

Patricia Ball, Jamie Carsello, and Jeri Peters named to UCare vice president positions

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UCare has promoted three directors to vice president-level roles.



Patricia Ball, formerly corporate strategies director, has been appointed vice president of provider relations and contracting.

Ball joined UCare in 2010 as product management and development director before becoming corporate strategies director in 2012. She previously held product management positions at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota and UnitedHealth Group's Ingenix and OptumHealth divisions. Ball has led UCare's development of the UCare Choices product for the MNsure health insurance marketplace, and the health plan's collaboration with Fairview to build and offer the Fairview UCare Choices product on MNsure.



Jamie Carsello, Chief Informatics Officer, was named vice president and chief informatics officer. Carsello joined UCare in 1997 as a financial analyst. He was promoted to senior financial analyst in 1999, data analytics manager in 2000, data analytics director in 2001, and health care economics director in 2011. Carsello was instrumental in building UCare's health care economics department, transforming his team's focus on data reporting to include complex analyses that support UCare's strategic activities. Carsello oversees UCare's product pricing activities, revenue and risk adjustment management strategies, encounter and Part D reporting, enrollment analysis, quality and pay-for-performance measures, and provider fee schedules.



Jeri Peters, chief nursing officer, is now vice president and chief nursing officer. Peters led UCare's clinical services areas, including clinical intake and operations, disease management,

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utilization review, and case management through tremendous growth and change since 2005. She also led several member-centered initiatives, including the development of an innovative care management model for members of UCare Connect, UCare's Special Needs BasicCare plan for adults with disabilities; improved appropriate swing bed utilization; and innovative disease management models such as in-home respiratory therapy visits for children with asthma. Prior to joining UCare, Peters held leadership roles with Allina Health System, Iowa Health System, and the University of Iowa.

UCare (www.ucare.org) is an independent, nonprofit health plan providing health care and administrative services to more than 350,000 members. UCare serves more people from diverse cultures and more people with disabilities enrolled in Medical Assistance than any other health plan in Minnesota.