Preferred Provider Organization (PPO)

- A medical plan that allows you total flexibility in your choice of medical providers and/or facilities.
- A PPO generally has two different payment schedules, one for “preferred” (or in-network) providers and one for out-of-network providers.
- When you use a provider not affiliated with the network your share of the cost is a higher percentage than when you use the services of a contracted provider.
- Medical providers agree to provide services at a discounted rate in order to be on the “preferred” list of providers.
- Generally a PPO will require you to satisfy a deductible and share in the cost of your medical treatment (co-insurance).
- Nationwide/Worldwide Program
**Health Maintenance Organization (HMO)**

- Uses a pre-defined group of doctors, facilities, and other health care professionals – you *must* use these providers.
- Usually services a limited geographic region (Northern Nevada; or Southern Nevada).
- Concentrate on preventive care and early intervention.
- You choose a Primary Care Physician (PCP) for each member in your family, this doctor will manage your health care.
- No deductible.
- All services are based on co-pays (a flat dollar amount at time of service).
Residents and their Family Members have Low or No Premiums for Either HMO or PPO

Both PPO and HMO Plans offer:

- Quality health care coverage
- Reasonable office visit co-pays
- Disease management programs
PPO or HMO?

- **PPO**
  - Coverage anywhere
  - You choose which healthcare providers and facilities you use
  - Certain services apply to the annual deductible

- **HMO**
  - No deductible
  - Lower co-pays
  - Must receive care in service area, unless an emergency.
  - Primary Care Provider refers to specialists
PPO vs HMO?

Some questions to consider;

- Are your doctors and healthcare facilities contracted with the plan?
- Do your eligible family members live or work in the service area? HMO is restricted to an area.
- Do you or a family member have a chronic medical condition requiring frequent office visits? HMO’s have lower co-pays
- Are your prescriptions covered under the formulary?