

UPMC Health Plan Among “Best” Nationwide

A national organization that ranks managed care companies on their preventive health and quality programs said UPMC Health Plan was among the highest-ranked health plans in the country. The results were published in *U.S. News & World Report* magazine.

The National Committee for Quality Assurance and *U.S. News & World Report* listed UPMC Health Plan as one of the top-50 health plans in the United States. UPMC Health Plan was also highly ranked statewide. And for breast cancer screening, the Health Plan was the highest-ranked managed care company in the nation for the second consecutive year.

U.S. News & World Report used a star system to rank health plans in specific categories. UPMC Health Plan earned five stars in the categories of “prevention” and “treatment,” the only Pennsylvania health plan on the list to do so.

UPMC Health Plan’s high rankings were based primarily on NCQA’s review of preventive health data, which showed that Health Plan members received procedures such as breast cancer screenings, diabetes preventive health tests, and other similar measures at a high rate.

The rankings were published as “America’s Best Health Plans 2005” in *U.S. News & World Report*’s October 10 edition, now available in the health section of the magazine’s website. The magazine publication marks the first time NCQA has released the information through a media partner.

Nationally, UPMC Health Plan’s top ranking in breast cancer screening means Health Plan members were screened for breast cancer at a greater rate than were members of any other surveyed managed care company in the United States.

UPMC Health Plan received five-star ratings in two categories (Prevention and Treatment) and in five sub-categories (child and adolescent access to care, child and adolescent immunizations, women’s reproductive health, diabetes care, and behavioral health).

The Health Plan was recognized through the *U.S. News & World Report/NCQA* America’s Best Health Plans 2005 listing in the news magazine. Overall, it ranked UPMC Health Plan No. 35 nationally.