The Key to a Good Life is a Great Plan

Health TALK

Just joining us?

3 tips for new members

Make the most of your benefits. Follow these tips to get off to a great start.

1. CARRY YOUR MEMBER ID CARD WITH YOU AT ALL TIMES. Show your ID card every time you go to a doctor, clinic or pharmacy. If you did not get your card yet, let us know.

2. VISIT YOUR PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER (PCP). Call your PCP’s office and ask to have a checkup within the next 30 days. The name and phone number are on your ID card.

3. COMPLETE A HEALTH ASSESSMENT. It takes less than 15 minutes and helps us support you with the services you need. We will call you to ask questions about your health, or you can call us when it’s a good time for you.

We’re here to help. Call Member Services at 1-800-493-4647 (TTY 711). Or visit our website at UHCCommunityPlan.com.
**A better pill**

If your child has attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), his or her provider may suggest medication. There are several kinds of medicines that treat ADHD. It may take a while to find the best medicine for your child.

Your child may need to change medicines or dosages a few times. Some medicines may not help your child. Others may cause side effects. A dose may be too low or too high. That's why it's important for children on ADHD medicine to see their doctors often.

*Does your child take ADHD medicine?* Be sure to keep regular appointments with his or her provider. Behavioral therapy and counseling can also help.

**A family affair**

The whole family can prevent pertussis.

Cases of pertussis are on the rise. Pertussis is also called whooping cough. It causes a severe cough that lasts for weeks. It is spread very easily.

There is a vaccine for pertussis. Multiple doses are needed. The vaccine for young children is called DTaP. The vaccine for preteens and adults is called Tdap. Both kinds of shots protect against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis.

Babies who are too young to be vaccinated are at high risk for getting pertussis. They can get very sick. Half of infants who get pertussis need to stay in the hospital.

Your family can help avoid pertussis in your home and in your community.

- **INFANTS** need DTaP shots at 2, 4 and 6 months of age.
- **TODDLERS** need a DTaP shot between 15 and 18 months of age.
- **CHILDREN** need a DTaP shot before they start kindergarten.
- **PRETEENS** need a Tdap shot between 11 and 12 years of age.
- **ADULTS** need Tdap shots every 10 years. Pregnant women and people of any age who will be around a new baby need to make sure they are vaccinated. If you don't know when you got your last shot, it's safe to get another one.
Not me
Two new programs to fight diabetes

At least 24 million American adults have diabetes. Another 79 million are at risk of developing it. Many people don’t know they’re at risk. Some people with diabetes don’t even know they have it. By 2020, 52 percent of the adult population will either have diabetes or be on the path to getting it.

Diabetes is a national problem. It calls for personal solutions. The Diabetes Prevention and Control Alliance (DPCA) offers proven programs and resources, including NOT ME. NOT ME can help you avoid diabetes or better control the disease if you have it. Two new NOT ME programs are:

THE DIABETES PREVENTION PROGRAM is a 16-session small-group lifestyle coaching program. It is for people who don’t have diabetes but are at risk of progressing to it — people diagnosed as prediabetic. This program teaches participants how healthier eating and a moderate increase in activity can prevent or delay the onset of Type 2 diabetes by nearly 60 percent.

THE DIABETES CONTROL PROGRAM connects people currently diagnosed with diabetes to community pharmacists. They help make it easier and more affordable to follow treatment plans. These pharmacists are specially trained. They provide one-on-one care in private rooms instead of behind the counter. All appointments are pre-scheduled, and are covered by your health plan.

Reduce your risk. Learn more about these programs at NotMe.com or call 1-888-688-4019. You can also take a 30-second quiz to find out if you are at risk of diabetes at NotMe.com.

Get smart
Have you read your Member Handbook? It is a great source of information. It tells you how to use your plan. It explains:

- the benefits and services you have.
- the benefits and services you don’t have (exclusions).
- how to find out about participating providers.
- how your prescription drug benefits work.
- what to do if you need care when you are out of town.
- when and how you can get care from an out-of-network provider.
- where, when and how to get primary, after-hours, behavioral health, specialty, hospital and emergency care.
- what copayments or charges you may be responsible for.
- your member rights and responsibilities.
- our privacy policy.
- if, when and how you may need to submit a claim.
- how to voice a complaint or appeal a coverage decision.
- how your plan decides what new technologies are covered.
- how to request an interpreter or get other help with language or translation.

By the book. You can read the Member Handbook online at UHCCommunityPlan.com. Or call Member Services at 1-800-493-4647 (TTY 711) to have a copy of the handbook mailed to you.
UnitedHealthcare and Sesame Workshop, the nonprofit organization behind Sesame Street, have teamed up to create Lead Away! This initiative gives families information on lead testing and how to prevent lead poisoning.

Learning about lead can help your whole family stay healthy. Lead might not be something you can easily see, but everyone in your family can work together to keep the lead away.

Lead is a kind of metal that can be found in some common items. If lead gets into the body, it can make people sick, especially young children whose bodies are growing. When lead gets into the body, it is called lead poisoning. Knowing where lead can be found is the first step in keeping it away. Lead might be found in:

- dust
- soil
- peeling paint
- old pipes
- old ceramic or pewter cookware
- some toy jewelry and amulets
- some imported cosmetics, toys, and crayons

A blood test can help you find out if your child has any lead in his or her body. It’s important to know so you can make sure your child gets help if he or she needs it. Check with your doctor about the best time to test your child. Usually, children are tested before ages 1 and 2.

Learn about lead! Visit sesamestreet.org/lead for more information. Download a Lead Away! wallet card plus a special activity for kids!