

Unitynews

A NEWSLETTER FOR UNITY MEMBERS

ISSUE 1/2007

A new way to
manage your weight
and create a healthy
lifestyle you can
live with!

see page 4

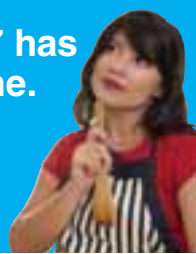


Want to quit smoking?
Unity can help!

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Mark your calendar
for February 10!
Heart Fair 2007 has
fun for everyone.

page 3



New online A to Z
Health Topics – info to
help you make important
health decisions.

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How high is your Eye-Q?
Take our quiz and
find out!

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Unity Customer Service

840 Carolina Street
Sauk City, WI 53583

1-800-362-3310

Please have your member ID card available when you call.

Customer Service Hours

7 a.m.–5 p.m.
Monday–Friday

Email:

Customer Service via our web site –
unityhealth.com

UnityNews is a quarterly publication used to inform Unity members about policy and benefit news and to provide members with information on current health matters.

Articles in this newsletter are edited and reviewed by experienced health professionals. They are not intended to replace professional medical advice, and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of Unity. Judgements regarding individual health problems should be discussed with your Unity physician.

MEDICAL MANAGEMENT

Utilization Management

The philosophy of managed care is to provide information and preventive services to help you be as healthy as you can be while managing the cost of care. Healthy members are less likely to need expensive medical care. As part of the managed care process, Unity works with its participating physicians and other health care practitioners to ensure care recommended for you includes the most appropriate and effective treatment available. This process is called care management or utilization management and is conducted by nurses with support of physicians. Unity continually evaluates the effectiveness of these programs.

One of Unity's roles as a managed care organization is to provide you with educational materials to help make the best use of your health benefits including available preventive care services. These services include immunizations, screenings such as mammograms and pap smears, and fitness and wellness programs. As a member, you are responsible for reading the materials, becoming familiar with your plan benefits, and following the health measures that apply to you and your family.

Your primary care physician (PCP) also plays an important role in your health. Your PCP is responsible for providing primary care services and for coordinating your health care. At times when you need care from a specialty practitioner, your PCP will refer you to a Unity participating practitioner. Working through your PCP for referrals (when needed) ensures your medical claims are processed according to your benefits.

One of the most important components of utilization management involves Unity working with its medical management, behavioral health groups, pharmacy services and your PCP. This group effort ensures you receive the most effective treatment available.

- The UW Medical Foundation (UWMF) provides medical management services for all members.
- Behavioral Health Consultation System (BHCS) provides behavioral health management services for all members. They also provide alcohol and other drug abuse (AODA) services to members with a PCP outside Dane County.

- Gateway Recovery provides AODA management services to members with a PCP in Dane County.
- Unity provides medical management services for chiropractic care and pharmacy management for pharmacy services.

Medical management and the behavioral health groups are available during normal business hours to receive and return calls regarding utilization management issues. After normal business hours, calls are answered by an answering machine or service and are returned the next business day. Staff members identify themselves by name, title and organization when they receive or return calls relating to utilization management issues. A toll-free number is also available to accept and address utilization management concerns. The numbers to call are:

- UWMF..... 608-821-4200 (Local)
1-888-829-5687 (Toll-Free)
- BHCS..... 608-282-8270 (Local)
1-800-683-2300 (Toll-Free)
- Gateway Recovery.... 608-278-8200 (Local)
1-800-785-1780 (Toll-Free)
- Unity..... 608-643-2491 (Local)
1-800-362-3308 (Toll-Free)
- Unity's Pharmacy..... 1-888-450-4884 (Toll-Free)
Program

Unity works with participating physicians and utilization management staff to ensure decisions regarding treatment are based only on appropriateness of care and service. Unity does not offer practitioners incentives for denial of services. Unity does not offer financial incentives for utilization management decision makers to encourage decisions that result in underutilization of services.

