice by electronic means, you still have the right to a paper copy. We reserve the right to change this notice. A revised notice will apply to PHI we already have about you as well as any PHI we may get in the future. We are required by law to follow the privacy notice that is in effect at this time. We may tell you about any changes to our notice in a number of ways. We may tell you about the changes in a member newsletter or post them on our website. We may also mail you a letter that tells you about any changes.

## **State Notice of Privacy Practices**

As we told you in our HIPAA notice, we must follow state laws that are more strict than the federal HIPAA privacy law. This notice explains your rights and our legal duties under state law.

### **Your Personal Information**

We may collect, use and share your nonpublic personal information (PI) as described in this notice. PI identifies a person and is often gathered in an insurance matter. PI could also be used to make judgments about your health, finances, character, habits, hobbies, reputation, career, and credit.

We may collect PI about you from other persons or entities such as doctors, hospitals, or other carriers.

We may share PI with persons or entities outside of our company without your OK in some cases.

If we take part in an activity that would require us to give you a chance to opt-out, we will contact you. We will tell you how you can let us know that you do not want us to use or share your PI for a given activity.

You have the right to access and correct your PI.

We take reasonable safety measures to protect the PI we have about you.

A more detailed state notice is available upon request. Please call the phone number printed on your ID card.

*Si necesita ayuda en español para entender este documento, puede solicitarla sin costo adicional, llamando al número de servicio al cliente que aparece al dorso de su tarjeta de identificación o en el folleto de inscripción.*

*This notice is provided by the following companies: Anthem Blue Cross and Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health Insurance Company.*

## **Your Health Insurance Choices Are Different. You May Qualify for Free or Low-Cost Health Insurance.**

**You have different health insurance choices that may save you money.**

### **Important Information If You Are Eligible For Medicare**

If you are eligible for the Medicare Program you should examine your options carefully, as delaying Medicare enrollment may result in substantial financial implications. You can obtain enrollment advice or enroll in Medicare in the following ways: You can call 800-633-4227 or go online at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov).

**You cannot be denied health insurance because you have health problems or a pre-existing condition. There are new options for low cost or free health insurance for you or your dependents.**

### **Covered California**

You can buy health insurance through Covered California. The State of California set up Covered California to help people and families, like you, find affordable health insurance. You can use Covered California if you do not have insurance through your employer, or Medicare. You can also apply for Medi-Cal through Covered California.

You must apply during an open or special enrollment period, except a Medi-Cal application can be made at any time. Open enrollment begins November 1, 2023 and ends January 31, 2024. If you have a life change such as marriage, divorce, a new child or loss of a job, you can apply at the time the life change occurs (“special enrollment period”).

Through Covered California, you may also get help paying for your health insurance:

- Receive tax credits: You can use your tax credit to help pay your monthly premium.
- Reduce your out of pocket costs: Out-of-pocket costs are how much you pay for things like going to the doctor or hospital or getting prescription drugs.

To qualify for help paying for insurance, you must:

- Meet certain household income limits; and
- Be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national or be lawfully present in the U.S.

In addition, other rules and requirements apply.

**You can also buy coverage directly from health insurers, health plans or insurance agents during Open Enrollment and Special Enrollment periods, but the financial help is available only if you select a Covered California product.**

### **Medi-Cal Is Changing Too**

Free or low-cost health insurance is available through Medi-Cal. Medi-Cal is California's health care program for people with low incomes.

Your eligibility is based on your income. It is not based on how much money you have saved or if you own your own home. You do not have to be on public assistance to qualify for Medi-Cal. You can apply for Medi-Cal anytime.

To qualify for Medi-Cal if you are over 65, disabled or a refugee, other rules and requirements apply. You may also qualify for health insurance with Medi-Cal even if you are not a U.S. citizen or national.

### **For More Information**

To learn more about Covered California or Medi-Cal, visit [www.CoveredCA.com](http://www.CoveredCA.com) or call 1-800-300-1506. When you apply for coverage through Covered California, you will find out if you are eligible for Medi-Cal. You can also get more information or apply for Medi-Cal by calling 1-800-430-4263, visiting [www.benefitscal.org](http://www.benefitscal.org) or [www.beneficioscal.org](http://www.beneficioscal.org) (Spanish) online, or visiting your county human services office in person.



