

DO YOUR HOMEWORK

RESEARCH: Start by Googling the company and read their reviews. There are always new insurance plans popping up in the marketplace. It's a good idea to make sure they are reputable and don't have a history of not paying claims.

Something that has occurred over the last few years, are plans that only have a marketplace presence for one year. They then get sued for non-payment of claims, and exit the marketplace. (Essentially, they collect your premiums, but do not pay claims on your behalf.)

Always remember when you call an insurance company, they are going to tell you what you want to hear! Be cautious!

COVERAGE: Make sure to check network coverage! Be Specific!

- ◆ **Primary Care Provider**
- ◆ **Facilities you utilize**
- ◆ **Specialty providers you see regularly**
- ◆ **Pharmacy you use regularly**
- ◆ **What is covered under a wellness visit?**
- ◆ **Do you take any name brand prescriptions that are excluded under the plan?**
- ◆ **Do they cover all medical services including but not limited to office visits, Inpatient stays, emergency room visits, outpatient visits (like lab or radiology)? Be cautious of limited coverage plans!**

COST: Make sure you understand your "out of pocket" costs to the provider: copays, co-insurance and deductibles.

- ◆ **Copays** are due at each visit and typically do not count towards your deductible
- ◆ **Deductible** is the amount you owe before your insurance starts paying