

THE LOCAL CHOICE E-NEWS

Department of Human Resource Management State and Local Health Benefits Programs

September 23, 2020

The Local Choice (TLC) Plan Office Visit Out-of-Pocket Cost Waiver Extended through December

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the DHRM Office of Health Benefits is extending the original cost share waivers for health plan members to the following:

COVID-19 Testing and Related Office Visits:

Out-of-pocket costs for COVID-19 testing, as well as the associated office visit, as recommended by CDC guidelines. Contact your provider regarding availability of testing. This cost share waiver will be in place through the duration of the Federal Emergency and no end date has been provided at this time.

Virtual Office Visits:

In an effort to encourage continued management of your health care while you may not have access to or prefer to avoid an in-person office visit, the out-of-pocket cost for virtual visits under the TLC Key Advantage plans will be waived through **December 31, 2020**. The original waiver was through June 14, 2020, then extended through September 30, 2020. This will include not only LiveHealth Online providers but other providers delivering virtual care. However, under the TLC HDHP, the \$0 cost will apply only to COVID-19-related virtual visits.

Out-of-pocket costs for virtual/telephonic visits for physical, occupational, and speech therapy will not be waived for Key Advantage plans. Contact your plan's Customer Service to determine if other virtual specialty care will be covered.

Participants in the Kaiser and Optima regional plans should contact their plan's Customer Service number or website for more information.

Please do not respond to this e-mail. You may send inquiries to The Local Choices mailbox at tlc@dhrm.virginia.gov