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UCare announces Pay for Performance awards

More than \$2.8 million paid to providers improving the health of UCare's Medicaid, Medicaid, and Minnesota Senior Health Options (MSHO) members

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan 12, 2012 — [UCare](#)'s Pay for Performance (P4P) program recognized eligible care systems and independent clinics in Minnesota and western Wisconsin with more than \$2.8 million in financial incentives for their measureable improvements in the preventive or chronic illness treatment of UCare's Medicaid, Medicare, and [UCare's Minnesota Senior Health Options \(UCare's MSHO\)](#) members. UCare analyzed patient care claims and lab tests processed for each provider against the P4P criteria, and issued the resulting financial awards in late 2011.

UCare's P4P recognizes and rewards health care providers serving members of UCare's Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP), including [MinnesotaCare](#) and [Prepaid Medical Assistance Program \(PMAP\)](#), [UCare's Minnesota Senior Health Options \(UCare's MSHO\)](#), and to members of UCare's [UCare for Seniors](#) Medicare Advantage plan in Minnesota and western Wisconsin.

"UCare's Pay for Performance program rewards providers of all sizes for providing UCare members outstanding or improved care that is measured using key quality-of-health criteria," says [Dr. Russ Kuzel](#), Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, UCare. "Clinics and care systems are rewarded for their diligence and accomplishments in improving our members' health with early detection and preventive care practices, and managing their chronic conditions."

Dr. Kuzel adds that UCare's success in encouraging quality and effective health care for members through the P4P program is reflected in UCare's Star Ratings in 2011 of 4.5 stars out of 5 for the *UCare for Seniors* Medicare product, and 4 stars out of 5 for UCare's MSHO. The federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) created the Star Ratings System to provide Medicare beneficiaries with a way to assess and compare health plans based on a broad array of clinical, quality, patient experience, customer satisfaction, and other beneficiary experience area measures.

The top five clinics receiving P4P payments for **Medicaid** member care are:

1. [Fairview Physician Associates](#)
2. [University Minnesota Physicians](#)
3. [Neighborhood Health Care Network](#)
4. [Children's Physician Network](#)
5. [Allina](#)

The top five clinics receiving P4P payments for **Medicare** member care are:

1. [Fairview Physician Associates](#)
2. [Allina](#)
3. [Park Nicollet](#)
4. [HealthEast Care System](#)
5. [Family Health Services of Minnesota](#)

The top five clinics receiving P4P payments for UCare's **MSHO** member care are:

1. [Fairview Physician Associates](#)
2. [Mayo Clinic Health System](#)
3. [Allina](#)
4. [HealthEast Care System](#)
5. [Minnesota Health Care Network](#)

About UCare's P4P program

UCare designs its P4P to reward providers for achieving a high-ranking performance or improvements in several important health care quality measures for its Medicare members throughout Minnesota and western Wisconsin, and Medicaid and Special Needs Plans members in Minnesota. Criteria are selected to improve preventive care, identify health issues through screenings for various health risks, and achieve improved outcomes for chronic conditions such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease, as well as improvements in breast, cervical, and colorectal cancer screenings; Child and Teen Checkups (C&TC); blood lead screening in children; and chlamydia screening.

About UCare

UCare (www.ucare.org) is an independent, nonprofit health plan providing health care and administrative services to more than 280,000 members. UCare partners with health care providers, counties, and community organizations to create and deliver innovative health coverage products for:

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

UCare addresses health care disparities and care access issues through its UCare Fund grants and a broad array of community initiatives. The health plan received Top 100 Workplaces honors in 2010 and 2011 from the *Star Tribune*.

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