

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 coinsurances applicable to other medical and surgical benefits provided under this plan.

If you would like more information on WHCRA benefits, call your Plan Administrator:

Garry McLean
Human Resource Director
80 West Flaming Gorge Way, Suite 17
Green River, WY 82935
(307) 872-3913
gmclean@sweet.wy.us

HIPAA INITIAL NOTICE OF

PRE-EXISTING CONDITION EXCLUSION

Pre-Existing Condition Exclusion

This plan imposes a pre-existing condition exclusion. This means that if you have a medical condition before coming to our plan, you might have to wait a certain period of time before the plan will provide coverage for that condition. This exclusion applies only to conditions for which medical advice, diagnosis, care, or treatment was recommended or received within a six-month period. Generally, this six-month period ends the day before your coverage becomes effective. However, if you were in a waiting period for coverage, the six-month period ends on the day before the waiting period begins. The pre-existing condition exclusion does not apply to pregnancy nor to a child who is enrolled in the plan within 30 days after birth, adoption, or placement for adoption.

Length of Pre-Existing Condition Exclusion

This exclusion may last up to 12 months (18 months if you are a late enrollee) from your first day of coverage, or, if you were in a waiting period, from the first day of your waiting period.

Reduction of Pre-Existing Condition Exclusion

You can reduce the length of this exclusion period by the number of days of your prior “creditable coverage.” Most prior health coverage is creditable coverage and can be used to reduce the pre-existing condition exclusion if you have not experienced a break in coverage of at least 63 days. To reduce the 12- month (or 18 month) exclusion period by your creditable coverage, you should give us a copy of any certificates of creditable coverage you have. If you do not have a certificate, but you do have prior health coverage, we will help you obtain one from your prior health plan or issuer. There are also other ways that you can show you have creditable coverage. Please contact us if you need help demonstrating creditable coverage.

For More Information or Assistance

All questions about the pre-existing condition exclusion and creditable coverage should be directed to:

Name	Garry McLean
Address	80 West Flaming Gorge Way, Suite 17
City, State	Green River, WY
Telephone	(307) 872-3913

HIPAA SPECIAL ENROLLMENT NOTICE

This notice is being provided to insure that you understand your right to apply for group health insurance coverage. You should read this notice even if you plan to waive coverage at this time.

Loss of Other Coverage

If you are declining coverage 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 toward 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).

Example: You waived coverage because you were covered under a plan offered by your spouse's employer. Your spouse terminates his employment. If you notify your employer within 30 days of the date coverage ends, you and your eligible dependents may apply for coverage under our health plan.

Marriage, Birth, or Adoption

If you have a new dependent as a result of a 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, or placement for adoption.

Example: When you were hired by us, you were single and chose not to elect health insurance benefits. One year later, you marry. You and your eligible dependents are entitled to enroll in this group health plan. However, you must apply within 30 days from the date of your marriage.

Medicaid and CHIP Coverage

You and/or your dependents who become eligible to participate in a Medicaid or CHIP premium assistance program may enroll in our health plan if application is made within sixty (60) days of eligibility for the premium assistance. If you enroll within sixty (60) days, the effective date of coverage is the first day of eligibility for the subsidy.

If you and/or your dependents lose coverage under a Medicaid or CHIP plan due to a loss of eligibility, you may enroll in our health plan if application is made within sixty (60) days of the loss of coverage. If you enroll within sixty (60) days, the effective date of coverage is the first day after your Medicaid or CHIP coverage ended.

For More Information or Assistance

To request special enrollment or obtain more information, please contact:

Name	Garry McLean
Address	80 West Flaming Gorge Way, Suite 17
City, State	Green River, WY
Telephone	(307) 872-3913

Note: If you and your eligible dependents enroll during a **special enrollment period**, as described above, you are not considered a late enrollee. Therefore, your group health plan may not require you to serve a pre-existing condition waiting period of more than 12 months. Any preexisting condition waiting period will be reduced by time served in a qualified plan.

HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practices

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.

If you have any questions about this notice, please contact.

Name	Garry McLean
Address	80 West Flaming Gorge Way, Suite 17
City, State	Green River, WY
Telephone	(307) 872-3913

Who Will Follow This Notice

This notice describes the medical information practices of Sweetwater County group health plan (the "Plan") and that of any third party that assists in the administration of Plan claims.

Our Pledge Regarding Medical Information

We understand that medical information about you and your health is personal. We are committed to protecting medical information about you. We create a record of the health care claims reimbursed under the Plan for Plan administration purposes. This notice applies to all of the medical records we maintain. Your personal doctor or health care provider may have different policies or notices regarding the doctor's use and disclosure of your medical information created in the doctor's office or clinic.

This notice will tell you about the ways in which we may use and disclose medical information about you. It also describes our obligations and your rights regarding the use and disclosure of medical information. We are required by law to:

- make sure that medical information that identifies you is kept private;
- give you this notice of our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to medical information about you; and
- follow the terms of the notice that is currently in effect.

How We May Use and Disclose Medical Information About You

The following categories describe different ways that we use and disclose medical information. Not every use or disclosure in a category will be listed.

For Treatment. We may use or disclose medical information about you to facilitate medical treatment or services by providers. We may disclose medical information about you to providers, including doctors, nurses, technicians, medical students, or other hospital personnel who are involved in taking care of you. For example, we might disclose information about your prior prescriptions to a pharmacist to determine if a pending prescription is contraindicative with prior prescriptions.

For Payment. We may use and disclose medical information about you to determine eligibility for Plan benefits, to facilitate payment for the treatment and services you receive from health care providers, to determine benefit responsibility under the Plan, or to coordinate Plan coverage. For

example, we may tell your health care provider about your medical history to determine whether a particular treatment is experimental, investigational, or medically necessary or to determine whether the Plan will cover the treatment. We may also share medical information with a utilization review or pre certification service provider. Likewise, we may share medical information with another entity to assist with the adjudication or subrogation of health claims or to another health plan to coordinate benefit payments.

For Health Care Operations. We may use and disclose medical information about you for other Plan operations. These uses and disclosures are necessary to run the Plan. For example, we may use medical information in connection with: conducting quality assessment and improvement activities; underwriting, premium rating, and other activities relating to Plan coverage; submitting claims for stop-loss coverage; conducting or arranging for medical review, legal services, audit services, and fraud and abuse detection programs; business planning and development such as cost management; and business management and general Plan administrative activities.

As Required By Law. We will disclose medical information about you when required to do so by law. For example, we may disclose medical information when required by a court order in a litigation proceeding such as a malpractice action.

To Avert a Serious Threat to Health or Safety. We may use and disclose medical information about you when necessary to prevent a serious threat to your health and safety or the health and safety of the public or another person. Any disclosure, however, would only be to someone able to help prevent the threat. For example, we may disclose medical information about you in a proceeding regarding the licensure of a physician.

Other Situations Where We May Use and Disclose Medical Information About You

Disclosure to Health Plan Sponsor. Information may be disclosed to another health plan maintained by Sweetwater County for purposes of facilitating claims payments under that plan. In addition, medical information may be disclosed to Sweetwater County personnel solely for purposes of administering benefits under the Plan.

Organ and Tissue Donation. If you are an organ donor, we may release medical information to organizations that handle organ procurement or organ, eye or tissue transplantation or to an organ donation bank, as necessary to facilitate organ or tissue donation and transplantation.

Military and Veterans. If you are a member of the armed forces, we may release medical information about you as required by military command authorities. We may also release medical information about foreign military personnel to the appropriate foreign military authority.

Workers' Compensation. We may release medical information about you for workers' compensation or similar programs. These programs provide benefits for work-related injuries or illness.

