



**BOOKLET FOR:**

**WESTERN STATES HEALTH AND WELFARE TRUST FUND OF THE  
OPEIU**

**January 1, 2026**

**Preferred Medical Plan**

**Group Number: 10010748**

**Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon Medical Benefits**



Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon is an Independent  
Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

## Notice: Your Rights and Protections Against Surprise Medical Bills

When You get emergency care or are treated by an out-of-network Provider at an in-network Hospital or Ambulatory Surgical Center, You are protected from balance billing. In these cases, You shouldn't be charged more than Your plan's Copayments, Coinsurance and/or Deductible.

### WHAT IS "BALANCE BILLING" (SOMETIMES CALLED "SURPRISE BILLING")?

When You see a doctor or other health care Provider, You may owe certain out-of-pocket costs, like a Copayment, Coinsurance, or Deductible. You may have additional costs or have to pay the entire bill if You see a Provider or visit a health care facility that isn't in Your health plan's network.

"Out-of-network" as used in this Notice, means Providers and facilities that haven't signed a contract with Your health plan to provide services. Out-of-network Providers may be allowed to bill You for the difference between what Your plan pays and the full amount charged for a service. This is called "**balance billing**." This amount is likely more than in-network costs for the same service and might not count toward Your plan's Deductible or annual out-of-pocket limit.

"Surprise billing" is an unexpected balance bill. This can happen when You can't control who is involved in Your care - like when You have an emergency or when You schedule a visit at an in-network facility but are unexpectedly treated by an out-of-network Provider. Surprise medical bills could cost thousands of dollars depending on the procedure or service.

### YOU ARE PROTECTED FROM BALANCE BILLING FOR: **Emergency services**

If You have an Emergency Medical Condition and get emergency services from an out-of-network Provider or facility, the most they can bill You is Your plan's in-network cost-sharing amount (such as Copayments, Coinsurance, and Deductibles). You **can't** be balance billed for these emergency services. This includes services You may get after You're in stable condition, unless You give written consent and give up Your protections not to be balance billed for these post-stabilization services.

### **Certain services at an in-network Hospital or Ambulatory Surgical Center**

When You get services from an in-network Hospital or Ambulatory Surgical Center, certain Providers there may be out-of-network. In these cases, the most those Providers may bill You is Your plan's in-network cost-sharing amount. This applies to emergency medicine, anesthesia, pathology, radiology, laboratory, neonatology, assistant surgeon, hospitalist, or intensivist services. These Providers **can't** balance bill You and may **not** ask You to give up Your protections not to be balance billed.

If You get other types of services at these in-network facilities, out-of-network Providers **can't** balance bill You, unless You give written consent and give up Your protections.

**You're never required to give up Your protections from balance billing. You also aren't required to get care out-of-network. You can choose a Provider or facility in Your plan's network.**

**WHEN BALANCE BILLING ISN'T ALLOWED, YOU ALSO HAVE THESE PROTECTIONS:**

- You are only responsible for paying Your share of the cost (like the Copayments, Coinsurance, and Deductibles that You would pay if the Provider or facility was in-network). Your health plan will pay any additional costs to out-of-network Providers and facilities directly.
- Generally, Your health plan must:
  - Cover emergency services without requiring You to get approval for services in advance (also known as "prior authorization").
  - Cover emergency services by out-of-network Providers.
  - Base what You owe the Provider or facility (cost-sharing) on what it would pay an in-network Provider or facility and show that amount in Your explanation of benefits.
  - Count any amount You pay for emergency services or out-of-network services toward Your in-network Deductible and out-of-pocket limit.

**If You believe You've been wrongly billed by Us**, contact the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation by:

- calling the Consumer Hotline at 1 (888) 877-4894;
- e-mail at: **DFR.InsuranceHelp@dcbs.oregon.gov**; or
- filing a complaint at: **<https://dfr.oregon.gov/help/complaints-licenses/Pages/file-complaint.aspx>**.

**If You believe You've been wrongly billed by a Provider**, contact **[www.cms.gov/nosurprises/consumers](http://www.cms.gov/nosurprises/consumers)** or call the No Surprises Help Desk at 1 (800) 985-3059.

Visit **[www.cms.gov/nosurprises/consumers](http://www.cms.gov/nosurprises/consumers)** for more information about Your rights under federal law.

# NONDISCRIMINATION NOTICE

Regence complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Regence does not exclude people or treat them less favorably because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

## **Regence:**

**Provides people with disabilities reasonable modifications and free appropriate auxiliary aids and services to communicate effectively with us, such as:**

- Qualified sign language interpreters
- Written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats).

**Provides free language assistance services to people whose primary language is not English, which may include:**

- Qualified interpreters
- Information written in other languages.

If you need reasonable modifications, appropriate auxiliary aids and services, or language assistance services, contact the Civil Rights Coordinator.

If you believe that Regence has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance. You can file a grievance in person or by mail, fax, or email. If you need help filing a grievance, the Civil Rights Coordinator is available to help you.

### **Customer Service**

Civil Rights Coordinator  
PO Box 1106  
Lewiston, ID 83501-1106  
Phone: 1-888-344-6347, (TTY: 711)  
Fax: 1-888-309-8784  
Email: CS@regence.com

### **Medicare Customer Service**

Phone: 1-800-541-8981 (TTY: 711)  
Email: medicareappeals@regence.com

### **VSP Customer Service**

Phone: 1-844-299-3041  
TTY: 1-800-428-4833

You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf>, or by mail or phone at:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue SW  
Room 509F, HHH Building  
Washington, D.C. 20201  
1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD)

Complaint forms are available at  
<http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.

## Language assistance

ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1-888-344-6347 (TTY: 711).

注意：如果您使用繁體中文，您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 1-888-344-6347 (TTY: 711)。

CHÚ Ý: Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số 1-888-344-6347 (TTY: 711).

주의: 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. 1-888-344-6347 (TTY: 711) 번으로 전화해 주십시오.

PAUNAWA: Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, maaari kang gumamit ng mga serbisyo ng tulong sa wika nang walang bayad. Tumawag sa 1-888-344-6347 (TTY: 711).

ВНИМАНИЕ: Если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните 1-888-344-6347 (телетайп: 711).

ATTENTION: Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le 1-888-344-6347 (ATS : 711)

注意事項：日本語を話される場合、無料の言語支援をご利用いただけます。1-888-344-6347 (TTY:711) まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

Díí baa akó nínízin: Díí saad bee yáníłti'go **Diné Bizaad**, saad bee áká'ánída'áwo'déé', t'áá jiik'eh, éí ná hóló, koji' hódíilnih 1-888-344-6347 (TTY: 711.)

FAKATOKANGA'I: Kapau 'oku ke Lea-Fakatonga, ko e kau tokoni fakatonu lea 'oku nau fai atu ha tokoni ta'etotongi, pea te ke lava 'o ma'u ia. ha'o telefonimai mai ki he fika 1-888-344-6347 (TTY: 711)

OBAVJEŠTENJE: Ako govorite srpsko-hrvatski, usluge jezičke pomoći dostupne su vam besplatno. Nazovite 1-888-344-6347 (TTY- Telefon za osobe sa oštećenim govorom ili sluhom: 711)

ប្រយ័ត្ន: បើសិនជាអ្នកនិយាយ ភាសាខ្មែរ, សេវាជំនួយផ្នែកភាសា ដោយមិនគិតល្អល គឺអាចមានសំរាប់បំរើអ្នក។ ចូរ ទូរស័ព្ទ 1-888-344-6347 (TTY: 711)។

ਧਿਆਨ ਦਿਓ: ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਬੋਲਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਸੇਵਾ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਲਈ ਮੁਫਤ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ। 1-888-344-6347 (TTY: 711) 'ਤੇ ਕਾਲ ਕਰੋ।

ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlose Sprachdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: 1-888-344-6347 (TTY: 711)

ማስታወሻ:- የሚናገሩት ቋንቋ አማርኛ ከሆነ የትርጉም እርዳታ ድርጅቶች፣ በነጻ ሊያግዝዎት ተዘጋጅተዋል፤ የሚከተለው ቁጥር ይደውሉ 1-888-344-6347 (መስማት ለተሳናቸው:- 711)::

УВАГА! Якщо ви розмовляєте українською мовою, ви можете звернутися до безкоштовної служби мовної підтримки. Телефонуйте за номером 1-888-344-6347 (телетайп: 711)

ध्यान दिनुहोस्: तपाईंले नेपाली बोल्नुहुन्छ भने तपाईंको निम्ति भाषा सहायता सेवाहरू निःशुल्क रूपमा उपलब्ध छ । फोन गर्नुहोस् 1-888-344-6347 (टिटिवाइ: 711)

ATENȚIE: Dacă vorbiți limba română, vă stau la dispoziție servicii de asistență lingvistică, gratuit. Sunați la 1-888-344-6347 (TTY: 711)

MAANDO: To a waawi [Adamawa], e woodi ballooji-ma to ekkitaaki wolde caahu. Noddu 1-888-344-6347 (TTY: 711)

โปรดทราบ: ถ้าคุณพูดภาษาไทย คุณสามารถใช้บริการช่วยเหลือทางภาษาได้ฟรี โทร 1-888-344-6347 (TTY: 711)

ໂປດຊາບ: ຖ້າວ່າ ທ່ານເວົ້າພາສາ ລາວ, ການບໍລິການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອດ້ານພາສາ, ໂດຍບໍ່ເສັຽຄ່າ, ແມ່ນມີພ້ອມໃຫ້ທ່ານ. ໂທ 1-888-344-6347 (TTY: 711)

Afaan dubbattan Oroomiffaa tiif, tajaajila gargaarsa afaanii tola ni jira. 1-888-344-6347 (TTY: 711) tiin bilbilaa.

توجه: اگر بہ زبان فارسی صحبت می کنید، تسهیلات زبانی بصورت رایگان برای شما فراهم می باشد. با 1-888-344-6347 (TTY: 711) تماس بگیرید.

