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## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT SURGERYPLUS AND BARIATRIC COVERAGE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

Dear State of Delaware member,

### SurgeryPlus Benefit Overview

The SurgeryPlus benefit is a comprehensive surgical program that provides a personalized concierge experience from dedicated Care Advocates and access to excellent health care through a network of credentialed Surgeons of Excellence for planned, non-emergent surgeries. Enrollment in the SurgeryPlus benefit is automatic for individuals enrolled in a State of Delaware Aetna or Highmark Delaware non-Medicare health plan.

Our goal, in partnership with the State of Delaware, is to simplify the surgical process from start to finish - from helping schedule appointments to eliminating medical bills related to your care. Our credentialed surgeons undergo a rigorous evaluation process to assure that you receive high-quality care from specialists who excel in the area related to your needs. SurgeryPlus negotiates a single cost (bundled rate) for the entire surgical procedure, resulting in savings for the State of Delaware. Our goal is to save you money by reducing your financial responsibility by removing deductibles, copays and coinsurance amounts.

### Bariatric Surgery Coverage Beginning July 1, 2023

**Effective July 1, 2023, all bariatric surgeries will be required to be completed through your SurgeryPlus benefit and performed by a surgeon in the SurgeryPlus network.**

**Bariatric surgery will no longer be covered under your Aetna or Highmark Delaware non-Medicare health plan.** Members seeking a bariatric procedure on or after July 1, 2023 can take advantage of the SurgeryPlus concierge service and have their surgery planned from start to finish by a SurgeryPlus Care Advocate. This service includes finding a surgeon in the SurgeryPlus network, scheduling the surgery, and assisting with accommodations, if applicable. Members will not be responsible for any copays, deductibles or coinsurance for their bariatric procedure.

The requirements needed for surgery, including any pre-operative tests, screenings, evaluations, and post-operative care will still be covered under your Aetna or Highmark Delaware non-Medicare health plan. The surgery itself and any facility costs will be covered under your SurgeryPlus benefit. Pre-authorization for any bariatric procedure will still need to be submitted to SurgeryPlus before the surgery is scheduled.

### What To Do Next

- If you are a candidate for a bariatric procedure and have already scheduled your surgery through Aetna or Highmark Delaware before July 1, 2023, you can proceed with your surgery as scheduled.
- If you are seeking a bariatric procedure, have completed all of your pre-operative requirements, and your pre-authorization has already been sent to Aetna or Highmark Delaware, be sure to schedule your surgery before July 1, 2023.



- If you are not able to complete your bariatric procedure before July 1, 2023, SurgeryPlus will be able to obtain all of your medical records, help you find you a surgeon and schedule your surgery. Your SurgeryPlus surgeon will determine and provide an optimized presurgical plan that is specific to your medical needs.

You can find all of the information regarding bariatric surgery coverage through SurgeryPlus on SBO's website at [de.gov/statewidebenefits](https://de.gov/statewidebenefits). Select your group and click on "SurgeryPlus" under "Benefits Administered by Statewide Benefits."

If you think you may need a bariatric procedure or are interested in learning more, contact us today to speak with a SurgeryPlus Care Advocate at 855.200.2034, by email at [DE@SurgeryPlus.com](mailto:DE@SurgeryPlus.com), or on the member portal at [DE.SurgeryPlus.com](https://DE.SurgeryPlus.com).