It is important to know which group works with your PCP on medical management issues as referral processes may be different with each group policy. If you have any questions about referrals, please contact Unity Customer Service at 1-800-362-3310.

HEALTH MANAGEMENT

Unity's Depression Health Management Program

Unity has developed a Depression Health Management Program. The program helps members with depression by:

- Educating them about depression.
- Teaching them how to manage their depression. This includes taking medications regularly and following other recommendations from their health care practitioner.
- Stressing the importance of regular medical and behavioral health care.

For more information about Unity's Depression Health Management Program, including how to enroll, please call 1-888-829-5687 and ask for Health Services, email behavioralhealth@unityhealth.com or visit Unity's web site at unityhealth.com and click on "Fitness & Wellness." If you have questions about behavioral health benefits or services, please call Unity Customer Service at 1-800-362-3310.



Visit unityhealth.com for more info

Cruise to Better Heart Health with UW Health Heart & Vascular Care February 10

UW Health Heart & Vascular Care will get you cruisin' to better heart health at Heart Fair 2007 on Saturday, February 10. Join us from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the Monona



Terrace for fun and interactive exhibits, demonstrations, free health screenings and presentations. Learn nutrition and exercise basics, meet the experts, get to know your personal risk for heart disease and understand the latest technology and treatment options.

Your heart-healthy passport includes:

- **Good Eats Gallery:** healthy cooking demonstrations, samples and recipe contest judging
- **Heart Beat Kids Cove:** see real hearts, watch UW athletes' hearts in action, make a heart-healthy snack (free jump ropes for the first 250 kids)
- **Technology Terrace:** learn about the latest treatment options and technology for treating heart and vascular disease
- **Health Screenings Suite:** stroke screening, blood pressure, HDL cholesterol
- **Special Presentations:** The Nutrition Magician, Childhood Overweight Issues and Fitness Strategies, My Pyramid for Kids

- CPR Training for the Community Person
- **Sports Med Health Club:** health enhancement through functional movement training with Sports Medicine exercise physiologists
- **Plus...** trivia contests, scavenger hunt & prizes

This event is free, and there's something for everyone—from kids to seniors. For more information, check out uwhealth.org.

Heart Smart Recipe Contest

Attention passengers: now beginning on the Lido Deck, the Heart Smart Recipe Contest!

UW Health is summoning cooks to submit their best Heart Smart recipes. As part of UW Health's *Cruisin' For Heart Health: Health Fair 2007*, the Heart Smart Recipe Contest seeks cooks of all ages and abilities to submit dishes in one of four categories: main dishes, soups/salads/vegetables, desserts, or kids' recipes.

The winners will be selected live by a panel of local celebrities at the UW Health Heart Fair at the Monona Terrace on February 10. There will be four winning recipes, and the cooks will be awarded prizes up to \$100!

The contest deadline is Monday, January 29, 2007. Recipes will be judged for heart healthy characteristics, taste and appearance, and creativity. Multiple entries will be accepted.

For more information go to uwhealth.org or call 608-265-1676.

PHARMACY

You Can Quit Smoking and Unity Can Help

Smoking is the single most preventable cause of death and disease in our nation according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). It causes many diseases, including cancer, lung disease, heart disease, and stroke, and worsens your overall health. Quitting smoking has many benefits, including lowering your risk for diseases and death caused by smoking, and greatly improving your health.

Over 40 million adults in the United States are current smokers and over 70% of them have tried to quit smoking in the past. If you have tried to quit smoking, you know how hard it can be. Nicotine is a very addictive drug. People usually make several attempts before they successfully quit smoking. Each time you try to quit, you learn what practices work best for you and what situations create the most obstacles. Smoking cessation counseling, combined with medication, can greatly increase your chance of success.

Unity offers coverage of several prescription products that can help in your efforts to quit smoking, including nicotine replacement therapies, as well as other oral medications that do not contain nicotine. The treatment options for smoking cessation expanded this year with the introduction of Chantix™.



