

The State of Delaware

SurgeryPlus Savings Analysis – Progress Update

SEBC Meeting

March 11, 2024

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SurgeryPlus savings analysis – progress update

- WTW is conducting an analysis of the savings associated with the SurgeryPlus program
- Analysis is focused on comparing the cost of SurgeryPlus procedures to the cost of the same procedures conducted through the medical carriers' provider networks
- Results will be used to inform future SEBC decisions on the scope of surgical procedures that will continue to be offered through SurgeryPlus as well as whether any additional procedures beyond bariatric surgery will only be covered (“carved out”) under the SurgeryPlus program
- Initial results from this analysis will be presented at the April, 22 2024 SEBC meeting
- Initial results will compare SurgeryPlus procedure costs against benchmark average costs for the same procedures from a large, commercially available dataset (Marketscan), with actuarial adjustments to reflect the GHIP population (e.g., demographics, geographic footprint, etc.)
- Further details will follow with a comparison of SurgeryPlus procedure costs against actual GHIP claims experience through the medical carriers

Reminder: Current scope of GHIP-covered SurgeryPlus procedures

- The following categories of **elective** procedures are covered under the SurgeryPlus benefit for non-Medicare plan participants:
 - Joint replacement and revision
 - Other orthopedic procedures
 - Spine procedures
 - Pain management procedures
 - Cardiac procedures
 - Bariatric surgery
 - Gynecological procedures
 - Ear, nose and throat procedures
 - Gastroenterological procedures
 - Other minor surgical procedures
- For most of these procedure categories, plan participants can choose a provider either from their medical plan's network or from the SurgeryPlus network
- Bariatric surgery is only covered by the GHIP when provided through the SurgeryPlus network
- There is no member out-of-pocket cost for any procedure conducted through the SurgeryPlus network

Reminder: Bariatric surgery carve out to SurgeryPlus

- Since July 1, 2023, bariatric surgeries are only available as a covered benefit under the SurgeryPlus COE network – this is also referred to as bariatric surgery coverage being “carved out” to SurgeryPlus
- Implementation of the bariatric surgery carve out was nearly a 12-month process
 - SEBC voted to approve this in July 2022, for an effective date no earlier than January 1, 2023
 - Actual effective date of bariatric surgery carve out: July 1, 2023
 - Implementation activities included the following:
 - Coordination with SurgeryPlus and the medical carriers on claims system updates, education for member-facing customer service and care management representatives
 - Updates to plan documents and administrative policies
 - Development and distribution of member education and communications across multiple channels (print, electronic, web-based); the need for multiple, repeated communications to plan participants took a considerable amount of time
- A similar timeframe should be expected for any additional carve-outs to SurgeryPlus in the future