Public Health Risks. We may disclose medical information about you for public health activities. These activities generally include the following:

- to prevent or control disease, injury or disability;

- to report births and deaths;
- to report child abuse or neglect;
- to report reactions to medications or problems with products;
- to notify people of recalls of products they may be using;
- to notify a person who may have been exposed to a disease or may be at risk for contracting or spreading a disease or condition;
- to notify the appropriate government authority if we believe a patient has been the victim of abuse, neglect or domestic violence. We will only make this disclosure if you agree or when required or authorized by law.

Health Oversight Activities. We may disclose medical information to a health oversight agency for activities authorized by law. These oversight activities include, for example, audits, investigations, inspections, and licensure. These activities are necessary for the government to monitor the health care system, government programs, and compliance with civil rights laws.

Lawsuits and Disputes. If you are involved in a lawsuit or a dispute, we may disclose medical information about you in response to a court or administrative order. We may also disclose medical information about you in response to a subpoena, discovery request, or other lawful process by someone else involved in the dispute, but only if efforts have been made to tell you about the request or to obtain an order protecting the information requested.

Law Enforcement. We may release medical information if asked to do so by a law enforcement official:

- in response to a court order, subpoena, warrant, summons or similar process;
- to identify or locate a suspect, fugitive, material witness, or missing person;
- about the victim of a crime if, under certain limited circumstances, we are unable to obtain the person's agreement;
- about a death we believe may be the result of criminal conduct; about criminal conduct at the hospital; and in emergency circumstances to report a crime; the location of the crime or victims; or the identity, description or location of the person who committed the crime.

Coroners, Medical Examiners and Funeral Directors. We may release medical information to a coroner or medical examiner. This may be necessary, for example, to identify a deceased person or determine the cause of death. We may also release medical information about patients of the hospital to funeral directors as necessary to carry out their duties.

National Security and Intelligence Activities. We may release medical information about you to authorized federal officials for intelligence, counterintelligence, and other national security activities authorized by law.

Inmates. If you are an inmate of a correctional institution or under the custody of a law enforcement official, we may release medical information about you to the correctional institution or law enforcement official. This release would be necessary (1) for the institution to provide you with health care; (2) to protect your health and safety or the health and safety of others; or (3) for the safety and security of the correctional institution.

Your Rights Regarding Medical Information About You

You have the following rights regarding medical information we maintain about you:

Right to Inspect and Copy. You have the right to inspect and copy medical information that may be used to make decisions about your Plan benefits. You must submit your request in writing to:

Name	Garry McLean
Address	80 West Flaming Gorge Way, Suite 17
City, State	Green River, WY
Telephone	(307) 872-3913

If you request a copy of the information, we may charge a fee for the costs of copying, mailing or other supplies associated with your request. We may deny your request to inspect and copy in certain very limited circumstances. If you are denied access to medical information, you may request that the denial be reviewed.

Right to Amend. If you feel that medical information we have about you is incorrect or incomplete, you may ask us to amend the information. You have the right to request an amendment for as long as the information is kept by or for the Plan.

Your request must be made in writing and submitted to:

Name	Garry McLean
Address	80 West Flaming Gorge Way, Suite 17
City, State	Green River, WY
Telephone	(307) 872-3913

You must provide a reason that supports your request.

We may deny your request for an amendment if it is not in writing or does not include a reason to support the request. In addition, we may deny your request if you ask us to amend information that:

- is not part of the medical information kept by or for the Plan;
- was not created by us, unless the person or entity that created the information is no longer available to make the amendment;
- is not part of the information which you would be permitted to inspect and copy; or
- is accurate and complete.

Right to an Accounting of Disclosures. You have the right to request an "accounting of disclosures" where such disclosure was made for any purpose other than treatment, payment, or health care operations.

