



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**UCare’s *UCare for Seniors* premiums for 2009 remain stable
No change set for two rates; most of remaining
four rates have minor increases**

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 9, 2008 – [UCare](#) announced today that it is not increasing monthly premiums for two of its *UCare for Seniors* Medicare Advantage plan options in Greater Minnesota for 2009, and that premiums for the remaining options will rise only between \$1 and \$8 for the same year. (See grid for rate.)

UCare offers three *UCare for Seniors* plan options: the *UCare for Seniors* Value Plan, the *UCare for Seniors* Value Plus Plan, and the *UCare for Seniors* Classic Plan.

In Minnesota, the metropolitan area premiums in 2009 for the Value Plan will rise only \$1; premiums for the Value Plus Plan will rise \$8; and premiums for the Classic Plan will increase only \$4. In Greater Minnesota, Value Plan premiums remain unchanged at \$41; Value Plus Plan premiums also hold at \$74; and the Classic Plan premium is \$120. In western Wisconsin, Value Plan premiums rose slightly to \$48, Value Plus Plan rates are \$74, and Classic Plan rates are \$119.

Plan and region	2008	2009
Value		
- Metro	\$33	\$34
- Greater Minnesota	\$41	\$41
- Wisconsin	\$45	\$48
Value Plus		
- Metro	\$56	\$64
- Greater Minnesota	\$74	\$74
- Wisconsin	\$70	\$74
Classic		
- Metro	\$98	\$102
- Greater Minnesota	\$115	\$120
- Wisconsin	\$112	\$119

Three levels of comprehensive *UCare for Seniors* coverage (Classic, Value, and Value Plus), an extensive network of leading providers and care systems, and worldwide emergency coverage and urgent care are offered in Minnesota and western Wisconsin. The Classic Plan includes hospital and medical coverage, Medicare prescription drug coverage (Part D), and coverage for eyewear, hearing aids, and preventive dental care. The Value Plan offers comprehensive hospital and medical coverage at a lower monthly premium than the Classic level. The Value Plus plan offers all the Value plan coverage benefits, plus Part D coverage.

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The 2009 premium figures reflect UCare's careful management of plan resources and its ongoing commitment to keeping *UCare for Seniors* affordable and competitively priced for Medicare beneficiaries.

"We've worked hard over the past 10 years to keep *UCare for Seniors* affordable for Medicare beneficiaries in Minnesota and our newest service area in western Wisconsin," says Nancy Feldman, UCare's President and Chief Executive Officer. "We have continued to enhance this comprehensive plan with benefits such as dental coverage, prescription coverage, and a unique fitness program. That's great news for Medicare beneficiaries who are comparing their Medicare options, and looking for value and service in these uncertain economic times."

With more than 44,000 members in Minnesota, *UCare for Seniors* is the second largest Medicare Advantage plan in the state, and the largest Medicare Advantage plan in the metropolitan area. *UCare for Seniors* is available statewide to Medicare-eligible individuals and eligible individuals enrolled in employer-sponsored group plans in the 11-county Twin Cities area. In Wisconsin, *UCare for Seniors* currently is available to Medicare beneficiaries in 23 western counties; that number will increase to 26 counties on Jan. 1, 2009.

About UCare

UCare (www.ucare.org) is an independent, nonprofit health plan providing health care and administrative services to more than 147,000 members. UCare partners with health care providers, counties, and community organizations to create and deliver innovative health products for:

- Individuals and families enrolled in income-based Minnesota Health Care Programs, such as MinnesotaCare and Prepaid Medical Assistance Program.
- Adults with disabilities and Medicare beneficiaries with chronic health conditions.
- Minnesotans dually eligible for Medical Assistance and Medicare.
- Medicare-eligible individuals throughout Minnesota and in western Wisconsin.

UCare for Seniors, UCare's Medicare Advantage plan, was ranked by Medicare in the top 13 percent of health plans nationwide for outstanding performance. UCare addresses health care disparities and care access issues through its UCare Fund grants and a broad array of community initiatives.

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