## **Important Notice from the California Association of REALTORS® Group Medical Plan About Your Prescription Drug Coverage and Medicare**

**Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it. This notice has information about your current prescription drug coverage with the California Association of REALTORS® (C.A.R.) and about your options under Medicare's prescription drug coverage. This information can help you decide whether or not you want to join a Medicare drug plan. If you are considering joining, you should compare your current coverage, including which drugs are covered at what cost, with the coverage and costs of the plans offering Medicare prescription drug coverage in your area. Information about where you can get help to make decisions about your prescription drug coverage is at the end of this notice.**

**There are two important things you need to know about your current coverage and Medicare's prescription drug coverage:**

- 1. Medicare prescription drug coverage became available in 2006 to everyone with Medicare. You can get this coverage if you join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan or join a Medicare Advantage Plan (like an HMO or PPO) that offers prescription drug coverage. All Medicare drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans may also offer more coverage for a higher monthly premium.**
  
- 2. Anthem Blue Cross of California has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by the C.A.R. for plans listed below is, on average for all plan participants, expected to payout as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage pays and is therefore considered Creditable Coverage. Because your existing coverage is Creditable Coverage, you can keep this coverage and not pay a higher premium (a penalty) if you later decide to join a Medicare drug plan.**
  - Anthem Platinum PPO 15/40/10%**
  - Anthem Platinum PPO 15/250/10%**
  - Anthem Gold PPO 25/30%**
  - Anthem Gold PPO 30/500/20%**
  - Anthem Gold PPO 30/750/20%**
  - Anthem Gold PPO 35/1000/20%**
  - Anthem Silver PPO 45/1750/40%**
  - Anthem Silver PPO 55/1950/35%**

- Anthem Silver PPO 50/2200/40%
- Anthem Silver PPO 55/2500/45%
- Anthem Silver PPO 2100/30% w/HSA PrevRx - Single\*\*
- Anthem Silver PPO 2100/30% w/HSA PrevRx - Family\*\*
- Anthem Silver PPO 2600/35% w/HSA Prev Rx - Single\*\*
- Anthem Silver PPO 2600/35% w/HSA PrevRx - Family\*\*
- Anthem Bronze PPO 60/6850/40%
- Anthem Bronze PPO 4600/50%
- Anthem Bronze PPO 6000/45% w/HSA PrevRx
- Anthem Bronze PPO 6700/0% w/HSA PrevRx
- Anthem Bronze PPO 75/7300/40%
- Anthem Gold HMO 30
- Anthem Gold HMO 35
- Anthem Silver HMO 55
- Anthem Silver HMO 60/2500/45%

## When Can You Join A Medicare Drug Plan?

You can join a Medicare drug plan when you first become eligible for Medicare and each year from October 15<sup>th</sup> to December 7<sup>th</sup>.

However, if you lose your current creditable prescription drug coverage, through no fault of your own, you will also be eligible for a two (2) month Special Enrollment Period (SEP) to join a Medicare drug plan.

## What Happens To Your Current Coverage If You Decide to Join A Medicare Drug Plan?

If you decide to join a Medicare drug plan, your current C.A.R. coverage may be affected. You may continue coverage under the C.A.R. Anthem Blue Cross plan and delay enrollment in Part D. If you elect Part D coverage your Anthem plan will not coordinate with Part D coverage

If you do decide to join a Medicare drug plan and drop your current C.A.R. Anthem Blue Cross plan, be aware that you and your dependents **may** be able to get this coverage back if you disenroll from Medicare and you remain eligible for the C.A.R. Group Health Plans.



## **When Will You Pay A Higher Premium (Penalty) To Join A Medicare Drug Plan?**

You should also know that if you drop or lose your current coverage with C.A.R. and don't join a Medicare drug plan within 63 continuous days after your current coverage ends, you may pay a higher premium (a penalty) to join a Medicare drug plan later.

If you go 63 continuous days or longer without creditable prescription drug coverage, your monthly premium may go up by at least 1% of the Medicare base beneficiary premium per month for every month that you did not have that coverage. For example, if you go nineteen months without creditable coverage, your premium may consistently be at least 19% higher than the Medicare base beneficiary premium. You may have to pay this higher premium (a penalty) as long as you have Medicare prescription drug coverage. In addition, you may have to wait until the following October to join.

## **For More Information About This Notice Or Your Current Prescription Drug Coverage...**

Contact the person listed below for further information RealCare Insurance Marketing, Inc. at (800) 939-8088, Option 2. **NOTE:** You'll get this notice each year. You will also get it before the next period you can join a Medicare drug plan, and if this coverage through C.A.R. changes. You also may request a copy of this notice at any time.

## **For More Information About Your Options Under Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage...**

More detailed information about Medicare plans that offer prescription drug coverage is in the "Medicare & You" handbook. You'll get a copy of the handbook in the mail every year from Medicare. You may also be contacted directly by Medicare drug plans.

