

From: [All Faculty and Staff](#) on behalf of [Archnews](#)
To: ARCHNEWSFACSTAFF@LISTSERV.UGA.EDU
Subject: Update: Anthem and Northside Hospital Contract Negotiations
Date: Wednesday, February 2, 2022 8:44:56 AM

TO: UGA Faculty, Staff, and Retirees

FROM: Tamara Freeman, Interim Associate Vice President for University Human Resources

RE: Update: Anthem and Northside Hospital Contract Negotiations

This is an update to the [December 2, 2021 Archnews](#) regarding contract discussions between Anthem and Northside Hospital. As of January 31, 2022, the University System of Georgia (USG) has provided an update stating that **the current Northside Hospital System contract with Anthem has been extended through April 15, 2022.**

This means that Northside Hospital will be in network for the USG Anthem healthcare plans through **April 15, 2022. Unless a new agreement is reached with Northside before this extension period expires on April 15, 2022, Northside facilities and physicians will no longer be included in Anthem health plans beginning April 16, 2022.**

Anthem and Northside will continue to work toward the goal of coming to an agreement during this time. If an agreement is not reached by April 15, 2022, you or your covered family members who are receiving on-going treatments, have a procedure scheduled, or are currently admitted to a Northside Hospital, may have access to in-network coverage for a limited period time if approved through [Continuation of Care](#).

We understand that it is important to receive care from doctors and facilities you know and are comfortable with, especially if you are in treatment for a serious condition. If you have one of the following conditions, your benefits allow you to continue treatment (“continuity of care”) with your current Northside Hospital doctor or facility for a limited time even if they leave your plan’s network:

- If you are pregnant, regardless of trimester
- If you have cancer or end-stage renal disease — through the end of your treatment
- If you are in an active course of treatment for an acute (sudden) medical condition or a serious chronic (ongoing) condition
- If you have a terminal illness and are receiving end-of-life care

Your doctor is required to obtain preapproval for any treatments on Anthem’s preapproval list. When Anthem approves continuity of care, your benefits may cover the claims as if Northside Hospital is in-network. You may only pay your deductible, copay, or percentage of the cost. If you do not acquire the preapproval, your cost may be significantly higher based on your plan benefits because Northside Hospital is not in-network.

Emergency care – including COVID-19 related care – will continue to be covered on or after April 15, 2022 based on your plan's schedule of benefits, as same as it is currently.

More information is available on the Anthem website at [anthem.com/northside](https://www.anthem.com/northside).

If you have questions about continuing to receive care from your doctor, please visit member.accolade.com or call the Member Services number on your insurance identification card. You may also refer to the [Anthem Member Services website](#) for additional contact information and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

University Human Resources will continue to monitor this situation closely and share updates as soon as new information becomes available. We are here to support and assist you in any way we can. Please do not hesitate to contact us at 706-542-2222 or hrweb@uga.edu.