Chantix™ works in a different way than any of the existing therapies and has shown to be significantly more successful in helping smokers quit than the existing medications used for smoking cessation. If you have the Unity Prescription Drug Benefit, you may qualify for coverage of prescription smoking cessation products. The following is a list of prescription smoking cessation medications covered under the Unity Prescription Drug Benefit.

Members covered under the State of Wisconsin health insurance program should contact Navitus Health Solutions at navitus.com to learn more about your prescription drug benefits.

FORMULARY STATUS/COPAYMENT	PRODUCT*
Formulary/ 1st tier	Sustained Release Bupropion
Formulary / 1st tier (does not include non-prescription patches)	Nicotine transdermal patch, prescription only (generic)
Formulary / 2nd tier	Varenicline (Chantix™)
Non-formulary / 3rd tier	Nicotine nasal spray (Nicotrol® NS)
Non-formulary / 3rd tier	Nicotine inhalation system (Nicotrol® Inhaler)

*All products are limited to a six month course of treatment in a 12 month period except for bupropion.

Unity's Member Rights and Responsibilities Statement

Unity's Member Rights and Responsibilities Statement shows our commitment to a mutually respectful relationship with our members and practitioners. This policy assures members that we respect their rights, and communicates our expectations of the members' responsibilities, as follows:

Member Rights:

To choose: Members have the right to choose a personal physician from Unity's network of Primary Care Physicians (PCPs).

To obtain information: Members have the right to receive information about their rights and responsibilities as a member of Unity. Members have the right to make recommendations regarding Unity's Member Rights and Responsibilities Statement. Members have the right to obtain information about Unity and information relating to covered and excluded health plan benefits. Members also have the right to obtain information on available primary and specialty care practitioners and providers. Members have the right to receive preventive care information and information about their illnesses and treatment options. Members have the right to obtain information about how to file a complaint, appeal, or grievance.

To have privacy and confidentiality: Members have the right to privacy and confidentiality in communications and records about their care.

To participate in their care: Members have the right to be active in decisions about their treatments. Members have the right to have a candid discussion of appropriate or medically necessary treatment options for their conditions, regardless of cost or benefit coverage. Members have the right to obtain information about the risks and benefits of treatment. Members also have the right to refuse care.

To present a complaint, appeal, or grievance: Members have the right to voice concerns and to receive a prompt and fair review of their concerns.

To be treated with respect and dignity: Members have the right to be treated with respect and dignity regardless of their race, age, gender, sexual orientation, or creed.

Member Responsibilities:

To choose a personal physician: Members have a responsibility to choose a personal physician from among Unity's network of PCPs and to establish a relationship with that physician.

To know their benefits and requirements:

Members have a responsibility to understand their health plan benefits and limitations and to follow required procedures. Members also have a responsibility to know how to use Unity's provider network and to ask questions about things they do not understand.

To provide accurate information: Members have a responsibility to provide accurate and complete information about their health history, their eligibility, and their enrollment. Members have a responsibility to show their ID card each time they receive services and to pay any out-of-pocket expenses they incur.

To participate in their care: Members have a responsibility to participate in their care by asking questions about their health. Members also have a responsibility to follow the recommended and agreed upon treatment plan for their illness, and to make healthy lifestyle choices to maintain their health or manage their illness.

To keep their appointments: Members have a responsibility to keep their appointments or to give early notice if they must cancel.

To show consideration and respect: Members have a responsibility to show consideration and respect to health plan staff and health care providers.

Harbor Weight Loss Institute— A New Approach

**You're Invited to
Harbor Weight Loss Institute
For An Open House
Exclusively for Unity Members**

2711 Allen Boulevard, Middleton, WI

Thursday,
January 25
5 p.m. to 7 p.m.



Tuesday,
January 30
5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

With the start of a new year, do you find yourself thinking about losing weight? Have you tried several weight loss programs before only to find yourself back to square one? Unity and Harbor Weight Loss Institute have partnered to offer a weight management program to help you create a healthy lifestyle you can live with. As part of this partnership, Unity members receive a 15% discount from Harbor Weight Loss Institute when they enroll in the program and a \$400 reimbursement from Unity upon completion. That's a total savings of 25%!