ملحوظة: إذا كنت تتحدث فاذكر اللغة، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم 1-888-344-6347 (رقم هاتف الصم والبكم 711 TTY)

## Introduction

Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon

**Street Address:**

200 SW Market Street 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Portland, OR 97201

This Booklet provides the evidence and a description of the terms and benefits of coverage. All covered benefits are subject to the terms, conditions, exclusions, and limitations in this Booklet. The agreement between the Trust and Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon (called the "Contract") contains all the terms of coverage. Your plan administrator has a copy.

This Booklet describes benefits effective **January 1, 2026**, or the date Your coverage became effective. This Booklet replaces any plan description, Booklet or certificate previously issued by Us and makes it void. The "identification card" issued to You includes Your name and Your identification number for this coverage. Present Your identification card to Your Provider before receiving care.

In this Booklet, the terms "We," "Us" and "Our" refer to Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon and the term "Group" or "Trust" means the Trust through which Your employer has made arrangements for its employees to participate in this coverage. References to "You" and "Your" refer to both the Enrolled Employee (or Enrolled Retiree) and Enrolled Dependents (except that in the eligibility and continuation of coverage sections, the terms "You" and "Your" mean the Enrolled Employee only). Other terms are defined in the Definitions Section or where they are first used and are designated by the first letter being capitalized.

### **Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008**

This coverage complies with the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008.

### **Risk-Sharing Arrangements with Providers**

This plan includes "risk-sharing" arrangements with Providers who provide services to the Members of this plan. Under a risk-sharing arrangement, the Providers that are responsible for delivering health care services are subject to some financial risk or reward for the services they deliver. Additional information on Our risk-sharing arrangements is available upon request by calling Customer Service at the number listed below.

### **Notice of Privacy Practices**

Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon has a Notice of Privacy Practices that is available by calling Customer Service or visiting the website listed below.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Customer Service:** 1-888-367-2116  
(TTY: 711)

Phone lines are open Monday through Friday 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Pacific time.

Contact Customer Service:

- if You have questions;
- if You would like to learn more about Your coverage;
- if You would like to request written or electronic information regarding any other plan that We offer;
- to talk with one of Our Customer Service representatives;
- via Our website, **regence.com**, to submit a claim online or chat live with a Customer Service representative;
- to request a copy of Your identification card (or print a copy via Our website); or
- for assistance in a language other than English.

Mail Your claims to the following address:

P.O. Box 1106  
Lewiston, ID 83501-1106

For questions about Your plan or to contact Us, Our Customer Service and correspondence address is:

P.O. Box 1106  
Lewiston, ID 83501-1106

**Case Management:** Case managers assess Your needs, develop plans, coordinate resources and negotiate with Providers. For additional information, refer to the Medical Benefits Section or call Case Management at 1-866-543-5765.

**BlueCard® Program:** This unique program enables You to access Hospitals and Physicians when traveling outside the four-state area Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon serves (Idaho, Oregon, Utah and Washington), as well as receive care in 200 countries around the world. Call Customer Service to learn how to have access to care through the BlueCard Program.

## Using Your Regence Preferred Booklet

### ACCESSING PROVIDERS

You are not restricted in Your choice of Provider for care or treatment of an Illness or Injury. All Members must select a primary physician or practitioner. If a primary physician or practitioner is not selected within 90 days one will be assigned by Us. Contact Customer Service for further information and guidance. You control Your out-of-pocket expenses by choosing between "Category 1," "Category 2" and "Category 3" benefit levels.

- **Category 1.** Choosing preferred Providers saves You the most in Your out-of-pocket expenses. Preferred Providers will not bill You for balances beyond any Deductible, Copayment and/or Coinsurance for Covered Services.
- **Category 2.** Choosing participating Providers means Your out-of-pocket expenses will be higher than choosing a preferred Provider. Participating Providers will not bill You for balances beyond any Deductible, Copayment and/or Coinsurance for Covered Services.
- **Category 3.** Choosing nonparticipating Providers means Your out-of-pocket expenses will be higher than choosing a preferred or participating Provider. Also, a nonparticipating Provider may bill You for balances beyond any Deductible, Copayment and/or Coinsurance. This is referred to as balance billing.

For each benefit, We indicate the Provider You may choose and Your payment amount for each Provider option. See the Definitions Section for a complete description of Categories 1, 2 and 3. You can go to **regence.com** for further Provider network information.

### SERVICES RECEIVED FROM AN OREGON NONPARTICIPATING PROVIDER IN A PREFERRED OR PARTICIPATING HEALTHCARE FACILITY

Regardless of any provision to the contrary, if You receive services from an Oregon licensed or certified nonparticipating Provider at a preferred or participating Hospital, Ambulatory Surgical Center, freestanding birthing center, or outpatient renal dialysis center, You may not be responsible for their charges in excess of any Category 1 cost-share for:

- emergency services; or
- other inpatient or outpatient services, unless the nonparticipating Provider obtained Your informed consent in advance of the services in a manner established by the state.

This does not apply to:

- a residential facility licensed by the Department of Human Services or the Oregon Health Authority under Oregon law;
- an establishment furnishing primarily domiciliary care as described under Oregon law;
- a residential facility licensed or approved under the rules of the Department of Corrections;



- facilities established through the Oregon Health Authority for the treatment of substance use disorders;
- community mental health programs or community developmental disabilities programs established under Oregon law; or
- a long-term care facility.

### **ADDITIONAL ADVANTAGES OF MEMBERSHIP**

Advantages of membership include access to discounts on select items and services, personalized health care planning information, health-related events and innovative health-decision tools, as well as a team dedicated to Your personal health care needs. You also have access to Our website and Our mobile application to help You navigate Your way through health care decisions. For access, You just set up Your free account once and it is always up to You whether to participate. **THESE SERVICES ARE VOLUNTARY, NOT INSURANCE AND ARE OFFERED IN ADDITION TO THE BENEFITS IN YOUR BOOKLET.** Additional information about some programs and services can be found in the Value-Added Services Appendix at the end of this Booklet.

- **Go to [regence.com](http://regence.com) or Our mobile application.** You can use these secure applications to:
  - view recent claims, benefits and coverage;
  - find a contracting Provider or identify Participating Pharmacies;
  - use tools to estimate upcoming health care costs and otherwise help You manage health care expenses;
  - get suggestions to improve or maintain wellness and participate in self-guided motivational online wellness programs;
  - learn about prescriptions for various illnesses;
  - compare medications based upon performance and cost and get assistance in switching to less costly, equally effective alternative medications, if You wish; and
  - access information about Regence Advantages. Regence Advantages is a discount program that gives You access to savings on a variety of health-related products and services. We have contracted with several program partners, listed on the secure applications, to offer discounts on their products and services, such as hearing care, health and wellness products and vision care.\* Regence Advantages is available to You at no additional cost. The discounts vary depending on the product, service or program partner. The discount savings are either a flat dollar amount or a percentage ranging from 5% to 60% off of a product or service. Program partners may have limitations or exclusions on their products or services. To find information about any limitations or exclusions, visit the program partner's website or contact them directly. You can contact Customer Service if You don't have access to the Internet.

\*NOTE: If You choose to access these discounts, You may receive savings on an item or service that is covered by this plan, that also may create savings or administrative fees for Us. **ANY SUCH DISCOUNTS OR COUPONS ARE COMPLEMENTS TO THE GROUP HEALTH PLAN, BUT ARE NOT INSURANCE.**

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## Understanding Your Benefits

This section provides information to help You understand the terms Maximum Benefits, Deductibles (if any), Copayments, Coinsurance and Out-of-Pocket Maximum. These terms are types of cost-sharing specific to Your benefits. You will need to refer to the Medical Benefits and Prescription Medications Sections to see what Your benefits are.

### MAXIMUM BENEFITS

Some Covered Services may have a specific Maximum Benefit. Those Covered Services will be provided until the specified Maximum Benefit has been reached. Any days, visits, services, or supplies that are applied toward any Deductible will be applied against the Maximum Benefit limit. Refer to the Medical Benefits Section to determine if a Covered Service has a specific Maximum Benefit.

You will be responsible for the total billed charges for Covered Services that are in excess of any Maximum Benefits. You will also be responsible for charges for any other services or supplies not covered by this plan, regardless of the Provider rendering such services or supplies.

### DEDUCTIBLES

The Deductible is the amount You must pay each Calendar Year before We will provide payments for Covered Services. Only Allowed Amounts for Covered Services are applied to satisfy the Deductible. There is an individual Deductible amount and a Family Deductible amount.

The Family Deductible is satisfied when any combination of Family Members' payments toward each of their individual Deductibles total the Family Deductible amount. No one Family Member may contribute more than their individual Deductible amount toward the Family Deductible in a Calendar Year. A Family Member does not have to satisfy their individual Deductible if the Family Deductible has already been satisfied.

We do not pay for services applied toward the Deductible. Refer to the benefit sections to see what Covered Services are subject to the Deductible. Any amounts You pay for non-Covered Services, Copayments or amounts in excess of the Allowed Amount do not apply toward the Deductible.

### COPAYMENTS

Copayments are a specific dollar amount that You pay directly to the Provider at the time You receive a specified service. A Provider may or may not request any applicable Copayment at the time of service. Refer to the benefit sections to see what Covered Services are subject to a Copayment.

### COINSURANCE (PERCENTAGE YOU PAY)

Your Coinsurance is the percentage You pay when Our payment is less than 100 percent. The Coinsurance varies, depending on the service or supply You received and who rendered it. Your Coinsurance applies once You have satisfied the Deductible and/or any applicable Copayment for Covered Services up to any Maximum Benefit. Your Coinsurance will be based upon the lesser of either the billed charges or the

Allowed Amount. We do not reimburse Providers for charges above the Allowed Amount.

