



9.11 WORLD TRADE CENTER HEALTH PROGRAM

To Whom it May Concern:

The WTC Health Program is not insurance; it is a limited federal health program established by Title XXXIII of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 300mm – 300mm-61. The WTC Health Program only provides medical benefits for certified WTC-related health conditions.

For Prescriptions NOT Covered by the WTC Health Program

The WTC Health Program is not permitted to pay for any treatment, including prescription drug costs, for a health condition that has not been certified as WTC-related. WTC Health Program members must use their primary health insurance (i.e., private health insurance, Medicare, Medicaid) or pay out of pocket for any prescription related to a health condition not certified by the WTC Health Program. Members are required to have primary insurance coverage such as Medicaid, Medicare, or private health insurance to be enrolled in the WTC Health Program. See 42 U.S.C. § 300mm-41(c)(3).

For Prescriptions to Treat Certified WTC-Related Health Conditions

Payment of health care costs for health conditions certified as WTC-related in individuals enrolled in the WTC Health Program is governed by the PHS Act. For certified WTC-related health conditions that are work-related—health conditions generally seen in responders—the WTC Health Program pays all treatment costs, including prescription drug costs, and then recoups money from workers' compensation plans where appropriate.

For certified WTC-related health conditions that are not work-related—those generally seen in WTC Health Program survivor members—the PHS Act directs that Medicare as secondary payer provisions of the Social Security Act, section 1862(b) of the Social Security Act, apply to the WTC Health Program and requires that all public and private insurers pay treatment costs, including pharmaceutical costs, prior to the WTC Health Program. The PHS Act also directs that Medicaid third party liability provisions of the Social Security Act, section 1902(a)(25) of the Social Security Act, do not apply to the WTC Health Program. See 42 U.S.C. § 300mm-41(c)(1).

More About the WTC Health Program

The WTC Health Program is authorized through 2090. It is administered by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

For questions or concerns, please call the WTC Health Program call center at 1-888-982-4748 or visit www.cdc.gov/wtc.

Sincerely,

The World Trade Center Health Program