Harbor Weight Loss Institute offers a unique, multi-faceted approach to weight loss. This weight management program runs for six months and provides lifestyle counseling, a registered dietitian, and personal training all through a team approach. In addition, the program includes a support group that meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday evening of each month. You will develop close relationships with your lifestyle coach, your dietitian and your personal trainer as you all work together on your healthy lifestyle plan.

to Weight Management



Your lifestyle coach will help you assess your current lifestyle, learn stress reduction techniques in place of using food and make weekly action plans to assist in behavioral changes. The nutritionist will help you develop a healthy, well-balanced nutrition program that works for you and discuss dining out and snacking. Your personal trainer will work one-on-one with you to explain and explore the proper exercise techniques for successful weight loss as well as provide you with motivation and encouragement.

“Harbor Weight Loss Institute is an exceptional, well-rounded approach to weight loss, says Aimee Passini, Harbor Weight Loss Institute graduate. It’s what I needed to change my lifestyle.”

Receive a 15% discount from Harbor Weight Loss Institute and a \$400 reimbursement from Unity. That’s a total savings of 25%!

Come see for yourself at the upcoming open houses exclusively for Unity members on Thursday, January 25, and Tuesday, January 30, from 5-7 p.m. at Harbor Weight Loss Institute, 2711 Allen Boulevard in Middleton. Take a tour and learn more about what this program can offer you.

For more information about Harbor Weight Loss Institute, please call 608-821-6505.

A SUCCESS STORY

Dana Daul struggled with her weight for over 20 years. She tried exercising but always had trouble staying motivated. She was bored doing the same things over and over again. And, like most overweight individuals, she found herself eating even when she wasn’t hungry.

For Dana, Harbor Weight Loss Institute came at the perfect time. She was ready to lose the weight and change her lifestyle for good.

The best thing about the program for Dana was the team approach. Everyone worked well together and never contradicted each other. As she worked closely with each of her coaches, she learned the key elements needed to help her be successful.

So far Dana has lost 45 pounds. Only 20 pounds until she reaches her goal.



Diabetes Eye-Q

Do you know that diabetic eye disease is a leading cause of blindness? If you have diabetes, do you know how to reduce your risk of visual loss? To determine how high your Eye-Q is, answer the following questions about diabetic eye disease.

True or False

1. People with diabetes are more likely than people without diabetes to develop certain eye diseases.

True. Diabetic eye disease includes cataracts, glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy—a leading cause of blindness in adults. The longer someone has diabetes, the more likely he or she will develop diabetic eye disease.

2. Diabetic eye disease usually has early warning signs.

False. Often there are no symptoms in the early stages of the disease. Vision may not change until the disease becomes severe.

3. People with diabetes should have a yearly dilated eye exam.

True. Everyone with diabetes should get a dilated eye exam at least once a year. An eye examination through dilated pupils is the best way to detect diabetic eye disease. Eye drops are used to enlarge the pupils. This allows the eye care professional to see more of the inside of the eye to check for signs of the disease.

4. Diabetic retinopathy is caused by changes in blood vessels in the eye.

True. In some people, blood vessels in the retina may swell and leak fluid. In other people, abnormal new vessels grow on the surface of the retina.

5. People with diabetes are at low risk for developing glaucoma.

False. Glaucoma is almost twice as likely to occur in people with diabetes than in those without the disease.

6. Laser surgery can be used to halt the progression of diabetic retinopathy.

True. In laser surgery, an intense beam of light is used to shrink the abnormal blood vessels or seal leaking blood vessels. Laser surgery has been proven to reduce the five year risk of vision loss from advanced diabetic retinopathy by more than 90 percent.

7. Cataracts are common among people with diabetes.

True. People with diabetes are twice as likely to develop cataracts and to develop them at an earlier age than those without diabetes.

