



For Our Patient's Information: An Explanation of Medical Insurance

Misunderstandings about medical insurance have become increasingly common since “managed care” revolutionized the medical insurance industry. At one time it was not unusual for insurance to cover 100% of the cost of services provided during a medical visit. However, this is rarely the case at the current time. The discussion that follows will help you evaluate your insurance coverage for treatment obtained through this office.

Your Insurance Contract

A claim from our office for all services provided to you (office visits, procedures, surgery, etc.) will be sent to your insurance company. The amount that your insurance pays to the physician (provider) as reimbursement for these services and the amount that must be paid by you is determined by the contractual agreement between you and your insurance company. That agreement most likely states that you, the insured, are responsible for several types of payments. These payments include:

Copayment

Copayment is the amount that your insurance company requires you to pay to the physician at the time of the service (office visit). Depending on the type of service being rendered, you may be required to pay a copay with each visit.

Deductible (per calendar year)

The deductible is the amount that your insurance requires you to pay for services rendered before the insurance company will begin paying for benefits.

Co-Insurance (per calendar year)

After your deductible has been met, your insurance company will pay for all or part of the expenses according to your agreement with the insurance company. The amount that your insurance company pays will vary from 0% to 100%, with common option being 90/10% and 80/20%. This means that you (the patient) will be responsible for a percentage. The percentage amount is determined by your contract with your insurance company.

The terms under which insurance policies establish these limitations on reimbursement vary widely among policies and depend on your individual contract and plan benefits. We will contact your insurance company and verify your individual plan benefits copay, deductible, co-insurance and inform you of these benefits. We also encourage you to contact your insurance company to verify your plan benefits.

It is our office policy to collect your copay when you check in for your appointment.



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