To request this list or accounting of disclosures, you must submit your request in writing to:

Name Garry McLean
Address 80 West Flaming Gorge Way, Suite 17
City, State Green River, WY
Telephone (307) 872-3913

Your request must state a time period which may not be longer than six years and may not include dates before April 14, 2005. Your request should indicate in what form you want the list (for example, paper or electronic). The first list you request within a 12 month period will be free. For additional lists, we may charge you for the costs of providing the list. We will notify you of the cost involved and you may choose to withdraw or modify your request at that time before any costs are incurred.

Right to Request Restrictions. You have the right to request a restriction or limitation on the medical information we use or disclose about you for treatment, payment or health care operations. You also have the right to request a restriction on the medical information we disclose about you to someone who is involved in your care or the payment for your care. For example, you could ask that we not use or disclose information about a surgery you had. We are not required to agree to your request.

To request restrictions, you must make your request in writing to:

Name Garry McLean
Address 80 West Flaming Gorge Way, Suite 17
City, State Green River, WY
Telephone (307) 872-3913

In your request, you must tell us (1) what information you want to limit; (2) whether you want to limit our use, disclosure or both; and (3) to whom you want the limits to apply (e.g., disclosures to your spouse).

Right to Request Confidential Communications. You have the right to request that we communicate with you about medical matters in a certain way or at a certain location. For example, you can ask that we only contact you at work or by mail.

To request Confidential communications, you must make your request in writing to:

Name Garry McLean
Address 80 West Flaming Gorge Way, Suite 17
City, State Green River, WY
Telephone (307) 872-3913

We will not ask you the reason for your request. We will accommodate all reasonable requests. Your request must specify how or where you wish to be contacted.

Right to a Paper Copy of This Notice. You have the right to a paper copy of this notice. You may ask us to give you a copy of this notice at any time. Even if you have agreed to receive this notice electronically, you are still entitled to a paper copy of this notice.

To obtain a paper copy of this notice, please contact:

Name	Garry McLean
Address	80 West Flaming Gorge Way, Suite 17
City, State	Green River, WY
Telephone	(307) 872-3913

Notification of Security Breach

If there is a breach of your unsecured protected health information, we will notify you as soon as reasonably possible—and in no event later than 60 days after we discover the breach. For a breach to occur, an unauthorized acquisition, access, use, or disclosure of unsecured protected health information has occurred which compromises the security or privacy of such information. The information's security or privacy is compromised if its disclosure brings a significant risk of financial, reputational, or other harm to the affected individual.

Changes to This Notice

We reserve the right to change this notice. We reserve the right to make the revised or changed notice effective for medical information we already have about you as well as any information we receive in the future. We will post a copy of the current notice on the Plan website. The notice will contain on the first page, in the top right-hand corner, the effective date.

Complaints

If you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you may file a complaint with the hospital or with the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. To file a complaint with the Plan, contact:

Name	Garry McLean
Address	80 West Flaming Gorge Way, Suite 17
City, State	Green River, WY
Telephone	(307) 872-3913

All complaints must be submitted in writing. You will not be penalized for filing a complaint.

Other Uses of Medical Information

Other uses and disclosures of medical information not covered by this notice or the laws that apply to us will be made only with your written permission. If you provide us permission to use or disclose medical information about you, you may revoke that permission, in writing, at any time. If you revoke your permission, we will no longer use or disclose medical information about you for the reasons covered by your written authorization. You understand that we are unable to take back any disclosures we have already made with your permission, and that we are required to retain our records of the care that we provided to you.

Premium Assistance Under Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

If you or your children are eligible for Medicaid or CHIP and you are eligible for health coverage from your employer, your State may have a premium assistance program that can help pay for coverage. These States use funds from their Medicaid or CHIP programs to help people who are eligible for these programs, but also have access to health insurance through their employer. If you or your children are not eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, you will not be eligible for these premium assistance programs.

If you or your dependents are already enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP and you live in a State listed below, you can contact your State Medicaid or CHIP office to find out if premium assistance is available.