### **OUT-OF-POCKET MAXIMUM**

The Out-of-Pocket Maximum is the most You could pay in a Calendar Year for Covered Services. Your payments of any Deductible, Copayments and/or Coinsurance apply to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum, unless specified otherwise. There is an individual Out-of-Pocket Maximum amount and a Family Out-of-Pocket Maximum amount for Category 1 and 2 benefits combined and also for Category 3 benefits.

The Family Out-of-Pocket Maximum is satisfied when any combination of Family Members' payments of their cost-shares for Covered Services total the Family Out-of-Pocket Maximum. No one Family Member may contribute more than their individual Out-of-Pocket Maximum amount toward the Family Out-of-Pocket Maximum in a Calendar Year. A Family Member does not have to satisfy their individual Out-of-Pocket Maximum if the Family Out-of-Pocket Maximum has already been satisfied.

A Member's payment of any Deductible, Copayment and/or Coinsurance for ambulance, blood bank and emergency room services will apply toward the Category 1 and 2 Out-of-Pocket Maximum amount. Any amounts You pay for non-Covered Services or amounts in excess of the Allowed Amount do not apply toward the Out-of-Pocket Maximum. In addition, the difference in cost between a Brand-Name Medication and its generic equivalent (or a Specialty Medication and its Specialty Biosimilar Medication) does not apply toward the Out-of-Pocket Maximum. You will continue to be responsible for amounts that do not apply toward the Out-of-Pocket Maximum, even after You reach the Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

Once You reach the Out-of-Pocket Maximum, benefits subject to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum will be paid at 100 percent of the Allowed Amount for the remainder of the Calendar Year. The Coinsurance does not change to a higher payment level or apply to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum for some benefits. Refer to the benefit sections to determine if a Covered Service does not apply to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

Any amounts You pay for Prescription Medications will apply toward the Prescription Medication Out-of-Pocket Maximum and those amounts do not apply toward this Out-of-Pocket Maximum. Any reduction in Your cost-sharing for Prescription Medications resulting from the use of any discount or a drug manufacturer coupon will apply toward the Prescription Medication Out-of-Pocket Maximum when purchased through Our Specialty Pharmacy. Refer to the Prescription Medications Section to determine what Prescription Medications apply to the Prescription Medication Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

### **HOW CALENDAR YEAR BENEFITS RENEW**

The Deductible, Out-of-Pocket Maximum and Maximum Benefits are calculated on a Calendar Year basis. Each January 1, those Calendar Year maximums begin again. Some benefits have a separate Maximum Benefit based upon a Member's Lifetime and do not renew every Calendar Year.

The Contract is renewed each Contract Year. A Contract Year is the 12-month period following either the Contract's original Effective Date or subsequent renewal date. A

Contract Year may or may not be the same as a Calendar Year. If Your Contract renews on a day other than January 1 of any year, any Deductible or Out-of-Pocket Maximum amounts You satisfied before the plan's renewal date will carry over into the next Contract Year. If the Deductible and/or Out-of-Pocket Maximum amounts increase during the Calendar Year, You will need to meet the new requirement minus any amount already satisfied from the previous Contract during that same Calendar Year.



## Medical Benefits

This section explains Your benefits and cost-sharing responsibilities for Covered Services. Referrals are not required before You can use any of the benefits of this coverage. All benefits are listed alphabetically, with the exception of Upfront Benefits, Preventive Care and Immunizations, Office or Urgent Care Visits and Other Professional Services.

Medical services and supplies must be Medically Necessary for the treatment of an Illness or Injury (except for any covered preventive care) and received from a Provider practicing within the scope of their license. All covered benefits are subject to the limitations, exclusions and provisions of this plan. In some cases, We may limit benefits or coverage to a less costly and Medically Necessary alternative item. A Health Intervention may be medically indicated or otherwise be Medically Necessary, yet not be a Covered Service. See the Definitions Section for descriptions of Medically Necessary and the types of Providers who deliver Covered Services.

If benefits change while You are in the Hospital (or any other facility as an inpatient), coverage will be provided based upon the benefit in effect when the stay began.

Reimbursement may be available when You purchase new medical supplies, equipment and devices from a Provider or from an approved Commercial Seller. New medical supplies, equipment and devices purchased through an approved Commercial Seller are covered at the Category 1 benefit level, with reimbursement based on the lesser of either the amount paid to a preferred Provider for that item or the retail market value for that item. To learn more about how to access reimbursable new retail medical supplies, equipment and devices, visit Our website or contact Customer Service.

NOTE: If You choose to access new medical supplies, equipment and devices through Our website, We may receive administrative fees or similar compensation from the Commercial Seller and/or You may receive discounts or coupons for Your purchases. **ANY SUCH DISCOUNTS OR COUPONS ARE A COMPLEMENT TO THE GROUP HEALTH PLAN, BUT ARE NOT INSURANCE.**

### CASE MANAGEMENT

Case management is a program designed to provide early detection and intervention in cases of serious Illness or Injury that have the potential for continuing major or complex care. Case managers are experienced, licensed health care professionals. They will provide information, support and guidance and will work with Your Physicians or other health care professionals in supporting Your treatment plan and proposing alternative benefits.

### PRIOR AUTHORIZATION

Prior authorization refers to the process by which We determine that a proposed service or supply is Medically Necessary and provide approval for it before it is rendered.

Prior authorization is performed to ensure that the medical services You receive are aligned with evidence-based criteria and to determine whether the requested service

meets Our Medical Necessity criteria. Prior authorization also ensures that services or supplies You receive are safe, effective and appropriate.

### **Contracted Providers**

Contracted Providers may be required to obtain prior authorization from Us in advance for certain services provided to You. You will not be penalized if the contracted Provider does not obtain those approvals from Us in advance and the service is determined to be not covered in this Booklet.

### **Non-Contracted Providers**

Non-contracted Providers are not required to obtain prior authorization of any service or supply in order to be eligible for coverage of that service or supply. A claim for a non-contracted Provider's service or supply that is otherwise covered under the Contract will not be denied solely for lack of prior authorization. Benefits will be paid for services and supplies covered under the Contract only if all terms and conditions of the Contract are met, including (unless specified to the contrary) Medical Necessity. You may request that a non-contracted Provider prior authorize services on Your behalf to determine Medical Necessity prior to receiving those services.

### **Services Requiring Prior Authorization**

A comprehensive list of services and supplies that must be prior authorized may be obtained by visiting Our website or contacting Customer Service. Prior authorization requests should be submitted by Your Provider following the instructions on Our website.

We will not require prior authorization for Emergency Room services or other services and supplies which by law do not require prior authorization.

### **Time Frame for Response**

You will be notified in writing within two business days after We receive the prior authorization request to let You know whether the request has been approved, denied, or if more information is needed to make a determination. When more information is needed to make a determination, We will notify You in writing of the determination within two business days after We receive the additional information or within 15 calendar days of the original two business days if no additional information is received unless a longer time period to respond is allowed under federal law.

If We do prior authorize a service or supply (from a contracted or non-contracted Provider), We are bound to cover it as follows:

- If Your coverage terminates within five business days of the prior authorization date, We will cover the prior authorized service or supply if the service or supply is actually incurred within those five business days regardless of the termination date unless We are aware the coverage is about to terminate and We disclose this information in Our written prior authorization. In that case, We will only cover the prior authorized service or supply if incurred before termination.
- If Your coverage terminates later than five business days after the prior authorization date, but before the end of 30 calendar days, We will not cover services incurred after termination even if the services were prior authorized.

- If coverage remains in effect for at least 30 calendar days after the prior authorization, We will cover the prior authorized service or supply if incurred within the 30 calendar days.

When counting the days described above, day one will begin on the calendar or business day after We prior authorize the service or supply.

### **PREVENTIVE VERSUS DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES**

Covered Services may be either preventive or diagnostic. "Preventive" care is intended to prevent an Illness, Injury or to detect problems before symptoms are noticed.

"Diagnostic" care treats, investigates or diagnoses a condition by evaluating new symptoms, following up on abnormal test results or monitoring existing problems.

Your Provider's classification of the service as either preventive or diagnostic and any other terms in this Booklet will determine the benefit that applies. For example, colonoscopies and mammograms are covered in the Preventive Care and Immunizations benefit if Your Provider bills them as preventive and they fall within the recommendations identified in that benefit. Otherwise, colonoscopies and mammograms are covered the same as any other Illness or Injury. You may want to ask Your Provider why a Covered Service is ordered or requested.

### **CALENDAR YEAR DEDUCTIBLES**

**Per Member:** \$300

**Per Family:** \$600

### **CALENDAR YEAR OUT-OF-POCKET MAXIMUM**

**Categories 1 and 2**

**Per Member:** \$3,000

**Per Family:** \$6,000

**Category 3**

**Per Member:** \$6,000

**Per Family:** \$12,000

**UPFRONT BENEFITS****Three Upfront Primary Care Visits**

	<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
	<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Primary Care</b>	<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$5 Copayment per visit.	<b>Payment:</b> Not applicable.	<b>Payment:</b> Not applicable.
<b>Behavioral Health Office or Psychotherapy</b>	<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$5 Copayment per visit.	<b>Payment:</b> Not applicable.	<b>Payment:</b> Not applicable.
<b>Virtual Care Telehealth and Store and Forward</b>	<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$5 Copayment per visit.	<b>Payment:</b> Not applicable.	<b>Payment:</b> Not applicable.
<b>Limit:</b> first three combined Upfront Primary Care visits per Member per Calendar Year. Once this limit is reached, any additional visits are covered elsewhere in the Medical Benefits Section based upon service type. For purposes of this benefit "Primary Care" means in-person office visits, outpatient behavioral health office or psychotherapy, virtual care telehealth and store and forward services.			

Upfront Benefits for Your first three Primary Care visits per Calendar Year for the purpose of promoting or maintaining behavioral and physical health and wellness, and diagnosis, treatment, or management of acute or chronic conditions caused by disease, injury or illness are covered.