8. People who have good control of their diabetes are not at high risk for diabetic eye disease.

False. Even with good control of blood glucose, there is still a risk of developing diabetic eye disease. However, studies show that careful management of blood sugar levels slows the onset and progression of diabetic retinopathy.

9. The risk of blindness from diabetic eye disease can be reduced.

True. With early detection and timely treatment, the risk of blindness from diabetic eye disease can be reduced.

If you or a family member have questions about Unity's Diabetes Health Management Program, do not want to be involved in the program, or have been receiving program materials and you do not have a diagnosis of diabetes, please call 1-888-829-5687 and ask for Health Services or email diabetes@unityhealth.com.

Adapted from material developed by the National Eye Institute, National Institutes of Health, and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.



How to Get the Most Out of Your Asthma Care

Taking an active role in your asthma care and working with your health care practitioner are great ways to get the most out of your health care visits. Here are some strategies to use and questions to ask at your next asthma visit.

- **Become an expert with your own personal asthma medications**
 - Learn what each medicine does and how it will help you
 - Know the correct dose and when to take it
 - Understand what side effects are normal and what to do if you have uncommon symptoms
 - Ask how long you will need to take the medication
 - Ask if you will need to get refills
- Learn if there are any special instructions while taking other medications (such as not drinking alcohol or taking other medications)
- **Work with your health care practitioner to:**
 - Set goals for your asthma treatment
 - Develop a written action plan
 - Identify triggers that make your asthma worse
 - Discuss the importance of measuring your peak flow regularly
 - Review the right technique for using an inhaler
- **Stay current with your asthma check-ups**
 - Make an appointment to see your asthma care practitioner at least every six months even if your asthma is under good control
- **Follow up with your asthma care practitioner as soon as possible if you have an asthma flare up and need to be seen in an Urgent Care Center, the Emergency Room, or are hospitalized.**

If you or your child have asthma and would like more information about Unity's Asthma Health Management Program, please visit Unity's web site at unityhealth.com and click on "Fitness & Wellness." If you have been receiving program information and do not have a diagnosis of asthma or no longer want to be involved in the program, please email asthma@unityhealth.com or call 1-888-829-5687 and ask for Health Services.

Education content adapted from the Joint Commission International Center for Patient Safety, www.jcpatientsafety.org and the UW Health Asthma Clinical Practice Guidelines.

Unity's Specialty Injectable Pharmacy Program

Specialty injectable medications are a group of self-administered injectable medications used chronically for various conditions. These products often have special storage, handling and administration requirements, require patient adherence with the prescribed regimen, sometimes require laboratory monitoring, and generally cost more than \$1,000 per month of therapy. These medications also require prior authorization from Unity for coverage. In order to better manage utilization of specialty injectables, Unity has implemented the Specialty Injectable Pharmacy Program.

Through this program, Unity members can receive coverage for their specialty injectable medications only through select pharmacies. Unity is partnering with UW Health pharmacies to provide these services. UW Health pharmacies utilize pharmacists with a wide variety of hands-on experience in monitoring complex medication regimens from throughout the UW Health System.

Products included in the Specialty Injectable Pharmacy Program (see list) are only covered under the Unity Prescription Drug Benefit if obtained through the UW Health pharmacies. Members can receive specialty injectable medications either by mail (no mailing charges for standard delivery) or arrange to pick them up at one of the UW Health pharmacy locations.

This program DOES NOT apply to medications administered in your physician's office, a hospital or other health care facility. Coverage for medications administered in a health care facility falls under your Unity medical benefit and may be subject to other requirements. Members covered under the State of Wisconsin health insurance program should contact Navitus Health Solutions at navitus.com to learn more about your prescription drug benefits.

Receiving Your Specialty Injectable Prescriptions

To receive a product included in this program, you can contact UW Health Pharmacy Specialty Injectable Intake toll-free at 1-866-894-3784. After obtaining the necessary information from you, they discuss delivery and pick-up options and contact your health care practitioner to obtain a copy of the prescription. Standard delivery is free of charge. You are responsible for your copayment. You can also arrange for pick-up at one of the UW Health pharmacies. Even if you opt for pick-up, it is important to contact the UW Health Pharmacy Specialty Injectable Intake number listed above to make arrangements BEFORE you arrive at one of the UW Health pharmacies so they can assure the product is available for you.

