

Health Care

HMO: Health Maintenance Organization:

- group insurance that entitles members to services at participating hospitals.
 - traditionally lower monthly payments and co-pay
 - Doctors serve as gate-keepers.
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PPO: Preferred Provider Organization

- Need to get your care from doctors who are on the insurances “Preferred Provider list” if you want them to pay for most of it
 - Not required to go through your primary doctor for all visits
 - Typically more expensive
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Monthly Premium

- Monthly payment for insurance plan
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Deductible

- A specific dollar amount that your health insurance company may require that you pay out-of-pocket each year before your health insurance plan begins to make payments for claims.
 - Not all health insurance plans require a deductible.
 - As a general rule (though there are many exceptions), HMO plans typically do not require a deductible, while most PPO plans do.
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Coinsurance

- The amount that you are obligated to pay for covered medical services after you've satisfied any co-payment or deductible required by your health insurance plan.
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Office Visit (Co-Pay)

- An office visit is the amount you pay when you see the doctor or dentist for routine care.
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Average Cost

- <http://www.usnews.com/articles/opinion/2009/05/26/healthcare-costs-rising-for-average-family-of-four.html>
 - www.ehealthinsurance.com
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