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Wisconsin-based Network Health is One of the First Health Plans in the Country to Offer Up to 37% in Prescription Savings on Average

Network Health Has Aligned with Mark Cuban's Cost Plus Drugs

Menasha, Wis. – (February 3, 2025) – Wisconsin-based health insurer Network Health announced that it has aligned with the Mark Cuban Cost Plus Drug Company, or <u>Cost Plus Drugs</u>, to provide its members with another option to prescription medications, pricing transparency and the convenience of mail order. As a result, Network Health is one of the first Medicare Advantage plans in the country to be able to offer prescription medication savings of up to 37 percent on average, and in some cases even more, to its members.

According to a recent poll by KFF (formerly known as The Kaiser Family Foundation), about three in ten adults say they haven't taken their medicine as prescribed due to costs (KFF Health Tracking Poll (July 11-19, 2023).

"Prescription medications are critical to our members' health and vitality and we know affordability can be a barrier to taking necessary prescriptions," said Coreen Dicus-Johnson, president and CEO of Network Health. "This led us to seek a partner to offer our members an option to lower their prescription costs. The Cost Plus Drugs program provides our members with another option to give them greater access, provides more pricing transparency and a solution to have their prescriptions delivered right to their door while saving money. In addition, working together allows us to ensure medication safety and adherence for our members."

The Cost Plus Drugs mail-order service offers patients potentially significant cost savings, such as for the cancer medication Gleevec, which usually costs \$9,500 a month. Cost Plus Drugs provides the generic for only \$34.50 a month, saving thousands of dollars per year.

"The last time I ordered this prescription ... was \$386 for a three month supply. When I ordered it through Cost Plus Drugs, it was \$47 [for a three month supply] said Kim T., a Network Health Medicare Advantage member."

Network Health members register and order prescriptions directly from the <u>Cost Plus Drugs</u> website and Network Health pays for the cost of shipping. For Medicare Advantage members,

Network Health Medicare Advantage Plans include PPO plans with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in Network Health Medicare Advantage Plans depends on contract renewal. H5215 **5452**-01a-0125 M



there won't be a need to pay out of pocket and submit a reimbursement form. Claims will be processed electronically, and the Medicare benefit will automatically apply. Members also have the option to contact a Network Health member experience representative for help enrolling in the program or they can speak directly with a Network Health pharmacist regarding their prescription medication options.

"We started the Mark Cuban Cost Plus Drug Company because every American should have access to safe, affordable medicines,' said co-founder Cost Plus Drugs Entrepreneur Mark Cuban. "No American should have to suffer or worse - because they can't afford basic prescription medications. We cut out the middlemen to offer hundreds of common drugs at understandable prices, and we are committed to offering the best prices we can."

While Cost Plus Drugs will not be an in-network pharmacy benefit for Network Health's commercial group or Marketplace (ACA/IFP) members, these members can use Cost Plus Drugs by purchasing their prescriptions directly, paying out-of-pocket and submitting for reimbursement. Network Health's members are encouraged to ask their Network Health member experience team representative about Cost Plus Drugs and how they can enroll to take advantage of the significant savings and convenience.

Network Health currently saves its members approximately over half a million dollars per year in prescription costs. This is in part due to Network Health's Medical Therapy Management program which involves a Network Health pharmacy team member reaching out to their members to talk to them about options and potential ways they can save on their prescription medications.

About Network Health

Since its inception in 1982, with headquarters in Menasha and offices in Brookfield, Wisconsin, Network Health has a vision to create healthy and strong Wisconsin communities. Providing health plans and services to individuals, families, employers, and Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries across the state, Network Health has a reputation for delivering top-notch health plan coverage and exceptional local customer service. Celebrating its fourth consecutive year with a 5 Star overall Star Rating for its Medicare Advantage PPO plans by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Each year, Medicare evaluates plans based on a 5-Star Rating system. Additionally, the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) has distinguished Network Health as the sole Medicare Advantage plan in its service area to achieve a 5 Star rating, along with a notable 4.5 rating for its commercial line of business, demonstrating a commitment to excellence. Explore more at networkhealth.com.