After you receive the medication, all of the UW Health pharmacy staff is happy to help you with any questions or concerns that arise with the use of your medication. The staff also works with your health care practitioner on any concerns you have about side effects or how well the medication is working.

MEDICATIONS INCLUDED IN THE UNITY SPECIALTY INJECTABLE PHARMACY PROGRAM AS OF 8/1/06

DRUG CLASS	GENERIC NAME	BRAND NAME
Calcium Regulators	Teriparatide	Forteo
Growth Hormones	Somatropin	Genotropin
	Somatropin	Humatrope
	Somatropin	Norditropin
	Somatropin	Nutropin
	Somatropin	Omnitrope
	Somatropin	Saizen, Zorbtive
	Somatropin	Serostim
	Somatropin	Tev-Tropin
Hepatitis C Agents	interferon alfacon-1	Infergen
	interferon alfa 2b	Intron-A
	interferon alfa 2b/ribavirin	Rebetron
	interferon alfa 2a	Roferon-A
	peginterferon alfa 2b	Peg-Intron
	peginterferon alfa 2a	Pegasys
Multiple Sclerosis Agents	Glatiramer	Copaxone
	interferon beta 1a	Avonex
	interferon beta 1a	Rebif
	interferon beta 1b	Betaseron
Tumor Necrosis Factor Antagonists (used for rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease and others)	Adalimumab	Humira
	Anakinra	Kineret
	Etanercept	Enbrel

To receive a prescription for a product included in the program or if you have any questions about the program, contact UW Health Pharmacy Specialty Injectable Intake at 1-866-894-3784.

Please note: medications included in this program also generally require prior authorization for coverage from Unity. If you do not have an approved prior authorization for a particular medication, the specialty pharmacy is not able to process the claim through Unity and provide the medication to you.

FORMULARY UPDATE

The following drugs have changed formulary status. These changes were made between October 2006 and November 2006. Members affected by these changes received a letter from Unity containing more details. A change in formulary status of drugs may affect out-of-pocket costs, depending on the current drug benefit. The complete formulary is available on the Unity website at unityhealth.com or by contacting Unity Customer Service at 1-800-362-3310 for a hard copy. (Members covered under the State of Wisconsin health insurance program should contact Navitus Health Solutions at navitus.com to learn more about your prescription drug benefits.)

Formulary Additions, Non-Additions and Restriction Removals

FORMULARY ADDITIONS	NOT ADDED TO FORMULARY (NON-FORMULARY)	PA CRITERIA UPDATED
Travoprost (Travatan Z)	Insulin glulisine (Apidra)	Ribavirin (Copegus, Rebetol, Ribasphere, generic)
		Cilostazol
		Leflunomide
		Butorphanol (Stadol, generics)
		Dornase alfa (Pulmozyme)
		Becaplermin (Regranex)
		Finasteride (Proscar 5mg, generics)
		Propecia 1mg is still excluded
		Budesonide oral (Entocort)-QL
		Dutasteride (Avodart)-(remains non-formulary)
		Rasagiline (Azilect)-QL

Products Newly Available as Generics (brand becomes non-formulary when equivalent generic available)

PRODUCT	FORMULARY STATUS / NOTES
Oxybutynin XL (Ditropan XL)	formulary; 1st tier
Prednicarbate topical (Dermatop)	formulary; 1st tier