**PREVENTIVE CARE AND IMMUNIZATIONS****Preventive Care**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> No charge.	<b>Payment:</b> No charge.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

**Immunizations – Adult**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> No charge.	<b>Payment:</b> No charge.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

**Immunizations – Childhood**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> No charge.	<b>Payment:</b> No charge.	<b>Payment:</b> No charge up to the Allowed Amount and You pay the balance of billed charges.

Preventive care and immunization services provided by a professional Provider, facility or Retail Clinic that are within age limits and frequency guidelines according to, and as recommended by, the United States Preventive Service Task Force (USPSTF), the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) or by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), or as required by state or federal guidance for a specific time period as a result of a government declared disease outbreak, epidemic, or other public health emergency, are covered for the following:

- routine physical examinations, well-women's care, well-baby care and routine health screenings (including screening and counseling for some cancer genes such as BRCA1 or BRCA2);
- Provider counseling and Prescription Medications prescribed for tobacco use cessation;
- immunizations for adults and children;
- routine colonoscopies and colorectal cancer examinations, including for those Members at high-risk or follow-up colonoscopies performed as a result of a positive non-invasive stool-based screening test or direct visualization screening test. Colonoscopy services include all associated services such as double contrast barium enemas, anesthesia and pathology. Colonoscopy supplies such as bowel prep kits on Our Drug List are covered in the Prescription Medications Section with a Prescription Order;
- breast pump (including its accompanying supplies) per pregnancy as follows:
  - one new non-Hospital grade breast pump at the Category 1 benefit level when obtained from a Provider (including a Durable Medical Equipment supplier); or

- a comparable new breast pump may be obtained from an approved Commercial Seller in lieu of a Provider. Benefits for a comparable new breast pump obtained from an approved Commercial Seller will be covered up to the Category 1 benefit level, with reimbursement based on the lesser of either the amount paid to a preferred Provider or the retail market value.
- United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved contraceptive and sterilization methods according to, and as recommended by HRSA, including, but not limited to:
  - condoms;
  - diaphragm with spermicide;
  - sponge with spermicide;
  - cervical cap with spermicide;
  - spermicide;
  - oral contraceptives (combined pill, mini pill, and extended/continuous use pill);
  - contraceptive patch;
  - vaginal ring;
  - contraceptive shot/injection;
  - emergency contraceptives (both levonorgestrel and ulipristal acetate-containing products);
  - intrauterine devices (both copper and those with progestin);
  - implantable contraceptive rod;
  - surgical implants; and
  - surgical sterilization procedures for women.

Prostate cancer screening is also covered when recommended by a Physician or Practitioner. Covered Services for prostate cancer screening include digital rectal examinations and prostate-specific antigen (PSA) tests.

NOTE: Covered Services that do not meet these criteria (for example, diagnostic colonoscopies) will be covered the same as any other Illness or Injury. In the event HRSA, USPSTF or the CDC adopt a new or revised recommendation, We have up to one year before coverage of the related services must be available and effective in this Booklet.

For a list of Covered Services, including information about obtaining a new breast pump from an approved Commercial Seller, visit Our website or contact Customer Service. You can also visit the HRSA website at: **[hrsa.gov/womensguidelines/](https://hrsa.gov/womensguidelines/)** for women's preventive services guidelines, and the USPSTF website at: **[uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/recommendation-topics/uspstf-a-and-b-recommendations](https://uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/recommendation-topics/uspstf-a-and-b-recommendations)** for a list of A and B preventive services.

**Expanded Immunizations**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

Immunizations that do not meet age limits and frequency guidelines according to, and as recommended by, the USPSTF, HRSA or by the CDC are covered. Covered Services include immunizations for travel, occupation or residency in a foreign country. Contact Customer Service to verify what expanded immunizations are covered.

**OFFICE OR URGENT CARE VISITS – ILLNESS OR INJURY**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$20 Copayment per visit.	<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$20 Copayment per visit.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

Office (including home, Retail Clinic or Hospital outpatient department) and urgent care visits are covered for treatment of Illness or Injury. Coverage does not include other professional services performed in the office or urgent care that are specifically covered elsewhere in the Medical Benefits Section, including, but not limited to, separate facility fees or outpatient radiology and laboratory services billed in conjunction with the visit.

NOTE: Office visits for primary care, not including urgent care, may be covered in the Upfront Benefits. Once any applicable Upfront Benefit limit is reached, office visits for primary care will be covered as specified here.

**OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

Services and supplies provided by a professional Provider are covered, subject to any Deductible and/or Coinsurance and any specified limits as explained in the following paragraphs:

### **Medical Services and Supplies**

Professional services, second opinions and supplies, including the services of a Provider whose opinion or advice is requested by the attending Provider.

Services and supplies also include:

- treatment of a congenital anomaly;
- administration of Provider-Administered Specialty Drugs;
- Virtual Care service facility fees;
- foot care associated with diabetes; and
- Medically Necessary foot care obtained from a professional Provider due to hazards of a systemic condition causing severe circulatory dysfunction or diminished sensation in the legs or feet.

Dental and orthodontic services that are for the treatment of craniofacial anomalies and are Medically Necessary to restore function are also covered. A "craniofacial anomaly" is a physical disorder, identifiable at birth, that affects the bony structures of the face or head, including, but not limited to, cleft palate, cleft lip, craniosynostosis, craniofacial microsomia and Treacher Collins syndrome. Coverage does not include treatment of temporomandibular joint disorder or developmental maxillofacial conditions that result in overbite, crossbite, malocclusion or similar developmental irregularities of the teeth.

Additionally, coverage includes some Medically Necessary supplies (for example, compression stockings, active wound care supplies and sterile gloves) that are new and obtained from an approved Commercial Seller. Benefits for eligible new supplies will be covered up to the Category 1 benefit level, with reimbursement based on the lesser of either the amount paid to a preferred Provider or the retail market value. To verify eligible new medical supplies, find an approved Commercial Seller, instructions for claiming benefits or for additional information on Covered Services, visit Our website or contact Customer Service.

### **Breast, Pelvic and Pap Smear Examinations**

Breast, pelvic and Pap smear examinations not covered in the Preventive Care and Immunizations benefit.

### **Diagnostic Procedures**

Services for diagnostic procedures including cardiovascular testing, pulmonary function studies, stress test, sleep studies and neurology/neuromuscular procedures.

### **Medical Colonoscopy**

Diagnostic medical colonoscopies not covered in the Preventive Care and Immunizations benefit.

### **Professional Inpatient**

Professional inpatient visits for treatment of Illness or Injury. If pre-arranged procedures are performed by a preferred Provider and You are admitted to a preferred Hospital, We



will cover associated services (for example, anesthesiologist, radiologist, pathologist, surgical assistant, etc.) provided by participating and nonparticipating Providers at the Category 1 benefit level. However, a nonparticipating Provider may bill You for balances beyond any Deductible, Copayment and/or Coinsurance. Contact Customer Service for further information and guidance.

### **Surgical Services**

Surgical services and supplies including the services of a surgeon, an assistant surgeon and an anesthesiologist.

Treatment of varicose veins is only covered when there is:

- active associated venous ulceration;
- objective documentation of persistent or recurrent bleeding from ruptured veins; or
- objective documentation of recurrent superficial phlebitis.

### **ACUPUNCTURE**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.
<b>Limit:</b> 30 visits per Member per Calendar Year		

Acupuncture is covered.

### **ALLERGY TREATMENT**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$20 Copayment* per visit.  *Copayment applies on the date of service if the visit is not billed as a regular office visit.	<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$20 Copayment* per visit.  *Copayment applies on the date of service if the visit is not billed as a regular office visit.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

Allergy treatment services and supplies are covered, including, but not limited to:

- allergens and administration; and
- skin tests.

All other services and supplies are subject to the applicable benefit for such service.

**AMBULANCE SERVICES**

<b>Category: All</b>
<b>Provider: All</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.

Ambulance services to the nearest Hospital equipped to provide treatment are covered when any other form of transportation would endanger Your health and the transportation is not for personal or convenience purposes. Covered Services include licensed ground and air ambulance Providers.

Claims for ambulance services must include the locations You were transported to and from. The claim should also show the date of service, the patient's name, the group and Your identification numbers. We will send Our payment for Covered Services directly to the ambulance service Provider.

You are protected from balance billing for ground ambulance services in the state of Oregon, when provided by a ground ambulance service organization.

"Ground ambulance service organization" means a public or private organization licensed by the Oregon Health Authority to provide ground ambulance services in the state of Oregon. Ground ambulance service organizations provide Covered Services at the scene of a medical emergency or while transporting a patient to a health care facility equipped to provide treatment, including between health care facilities when Medically Necessary.

**AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 10% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

Outpatient services and supplies of an Ambulatory Surgical Center (including services of staff Providers) are covered for treatment of Illness or Injury.

**APPROVED CLINICAL TRIALS**

If a preferred Provider is participating in an Approved Clinical Trial and will accept You as a trial participant, benefits will be provided only if You participate in the Approved Clinical Trial through that Provider. If an Approved Clinical Trial is conducted outside Your state of residence, You may participate and benefits will be provided in accordance with the terms for other covered out-of-state care. Your Routine Patient Costs in connection with an Approved Clinical Trial in which You are enrolled and participating are covered as specified in the Medical Benefits and Prescription Medications Sections. Additional specified limits are as further defined.

## Definitions

The following definitions apply to this Approved Clinical Trials benefit:

Approved Clinical Trial means a clinical trial that is a study or investigation:

- approved or funded by one or more of:
  - the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the CDC, the Agency for Health Care Research and Quality, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid or a cooperative group or center of any of those entities; or a cooperative group or center of the Department of Defense (DOD) or the Department of Veteran's Affairs (VA);
  - a qualified non-governmental research entity identified in guidelines issued by the NIH for center approval grants; or
  - the VA, DOD, or Department of Energy, provided it is reviewed and approved through a peer review system that the Department of Health and Human Services has determined both is comparable to that of the NIH and assures unbiased review of the highest scientific standards by qualified individuals without an interest in the outcome of the review.
- conducted under an investigational new drug application reviewed by the FDA or that is a drug trial exempt from having an investigational new drug application.