If you or your dependents are NOT currently enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP, and you think you or any of your dependents might be eligible for either of these programs, you can contact your State Medicaid or CHIP office or dial **1-877-KIDS NOW** or **www.insurekidsnow.gov** to find out how to apply. If you qualify, you can ask the State if it has a program that might help you pay the premiums for an employer-sponsored plan.

Once it is determined that you or your dependents are eligible for premium assistance under Medicaid or CHIP, as well as eligible under your employer plan, your employer must permit you to enroll in your employer plan if you are not already enrolled. This is called a “special enrollment” opportunity, and **you must request coverage within 60 days of being determined eligible for premium assistance**. If you have questions about enrolling in your employer plan, you can contact the Department of Labor electronically at www.askebsa.dol.gov or by calling toll-free 1-866-444-EBSA (3272).

If you live in one of the following States, you may be eligible for assistance paying your employer health plan premiums. The following list of States is current as of July 31, 2012. You should contact your State for further information on eligibility –

ALABAMA – Medicaid	COLORADO – Medicaid
Website: http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov Phone: 1-855-692-5447	Medicaid Website: http://www.colorado.gov/ Medicaid Phone (In state): 1-800-866-3513 Medicaid Phone (Out of state): 1-800-221-3943
ALASKA – Medicaid	
Website: http://health.hss.state.ak.us/dpa/programs/medicaid/ Phone (Outside of Anchorage): 1-888-318-8890 Phone (Anchorage): 907-269-6529	

ARIZONA – CHIP	FLORIDA – Medicaid
<p>Website: http://www.azahcccs.gov/applicants</p> <p>Phone (Outside of Maricopa County): 1-877-764-5437</p> <p>Phone (Maricopa County): 602-417-5437</p>	<p>Website: https://www.flmedicaidtplrecovery.com/</p> <p>Phone: 1-877-357-3268</p>
	GEORGIA – Medicaid
IDAHO – Medicaid and CHIP	MONTANA – Medicaid
<p>Medicaid Website: www.accesstohealthinsurance.idaho.gov</p> <p>Medicaid Phone: 1-800-926-2588</p> <p>CHIP Website: www.medicaid.idaho.gov</p> <p>CHIP Phone: 1-800-926-2588</p>	<p>Website: http://medicaidprovider.hhs.mt.gov/clientpages/clientindex.shtml</p> <p>Phone: 1-800-694-3084</p>
INDIANA – Medicaid	NEBRASKA – Medicaid
<p>Website: http://www.in.gov/fssa</p> <p>Phone: 1-800-889-9949</p>	<p>Website: www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov</p> <p>Phone: 1-800-383-4278</p>
IOWA – Medicaid	NEVADA – Medicaid
<p>Website: www.dhs.state.ia.us/hipp/</p> <p>Phone: 1-888-346-9562</p>	<p>Medicaid Website: http://dwss.nv.gov/</p> <p>Medicaid Phone: 1-800-992-0900</p>
KANSAS – Medicaid	
<p>Website: http://www.kdheks.gov/hcf/</p> <p>Phone: 1-800-792-4884</p>	NEW HAMPSHIRE – Medicaid
KENTUCKY – Medicaid	<p>Website: http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/oii/documents/hippap.p.pdf</p> <p>Phone: 603-271-5218</p>
<p>Website: http://chfs.ky.gov/dms/default.htm</p> <p>Phone: 1-800-635-2570</p>	

