

Jefferson County Public Health TAKE CHARGE Patient Information Sheet

Starting January 2014 - To qualify for Take Charge clients who have low income need to apply for free Health Insurance through Washington Health Plan Finder, www.wahealthplanfinder.org. If the client qualifies for Free Health Insurance, Washington Apple Health, then all their Birth Control Services will be covered through Washington Apple Health. If the client's income is too high to qualify for Washington Apple Health and they are denied that program then the client will be eligible for Take Charge.

What is Take Charge?

Take Charge is a joint state/federally funded program administered by the Washington State Health Care Authority that provides family planning services (including free birth control) to women and men in Washington State who do not have insurance. It can also be used by minors 18 and younger who are on their parents' insurance but choose to keep their use of birth control confidential. To qualify, your income must be at or below 260% of the Federal Poverty Level, you must be a Washington State resident, and you must be a U.S. Citizen or have been a legal permanent resident for at least 5 years in order to qualify for the program.

Take Charge Services: Free Birth Control and More

Take Charge coverage is for one full year. It can be renewed each year if you continue to meet the eligibility requirements. You must reapply each year. Upon approval, you may receive:

- Well-woman exam and birth control methods education (women only)
- All birth control methods including: birth control pill, patch, implant, vaginal ring, shot, IUD, condoms and sterilization [vasectomy (men) or tubal ligation (women)]
- Emergency contraception (sometimes called the morning-after pill) (women only)
- Testing for sexually transmitted infections (chlamydia and gonorrhea only) during the well-woman exam - for women 25 and younger (women only).

Take Charge does not cover: (Washington Apple Health does cover these services)

- The cost of follow-up examinations for abnormal Pap smears
- Immunizations, HIV testing and other STI testing, except as stated above
- The treatment of STIs, including medications, unless the treatment is directly related to the successful use of the chosen birth control method (e.g. an IUD insertion)
- Pregnancy related services including abortion (contact your local DSHS Community Services Office for potential enrollment in full-scope Medicaid, which covers the costs of maternity care or abortions).

If approved for *Take Charge* coverage, you will still be responsible for any charges or treatments not covered by *Take Charge*.

What if I am Denied for Take Charge Coverage?

Jefferson County Public Health (JCPH) does not approve or deny your application. We fax your completed application to the Health Care Authority for approval. If your application is denied by the Health Care Authority, you are responsible for charges incurred during your visit(s). If your income qualifies you, Jefferson County Public Health will work with you to adjust the balance through sliding fees, donation funds, and/or setting up payment plans.

Important! Respond to requests for additional information from the Health Care Authority The

Health Care Authority often has a need to contact patients for additional information in order to process your application. **You must respond to their request for additional information within 10 days or your application will be denied. Per HCA, this is the most common reason for denials!**