



HURA news

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2018
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Harvard to Switch Pharmacy Benefit Managers

Harvard Human Resources (HHR) Benefits has announced a change coming on January 1, 2019. Express Scripts will replace OptumRx as Harvard's pharmacy benefit manager for prescription drugs.

If you are enrolled in a Harvard medical plan for 2019, you will receive a new pharmacy card in December to begin using on January 1. It is very important to present this new pharmacy ID card when filling any prescriptions on or after January 1, 2019. Retirees will also receive a Welcome Kit from Express Scripts with more information.

Make sure HHR has your current mailing address.

Many retirees using OptumRx remember the change when Catamaran



EXPRESS SCRIPTS®

merged with OptumRx—not so long ago—which was troublesome and continues to be for some subscribers. HHR is working with ESI to make the transition as easy as possible for retirees.

According to a 2018 Pharmacy Benefit Management Institute Report of plan sponsors, Express Scripts leads the industry in customer satisfaction, earning the highest overall satisfaction rating, 8.1, among large pharmacy benefit managers.

At this writing, Express Scripts and Cigna Corporation, a global health services company, are in the process of completing a merger to “deliver greater affordability, choice, and predictability to our customers and clients as a combined company.”

EXPRESS SCRIPTS MEDICARE FOR AGE-65-OR-OVER MEDICARE PARTICIPANTS

Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage for all three senior medical plans is included as part of your retiree medical plan coverage, and the cost of the prescription plan is included in your monthly premium.

The copayment structure for prescriptions is not changing. There may be routine annual changes to the tier and cost of a medication on the preferred drug list (formulary). The Express Scripts Medicare formulary is available online by going to HARVie (hr.harvard.edu/open-enrollment-2019/retiree-open-enrollment) [Harvard Key and two-step authentication required] or you can get information by calling Express Scripts Medicare Customer Service at 866-544-2895 (age 65 or over plans).

DETAILS ABOUT THE TRANSITION TO EXPRESS SCRIPTS WILL BE MAILED TO YOU WITH THE OPEN ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

HHR recommends that you have on hand at least a 3-week supply of your medications during the transition period in early January. Request a refill using your Optum Rx coverage prior to the end of 2018.

All retirees enrolled in a Harvard senior medical plan will receive some required notices during the transition, including a Coverage Termination no-

Continued on page 2

COMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 5, MONDAY, 10:30-NOON.

Meet with HR Benefits and Express Scripts Representatives to talk about Harvard benefits and answer questions retirees may have about their current coverages. 114 Mt. Auburn St. Room 406. Free, but registration required. Sign up by emailing HURA V.P. Bev Sullivan, bevpeter@verizon.net or calling 781-646-8346.

DECEMBER 7, FRIDAY, 11:30-2:00 p.m.

Holiday Luncheon at the Oakley Country Club. Registration information opposite.

SPORTS

DECEMBER 1, SATURDAY, 3:00 p.m.

Women's Hockey: Crimson vs. Union College Dutchwomen. Tickets: Adult \$5 & Youth/Student Free. Deadline: Nov. 8.

JANUARY 25, FRIDAY, 7:00 p.m. Men's

Hockey: Crimson vs. Clarkson. Ticket price \$5 each, adult and youth. Deadline: January 10.

For more information:

Henry Terwedow, 53 Forbes Ave., Marlborough, MA 01752. hterwedo@gmail.com, 508-481-1165. Registration information will be sent to the HURA E-List and posted on the website at HURA.Harvard.edu.



Essex River Cruise Headquarters. See more photos on page 4.

Harvard to Switch Pharmacy Benefit Managers

Continued from page 1

tice from OptumRx. These notices are required under federal guidelines. **No action is necessary on your part and there will be no break in your prescription coverage.**

If you need to take additional action after January 1, 2019 to continue any medications, Express Scripts Medicare will contact you.

If you enroll in a separate Medicare Part D plan (outside the prescription drug coverage offered as part of your Harvard plan), you will be disenrolled from your Harvard medical plan.

Prior authorization or quantity-limit exceptions through Optum-

Express Scripts leads the industry in customer satisfaction, earning the highest overall satisfaction rating, 8.1, among large pharmacy benefit managers.

Rx will transfer to Express Scripts Medicare and will be valid up to the OptumRx expiration date.

Most mail-order prescriptions will transfer automatically to Express Scripts Medicare; however, you will need to provide Express Scripts Medicare with your shipping and payment information.

Your mail order prescription will not transfer to Express Scripts Medicare if :

- There are no refills remaining or the "refill by" date has expired;
- It is a controlled substance;
- It is a compound medication.

For any of these, you will need to get a new prescription from your medical provider to be submitted to Express Scripts Medicare.

OptumRx's Briova prescriptions will be transferred to Express Scripts Medicare's Accredo specialty pharmacy.

EXPRESS SCRIPTS PHARMACY ADMINISTRATOR FOR UNDER-AGE-65 RETIREES

In mid-December, all under-age-65 retirees who are enrolled in a Harvard medical plan will receive a Welcome Kit from Express Scripts. It will contain a new pharmacy card for prescriptions filled on or after January 1, 2019, along with important information about mail order prescription services and transitions.

