Spring into action

Time to make checkup appointments

Beat the summertime rush by calling this spring to make appointments for well-child visits. Collect forms you need for school, sports or camp. School-age children and teens need to see the doctor once a year for a well-child visit. At this visit, the doctor will:
- check your child’s height, weight and body mass index (BMI).
- give your child any immunizations he or she needs.
- talk to your child about health and safety.
- make sure your child is growing and developing well.

Find Dr. Right. Need to find a new doctor? Visit MyUHC.com/CommunityPlan or call Member Services toll-free at 1-800-641-1902 (TTY 711).
By the book

Have you read your Member Handbook? It is a great source of information. It tells you how to use your plan. It explains:

- the benefits and services you have.
- the benefits and services you don’t have (exclusions).
- how to find out about participating providers.
- how your transportation benefits work.
- what to do if you need care when you are out of town.
- when and how you can get care from an out-of-network provider.
- where, when and how to get primary, after-hours, specialty, hospital, urgent care and emergency care.
- your member rights and responsibilities.
- our privacy policy.
- if, when and how you may need to submit a claim.
- how to voice a complaint or appeal a coverage decision.
- how your plan decides what new technologies are covered.
- how to request an interpreter or get other help with language or translation.
- how to report fraud and abuse.
- how advance directives work.
- how to report a pregnancy or a change of address or phone number.

Get it all. You can read the Member Handbook online at MyUHC.com/CommunityPlan. Or call Member Services toll-free at 1-800-641-1902 (TTY 711) to request a copy of the handbook.

THE RIGHT CARE

We want you to get the right care at the right time and at the right place. We don’t want you to get too little care or care you don’t really need. We also have to make sure that the care you get is a covered benefit. We do this with utilization management (UM). Only medical professionals perform UM. We do not provide financial incentives or reward anyone in any way for saying no to needed care.

Questions on UM? Call 1-800-284-0626 (TTY 711) toll-free. Ask to speak to someone in Utilization Management. We will explain how UM works and what it means for your care.

Ask Dr. Health E. Hound

Q: How much physical activity do children need?

A: The Let’s Move campaign says children should get 60 minutes of active play every day. It doesn’t all need to happen at one time. The Let’s Move campaign was started by First Lady Michelle Obama. It is her mission to reduce childhood obesity. Being active is one part of keeping a healthy weight. There are also other benefits to being active. Let’s Move says children who are active:

- feel less stressed and better about themselves.
- are more ready to learn in school.
- build healthy bones, muscles and joints.
- sleep better at night.

Learn more. Visit LetsMove.gov for more tips on healthy eating and activity for the whole family.
Under control

Make your diabetic health a priority.

It takes constant, careful monitoring to keep diabetes under control. Regular testing helps you see how you’re doing. Which of these tests are you missing?

- **A1C BLOOD TEST**: This lab test shows how well your blood sugar has been controlled over the last two to three months. It tells you how well your treatment is working. Get this test three or four times per year.

- **CHOLESTEROL**: Diabetes and cholesterol are a combination that can damage your heart. Your doctor can tell you the HDL and total cholesterol numbers you should aim for. Get this test once a year.

- **KIDNEY FUNCTION**: Diabetes can damage your kidneys. This test makes sure yours are working right. Get this test once a year.

- **DILATED EYE EXAM**: Uncontrolled diabetes can cause blindness. In this test, eyedrops make your pupils bigger so the retina can be checked. It helps find problems before you’ll ever notice them. Get this test once a year.

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We make it easy. These tests are covered benefits. If you have special needs or need help managing a chronic illness, call 1-800-284-0626 (TTY 711) toll-free. Ask to speak to someone in Care Management.

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The HPV vaccine

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is the most common sexually transmitted infection. Most of the time, it causes no problems and goes away. But sometimes, it causes cancer. It leads to most cases of cervical cancer in women. It also causes some anal and throat cancers in both men and women.

There is a vaccine for HPV. At first, it was just given to girls. Now, it’s also recommended for boys. The vaccine works best when given before teens become sexually active. Children should get it at age 11 or 12. But it can be given as early as age 9 or as late as age 26.

The HPV vaccine is given as a series of three shots. Ask about it at your pre-teen’s next checkup.

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3 in 4 people will be infected with HPV in their lifetime.

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Need a ride? Transportation is provided to medical appointments. Call IntelliRide toll-free at 1-844-531-3783.
UnitedHealthcare and Sesame Workshop, the nonprofit organization behind *Sesame Street*, have teamed up to create *Lead Away!* This program gives families information on lead testing and preventing lead poisoning. Make sure your whole family knows these simple tips to stay safe from lead:

- **STAY AWAY FROM DUST.** Let your child know that it’s important to stay away from dusty things. You can help keep lead away by wet-dusting and wet-mopping regularly.

- **LEAVE YOUR SHOES AT THE DOOR.** It’s an easy way to make sure that dirt and dust stay outside.

- **WASH YOUR HANDS BEFORE YOU EAT.** Show your child how to wash his or her hands well with soap and warm water by washing yours at the same time. Together, wash your hands for at least 20 seconds.

- **STAY AWAY FROM PEELING PAINT.** If you have peeling paint in your home, contact your local health department to find out the best way to clean it up.

- **CHECK YOUR CHILD’S TOYS.** Look at your child’s toys to see if they are dusty or have any chipped or damaged areas. Find out about toy recalls by visiting the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission at [cpsc.gov](http://cpsc.gov).

A blood test can help you find out if your child has any lead in his or her body. It’s important to know so you can make sure your child gets help if he or she needs it. Check with your doctor about the best time to test your child. Usually, children are tested before ages 1 and 2.