

From: [REDACTED]
To: [ETF SMB Board Feedback](#)
Subject: consider policy change?
Date: Monday, April 1, 2024 3:07:29 PM

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Dear ETF board members,
my wife and I are both alumni of UW Madison departments. We both have your wonderful retirement and health insurance support. Three months ago my wife was diagnosed with [REDACTED]. Three months later despite multiple entreaties, no significant progress has been made to address [REDACTED] either by offering her consultations with [REDACTED]. It has become clear that our current provider is unable to provide care in a timely fashion and with staff competent to deal with the [REDACTED].

We would like to be able to switch providers to the [REDACTED] hospitals before the typical new enrollment opportunities starting at the end of September 2024 of this year. Waiting until next September to switch providers and get the care that she needs could be tantamount to condemning her to death [REDACTED]. It would be wonderful if there could be some means when extenuating circumstances arise that insurance coverage could be switched to protect those who have served the UW system for so long.

Thank you for considering this request for some sort of change in process on behalf of all of the women who are and will be coming down with this ailment these days.

Most sincerely,
Warren Porter
Emeritus Prof. of Integrative Biology
UW Madison
[REDACTED]



STATE OF WISCONSIN
Department of Employee Trust Funds
A. John Voelker
SECRETARY

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April 15, 2024

Mr. Warren Porter

Via email: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Warren Porter:

Thank you for your email to the Group Insurance Board (Board) requesting the ability to change health plans.

On behalf of The Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds, I would like to offer my sympathy and acknowledgement of your frustration dealing with this matter. Currently, members of the Group Health Insurance Program can enroll or make changes to their existing health insurance coverage due to either a qualifying life event or during the annual It's Your Choice Open Enrollment Period. If a qualifying life event occurs, a member is allowed to enroll or make changes to their existing coverage outside of the annual It's Your Choice Open Enrollment Period. Depending on the type of qualifying life event, documentation may be requested. For a full list of life events, please visit the Life Events section of ETF's website at <https://etf.wi.gov/insurance/life-events-guide/life-change-events-and-documentation-requirements> . Unfortunately issues with quality of care is not a qualifying life event that allows a member to make changes to their health insurance coverage. However, members can contact their health plan (in this case Dean) and request a provider exception for care to be administered at an alternative facility.

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to reach out to me using the contact information provided below.

Sincerely,

Korbey White, Health Program Manager
Office of Strategic Health Policy
Department of Employee Trust Funds
Korbey.White@etf.wi.gov
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