



Michigan Association of Health Plans

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Independent Evaluation Ranks Michigan Health Plans Among Best in Nation

US News-NCQA Report Highlights Excellence of Michigan Plans

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Lansing, Mich. — Michigan Association of Health Plans (MAHP) member health plans are continuing their tradition of being among the best in the nation, according to the independent U.S. News & World Report/NCQA America's Best Health Plans 2009.

MAHP member Health Maintenance Organizations were among the highest ranked in all three categories: commercial, Medicare and Medicaid. Ranking criteria included clinical performance, member satisfaction and accreditation by the National Committee on Quality Assurance (NCQA). Michigan's leadership in quality improvement, transparency and measurement is clearly underscored in the ranking outcomes.

Michigan placed five HMOs in the top 50 commercial plans: Grand Valley Health Plan, Priority Health, HealthPlus of Michigan, Physicians Health Plan of Mid-Michigan and Health Alliance Plan of Michigan.

Two Michigan companies were ranked in the top 50 of Medicare plans: HealthPlus and Health Alliance Plan. Ten were in the top 50 of Medicaid plans: Health Plan of Michigan, Priority Health, Great Lakes Health Plan, Physicians Health Plan, McLaren Health Plan, Upper Peninsula Health Plan, Molina Health Plan, Midwest Health Plan, Total Health Plan and Omnicare Health Plan.

Michigan ranked third among the states in the number of health plans earning recognition, behind only Massachusetts and New York.

"Once again, Michigan's HMOs are being recognized by outside experts as among the finest in the nation," said Dennis Smith, president of the Michigan Association of Health Plans and CEO and President of Upper Peninsula Health Plans. "The combination of top-flight service to our members combined with cost effective operations for businesses who purchase health care make our HMOs an extraordinary value."

"Our performance has again been reaffirmed by the NCQA/US News and World Report Rankings. It is vital that policymakers realize that competition is driving this excellence, and take all steps needed to ensure no one company has too large a share of the health care market in any area of the state," said Richard Murdock, Executive Director of MAHP.

The Michigan Association of Health Plans (MAHP) is an industry voice for Michigan's health care plans. MAHP facilitates communication among members, government, and the industry regarding health care issues of common concern. The mission of the Michigan Association of Health Plans is to provide leadership for the promotion and advocacy of high quality, affordable, accessible health care for the citizens of Michigan.

The annual report uses NCQA information to analyze data from reporting health plans nationwide. This in-depth, independent, review of the nation's health plans provides objective rankings of the nation's health plans, is located on the Web at: <http://health.usnews.com/sections/health/health-plans/>

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