Routine Patient Costs means items and services that typically are Covered Services for a Member not enrolled in a clinical trial, but do not include:

- an Investigational item, device, or service that is the subject of the Approved Clinical Trial unless it would be covered for that indication absent a clinical trial;
- items and services provided solely to satisfy data collection and analysis needs and not used in the direct clinical management of the Member; or
- a service that is clearly inconsistent with widely accepted and established standards of care for the particular diagnosis.

## BARIATRIC SERVICES

### Bariatric Office Visits

Category: 1	Category: 2	Category: 3
Provider: Preferred	Provider: Participating	Provider: Nonparticipating
<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$20 Copayment per visit.	<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$20 Copayment per visit.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.
<b>Limit:</b> 20 visits per Member per Calendar Year.		

**Bariatric Surgery**

<b>Provider: Blue Distinction Centers</b>	<b>Provider: In-Network</b>	<b>Provider: Out-of-Network</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> Not covered	<b>Payment:</b> Not covered
<b>Limit:</b> one surgery per Member Lifetime		

Bariatric surgery to treat obesity is covered only after the Claims Administrator evaluates and approves that the surgery is meeting its published medical policy. To be covered, the approved bariatric surgery must be received from a Blue Distinction Centers (BDC) facility or a Blue Distinction Centers+ (BDC+) facility. To identify a BDC or BDC+ facility, contact the Claims Administrator's Customer Service.

Coverage does not include treatment for complications, revisions and reversals of bariatric surgery, unless the previous bariatric surgery was approved by a United States medical insurance plan and the bariatric surgery was performed in the United States. If a covered complication, revision or reversal is received, the procedure will be covered the same as any other Illness or Injury and the procedure will not accrue to the Maximum Benefit limit on these services.

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES****Inpatient Services**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

**Outpatient Office/Psychotherapy Visits**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$20 Copayment per visit.	<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$20 Copayment per visit.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

**Other Outpatient Services**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> No charge.	<b>Payment:</b> No charge.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

Inpatient and outpatient Behavioral Health Services, including Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) therapy services, behavioral health assessments and gender affirmation treatment services (to the extent such services are permitted under applicable law) are covered. "Gender affirming treatment" is treatment whose purpose is to bring a person's outward appearance into closer alignment with that person's actual gender identity. Benefits include the following when provided for treatment of a Behavioral Health Condition:

- physical therapy;
- occupational therapy;
- speech therapy;
- radiology and laboratory services;
- durable medical equipment; and
- surgery.

NOTE: Behavioral Health Services may be covered in the Upfront Benefits. Once any applicable Upfront Benefit limit is reached, Behavioral Health Services will be covered as specified here.

**Definitions**

The following definitions apply to this Behavioral Health Services benefit:

Applied Behavioral Analysis means the design, implementation and evaluation of environmental modifications, using behavioral stimuli and consequences, to produce significant improvement in human social behavior, including the use of direct observation, measurement and functional analysis of the relationship between environment and behavior. ABA therapy services must be provided by a licensed professional in accordance with state law.

Behavioral Health Condition means any mental or substance use disorder covered by diagnostic categories listed in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders or the International Classification of Diseases, including autism spectrum disorders and Pervasive Developmental Disorder (PDD). Pervasive Developmental Disorder means a neurological condition that includes Asperger's syndrome, autism, developmental delay, developmental disability or intellectual disability. Mental disorders that accompany an excluded diagnosis are covered. Behavioral Health Condition does not include addiction to or dependency on tobacco, tobacco products, or foods.

Behavioral Health Services mean services to treat any mental or substance use disorder, Medically Necessary outpatient services, detoxification, Residential Care, partial hospital program or inpatient services provided by a licensed facility or licensed individuals with the exception of court ordered treatment (unless the treatment is Medically Necessary). These services include Habilitative and Rehabilitative services for Behavioral Health Conditions without any visit or day limits.

Habilitative means health care services and devices that help a person keep, learn or improve skills and functioning for daily living. Examples include therapy for a child who is not walking or talking at the expected age. These services and devices may include physical and occupational therapy, speech-language pathology and other services and devices for people with disabilities in a variety of inpatient or outpatient settings.

Rehabilitative means inpatient or outpatient physical, occupational and speech therapy services to restore or improve lost function caused by Illness or Injury.

Residential Care means care in a facility setting that offers a defined course of therapeutic intervention and special programming in a controlled environment that also offers a degree of security, supervision and structure, and is licensed by the appropriate state and local authority to provide such services. Patients also must be medically monitored with 24-hour medical availability and 24-hour onsite clinician services. Residential Care does not include half-way houses, supervised living, group homes, wilderness courses or camps, Outward Bound, outdoor youth programs, outdoor behavioral programs, boarding houses, or settings that primarily either focus on building self-esteem or leadership skills or provide a supportive environment to address long-term social needs. However, services by Physicians or Practitioners in such settings may be covered if they are billed independently and would otherwise be a Covered Service.

## **BLOOD BANK**

<b>Category: All</b>
<b>Provider: All</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.

Services and supplies of a blood bank are covered, excluding storage costs.

## **CHILD ABUSE MEDICAL ASSESSMENT**

Child Abuse Medical Assessments including those services provided by an Oregon Community Assessment Center in conducting a Child Abuse Medical Assessment of a child enrolled on this plan are covered as specified in the Medical Benefits Section. The services include, but are not limited to, a forensic interview and mental health treatment.

### **Definitions**

The following definitions apply to this Child Abuse Medical Assessment benefit:

Child Abuse Medical Assessment means an assessment by or under the direction of a licensed Physician or other licensed health care professional trained in the evaluation, diagnosis and treatment of child abuse. Child Abuse Medical Assessment includes the taking of a thorough medical history, a complete physical examination and an interview

for the purpose of making a medical diagnosis, determining whether or not the child has been abused and identifying the appropriate treatment or referral for follow-up for the child.

Community Assessment Center means a neutral, child-sensitive community-based facility or service Provider to which a child from the community may be referred to receive a thorough Child Abuse Medical Assessment for the purpose of determining whether the child has been abused or neglected.

#### **DENTAL HOSPITALIZATION**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

When necessary to safeguard Your health, hospitalization for Dental Services is covered. Covered Services include inpatient and outpatient services and supplies (including anesthesia) at an Ambulatory Surgical Center or Hospital.

#### **DIABETIC EDUCATION AND DIABETIC NUTRITIONAL COUNSELING**

##### **Inpatient Services**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

##### **Outpatient Services**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$20 Copayment per visit.	<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$20 Copayment per visit.	<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$20 Copayment per visit and the balance of billed charges.

Services and supplies for diabetic self-management training, nutritional counseling, nutritional therapy and education are covered.

**DIALYSIS**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

Services and supplies for outpatient and home dialysis are covered as described below. Dialysis received while inpatient is covered elsewhere in the Medical Benefits Section, such as the Hospital Care – Inpatient and Outpatient benefit.

**Outpatient Initial Treatment Period**

Hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, and hemofiltration services are covered for an initial treatment period when Your Physician prescribes outpatient dialysis, regardless of Your diagnosis. An initial treatment period is 120 days, measured from the first day You receive dialysis treatment. This initial treatment period benefit is available once for each course of continuous or related dialysis care, even if that course of treatment spans two or more Calendar Years.

**Outpatient Supplemental Treatment Period**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> No charge. If Our agreement with the Provider expressly specifies that its terms supersede the benefits (or this benefit), You pay 0% of the Allowed Amount. Otherwise, We pay 125% of the Medicare allowed amount at the time of service.	<b>Payment:</b> No charge. If Our agreement with the Provider expressly specifies that its terms supersede the benefits (or this benefit), You pay 0% of the Allowed Amount. Otherwise, We pay 125% of the Medicare allowed amount at the time of service.	<b>Payment:</b> We pay 125% of the Medicare allowed amount at the time of service.  If You are not enrolled in Medicare Part B, You pay the balance of billed charges.  Only the difference between Our payment and the Allowed Amount will be applied toward the Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

Hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, and hemofiltration services are covered beginning the first day following completion of the initial treatment period when Your Physician prescribes outpatient dialysis, regardless of Your diagnosis, for a period that is longer than the initial treatment period. Your kidney diagnosis may make You Medicare-eligible and, if You are enrolled in additional Medicare Part B on any basis and receive



dialysis from a Medicare-participating Provider, You may not be responsible for additional out-of-pocket expenses.

In addition, a Member receiving supplemental dialysis is eligible to have Medicare Part A and Part B premiums reimbursed as an eligible expense for the duration of the Member's dialysis treatment, as long as the Member continues to be enrolled in Medicare Part A and Part B and continues to be eligible for coverage under the Contract. Proof of payment of the Medicare Part A and Part B premium will be required prior to reimbursement.

"Medicare allowed amount" is the amount that a Medicare-contracted Provider agrees to accept as full payment for a Covered Service. This is also referred to as the Provider accepting Medicare assignment.

#### **DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

Durable Medical Equipment is covered, including, but not limited to, oxygen equipment, wheelchairs and supplies or equipment associated with diabetes (such as insulin pumps or continuous glucose monitors, and their supplies).

Additionally, new Durable Medical Equipment is covered when obtained from an approved Commercial Seller. Benefits for eligible new Durable Medical Equipment will be covered up to the Category 1 benefit level, with reimbursement based on the lesser of either the amount paid to a preferred Provider or the retail market value. To verify eligible new Durable Medical Equipment, find an approved Commercial Seller, instructions for claiming benefits or for additional information on Covered Services, visit Our website or contact Customer Service.

Generally, claims for the purchase of Durable Medical Equipment will be submitted to the Blue plan in the location in which the equipment was received.

