



Group Health's HMO Network No Longer Coordinates Hospital Services with Virginia Mason. New Hospital Relationship with Swedish Health Services Effective February 1, 2016.

Impact to PLU Employees Enrolled on the Group Health Medical Plans

Virginia Mason recently sent out a letter to Group Health members that may have been met with confusion. This is the reason for our stated clarification.

If you are enrolled in the Access PPO Plan:

No impact.

- Virginia Mason Hospital and Medical Clinics are contracted Preferred Providers in the Access PPO network.
- If you see a Virginia Mason provider or go to a Virginia Mason Clinic you will continue to receive care and the benefit is paid at the preferred level.

If you are enrolled in the Essentials HMO Plan:

Prior to Feb 1, 2016:

- GH HMO providers send GH Essentials subscribers and covered dependents in the Seattle area to Virginia Mason Hospital for inpatient hospitalization services only.

Effective Feb 1, 2016:

- GH HMO providers send GH Essentials subscribers and covered dependents in the Seattle area to Swedish Health Services for hospitalization services only.

Virginia Mason Medical Clinics are NOT currently contracted under the GH Essentials plan so you would not be directed to these facilities for care by your Group Health Primary Care Provider.

In October, 2015 Group Health mailed out a letter to all members enrolled on the PLU Group Health Medical plans announcing the transition in their hospital contracting from Virginia Mason to Swedish Health Services. The completion date of this transition is February 1, 2016.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Group Health Customer Service at 888-901-4636 or our Benefits Broker, Albers & Company at 253-596-0604.