



## METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY

JOHN COOPER  
MAYOR

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
METROPOLITAN COURTHOUSE  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37201  
PHONE: (615) 862-6000  
EMAIL: [mayor@nashville.gov](mailto:mayor@nashville.gov)

January 10, 2023

Jeffrey R. Balsler, M.D., Ph.D.  
President, and Chief Executive Officer  
12 1 Medical Center Drive  
Nashville, Tennessee 37232  
[jeff.balsler@VUMC.org](mailto:jeff.balsler@VUMC.org)

Mr. George Renaudin, II  
President, Medicare  
Humana, Inc.  
320 Seven Springs Way, Suite 200  
Brentwood, TN 37027  
[grenaudin@humana.com](mailto:grenaudin@humana.com)

**RE: Humana / Medicare Advantage**

Dear Dr. Balsler and Mr. Renaudin:

My office has recently learned that Vanderbilt University Medical Center has notified Humana health insurance company that as of April 1, 2023, VUMC will no longer participate in Humana Medicare Advantage plans (Group and Individual) and Commercial Group plans as the result of reimbursement rate disputes.

As each of you know, VUMC is engaged as a provider in most network health care plans for Metropolitan Government employees, retirees, and pensioners. All Metropolitan Government pensioners post-65 are enrolled in the Humana Medicare Advantage Plan. Each of your organizations are deeply valued partners in providing Metropolitan Government beneficiaries with optimal healthcare service. A decision to terminate participation in the Plan could pose sudden, drastic, and potentially harmful consequences for our valued pensioners and dependents. Moreover, termination could pose significant consequences for beneficiaries throughout Davidson County who are age 65 and over and rely upon Humana Medicare Advantage for their healthcare services.

VUMC has provided invaluable services under the Medicare Advantage Plan by allowing for services through in-network providers. To prevent what could otherwise unfold into catastrophic scenarios, I am requesting one of two options:

- First, VUMC and Humana should continue expedited negotiations in good faith for VUMC, and its affiliates and physicians, to be retained in network in such manner as to maintain current services for all Metropolitan Government employees, retirees, and pensioners –

and particularly for the Medicare Advantage Humana network for which Metro pensioners participate -- without disruption.

- Second, should those negotiations fail, both parties should allow for continued services by VUMC to all Metropolitan Government Humana Medicare Advantage beneficiaries, billing for such services as an out-of-network provider on a non-par basis.

The significance of maintaining the current Humana Medicare Advantage Plan for Metropolitan Government employees, retirees, and pensioners cannot be over-stated. Maintaining current services is likewise crucial to our employees' representative partners, including the Fraternal Order of Police, the Nashville Firefighters Association / IAFF Local 140, and the Service Employees International Union (SEIU).

I ask each of you to please contact my office as soon as possible to confirm your willingness to pursue the options outlined above and to preserve healthcare coverage for the Metropolitan Government and our valued family of beneficiaries. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Cooper". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Cooper".

John Cooper  
Mayor