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Lung Scans for Participants with History of Smoking

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Dear Participant:

The United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommends annual screenings for lung cancer with low-dose computed tomography (CT) for adults ages 55 to 80 years who have a 30 pack-year smoking history and currently smoke or have quit within the past 15 years. The USPSTF found adequate evidence that annual screening can prevent a substantial number of lung cancer deaths.

The Trustees of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 399 Health and Welfare Plan (“Local 399 Health Plan”) are pleased to announce that the Local 399 Health Plan will cover these early detection CT scans for employees and dependents age 55 or older with the smoking history in the USPSTF recommendations described above.

- The Plan will only cover lung CT screening performed by a provider in the Blue Cross Blue Shield PPO, or Plan’s preferred imaging network (Absolute Solutions).
- Benefits will be subject to the same deductible and coinsurance as other covered expenses.
- Coverage is effective January 1, 2020.

If you meet the USPSTF’s smoking criteria, ask your primary care physician about your lung cancer risks and whether you should undergo CT screening.



Required Notice: Notice Regarding Grandfathered Status

The Trustees of the IUOE Local 399 Health and Welfare Plan have determined that the Plan is a “grandfathered health plan” under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (the “Affordable Care Act”). As permitted by the Affordable Care Act, a grandfathered health plan can preserve certain basic health coverage that was already in effect when that law was enacted. Being a grandfathered health plan means that your Plan may not include certain consumer protections of the Affordable Care Act that apply to other plans, for example, the requirement to cover preventive health services without any cost sharing. However, grandfathered health plans must comply with certain other consumer protections in the Affordable Care Act, for example, the elimination of lifetime limits on benefits.

Questions regarding which protections apply and which protections do not apply to a grandfathered health plan and what might cause a plan to change from grandfathered health plan status can be directed to the Local 399 Health and Welfare Plan, 2260 S. Grove Street, Chicago, IL 60616-1823, telephone (312) 372-9870, fax (312) 842-0291. You may also contact the Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, at 1(866) 444-3272 or www.dol.gov/ebsa/healthreform. This website has a table summarizing which protections do and do not apply to grandfathered health plans.