



VOLUNTARY HOSPITALS HOUSE STAFF BENEFITS PLAN

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July 31, 2019

Dear VHHSBP Participant:

Upon review, the Plan has identified health plan changes that should have been rolled out differently in accordance with the Affordable Care Act guidelines, and some participants are owed money for the following: 1) prescription drug copayments that you may have paid since July 1, 2018; and 2) emergency room copayments that you may have paid between July 1, 2018 and approximately August 30, 2018.

Participants in the Plan should not have paid copayments for certain classes of generic drugs after July 1, 2018. Between July 1, 2018 and approximately August 30, 2018, the copayment for emergency room visits should have remained at \$35.00 instead of increasing to \$100.00. The types of prescription drugs that should have been available without copayments under the Affordable Care Act are generic drugs for contraceptives, bowel prep (for colonoscopy), high cholesterol, statins, and smoking cessation, and certain vitamins and minerals such as folic acid, iron, Vitamin D, and aspirin.

The Plan is making every effort to determine who was affected by these issues, and we will compensate participants for any copayments that they incurred for prescription drugs or emergency room visits that should not have been paid. We will communicate with those participants we understand to have made such unnecessary payments when we have additional information.

In the meantime, if you think you may have been affected, please contact the Plan office at benefits@cirseiu.org or by phone at (212) 356-8180, Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm and provide evidence of such unnecessary payments.

Sincerely,

Rhonda L. Murray
Plan Manager