



# THE KEY TO A GOOD LIFE IS A GREAT PLAN HealthTALK

 **UnitedHealthcare®**  
Community Plan

## Disability Benefits 101

Check out this website that gives you tools and information on employment, health coverage and benefits. Visit [az.db101.org](http://az.db101.org).



## By the numbers

### Could you have diabetes?

Diabetes is getting more and more common. If this trend continues, 1 in 3 adults will have diabetes by 2050. Consider these facts from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

- 1.7 million people find out they have diabetes each year.
- Nearly one in 10 Americans now has diabetes. That's more than 29 million people.
- More than 8 million people with diabetes don't know they have it.
- More than 1 in 3 adults — or 86 million people — have prediabetes.



**We can help.** Our disease management program helps people with diabetes.

Call your case manager to learn more.





# The winter blues

## Self-care for seasonal affective disorder

Seasonal affective disorder (SAD) is a form of depression. People with SAD have symptoms of depression mostly during winter. These include sadness as well as irritability, oversleeping and weight gain. If you think you have SAD, try these self-care tips:

- **Use a light box.** Light boxes mimic the sun. Ask your provider if this might be right for you.
- **Exercise.** Physical activity has been known to improve mood and relieve stress. Yoga, meditation and massage therapy may also be helpful.
- **Spend time outdoors.** Outdoor light can help you feel better, even on cloudy days. Take a walk outside. When indoors, sit close to windows when you can.
- **Brighten your environment.** Trim trees and shrubs that may be blocking the sun from your windows. Paint your walls a bright color.
- **Take vitamins.** SAD has been linked to vitamin D deficiency. Talk to your doctor about vitamin D or other supplements.



**Are you SAD?** If your symptoms don't improve, talk to your provider. You may benefit from therapy or antidepressants. For information on using your behavioral health care benefits, call **1-800-293-3740 (TTY 711)**, toll-free.

## Know your drug benefits

Do you know where you can get more information about your prescription drug benefits? Visit our website to learn about:

- 1. What drugs are on our formulary.** This is a list of covered drugs. You are encouraged to use generic drugs when possible.
- 2. How to get your prescriptions filled.** There are thousands of network pharmacies nationwide. You can find one near you that accepts your plan. You may also be able to get certain drugs by mail.
- 3. Rules that may apply.** Some drugs may only be covered in certain cases. For example, you might need to try a different drug first. (This is called step therapy.) Or you might need approval from UnitedHealthcare to use a drug. (This is called prior authorization.) There may also be limits to the amount you can get of certain drugs.



**Look it up.** Find information on your drug benefits at **UHCCCommunityPlan.com**. Or, call Member Services toll-free at **1-800-293-3740 (TTY 711)**.

## Your privacy

We take your privacy seriously. We are very careful with your family's protected health information (PHI). We also guard your financial information (FI). We use PHI and FI to run our business. It helps us provide products, services and information to you.

We protect oral, written and electronic PHI and FI throughout our business. We have rules that tell us how we can keep PHI and FI safe. We don't want PHI or FI to get lost or destroyed. We want to make sure no one misuses it. We check to make sure we use PHI and FI carefully.

We have policies that explain:

- how we may use PHI and FI
- what rights you have to your family's PHI and FI
- when we may share PHI and FI with others



**It's no secret.** You may read our privacy policy in your Member Handbook. It's online at **UHCCCommunityPlan.com**. You may also call Member Services toll-free at **1-800-293-3740 (TTY 711)** to ask us to mail you a copy. If we make changes to the policy, we will mail you a notice.



## Ask Dr. Health E. Hound

**Q: Why does my baby need so many shots?**

**A:** By the time your baby is 2 years old, he or she will get more than 20 vaccinations. These vaccines protect against 14 different diseases. This does seem like a lot of shots. However, every shot is important.

Some of the diseases we vaccinate for are rare in the United States, thanks to vaccines. However, they are still around in other parts of the world. If we did not vaccinate, they could come back here. Other diseases are still common here. Babies and young children can get very sick from these serious illnesses.

Vaccines are safe. They have been proven to work well. Complications are rare. Studies show they do not cause autism or other conditions.

Your baby will get all the vaccines he or she needs at regular check-ups. Keep a record of what shots your child gets and when. Share it with any new providers you see.



**Get it all.** Learn more about vaccines and other children's health topics at **KidsHealth.org**.

## Is it a stroke?

Strokes happen when a blood vessel in the brain bursts or is blocked. Depending upon which brain areas are affected and how long it was before treatment began, stroke survivors may suffer mild to severe disabilities.

### Symptoms

Knowing the symptoms of stroke can help you get medical help fast. Symptoms include sudden:

- numbness or weakness of face, arm or leg
- confusion, trouble speaking or understanding
- vision changes in one or both eyes
- trouble walking or staying balanced
- severe headache
- drowsiness
- nausea or vomiting

### Signs

There are three simple tasks that can help you determine if someone is having these symptoms. If someone is having a stroke, they may not be able to:

- smile
- raise both arms
- coherently speak a simple sentence



**Act fast.** Call **911** at the first sign of a possible stroke. Quick treatment is essential.



# Take charge

Preparing for your provider's visit can help you get the most out of it. So can making sure your provider knows about all the care you have. Here's how you can take charge of your health care:

- 1. Think about what you want to get out of the visit before you go.** Try to focus on the top three things that you need help with.
- 2. Tell your provider about any drugs or vitamins you take on a regular basis.** Bring a written list. Or bring the medicine itself with you.
- 3. Tell your provider about other providers you may be seeing.** Include behavioral health providers. Mention any medications or treatments they have prescribed for you.
- 4. If you are seeing a specialist, ask him or her for a report of the findings.** Get a copy of any test results. Give this information to your regular doctor the next time you go.
- 5. Write down your symptoms.** Tell your doctor how you feel. Mention any new symptoms and when they started.
- 6. Bring someone for support.** He or she can help you remember and write down information.



**Check out checkups.** Checkups aren't just for kids. See your doctor once a year for a well visit. You will get any tests or shots you need. Need to find a new provider? Visit **UHCCommunityPlan.com**.



# Get it right

## Where to go for the right care, at the right time

### Your first option: Your PCP

For most illnesses and injuries, your primary care physician's (PCP's) office should be the first place you call when you need care. You might get an appointment for later that day. You may be given advice for self-care. Your doctor could call in a prescription to your pharmacy. You can even call at night or on weekends.

**Examples:** Throat, ear, respiratory or eye infections. Colds and flu. Skin problems. Mild asthma symptoms. Stomach viruses.

### Your next option: Urgent care

If you cannot get in to see your doctor, you could go to an urgent care center. Urgent care centers take walk-in patients. They treat many kinds of illnesses and injuries. They can perform some kinds of diagnostic tests. Many urgent care centers are open at night and on weekends.

**Examples:** Same as PCP, plus sprains or minor broken bones. Cuts requiring stitches. Moderate asthma or diabetes symptoms needing quick treatment.

### For true emergencies: Call 911 or go to a hospital emergency room

Emergency rooms are for major medical emergencies only. Go there only when you think your illness or injury could result in death or disability if not treated right away.

**Examples:** Signs of stroke or heart attack. Uncontrolled bleeding. Serious pregnancy complications. Major asthma or diabetes symptoms.



**Hello, nurse!** UnitedHealthcare has a 24/7 NurseLine. You can talk to a nurse, day or night. The nurse can help you decide the best place to get care. Call NurseLine 24/7 at **1-877-440-0255 (TTY 1-800-855-2880)**.