

September 24, 2018

Dear Medical Plan Participant and Family:

Its Medicare Open Enrollment time and we are required by law to send you information each year regarding Medicare Part D. This information must be directed to all employees, spouses and dependents enrolled in our Group Medical Plan who are Medicare eligible. Because we have no way to determine if you, your spouse or dependents are Medicare eligible, we must distribute this notice to all of our medical plan participants.

If you are not Medicare eligible, the attached Notice does not apply to you.

If you are Medicare eligible, the key points you should be aware of are as follows:

- Our current Group Medical Plan has benefits which are equivalent or better than Medicare Part D.
- Our current Group Medical Plan provides medical care coverage including prescription drug benefits.

For additional information about your options under Medicare Part D, you may visit Medicare's website at www.medicare.gov or call Medicare at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).

Regards,

Lori Jacobsen Bookkeeper

Important Notice from ARCHway, Inc. 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 ARCHway, Inc. 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. ARCHway, Inc. has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by Fallon Insurance is, on average for all plan participants, expected to pay out 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.

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 15th to December 7th.

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 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 coverage will be affected. Your current plan provides coverage for covered drugs and supplies that are listed on the Plan formulary, prescribed by a network physician for use out of the hospital and purchased from a network retail pharmacy or network mail service pharmacy. Prescription services are subject to copayments in accordance with your plan summary.

If you do decide to join a Medicare Part D drug plan and drop your current coverage, be aware that you and your dependents will not be able to get this coverage back until Open Enrollment.

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 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...

Please contact the person listed below for further information or call Kathleen Ficarra our Baystate Benefit Services Representative at 800-601-3570 ext 204. **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 ARCHway, Inc. 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 <u>www.medicare.gov</u>
- 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, 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).

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