

Oregon Healthcare News

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Discounts Available to Uninsured Patients for Most Laboratory Tests

By Cindy Simpson

*Director of Patient Financial Services
PeaceHealth Laboratories*



In early July, PeaceHealth Laboratories expanded our EasyAccess discounted laboratory testing program for uninsured patients to include specimens collected in a physician's office. Previously, most tests collected at a PeaceHealth Laboratories Patient Service Center were already eligible for discounts. Virtually all tests are now eligible for the discount with the exception of some specialty testing and reference testing performed by another laboratory.

Access to laboratory screening tests

plays an important part in disease prevention. Individuals without health insurance are more likely to skip regular screening tests which would normally be part of their preventive health care schedule.

County Health Rankings report that 21 percent of Oregon adults under the age of 65 are uninsured (with Lane County higher than the state average at 22 percent), and more than 11 percent of Washington adults are without health insurance. Difficult economic conditions create an environment where the ranks of the uninsured are likely to increase over the next few years.

In response to these conditions, PeaceHealth Laboratories expanded its EasyAccess Savings Program for uninsured patients to include laboratory testing collected in a physician's office. These tests may include a blood specimen, Pap test or Vitamin D test.

PeaceHealth Laboratories' EasyAccess Savings Program is an example of our mission in action and is highlighted through the expansion of this program. Our mission is to promote personal and community health, relieve pain and suffering

and treat each person in a loving and caring way. Our goal in expanding the program now is to make screening and diagnostic testing services more accessible for the uninsured in our community.

To receive the discount, patients call the Patient Financial Services team when they receive their PeaceHealth Laboratories invoice for laboratory services. The discount -- normally 20 to 40 percent -- is determined during the call and the payment transaction is usually completed over the phone at the same time. Payment must be made within 30 days of the invoice date. Insurance is not eligible to be used in combination with this program.

EasyAccess is easy. There are no forms to complete or financial qualifications to meet. Receive more information about the EasyAccess Savings Program for the uninsured by visiting www.peacehealthlabs.org/easyaccess or calling PeaceHealth Laboratories at 800-826-3616, option 3.

Cindy Simpson is the Director of Patient Financial Services for PeaceHealth Laboratories and is responsible for the organization's

full revenue cycle for their nine laboratories located in Oregon, Washington and Alaska. She has served in this role for over a decade and has experience working in the laboratory industry for over 30 years. She can be reached at csimpson@

peacehealthlabs.org

PeaceHealth Laboratories is a division of PeaceHealth, a not-for-profit health care system with a mission to promote personal and community health by providing

comprehensive laboratory services throughout the Pacific Northwest and specialty testing to clinicians and employers across the U.S. www.peacehealthlabs.org.

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