



## Announcing a New Pharmacy Vendor: OptumRx

Utica University has joined the Preferred University Rx Purchasing Coalition (PURPC), a partnership of 40+ similar colleges and universities across the Northeast and Mid-West. By joining the Coalition, we will receive better service at a lower cost. PURPC utilizes OptumRx to administer the program, and OptumRx will be Utica University's prescription vendor for all health plan participants beginning January 1, 2022.

### What Does This Mean for Me?

Over the next few months, you will receive more information about the transition. *Please carefully review any letters you receive from OptumRx and contact the Office of Human Resources if you have any questions.*

- **Separate Pharmacy ID Card**
  - You will receive your new ID cards and welcome materials in late December from OptumRx. Participants should present their new pharmacy ID card each time they fill a prescription after January 1, 2022, either at their pharmacy or through the mail-order program.
  
- **New Mail Order Pharmacy**
  - If you currently participate in mail order, prescriptions with available refills will be transferred to OptumRx Home Delivery in January. In December and January, current participants will receive a welcome kit and phone call from OptumRx home deliver to help set up your account and billing preferences. **If you have eligible refills remaining with your current prescriptions, you are encouraged to fill them before the change on January 1, 2022.**
  
  - If you are new to home delivery, please request a prescription from your doctor to be submitted electronically to OptumRx home delivery. Prescriptions can be automatically refilled every 90 days, and OptumRx will work with your physician to auto-renew your prescriptions.
  
- **Formulary Changes**
  - Every year, and with any vendor change, changes are made to the prescription formulary, which determines the member's copay or cost-share and therapy protocols (i.e., prior authorization or step-therapy for specific medications).
  
  - Please review the "Transitioning to OptumRx" booklet for detailed information. The OptumRx formulary is available on the HR Benefits [website https://www.utica.edu/directory/human-resources/employee-benefits](https://www.utica.edu/directory/human-resources/employee-benefits) and paper copies are available by request. An electronic version of the formulary is also available at [www.optumrx.com/oe\\_premium/landing](http://www.optumrx.com/oe_premium/landing).

### How Does This Impact My Current Prescription Benefits?

The pharmacy benefit levels for all plans will remain the same. However, you may notice some small administrative changes like the list of medications requiring preauthorization. The Office of Human Resources is working to ensure those changes are limited and members know ahead of time if they will be impacted.

- **Please Note the Excluded Medications List Contained in the Formulary**
  - If you are currently prescribed one of the "Excluded Medications," you should work with your physician to transition to a covered alternative therapy, if possible. After January 1, 2022, you will pay the full price of any Excluded Medications unless your doctor demonstrates the necessity of the medication with OptumRx.

- To search for a medication's coverage, visit [www.optumrx.com/oe\\_premium/landing](http://www.optumrx.com/oe_premium/landing) click "Prescription drug list", select a plan "Premium". You can search by Drug Name by entering the name of the medication, or search by Therapeutic Class. Once the medication is located, a details page will show dosages available, the drug's tier, and any restrictions in place such as prior authorization or step therapy.
- **Free Diabetic Testing Meter**
  - If you or a family member on the plan has diabetes, you can order a free Contour meter by calling Ascensia Diabetes Care Service Center at 1-800-401-8440 and use ID code CTR-OPX.
- **Preventative Drug List Added to SimplyBlue High Deductible Plan**
  - Certain preventative medications bypass the member's deductible and are charged just a copay. We are pleased to announce that the preventative drug list coverage will be included in both the SimplyBlue plan and the Healthy Blue high deductible health plan in 2022.

We are working closely with Excellus BCBS and OptumRx to ensure each participant has a smooth and easy transition while continuing to access the medications you need. As always, if you have any questions please contact the Office of Human Resources at (315) 792-3276. Additionally, beginning January 1, 2022, participants may contact may contact OptumRx's dedicated customer service line for Utica University employees at 1-855-265-0191, visit OptumRx's website at [www.optumrx.com](http://www.optumrx.com) to create an online account and download the mobile app by searching OptumRx in the app store.