Rate Increase Justification

What's happening?
Oscar is raising its monthly premiums starting January 1, 2019. While we’re working hard to keep costs down for members, we adjust our pricing every year in light of changing costs and the care our members need. There’s nothing you need to do right now. We just wanted to make sure you heard it from us first.

The average rate change request is an increase of 11.0% and will impact approximately 39,142 policyholders.

Why are premiums going up?
We never base premiums on your age, gender, or health. There are three main reasons for higher premiums: medical costs have gone up, services utilized have changed, and trends have shifted in the marketplace.

When our costs go up, we unfortunately have to raise premiums, as do all other carriers. We expect to pay at least $0.97 of every $1 we collect in premiums towards our members’ medical care, and sometimes we pay even more than that. We use whatever is left to cover the cost of running our business.

What are we doing about it?
Part of Oscar’s core mission is to slow the trend of rising healthcare costs over time. We’ll do that by continuing to align incentives with our provider partners so they are more mindful of your wallet. We’re also continuing to improve on and develop new tools that help you get the best treatment, right when you need it, at an affordable price.

What's next?
We’ll be in touch again in the fall once our rates are finalized by NY State regulators. Most importantly, we want you to know our world class team is working with the smartest investors and top healthcare partners to deliver on our mission to create a better healthcare experience. We hope you will continue to choose Oscar for your health insurance.

Jacob D. Dority
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