

Taking the guesswork out of choosing health care providers.

Cigna Care Designation 

When you choose a Cigna Care Designation (CCD) provider, you can feel confident you've made a quality selection. That's because each one has a proven history of achieving quality outcomes, while also being cost effective.

Here's how you can be sure.

Using standard, industry-accepted measures, Cigna HealthcareSM regularly evaluates our in-network providers in 21 of the most common primary care categories and specialties. Those with top results earn the designation.

3 Primary care categories

- Family practice
- Internal medicine
- Pediatrics



18 Specialties

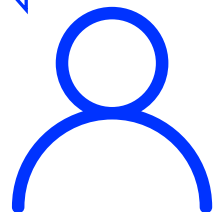
- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Allergy/Immunology | • Nephrology |
| • Cardiology | • Neurology |
| • Cardio-thoracic surgery | • Neurosurgery |
| • Dermatology | • OB/GYN |
| • Ear, nose and throat | • Ophthalmology |
| • Endocrinology | • Orthopedics and surgery |
| • Gastroenterology | • Pulmonology |
| • General surgery | • Rheumatology |
| • Hematology/Oncology | • Urology |

I need to see a doctor for allergies, but I'm not sure where to begin.

Picking a doctor out of a list seems random and overwhelming.


How do I get information about the quality of a doctor's care?

How can I be sure I'm paying a reasonable price?



Finding a CCD provider is easy.

Just search the provider directory on **myCigna**[®], where you'll see:

- The CCD symbol. 
- Provider star-rating for cost-efficient care, with three stars being the highest rating.



Evaluation methodology

Cigna Healthcare evaluates providers based on criteria we believe to be markers of quality and cost efficiency.

Quality. We use four quality indicators to review providers in our network.

- **Group Board Certification** determines if board-certified providers provide most of the care in a physician group.
- **National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) Physician Recognition** shows providers who received recognition in any of the four NCQA Physician Recognition Programs: Diabetes, heart/stroke, physician practice connections or patient-centered medical home.
- **Quality Oncology Practice Initiative (QOPI®) Certification Program** provides a three-year certification recognizing high-quality care for outpatient hematology/oncology practices within the United States.
- **Evidence-based medicine (EBM) rules** span 45 diseases and preventive care conditions and may apply to the care provided by providers in 15 specialties. The quality of a provider's care is evaluated using a claims-based assessment based on 107 EBM rules.

Cost efficiency. Individual providers and group practices are evaluated for their cost efficiency using industry-standard Episode Treatment Group methodology that:

- Determines the average cost of treating an episode of care for each of the reviewed medical conditions and surgical procedures; then
- Compares that cost to the costs of other providers and medical groups of the same specialty in the same geographical market.

Provider requirements

Participating physicians may receive the Cigna Care Designation if the provider or physician group:

- Is located in one of the markets currently included in this program.
- Practices in one of the 21 assessed primary care categories and specialties.
- Meets the Board Certified Care Standard.
- Has a minimum of 30 completed Episode Treatment Groups occurrences.
- Performance meets nationally endorsed criteria, with top results for both quality and cost efficiency as compared with their peers in the market.

Always reviewing and improving

Just as we continue to review and evaluate our providers, we will also continue to review our evaluation methodology and provider requirements. This will help to ensure not only that we remain current with evolving industry standards, but also that our customers can continue to choose care confidently.



Quality designations, cost-efficiency and other ratings reflect a partial assessment of quality and cost efficiency and should not be the sole basis for decision making. They are not a guarantee of the quality of care that will be provided to individual patients. You are encouraged to consider all relevant factors and consult with your physician when selecting a provider. Providers are independent contractors solely responsible for care delivered; providers are not agents of Cigna Healthcare.

Product availability may vary by location and plan type and is subject to change. All group health insurance policies and health benefit plans contain exclusions and limitations. For costs and details of coverage, see your plan documents.

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