LOUISIANA – Medicaid	NEW JERSEY – Medicaid and CHIP
<p>Website: http://www.lahipp.dhh.louisiana.gov</p> <p>Phone: 1-888-695-2447</p>	<p>Medicaid Website: http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/</p>
MAINE – Medicaid	Medicaid Phone: 1-800-356-1561
<p>Website: http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/public-assistance/index.html</p> <p>Phone: 1-800-977-6740 TTY 1-800-977-6741</p>	<p>CHIP Website: http://www.njfamilycare.org/index.html</p> <p>CHIP Phone: 1-800-701-0710</p>
MASSACHUSETTS – Medicaid and CHIP	NEW YORK – Medicaid
<p>Website: http://www.mass.gov/MassHealth</p> <p>Phone: 1-800-462-1120</p>	<p>Website: http://www.nyhealth.gov/health_care/medicaid/</p> <p>Phone: 1-800-541-2831</p>
MINNESOTA – Medicaid	NORTH CAROLINA – Medicaid
<p>Website: http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/</p> <p>Click on Health Care, then Medical Assistance</p> <p>Phone: 1-800-657-3629</p>	<p>Website: http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dma</p> <p>Phone: 919-855-4100</p>
MISSOURI – Medicaid	NORTH DAKOTA – Medicaid
<p>Website: http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm</p> <p>Phone: 573-751-2005</p>	<p>Website: http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/</p> <p>Phone: 1-800-755-2604</p>

OKLAHOMA – Medicaid and CHIP	UTAH – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: http://www.insureoklahoma.org Phone: 1-888-365-3742	Website: http://health.utah.gov/upp Phone: 1-866-435-7414
OREGON – Medicaid and CHIP	VERMONT– Medicaid
Website: http://www.oregonhealthykids.gov http://www.hijossaludablesoregon.gov Phone: 1-877-314-5678	Website: http://www.greenmountaincare.org/ Phone: 1-800-250-8427
PENNSYLVANIA – Medicaid	VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/hipp Phone: 1-800-692-7462	Medicaid Website: http://www.dmas.virginia.gov/rcp-HIPP.htm Medicaid Phone: 1-800-432-5924 CHIP Website: http://www.famis.org/ CHIP Phone: 1-866-873-2647
RHODE ISLAND – Medicaid	WASHINGTON – Medicaid
Website: www.ohhs.ri.gov Phone: 401-462-5300	Website: http://hrsa.dshs.wa.gov/premiumpymt/Apply.shtml Phone: 1-800-562-3022 ext. 15473
SOUTH CAROLINA – Medicaid	WEST VIRGINIA – Medicaid
Website: http://www.scdhhs.gov Phone: 1-888-549-0820	Website: www.dhhr.wv.gov/bms/ Phone: 1-877-598-5820, HMS Third Party Liability
SOUTH DAKOTA - Medicaid	WISCONSIN – Medicaid
Website: http://dss.sd.gov Phone: 1-888-828-0059	Website: http://www.badgercareplus.org/pubs/p-10095.htm

	Phone: 1-800-362-3002
TEXAS – Medicaid	WYOMING – Medicaid
Website: https://www.gethipptexas.com/ Phone: 1-800-440-0493	Website: http://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/equalitycare Phone: 307-777-7531

To see if any more States have added a premium assistance program since July 31, 2012, or for more information on special enrollment rights, you can contact either:

U.S. Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security Administration
www.dol.gov/ebsa
1-866-444-EBSA (3272)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
www.cms.hhs.gov
1-877-267-2323, Ext. 61565

OMB Control Number 1210-0137 (expires 09/30/2013)

CREDITABLE COVERAGE DISCLOSURE NOTICE

Important Notice from Sweetwater County 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 BCBS of Wyoming 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. BCBS of Wyoming has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by Sweetwater County 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 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 BCBS of Wyoming coverage will not be affected. See pages 7- 9 of the CMS Disclosure of Creditable Coverage To Medicare Part D Eligible Individuals Guidance (available at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/CreditableCoverage/>), which outlines the prescription drug plan provisions/options that Medicare eligible individuals may have available to them when they become eligible for Medicare Part D.

If you do decide to join a Medicare drug plan and drop your current BCBS of Wyoming coverage, be aware that you and your dependents will not be able to get this coverage back.

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 BCBS of Wyoming 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. **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 Sweetwater County 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 (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).

Date:	10/15/2012
Name of Entity/Sender:	Sweetwater County
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