Under-age-65 Harvard retirees can contact Express Scripts Customer Service at 877-787-8684 with any questions or visit them online after October 31 at www.express-scripts.com/HarvardUniversity, where the Express Scripts drug list (formulary) may also be accessed.

If questions remain, you may be interested in attending the upcoming "Meet with HR Benefits" program that HURA and the Benefits Office are hosting.

NOVEMBER 5, MONDAY, 10:30-NOON:

Meet with HR Benefits and Express Scripts Representatives to talk about Harvard benefits and answer questions retirees may have about their current coverages, especially during the Open Enrollment period.

114 Mt. Auburn St., Room 406.

Free, but registration required.

Sign up by emailing HURA V.P.

Bev Sullivan, bevpeter@verizon.net or calling 781-646-8346.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY RETIREES ASSOCIATION

Invites You To

A Gala Holiday Luncheon

Friday, December 7, 2018

Oakley Country Club

410 Belmont Street, Watertown, MA

Social Hour: 11:30 a.m. Luncheon: 12:30 p.m.
Cash Bar and Free Non-Alcoholic Fruit Punch
Complimentary glass of wine with lunch

OPEN SEATING

ENTERTAINMENT: PAUL WHITE MUSIC

Paul is proficient in piano, electronic keyboard, and pipe organ and has won numerous competitions. He has performed as a solo pianist/vocal tenor in a variety of performance settings including classical, jazz/blues, gospel, and theater.

BRING AN UNWRAPPED GIFT OR A TOY

Please remember disadvantaged Boston and Cambridge children by bringing an unwrapped gift of toys, books, art supplies, games, stuffed animals, hats & mittens, or gift certificates. Students from Harvard's Phillips Brooks House will distribute your gifts during the holiday season.

MENU

- Garden Salad
Baked Haddock with Lemon Butter Sauce
or
Roast Sliced Sirloin, Chef's Choice Gravy
or
Vegetarian Entrée, Upon Request
Seasonal Roasted Vegetables, Classic Whipped Potatoes
Raspberry Cake

DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

There are no refunds for cancellations after November 28. No acknowledgement of this registration will be sent. Checks are deposited after the event.

HURA Members \$30 and Guests \$35

Send registration form with check payable to HURA to Diantha Brown, 257 High Street, Newburyport, MA 01950
Questions, call 978-465-2262

Free parking is available at the Club. For directions go to www.oakleycountryclub.org.

CUT AND RETURN WITH YOUR CHECK

Member name _____ Entrée choice _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Guest name (one) _____ Entrée choice _____

Amount enclosed (\$30 per member, \$35 per guest) \$ _____ Wish to sit at a Get-Acquainted Table? Yes _____ No _____

**HARVARD UNIVERSITY
RETIRES ASSOCIATION**

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First Class Mail
U.S. Postage
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HURA NEWS

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HURA E-LIST

Members receive up-to-date news and information
mailed directly to their home computers.

HURA WEBSITE

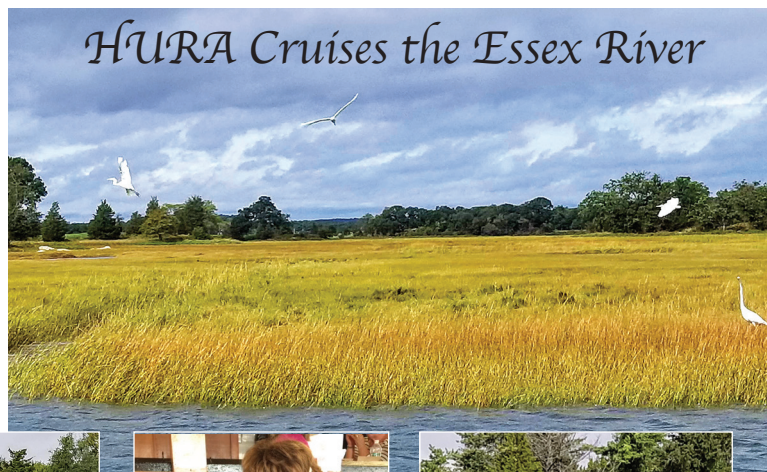
A source of information and news at
<https://hura.harvard.edu>. Mary Ann Mendes at
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HURA FACEBOOK PAGE

<https://www.facebook.com/HUretirees>

For more information, contact Donna Chiozzi at
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Malcolm Hamilton at 781-641-2942 or
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Membership
Carleen.Farrell@gmail.com



HURA Cruises the Essex River

Clockwise from top left:
members on board, the
marshland with snowy egrets,
the last remaining houseboat,
Ann Flentje at Woodman's
following the cruise, and
the remains of a house the
owner was forced to tear
down, leaving a possible
statement of how he felt
about leaving.



PHOTOS BY DONNA CHIOZZI

HURA is a tax-exempt 501 (c) 7 all-volunteer organization. Membership is open to benefits-eligible retirees of Harvard University and is complimentary until the renewal period the following June 30. Thereafter dues are \$20 annually. Visit HURA on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/HUretirees. On the web: www.HURA.harvard.edu