**EMERGENCY ROOM (INCLUDING PROFESSIONAL CHARGES)**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$75 Copayment per visit <u>and</u> after Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount. This Copayment applies to the facility charge, whether or not You have met the Deductible. However, this Copayment is waived when You are admitted directly from the emergency room to the Hospital or any other facility on an inpatient basis.	<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$75 Copayment per visit <u>and</u> after Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount. This Copayment applies to the facility charge, whether or not You have met the Deductible. However, this Copayment is waived when You are admitted directly from the emergency room to the Hospital or any other facility on an inpatient basis.	<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$75 Copayment per visit <u>and</u> after Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount. This Copayment applies to the facility charge, whether or not You have met the Deductible. However, this Copayment is waived when You are admitted directly from the emergency room to the Hospital or any other facility on an inpatient basis.

Emergency room services and supplies are covered, including outpatient charges for patient observation, medical screening examinations, and Medically Necessary detoxification services that are required for the stabilization of a patient experiencing an Emergency Medical Condition. Emergency room services do not need to be prior authorized.

"Stabilization" means to provide Medically Necessary treatment:

- to assure, within reasonable medical probability, no material deterioration of an Emergency Medical Condition is likely to occur during, or to result from, the transfer of the Member from a facility; and
- in the case of a covered Member, who is pregnant, to perform the delivery (including the placenta).

If admitted to a participating or nonparticipating Hospital directly from the emergency room, services will be covered at the Category 1 benefit level. Contact Customer Service for further information and guidance.

**HEARING AIDS, COCHLEAR IMPLANTS, AND ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.
<p><b>Limits:</b> one hearing aid per ear per Member every Calendar Year or more frequently if modifications to an existing hearing aid will not meet the needs of the Member.</p> <p>One box of replacement batteries for each hearing aid per Member per Calendar Year.</p> <p>Bone-conduction sound processors every 36 months, if necessary for appropriate amplification of the hearing loss.</p> <p>Assistive listening devices every 36 months, if necessary for appropriate amplification of hearing loss.</p> <p>Cochlear implants are not subject to frequency or age limitations.</p> <p>Hearing aids must be prescribed, fitted, and dispensed by a licensed audiologist with approval from a licensed Physician.</p>		

Covered Services include the following:

- surgical services and supplies including cochlear implants and bone anchored hearing solutions (programming and reprogramming, cost of repair and replacement parts if the repair or parts are not covered by a warranty and are Medically Necessary for the device to be functional) for the treatment of hearing loss and the services of a surgeon, an assistant surgeon and an anesthesiologist;
- hearing aids and supplies;
- assistive listening devices;
- ear molds and replacement ear molds;
- other components required for a hearing device to function properly and effectively;
- diagnostic and treatment services including hearing tests appropriate for a Member's age or developmental need;
- hearing aids checks and aided testing; and
- bone conduction sound processors and associated surgical services when necessary for the treatment of hearing loss.

"Hearing aid" means any nondisposable, wearable instrument or device designed to aid or compensate for impaired human hearing and any necessary ear mold, part, attachments or accessory for the instrument or device. "Assistive listening devices" means devices used with or without hearing aids or cochlear implants to provide access to sound or improve the ability of a user with hearing loss to hear in various listening

situations, such as being located a distance from a speaker, in an environment with competing background noise or in a room with poor acoustics or reverberation.

This coverage does not include routine hearing examinations or the cost of cords.

If You elect to purchase a hearing aid or other device that is above retail market value and a less expensive therapeutically equivalent device is available, We may limit benefits or coverage to a less costly and Medically Necessary alternative item. Hearing Aids will be covered up to the Category 1 benefit level, with reimbursement based on the lesser of either the amount paid to a Category 1 Provider or the retail market value. If Your prescribing Provider specifies that a specialty hearing aid must be used, You will still be responsible for the excess in cost.

"Specialty hearing aid" means a hearing aid that is above retail market value.

### HOME HEALTH CARE

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.
<b>Limit:</b> 130 visits per Member per Calendar Year		

Home health care is covered when provided by a licensed agency or facility for home health care. Home health care includes all services for patients that would be covered if the patient were in a Hospital or Skilled Nursing Facility.

Durable Medical Equipment associated with home health care services is covered in the Durable Medical Equipment benefit.

### HOSPICE CARE

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.
<b>Limit:</b> 14 inpatient or outpatient respite care days per Member Lifetime		

Hospice care is covered when provided by a licensed hospice care program. A hospice care program is a coordinated program of home and inpatient care, available 24 hours a day. This program uses an interdisciplinary team of personnel to provide comfort and supportive services to a patient and any family members who are caring for a patient,

who is experiencing a life-threatening disease with a limited prognosis. These services include acute, respite and home care to meet the physical, psychosocial and special needs of a patient and their family during the final stages of illness.

Respite care is also covered to provide continuous care of the Member and allow temporary relief to family members from the duties of caring for the Member. Durable Medical Equipment associated with hospice care is covered in the Durable Medical Equipment benefit.

#### **HOSPITAL CARE – INPATIENT AND OUTPATIENT**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

Services and supplies of a Hospital (including services of staff Providers) are covered for treatment of illness or injury. Room and board is limited to the Hospital's average semiprivate room rate, except where a private room is determined to be necessary. If admitted to a participating or nonparticipating Hospital directly from the emergency room, services will be covered at the Category 1 benefit level. A nonparticipating Provider may bill You for balances beyond any Deductible, Copayment and/or Coinsurance. Contact Customer Service for further information and guidance.

#### **INFUSION THERAPY**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

Inpatient, outpatient and home therapy services, supplies (including infusion pumps) and medications for infusion therapy are covered. Covered Services also include parenteral and enteral therapy, and intravenous immunoglobulin therapy for the treatment of pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infections (PANDAS) and pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome (PANS) when certain conditions have been met. Certain medications for outpatient infusion therapy that are provided to treat chronic, complex conditions are otherwise covered in the Provider-Administered Specialty Drugs benefit. Contact Customer Service for further information and guidance.

**MATERNITY CARE**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

Prenatal and postnatal maternity (pregnancy) care, childbirth (vaginal or cesarean), complications of pregnancy and related conditions are covered. There is no limit for the patient's length of inpatient stay. The attending Provider will determine an appropriate discharge time in consultation with the patient.

Certain services such as screening for gestational diabetes, breastfeeding support, supplies and counseling are covered in the Preventive Care and Immunizations benefit.

Coverage of labor and delivery services provided at a participating or nonparticipating healthcare facility due solely to the diversion of the patient from a preferred healthcare facility during a state or federally declared public health emergency is covered at the Category 1 benefit level. If services were not covered at the Category 1 benefit level, contact Customer Service for further information and guidance.

**Surrogacy**

Maternity and related medical services received by You while Acting as a Surrogate are not Covered Services, up to the amount You or any other person or entity is entitled to receive as payment or other compensation arising out of, or in any way related to, You Acting as a Surrogate. By incurring and making claim for such services, You agree to reimburse Us the lesser of the amount described in the preceding sentence and the amount We have paid for those Covered Services (even if payment or compensation to You or any other person or entity occurs after the termination of Your coverage under the Contract).

You must notify Us within 30 days of entering into any agreement to Act as a Surrogate and agree to cooperate with Us as needed to ensure Our ability to recover the costs of Covered Services received by You for which We are entitled to reimbursement. To notify Us, or to request additional information on Your responsibilities related to these notification and cooperation requirements, contact Customer Service. Also refer to the Right of Reimbursement and Subrogation Recovery Section for more information.

**Definitions**

The following definition applies to this Maternity Care benefit:

Acting (or Act) as a Surrogate means You agree to become pregnant and to surrender, relinquish or otherwise give up any parental rights to the baby (or babies) produced by that pregnancy to another person or persons who intend to raise the baby (or babies), whether or not You receive payment, the agreement is written and/or the parties to the agreement meet their obligations.

**MEDICAL FOODS**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

Medical foods for inborn errors of metabolism are covered, including, but not limited to, formulas for Phenylketonuria (PKU). "Medical food" means a food which is formulated to be consumed or administered orally or enterally under the supervision of a Physician. Medical foods are intended for specific dietary management of a disease or condition for which distinctive nutritional requirements, based on recognized scientific principles, are established by medical evaluation. Other services and supplies such as office visits and formula to treat severe intestinal malabsorption are otherwise covered under the appropriate provision in this Medical Benefits Section.

**NEURODEVELOPMENTAL THERAPY**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.
<b>Limit:</b> 25 visits per Member per Calendar Year for all therapies combined		

Physical therapy, occupational therapy or speech therapy services by a Physician or Practitioner are covered for neurological conditions that are not a Behavioral Health Condition (e.g., failure to thrive in newborn, lack of physiological development in childhood) to restore or improve function based on developmental delay. Covered Services include maintenance services if significant deterioration of a Member's condition would result without the service. (Services for Behavioral Health Conditions are covered in the Behavioral Health Services benefit and are not subject to age or visit limits.)

You will not be eligible for both the Rehabilitation Services benefit and this benefit for the same services for the same condition.

**NEWBORN CARE**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

Services and supplies in connection with nursery care for the natural newborn or newly adoptive child are covered by the newborn's own coverage. The newborn child must be eligible and enrolled as explained in the Eligibility and Enrollment Section. There is no limit for the newborn's length of inpatient stay. "Newborn care" means the medical services provided to a newborn child following birth including Hospital nursery charges, unless otherwise covered in the Preventive Care and Immunizations benefit.

**NEWBORN HOME VISITS**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> No charge.	<b>Payment:</b> You pay 100% of billed charges. Your payment will not be applied toward the Deductible or the Out-of-Pocket Maximum.	<b>Payment:</b> You pay 100% of billed charges. Your payment will not be applied toward the Deductible or the Out-of-Pocket Maximum.
<b>Limit:</b> within six months of age, at least one visit during the first three months of life with an opportunity to choose up to three more visits		

Home visits provided as part of the Oregon Health Authority's (OHA's) home visiting program are covered for enrolled newborns up to six months of age if:

- the newborn resides in an area of the state that is served by a universal newborn nurse home visiting program approved by the OHA; and
- the home visits are provided by an Oregon licensed registered nurse who is certified by the OHA to participate in that program.



