



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Cynthia Townsend

cynthia.townsend@globalhealth.com

(Office) 918.878.7335

Education on Medicare Advantage plan Special Enrollment Period for individuals impacted by COVID-19

Oklahoma HMO shares qualifying events, including COVID-19 affecting Medicare beneficiaries

OKLAHOMA – Recently, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) confirmed a Special Enrollment Period (SEP) for individuals affected by COVID-19. This is in addition to other SEP qualifying events, such as turning 65, leaving your employer or union coverage or having both Medicare and Medicaid.

“It is important for Oklahoma Medicare beneficiaries to stay educated on qualifying events that impact their Medicare Advantage plan coverage, one of which is now due to COVID-19. GlobalHealth is here to be a resource and provide assistance to individuals that are navigating their Medicare options,” said Scott Vaughn, GlobalHealth president and CEO.

A Medicare Advantage plan SEP exists for individuals affected by a weather-related emergency or major disaster who were unable to and did not make an election during another valid election period as a result of the emergency or major disaster. This includes both enrollment and disenrollment elections. Individuals will be considered “affected” and eligible for this SEP if they:

- Reside, or resided at the start of the incident period, in an area for which FEMA has declared an emergency or a major disaster and has designated affected counties as being eligible to apply for individual or public level assistance;
- Had another valid election period at the time of the incident period; and
- Did not make an election during that other valid election period.

The Medicare Advantage plan SEP is also available to those individuals who do not live in the affected areas but rely on help making healthcare decisions from friends or family members who live in the affected areas.

The SEP is available from the start of the incident period and for four full calendar months after the start of the incident period. An eligible beneficiary would be given one opportunity to make that missed election as a result of this SEP.

If you need assistance in determining the last election or have questions regarding your coverage, please contact Medicare by visiting www.Medicare.gov or by calling 1-800-MEDICARE.

About GlobalHealth

GlobalHealth is changing health insurance in Oklahoma by providing genuine care and optimal health for the members it serves. As an industry leader, GlobalHealth is an Oklahoma-based health insurance provider covering individuals in all 77 Oklahoma counties. Working proactively with its members, GlobalHealth engages a personalized management plan to address their specific needs and ensure the best possible health outcomes. GlobalHealth utilizes cutting-edge, predictive data technology as a foundation to deliver improved healthcare as part of its commitment to making health insurance more affordable. Its membership includes individuals who are eligible for Medicare, state, education and municipal employees and federal employees. To learn more, visit www.GlobalHealth.com.

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