



URL of this page: <https://medlineplus.gov/managedcare.html>

Managed Care

Managed care plans are a type of health insurance [<https://medlineplus.gov/healthinsurance.html>]. They have contracts with health care providers and medical facilities to provide care for members at reduced costs. These providers make up the plan's network. How much of your care the plan will pay for depends on the network's rules.

Plans that restrict your choices usually cost you less. If you want a flexible plan, it will probably cost more. There are three types of managed care plans:

- Health Maintenance Organizations (HMO) usually only pay for care within the network. You choose a primary care doctor who coordinates most of your care.
- Preferred Provider Organizations (PPO) usually pay more if you get care within the network. They still pay part of the cost if you go outside the network.
- Point of Service (POS) plans let you choose between an HMO or a PPO each time you need care.

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National Institutes of Health

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Full

Managed Care Programs

Health insurance plans intended to reduce unnecessary **health care** costs through a variety of mechanisms, including: economic incentives for physicians and patients to select less costly forms of care; programs for reviewing the medical necessity of specific services; increased beneficiary cost sharing; controls on inpatient admissions and lengths of stay; the establishment of cost-sharing incentives for outpatient surgery; selective contracting with **health care** providers; and the intensive management of high-cost **health care** cases. The programs may be provided in a variety of settings, such as HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS and PREFERRED PROVIDER ORGANIZATIONS.

Year introduced: 1990(1988)

PubMed search builder options

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Restrict to MeSH Major Topic.

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Tree Number(s): N03.219.521.576.343.800, N04.590.374.410

MeSH Unique ID: D008329

Entry Terms:

- **Managed** Care Program
- Program, **Managed** Care
- Programs, **Managed** Care
- **Managed Health Care** Insurance Plans
- **Managed** Care
- Care, **Managed**
- Insurance Case Management
- Case Management, Insurance
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