

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE ALL-EMPLOYEES MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 1, 2024

EMPLOYEE MEDICAL HEALTH PLAN OF SUFFOLK COUNTY (EMHP)

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO YOUR EHMP HEALTH BENEFITS

To ensure we provide the best in health care, the County Executive along with the EMHP Labor and Management Committee have agreed to partner with a new Hospital/Medical/Surgical provider. See below changes to the health plan provider, benefit enhancements, and information regarding the extension of the healthcare agreement:

1. Change in Provider of Hospital/Medical/Surgical Benefits effective January 1, 2025

- Your Hospital/Medical/Surgical benefits will be transferring from Anthem (Empire BlueCross BlueShield) to Aetna. EMHP will be utilizing Aetna's network of providers, which is a larger network which means members will have access to more doctors, specialists, and hospitals across the country. If you are undergoing a course of treatment for qualified conditions (i.e. oncology, obstetrics), the plan will continue to pay your provider at the same rate during the transition period even if they elect not to join Aetna's network.
- EMHP will also utilize Aetna's pre-certification and prior authorization list.

2. Benefit Enhancements Effective July 1, 2024:

• The copay for a Primary Care Physician will be reduced from \$25.00 to \$20.00 (including Internists, Pediatricians, OB/GYNs, Family Medicine, Office/Telephonic Visit).

3. Benefit Enhancements Effective January 1, 2025:

- Second surgical opinions, regardless of which surgeon the member chooses, will be covered with the applicable cost share and subject to applicable plan rules.
- Out of network hospital benefit will be subject to 10% coinsurance up to a maximum of \$1,500 per participant, \$1,500 per spouse/domestic partner, and \$1,500 for all eligible dependent children combined.
- Durable medical equipment and medical supplies provided in-network will be covered at 100%, irrespective of site of care. Durable Medical equipment and medical supplies provided Out-of-Network will be covered after the deductible at 90% of the maximum allowable amount.

4. Extension of Healthcare Agreement

The EMHP and SCOPE agreed to a three-year extension of the Healthcare Agreement (the current agreement runs through December 31, 2025) effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2028. During this period, member health benefit contributions will not be increased from the 2025 rate (2.5% - the last year of the increase) and the annual cap will stay at \$4,000 beginning on January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2028.

Any active member hired on or before January 1, 2013, who retires on or before December 31, 2028, will have contribution-free healthcare in retirement.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Employee Benefits via email or via phone listed below:

If your last name begins with the letters:	Telephone Number	EBU Contact	E-mail address
A thru B	631-853-4987	Susan Sheldrick	Susan.Sheldrick@suffolkcountyny.gov
C thru D and R	631 853-5095	Michele Bo	Michele.Bo@suffolkcountyny.gov
E thru G	631-853-5316	Grace Dugre	Grace.Dugre@suffolkcountyny.gov
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CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Distribution: One copy per employee