PA = prior authorization required, QL= quantity limit

Important phone numbers to call when you have questions

WHEN TO CONTACT	WHO TO CONTACT	PHONE NUMBER
To check the formulary status or restriction status of a drug	Unity Customer Service	1-800-362-3310
To obtain a copy of Unity's Prescription Drug Formulary	Unity Customer Service or unityhealth.com	1-800-362-3310
To appeal a Prior Authorization denial	Unity Customer Service	1-800-362-3310
To speak to a clinical pharmacist about why a Prior Authorization Request was denied	Unity Clinical Pharmacy Program	1-888-450-4884
For information regarding the Half-Tab Program	Unity Customer Service	1-800-362-3310
For criteria for coverage of a medication	Unity Clinical Pharmacy Program	1-888-450-4884
Early refills, vacation supplies, emergency supplies, new member supply, reimbursement of medications purchased out-of-pocket	Unity Pharmacy Services	1-800-788-2949

Learn more about Harbor Weight Loss Institute at their Open House

Exclusively for Unity Members

Thursday, January 25
and Tuesday, January 30
from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

2711 Allen Boulevard
Middleton, WI



840 Carolina Street
Sauk City, WI 53583-1374

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MADISON WI
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Healthwise® Health Information Debuts

Unity is pleased to introduce a new online tool to research symptoms, diagnoses, treatments, and obtain helpful tips on self-care.

Through an agreement with Healthwise® Incorporated, you have the ability to link to an online encyclopedia to research a wide variety of health topics. Healthwise promotes the information as unbiased, well researched, regularly updated and written to help make important health decisions.

Look for the link titled “A-Z Health Topics” and the Healthwise logo.

You can access the tool from unityhealth.com:

- Home page
- Member section entry page
- Fitness and Wellness section entry page, and
- Provider section entry page

Content organized by A-Z Topics

Content is organized into topics. Topics are listed alphabetically. Many topics contain multiple sections. For example, the “Asthma in Children” topic contains sections such as Exams and Tests, Living with Asthma, and Medications. In addition, most topics have links to additional information.

Features

Database features include:

1. The capability to choose specific content to print. A print link will appear at the top and/or bottom of most section pages.
2. A search box to assist finding information quickly on a given topic.
3. A go back to menu to enable users to quickly return to a previously viewed topic.

Unity hopes you find this tool a useful resource in managing your health.

PHARMACY

New to Unity? Your Prescription for an Easier Transition

Transitioning from one health plan to another can sometimes create difficulties with your prescription drug coverage due to differences between each health plan’s formulary and policies. Here are a few tips to make your transition to Unity a little easier.

Two situations may occur which would adversely affect your coverage upon switching from another health plan to Unity:

- The medication you are taking is formulary (1st or 2nd tier copayment) with your current plan and is non-formulary (3rd tier copayment) with Unity.
- The medication you are taking is restricted (prior authorization required) with Unity.

Most medications that are non-formulary have suitable alternatives that are covered on the formulary. If your medication happens to be non-formulary and you must now pay a 3rd tier copayment, consider discussing a switch to a formulary product with your health care

practitioner. You can contact Unity Customer Service at 1-800-362-3310 to identify possible alternatives on the formulary.

If your medication is restricted on Unity’s formulary, you must have an approved prior authorization for coverage of that drug. The prior authorization process involves a one page form your health care practitioner can fax to Unity that documents how the criteria for coverage of that medication are met. You may also want to consider switching to a medication that is not restricted and does not require prior authorization. You should discuss which option is best for you with your health care practitioner.

If you are a new Unity member and need a refill of your restricted medication sooner than you can

obtain prior authorization, Unity provides new members with coverage for a 30-day supply of their current medications that usually require prior authorization. When that supply is finished, a prior authorization is required before you can receive additional coverage. The normal 1st, 2nd, or 3rd tier copayment is charged. To request a “New Member Override,” you or your pharmacy can contact Unity Pharmacy Service at 1-800-788-2949.

The New Member Drug Supply Policy is intended to provide continuity for medications taken before becoming a Unity member and does not apply to newly started prescriptions. Also, medications which are excluded from coverage under your Unity Prescription Drug Benefit are not covered under this policy.

Members covered under the State of Wisconsin health insurance program should contact Navitus Health Solutions at navitus.com to learn more about your prescription drug benefits.

