



**NEWS RELEASE**  
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**Upper Peninsula Health Plan Ranks in U.S. Top 20**

[MARQUETTE]—The Upper Peninsula Health Plan (UPHP) has been named one of America's best health plans for the second consecutive year by *U.S. News and World Report*. UPHP ranks 17th among Medicaid managed-care plans in the United States, a 30-place improvement over its 2005 rank of 47th. It ranks fourth among Michigan health plans.

The honor is part of the magazine's recognition of high-quality health plans, which are ranked by *U.S. News* and the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), the major accrediting body for managed-care plans. The 2006 Honor Roll appears in the November 6 issue of the magazine.

According to UPHP Chief Executive Officer Dennis H. Smith, the ranking improved partly because, last spring, UPHP received NCQA accreditation as a Medicaid managed-care organization, with a special distinction of excellence. "The ranking also reflects our consistently sound business practices, as well as our close collaboration with Upper Peninsula hospitals and physicians," Smith added.

Health plans were ranked according to scores for *Access to Care, Overall Member Satisfaction, Prevention, and Treatment*. UPHP scored higher than the national average in the specific categories of *Eye Exams for Diabetes, Glucose Testing for Diabetes, Regular Mammograms, Medicating Depression Appropriately, and Managing High Blood Pressure*.

The complete Medicaid health plan rankings are available at [www.usnews.com/usnews/health/best-health-insurance/rank\\_medicaid\\_2006.htm](http://www.usnews.com/usnews/health/best-health-insurance/rank_medicaid_2006.htm)

Rankings for Medicare and commercial health plans are also available.



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