



ESSENTIAL HEALTH BENEFITS: PREMIUM ESTIMATES

Presented by Garen Corbett, MS

February 11, 2025

*Joint Informational Hearing
Assembly and Senate Health Committees
2027 Essential Health Benefits Benchmark Options*



CHBRP SNAPSHOT



Speed



**Delivering value directly
to the Legislature**



Rigor

CHBRP impacts policy by informing, educating, and supporting evidence-based decision-making with impartial and neutral analysis.

Key Caveats

- Analysis undertaken in less than two weeks
- Where possible, reliance was placed on prior work for CHBRP or similar coverage in other states
- We assumed no coverage of the benefits at baseline
- We have not performed a detailed comparison of Wakely's definition of these benefits to ours (though we have provided some responses to staff questions)

Analytic Approach

- Actuarial analysis was led by Milliman. Milliman, with long-term contracts with CHBRP, provides the actuarial services component of CHBRP reports, as required by statute.
- This analysis uses Milliman's Consolidated Health Sources Database (CHSD)
- For benefits that are already in other states' EHB plans, we looked at utilization levels from that state and then calculated unit costs from California
- For newer benefits that are still emerging in California and other states, we used estimates for unit cost and utilization to develop potential impacts

Results

- The following key fiscal impact table shows the expected plan paid per member per month (PMPM) impact of the various proposed EHB expanded benefits
- The estimated premium increase includes the estimated increase in plan paid for the benefit as well as an increase in non-benefit expenses (admin costs, etc).

Fiscal Estimates

Proposed EHB Benefit Expansion	Estimated Plan Paid PMPM Increase for Silver Plans	Estimated Premium Increase for Silver Plans
Hearing Aids	\$1.52	0.21%
Wigs	\$0.31	0.04%
Chiropractic care	\$0.78	0.11%
Durable medical equipment (DME) - General	\$1.64	0.23%
DME - Augmented communication devices	\$0.03	0.00%
DME - Neuromodulators	\$0.01	0.00%
Infertility	\$5.36	0.76%

PMPM = per member per month

Questions?

Contact for CHBRP: info@chbrp.org

Source: [Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Information on Essential Health Benefits \(EHB\) Benchmark Plans, 2025.](#)

Maps created with [mapchart.net](https://www.mapchart.net/).

Last updated: February 10, 2025