For more information about Medicare prescription drug coverage:

- Visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)
- Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (see the inside back cover of your copy of the "Medicare & You" handbook for their telephone number) for personalized help
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

If you have limited income and resources, extra help paying for Medicare prescription drug coverage is available. For information about this extra help, visit Social Security on the web at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov), or call them at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

**Remember: Keep this Creditable Coverage notice. If you decide to join one of the Medicare drug plans, you may be required to provide a copy of this notice when you join to show whether or not you have maintained creditable coverage and, therefore, whether or not you are required to pay a higher premium (a penalty).**

Date: January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023  
Name of Entity/Sender: RealCare Insurance Marketing, Inc.  
Contact Person/Office: C.A.R. Group Health Plan Administrator  
Address: 430 West Napa Street, Suite F, Sonoma, CA 95476  
Phone: (800) 939-8088, Option 2



## **Important Notice From California Association of REALTORS® (C.A.R. ) About Your Prescription Drug Coverage and Medicare**

Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it. This notice has information about your current prescription drug coverage with the California Association of REALTORS® (C.A.R.) and about your options under Medicare's prescription drug coverage. This information can help you decide whether or not you want to join a Medicare drug plan. Information about where you can get help to make decisions about your prescription drug coverage is at the end of this notice.

There are three important things you need to know about your current coverage and Medicare's prescription drug coverage:

- 1. Medicare prescription drug coverage became available in 2006 to everyone with Medicare. You can get this coverage if you join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan or join a Medicare Advantage Plan (like an HMO or PPO) that offers prescription drug coverage. All Medicare drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans may also offer more coverage for a higher monthly premium.**
- 2. Anthem Blue Cross of California has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by the C.A.R. listed below is, on average for all plan participants, NOT expected to pay out as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage pays. Therefore, your coverage is considered Non-Creditable Coverage. This is important because, most likely, you will get more help with your drug costs if you join a Medicare drug plan, than if you only have prescription drug coverage from C.A.R. This also is important because it may mean that you may pay a higher premium (a penalty) if you do not join a Medicare drug plan when you first become eligible. The following plans are considered NOT Creditable:**
  - Anthem Bronze PPO 40/6200/40%**
  - Anthem Bronze PPO 70/6600/35%**
- 3. You can keep your current coverage from C.A.R. However, because your coverage is non-creditable, you have decisions to make about Medicare prescription drug coverage that may affect how much you pay for that coverage, depending on if and when you join a drug plan. When you make your decision, you should compare your current coverage, including what drugs are covered, with the coverage and cost of the plans offering Medicare prescription drug coverage in your area. Read this notice carefully - it explains your options.**

## **When Can You Join A Medicare Drug Plan?**

You can join a Medicare drug plan when you first become eligible for Medicare and each year from October 15<sup>TH</sup> to December 7<sup>th</sup>.

However, if you decide to drop your current coverage with C.A.R., since it is employer/union sponsored group coverage, you will be eligible for a two (2) month Special Enrollment Period (SEP) to join a Medicare drug plan; however you also may pay a higher premium (a penalty) because you did not have creditable coverage under C.A.R.

If you lose creditable prescription drug coverage under the C.A.R. plan, you are also eligible for a two (2) month Special Enrollment Period (SEP) to join a Medicare drug plan.

## **When Will You Pay A Higher Premium (Penalty) To Join A Medicare Drug Plan?**

Since the coverage under these C.A.R. plans is not creditable, depending on how long you go without creditable prescription drug coverage you may pay a penalty to join a Medicare drug plan. Starting with the end of the last month that you were first eligible to join a Medicare drug plan but didn't join, if you go 63 continuous days or longer without prescription drug coverage that's creditable, your monthly premium may go up by at least 1% of the Medicare base beneficiary premium per month for every month that you did not have that coverage. For example, if you go nineteen months without creditable coverage, your premium may consistently be at least 19% higher than the Medicare base beneficiary premium. You may have to pay this higher premium (penalty) as long as you have Medicare prescription drug coverage. In addition, you may have to wait until the following October to join.

## **What Happens To Your Current Coverage If You Decide to Join A Medicare Drug Plan?**

If you decide to join a Medicare drug plan, your current C.A.R. Anthem Blue Cross coverage may be affected. You may continue coverage under the C.A.R. Anthem and delay enrollment in a Medicare Drug plan however your monthly premium may go up by at least 1% of the Medicare base beneficiary premium per month for every month that you are eligible for but did not have Medicare drug coverage.

Your Anthem Blue Cross plan will not coordinate with Medicare Part D coverage.

If you do decide to join a Medicare drug plan and drop your current C.A.R. coverage, be aware that you and your dependents may or may not be able to get this coverage back, depending on whether you can disenroll from Medicare and whether you remain eligible under C.A.R.

## For More Information About This Notice Or Your Current Prescription Drug Coverage...

Contact the person listed below for further information RealCare Insurance Marketing, Inc. at (800) 939-8088, Option 2. **NOTE:** You'll get this notice each year. You will also get it before the next period you can join a Medicare drug plan, and if this coverage through C.A.R. changes. You also may request a copy of this notice at any time.

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Date:	January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023
Name of Entity/Sender:	RealCare Insurance Marketing, Inc.
Contact Person/Office:	C.A.R. Group Health Plan Administrator
Address:	430 West Napa Street, Suite F, Sonoma, CA 95476
Phone:	(800) 939-8088, Option 2