



Regence/Asuris MultiCare contract negotiations

The leaders of MultiCare have notified Regence BlueShield and Asuris Northwest Health (Regence/Asuris) of their intent to leave their network on March 1, 2024. You are getting this email so you are aware of this contract negotiation and so you can assist your employees should they have questions about their health care options.

Unsustainable increases

MultiCare is asking for significant double-digit price increases. The Trust works hard to make sure that our members have high-quality, affordable health care, and we support Regence/Asuris in their contract negotiations.

The Trust's 2024 premiums are based on what we expect care to cost in 2024, and we have accounted for reasonable increases to pay our claims. The increases being requested by MultiCare are not reasonable or sustainable.

Contract termination effective March 1

If Regence/Asuris does not reach an agreement with MultiCare by March 1, most care will be covered out-of-network, and the patient will be responsible for a higher share out-of-pocket.

MultiCare facilities affected by this negotiation:

- MultiCare Allenmore Hospital
- MultiCare Tacoma General Hospital
- MultiCare Good Samaritan Hospital
- MultiCare Deaconess Hospital
- MultiCare Valley Hospital
- MultiCare Covington Medical Center
- MultiCare Auburn Medical Center
- Mary Bridge Children's Hospital
- MultiCare Medical Associates primary care and specialty clinics
- MultiCare Rockwood Clinic primary care and specialty clinics
- MultiCare Indigo Urgent Care

MultiCare facilities NOT affected by this negotiation:

- MultiCare Capital Center in Olympia
- MultiCare Yakima Memorial Hospital

If MultiCare leaves the Regence/Asuris network on March 1:

- Members may receive care from MultiCare at the in-network rate through February 29.
- Care received after February 29 will be paid at the out-of-network rate.
- Members who are seeing a provider for certain conditions may have the right to continue in-network treatment for a limited time. These include serious or complex conditions (including certain chronic conditions), those undergoing a course of institutional or inpatient care, those receiving pregnancy care, individuals scheduled for nonelective surgery, or those who are terminally ill. Members are instructed to contact Regence/Asuris to explore options.

Emergency care

Members should always seek care for a medical emergency at the closest hospital emergency room. Emergency services will be reimbursed at in-network rates and members cannot be balance billed.

Other in-network provider options

The Regence/Asuris network includes many other high-quality providers, including Providence and Franciscan Health providers and facilities. All in-network providers can be found by signing in at regence.com or asuris.com and selecting "Find a Doctor".

Communications to your employee's homes

Regence/Asuris is sending this [letter](#) to the homes of all members who have accessed care at a MultiCare facility over the last year.

Regence is continuing negotiations and is hopeful that an agreement with MultiCare will be reached before March 1. The Trust will keep members updated on the status of these negotiations.

Additional questions

Contact your Trust staff at 1-800-562-8981 or at benefitinfo@awcnet.org.

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