MNsure 101: Top 10 things to tell your patients

If you don't already have health coverage, MNsure is a new way to find, compare and buy health coverage that fits your budget and meets your needs.

All plans offered through MNsure must cover the care you need, including doctor visits, hospital stays, emergency services, preventive care, prescriptions, and more.

Low-cost and free plans are available, and financial help is available based on how much money you make.

No one can be denied coverage because of a pre-existing condition.

There is no sales pitch or fine print, just side-by-side comparisons of each plan.

Open enrollment begins Oct. 1, 2013 and ends on March 31, 2014. Coverage obtained through MNsure can begin as soon as Jan. 1, 2014.

Not only can you view and compare health insurance options online, but with one simple application, you can have those options tailored to your personal situation and find out if you might be eligible, based on your income, for financial assistance to lower your costs.

The same application will let you find out if you and your family members might qualify for free or low-cost coverage available through Medical Assistance or MinnesotaCare.

The information is all available online, but you can apply four ways: online, by phone, by mail or in-person with the help of a trained assister or navigator.

MNsure offers assistance in English,
Spanish, Hmong and Somali and will
connect callers who need help in one of
140 other languages to an interpreter
service.

For more information about MNsure visit www.mnsure.org or call 1-855-366-7873.

