

Important Notice from National Jewish Health About Your Prescription Drug Coverage and Medicare

Medicare Part D Notice of Creditable Coverage

Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it. This notice has information about your current prescription drug coverage with National Jewish Health 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. National Jewish Health has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by the Medical Plan through Cigna 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 through December 7th.

However, if you lose (or are losing) 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 National Jewish Health coverage will not be affected.

Your National Jewish Health coverage pays for other medical expenses in addition to prescription drugs. This coverage provides benefits before Medicare coverage does (i.e., the plan pays primary). You and your covered family members who join a Medicare prescription drug plan will be eligible to continue receiving prescription drug coverage and these other medical benefits. Medicare prescription drug coverage will be secondary for you or the covered family members who join a Medicare prescription drug plan.

If you do decide to join a Medicare drug plan and voluntarily drop your current medical and prescription drug coverage from the plan, be aware that you and your dependents may not be able to get this coverage back until the next annual enrollment or you experience a qualifying life event.

NOTE: THIS APPLIES TO ACTIVE PLANS; OTHER PLANS MAY VARY.

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 National Jewish Health 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 19 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. 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 National Jewish Health 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.
- Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program for personalized help. See the inside back cover of your copy of the "Medicare & You" handbook for their telephone number.
- 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.ssa.gov, or
- Call **1-800-772-1213**. TTY users should call **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: 1/1/2026

Name of Entity/Sender: National Jewish Health

Contact: Employee Benefits

Address: 1400 Jackson St,
Denver, CO 80206

Phone Number: **1-303-398-1740**

Your ERISA Rights

As a participant in the National Jewish Health benefit plans, you are entitled to certain rights and protections under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as amended. ERISA provides that all plan participants shall be entitled to receive information about their plan and benefits, continue group health plan coverage, and enforce their rights. ERISA also requires that plan fiduciaries act in a prudent manner.

Receive Information About Your Plan and Benefits

You are entitled to:

- Examine, without charge, at the plan administrator's office, all plan documents—including pertinent insurance contracts, trust agreements, and a copy of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) filed by the plan with the U.S. Department of Labor and available at the Public Disclosure Room of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.
- Obtain, upon written request to the plan's administrator, copies of documents governing the operation of the plan, including insurance contracts and copies of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series), and updated Summary Plan Description. The administrator may make a reasonable charge for the copies.
- Receive a summary report of the plan's annual financial report. The plan administrator is required by law to furnish each participant with a copy of this Summary Annual Report.