**NUTRITIONAL COUNSELING**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

Services for nondiabetic nutritional counseling and nutritional therapy, such as discussions on eating habits, lifestyle choices and dietary interventions are covered for all conditions, including obesity. Services for diabetic nutritional counseling and nutritional therapy are covered in the Diabetic Education and Diabetic Nutritional Counseling benefit.

**ORTHOTIC DEVICES**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

Medically Necessary orthotic devices that restore or maintain the ability to complete activities of daily living or essential job-related activities that are not solely for comfort or convenience are covered, including, but not limited to:

- braces;
- splints; and
- orthopedic appliances.

"Orthotic device" means a rigid or semirigid device supporting a weak or deformed leg, foot, arm, hand, back, or neck, or restricting or eliminating motion in a diseased or injured leg, foot, arm, hand, back, or neck. An orthotic device includes the most appropriate model that meets Your needs for purposes of performing physical activities and that maximizes whole-body health, including lower and upper limb function.

The repair or replacement of an orthotic device is covered when Medically Necessary.

Additionally, some orthotic devices that are new are covered when obtained from an approved Commercial Seller. Benefits for eligible new orthotic devices will be covered up to the Category 1 benefit level, with reimbursement based on the lesser of either the amount paid to a preferred Provider or the retail market value. To verify eligible new orthotic devices, find an approved Commercial Seller, instructions for claiming benefits

or for additional information on Covered Services, visit Our website or contact Customer Service.

We may elect to provide benefits for a less costly alternative item. Covered Services do not include orthopedic shoes and off-the-shelf shoe inserts.

#### **PALLIATIVE CARE**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.
<b>Limit:</b> 30 visits per Member per Calendar Year		

Palliative care is covered when a Provider has assessed that a Member is in need of palliative services for a serious Illness (including remission support), life-limiting Injury or end-of-life care. "Palliative care" means specialized services received from a Provider in a home setting for counseling and home health aide services for activities of daily living.

All other Covered Services for a Member receiving palliative care remain covered the same as any other Illness or Injury.

#### **PERINATAL HEALTH SERVICES**

<b>Category: All</b>
<b>Provider: All</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.
<b>Limit:</b> \$3,760 per Calendar Year

Unless otherwise covered in the Preventive Care and Immunizations benefit, perinatal health services are covered. Covered Services include those provided by Doulas, Lactation Counselors, and Lactation Educators. Contact Customer Service for further information and guidance.

#### **Definitions**

The following definitions apply to this Perinatal Health Services benefit:

Doula means a person who provides continuous physical, emotional, and informational support to an individual during pregnancy, labor and delivery, or the postpartum period, and who meets the qualification and certification requirements for a doula as adopted by the state regulatory body which certifies them.

Lactation Counselor means a person certified by the Academy of Lactation Policy and Practice, or its successor organization, as a clinical lactation care provider to provide

clinical support to families that are thinking, or have questions, about breastfeeding or that have problems with breastfeeding.

Lactation Educator means a person certified by the Childbirth and Postpartum Professional Association, or its successor organization, as a certified lactation educator to educate, counsel, and support families by providing evidence-based information about lactation and breastfeeding.

### **PROSTHETIC DEVICES**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

Medically Necessary prosthetic devices that restore or maintain the ability to complete activities of daily living or essential job-related activities and that are not solely for comfort or convenience are covered, including:

- artificial limbs;
- external or internal breast prostheses following a mastectomy; and
- maxillofacial prostheses.

"Prosthetic device" means an artificial limb device or appliance designed to replace in whole or in part an arm or a leg. A prosthetic device includes the most appropriate model that meets Your needs for purposes of performing physical activities and that maximizes whole-body health, including lower and upper limb function.

"Maxillofacial prostheses services" are restoration and management of head and facial structures that are not replaceable with living tissue and are defective because of disease, trauma, or birth or developmental deformities. Covered maxillofacial prostheses services must be either for the purpose of controlling or eliminating infection or pain or for restoring facial configuration or functions (e.g., speech, swallowing, chewing). Restoration of facial configuration that is Cosmetic to improve on the normal range of conditions is not covered.

Prosthetic devices or appliances that are surgically inserted into the body are otherwise covered in the appropriate facility benefit. Additionally, the repair or replacement of a prosthetic device is covered when Medically Necessary.

**PROVIDER-ADMINISTERED SPECIALTY DRUGS**

<b>Provider: Specialty Pharmacy for Provider-Administered Specialty Drugs</b>	<b>Provider: All Other Providers</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> You pay 100% of billed charges. Your payment will not be applied toward the Deductible or the Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

Provider-Administered Specialty Drugs are covered under this plan only when a Provider-Administered Specialty Drug has been prior authorized and obtained by the administering Provider through the designated Specialty Pharmacy for Provider-Administered Specialty Drugs. Even if the administering Provider is a preferred or participating Provider (whose services are otherwise covered in the Other Professional Services benefit), it does not guarantee coverage for Provider-Administered Specialty Drugs if they are not obtained through the Specialty Pharmacy for Provider-Administered Specialty Drugs. An exception may be available when the administering Provider obtains a Provider-Administered Specialty Drug from a source other than a Specialty Pharmacy for Provider-Administered Specialty Drugs. Contact Customer Service for further information and guidance.

When Provider-Administered Specialty Drugs are received outside the service area that We or one of Our Affiliates serves, coverage is provided in the Infusion Therapy benefit and not in this Provider-Administered Specialty Drugs benefit.

**Definitions**

The following definitions apply to this Provider-Administered Specialty Drugs benefit:

Provider-Administered Specialty Drug(s) means medications used to treat chronic, complex conditions that typically require special handling, administration, or monitoring and that are included in the Provider-Administered Specialty Drug List.

Provider-Administered Specialty Drug List means Our list of selected Provider-Administered Specialty Drugs. The Provider-Administered Drug List is routinely reviewed and updated. It is available on Our website or by calling Customer Service.

Specialty Pharmacy for Provider-Administered Specialty Drugs means an approved Provider or Pharmacy that specializes in the distribution and medication management services of certain injectables and Provider-Administered Specialty Drugs. A Specialty Pharmacy for Provider-Administered Specialty Drugs must also agree to submit claims for Provider-Administered Specialty Drugs to Our designated claims administrator. For more information about Specialty Pharmacies for Provider-Administered Specialty Drugs, visit Our website or contact Customer Service.

**RADIOLOGY AND LABORATORY SERVICES**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible,* You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.  *Deductible does not apply for outpatient radiology and laboratory services.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

Diagnostic services for treatment of Illness or Injury are covered, including services not covered in the Preventive Care and Immunizations benefit. Covered Services include the following:

- genetic testing, when performed for a medical reason or for a condition that requires genetic testing, provided the results of the testing have the potential to improve Health Outcomes;
- complex imaging; and
- HIV testing.

Diagnostic and supplemental breast examinations are also covered, including the following services:

- diagnostic mammography, including tomosynthesis;
- breast magnetic resonance imaging (MRI); and
- breast ultrasounds.

Diagnostic and supplemental breast examinations that meet the following criteria are not subject to any cost-sharing when received from a Category 1 or 2 Provider:

- diagnostic breast examinations used to evaluate an abnormality seen or suspected from a screening for breast cancer, or detected by another means of examination; and
- supplemental breast examinations used to screen for breast cancer when no abnormality is seen or suspected, based on personal or family medical history or additional factors that may increase the risk of breast cancer.

"Complex imaging" means:

- bone density screening;
- computerized axial tomography (CT or CAT) scan;
- magnetic resonance angiogram (MRA);
- magnetic resonance imaging (MRI);
- positron emission tomography (PET); and
- single photon emission computerized tomography (SPECT).

Generally, claims for independent clinical laboratory services will be submitted to the Blue plan in the location in which the referring Provider is located.

#### REHABILITATION SERVICES

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.
<b>Inpatient limit:</b> 60 days per Member per Calendar Year <b>Outpatient limit:</b> 45 visits per Member per Calendar Year for all therapies combined		

Inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation services and accommodations are covered as appropriate and necessary to restore or improve lost function caused by Illness or Injury that is not a Behavioral Health Condition. (Rehabilitation services for mental diagnoses are covered in the Behavioral Health Services benefit.)

"Rehabilitation services" mean physical, occupational and speech therapy services only, including associated services such as massage when provided as a therapeutic intervention, and manipulations of extremities.

You will not be eligible for both the Neurodevelopmental Therapy benefit and this benefit for the same services for the same condition.

#### REPAIR OF TEETH

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> No charge.	<b>Payment:</b> No charge.	<b>Payment:</b> No charge up to the Allowed Amount and You pay the balance of billed charges.

Services and supplies for treatment required as a result of damage to or loss of sound natural teeth are covered when such damage or loss is due to an Injury.

**REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE SERVICES**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> No charge.	<b>Payment:</b> No charge.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

Reproductive health care services and supplies are covered, including abortion to the extent such services are permitted under applicable law, vasectomy and screening for pregnancy that are not covered in the Preventive Care and Immunizations benefit.

**ROUTINE HEARING EXAMINATIONS**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$20 Copayment per visit.	<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$20 Copayment per visit.	<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$20 Copayment per visit and the balance of billed charges.

**SKILLED NURSING FACILITY**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.
<b>Limit:</b> 100 inpatient days per Member per Calendar Year		

Inpatient services and supplies of a Skilled Nursing Facility are covered for treatment of Illness, Injury or physical disability. Room and board is limited to the Skilled Nursing Facility's average semiprivate room rate, except where a private room is necessary.

**SPINAL MANIPULATIONS**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.
<b>Limit:</b> 30 visits combined per Member per Calendar Year		

Chiropractic and osteopathic spinal manipulations are covered. Manipulations of extremities are covered in the Rehabilitation Services benefit.

