

## Discontinue use of Advance Beneficiary Notice of Non-coverage (ABN) or an ABN-like form

An Advance Beneficiary Notice of Non-coverage (ABN)—or an ABN-like form—is a written notice only for Original Medicare beneficiaries. **Please discontinue use of this form immediately.**

**This discontinuation applies to the following UCare products: *UCare for Seniors Minnesota and Wisconsin*, including group plans in both states, as well as Minnesota Senior Health Options (MSHO) when the service is a Medicare covered benefit.**

In accordance with instructions received from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), the ABN or an ABN-like form cannot be used for Medicare Advantage members. (See CMS bulletin dated May 5, 2014, titled “**Improper Use of Advance Notices of Non-coverage.**”)

CMS requires that Medicare Advantage Plans inform members if a service is covered. Providers should call UCare’s provider assistance center at **(612) 676-3300** to determine if a service is covered. If the provider assistance representative is unable to determine if a service would be covered; or if you have reason to know or are uncertain of coverage, you have the option to request a pre-service organization determination on behalf of the member. For your convenience, UCare has prior authorization request forms located within the provider website under the “Authorization and Notification” section. Additional information regarding UCare authorization requirements can be found in chapter 5 of the Provider Manual.

Providers cannot hold UCare members responsible for payment of non-covered services unless the member has been fully informed in advance of the health plans determination and given their appeal rights.

A pre-service organization determination is not required to bill a member when the member’s Evidence of Coverage is clear that a service is never covered and is listed as an exclusion. Examples include acupuncture, LASIK surgery, home delivered meals, or housekeeping.

### Questions?

If you have further questions, please call UCare’s Provider Assistance Center at **612-676-3300** or **1-888-531-1493** toll free.