

Changes in TennCare Standard starting August 1, 2005

This MCO handbook tells you the services TennCare covers **through July 31, 2005.**

Starting August 1, 2005:

1. TennCare is changing what we pay for.
 2. We're also changing the amount you **may** pay for health care and medicine. These are your "co-pays." To find out how these changes will affect you, **KEEP READING.** If you **have questions** or **need help**:
 - Call **<MCO Phone>**.
 - OR, see the "Do You Need Special Help?" page with this letter. It tells you where to call.
-

1. Changes in what TennCare pays for

Are you **age 21 or older?**

Starting August 1, 2005 (until your TennCare ends):

TennCare Standard will NOT cover these services anymore.

- **Medicine** of *any* kind. This includes prescription drugs and refills. AND, it includes medicine you can buy without a prescription ("over the counter").
 - **Dental care** of *any* kind.
 - **Sitter services**—care given by a nurse who doesn't work for the hospital you're in.
 - **Convalescent care**—care while you get over an illness or operation. It comes after you leave the hospital but before you go home. It's usually done in a nursing home.
 - **Payments to "hold" your bed in the nursing home** if you go home to visit, to the hospital, or leave for any reason.
 - **Methadone clinic services** to get or stay off drugs.
(This is also called methadone detox or maintenance services.)
-

2. Changes in how much you may pay for health care and medicine

Are you **under age 21?** If so, do you pay part of the cost of your health care?

Starting August 1, 2005, you will pay **less** for prescription drugs and refills.

You must pay \$3 for each brand name drug. But, you **won't** pay at all for:

- Generic drugs
- Birth control
- Medicine you get in hospice care—You must tell the drug store you're getting hospice care.
- Medicine you get in a medical emergency
- Medicine you get for pregnancy problems—You must tell the drug store you're pregnant.

There's **no limit** on the **total** amount you could pay in **co-pays** each year.

Are you **age 21 or older?** If so, do you pay part of the cost of your health care?

For care that TennCare still covers, your **co-pays** are **not changing** now. (Remember, we won't pay for *any* medicine.) **BUT, starting August 1, 2005,** there's **no limit** on the **total** amount you could pay in **co-pays** each year.