**TEMPOROMANDIBULAR JOINT (TMJ) DISORDERS**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

Inpatient and outpatient services are covered for treatment of TMJ disorders which have one or more of the following characteristics:

- an abnormal range of motion or limitation of motion;
- arthritic problems;
- internal derangement; and/or
- pain in the musculature.

Covered Services include services that are:

- reasonable and appropriate for the treatment of a TMJ disorder;
- effective for the control or elimination of one or more of the following TMJ disorders:
  - pain;
  - infection;
  - disease;
  - difficulty in speaking; or
  - difficulty in chewing or swallowing food.



**THERAPEUTIC INJECTIONS**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$20 Copayment* per visit.  *Copayment applies on the date of service if the visit is not billed as a regular office visit.	<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$20 Copayment* per visit.  *Copayment applies on the date of service if the visit is not billed as a regular office visit.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

Therapeutic injections and related supplies, including clotting factor products, are covered when given in a professional Provider's office.

A selected list of Self-Administrable Injectable Medications is covered in the Prescription Medications Section.

**TRANSPLANTS**

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

Transplants are covered, including transplant-related services and supplies. Covered Services for a transplant recipient include the following:

- heart;
- lung;
- kidney;
- pancreas;
- liver;
- cornea;
- multivisceral;
- small bowel;
- islet cell; and
- hematopoietic stem cell support (donor stem cells can be collected from either the bone marrow or the peripheral blood). Hematopoietic stem cell support may involve the following donors:
  - either autologous (self-donor);
  - allogeneic (related or unrelated donor);
  - syngeneic (identical twin donor); or
  - umbilical cord blood (only covered for certain conditions).

For a list of covered transplants, contact Our Customer Service, as the list is subject to change. Any organ or tissue which is procured outside the United States and any transplant procedure performed outside the United States are not covered.

### **Donor Organ Benefits**

Donor organ procurement costs are covered for a recipient. Procurement benefits are limited to:

- selection;
- removal of the organ;
- storage; and
- transportation of the surgical harvesting team and the organ.

### **Travel Expenses**

<p><b>Payment:</b> You pay 100% of all expenses. Your payment may be reimbursed up to the amount You and one companion incurred during the travel expense limit period.</p>
<p><b>Limit:</b> 14 days per transplant for reasonable and necessary transportation and living expenses of the Member and one companion.</p>

Transportation and lodging expenses are covered, subject to the following specified limits:

- based on the generally accepted course of treatment in the United States as verified through Your case manager, the transplant would require an overnight stay that is greater than 50 miles away from home and within reasonable proximity to the treatment area;
- based on a transplant episode beginning up to five days prior to the transplant and ending three months post-transplant (or sooner if the Member is cleared by the treating Provider to return home);
- coverage is for the Member and one companion;
- commercial lodging expenses are limited to the IRS medical expense allowances (currently \$50 per night for the Member, not to exceed \$100 per night for the Member and companion combined);
- covered transportation expenses to and from the treatment area include only:
  - commercial coach class airfare;
  - commercial coach class train fare; or
  - documented auto mileage (calculated per IRS medical expense allowances).

Additionally, local ground transportation within the treatment area to and from the treatment site is covered during the course of the transplant treatment. The Plan will reimburse You for Covered Services associated with these travel expenses.

Documentation of all travel expenses should be retained for reimbursement. Contact Case Management for further information and guidance.

Coverage does not include travel expenses for the donor, meals or expenses outside of transportation and lodging.

## VIRTUAL CARE

Virtual care services are covered for the use of telehealth or store and forward services received from a remote Provider, rather than an in-person office visit, for the diagnosis, treatment or management of a covered medical condition. Some Providers may provide virtual care services at a lower cost, resulting in a reduction of Your cost-share.

To learn more about how to access virtual care services or Providers that may offer lower-cost services, visit Our website or contact Customer Service.

NOTE: Virtual care services may be covered in the Upfront Benefits. Once any applicable Upfront Benefit limit is reached, virtual care services will be covered as specified here.

### Store and Forward Services

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$10 Copayment per visit.	<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$20 Copayment per visit.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

"Store and forward services" mean secure one-way electronic asynchronous (not live or real-time) electronic transmission (sending) of Your medical information to a Provider which may include some forms of secure HIPAA compliant texting, chatting or data sharing. For example, store and forward services include using a secure patient portal to send a picture of Your swollen ankle to Your Provider for review at a later time. Store and forward services that are not secure and HIPAA compliant are not covered, including, but not limited to:

- telephone;
- facsimile (fax);
- short message service (SMS) texting; or
- e-mail communication.

Your Provider is responsible for meeting applicable requirements and community standards of care.

### Telehealth

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$10 Copayment per visit.	<b>Payment:</b> You pay \$20 Copayment per visit.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

"Telehealth" means Your live services (real-time audio-only or audio and video communication) with a remote Provider through a secure HIPAA compliant platform, including when You are in a Provider's office or healthcare facility. For example, telehealth includes a live video call from Your home to discuss a possible eye infection with Your Provider or using the equipment at Your local Provider's office to have a live video call with a cardiologist in a different city. Separate charges for facility fees are covered in the Other Professional Services benefit.

## Prescription Medications

This section explains Your benefits and cost-sharing responsibilities for Prescription Medications. Benefits will be paid in this Prescription Medications benefit, not any other provision, if a medication or supply is covered by both. For Provider-Administered Specialty Drug coverage, refer to the Provider-Administered Specialty Drugs benefit in the Medical Benefits Section.

Prescription Medications listed on the Drug List are covered. Prescription Medications not on the Drug List may be covered as described in the Drug List Exception Process provision. To view the Drug List and find medications by tier, visit Our website or contact Customer Service.

### **PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION CALENDAR YEAR DEDUCTIBLES**

**Not applicable**

### **COPAYMENTS AND/OR COINSURANCE**

You are responsible for paying the following Copayment and/or Coinsurance amounts at the time of purchase, if the Pharmacy submits the claim electronically. Your Copayment and/or Coinsurance will be applied toward the Prescription Medication Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

You are not responsible for any Copayment and/or Coinsurance when You fill prescriptions for:

- Prescription Medications for those medications specifically designated as preventive for treatment of chronic diseases that are on the Optimum Value Medication List found on Our Web site or by contacting Customer Service;
- women's contraceptive methods that are not covered in the Preventive Care and Immunizations benefit;
- antiretroviral therapy medications obtained from a Participating Pharmacy; or
- medications intended to treat opioid overdose that are on the Opioid Rescue Medication Value List found on Our website or by calling Customer Service.

When You fill a prescription for insulin, Your cost-share will not exceed \$35 per a 30-day supply from a Pharmacy or \$105 per a 90-day supply from a Home Delivery Supplier.

For any Prescription Medication that is a Compound Medication, Your Coinsurance is 50 percent.

### **Prescription Medications from a Pharmacy (for Each 30-Day Supply)**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tier 1:</b> \$10 Copayment or 20% Coinsurance, whichever is greater; \$10 Copayment for each Self-Administable Cancer Chemotherapy Medication</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tier 2:</b> \$20 Copayment or 20% Coinsurance, whichever is greater; \$50 Copayment for each Self-Administable Cancer Chemotherapy Medication</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tier 3:</b> 50% Coinsurance; \$100 Copayment for each Self-Administable Cancer Chemotherapy Medication</li> </ul>

**Prescription Medications from a Home Delivery Supplier (for Each 90-Day Supply)**

- |  |
|--|
| • <b>Tier 1:</b> \$20 Copayment or 20% Coinsurance, whichever is greater |
| • <b>Tier 2:</b> \$40 Copayment or 20% Coinsurance, whichever is greater |
| • <b>Tier 3:</b> 50% Coinsurance   |

**PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION CALENDAR YEAR OUT-OF-POCKET MAXIMUM****Per Member:** \$4,300

This Prescription Medication Out-of-Pocket Maximum is calculated separately from any other Out-of-Pocket Maximum. Copayments and/or any Coinsurance amounts You pay to Participating and Nonparticipating Pharmacies as well as to Home Delivery Suppliers apply toward the Prescription Medication Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

Once You reach the Prescription Medication Out-of-Pocket Maximum, Prescription Medications that are subject to the Prescription Medication Out-of-Pocket Maximum will be paid at 100 percent of the Allowed Amount for the remainder of the Calendar Year.

Any costs in excess of the Covered Prescription Medication Expense that are charged by a Nonparticipating Pharmacy do not apply toward the Prescription Medication Out-of-Pocket Maximum and You will continue to be responsible for these amounts, even after You reach any Out-of-Pocket Maximum. In addition, the difference in cost between a Brand-Name Medication and its generic equivalent (or a Specialty Medication and its Specialty Biosimilar Medication) does not apply toward the Prescription Medication Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

**COVERED PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS**

Prescription Medication benefits are available for the following:

- Prescription Medications;
- Self-Adminstrable Prescription Medications (including, but not limited to, Self-Adminstrable Injectable Medications) and teaching doses by which a Member is educated to self-inject;
- diabetic supplies, when obtained with a Prescription Order, including:
  - lancets;
  - test strips;
  - glucagon emergency kits; and
  - insulin syringes.
- certain continuous glucose monitors and insulin pumps (including their supplies), that are on the Drug List, may be purchased from a Pharmacy when obtained with a Prescription Order; continuous glucose monitors and insulin pumps (including their supplies) are also covered in the Medical Benefits Section;
- Compound Medications;
- obesity medications limited to \$500 (combined retail and home delivery) per Member Lifetime, when obtained with a Prescription Order;

- Specialty Medications (including, but not limited to, medications for multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis, cancer, clotting factor for hemophilia or similar clotting disorders and hepatitis C);
- Self-Adminstrable Cancer Chemotherapy Medication;
- antiretroviral therapy medications obtained from either a Participating Pharmacy or Nonparticipating Pharmacy;
- immunizations for travel, occupation or residency in a foreign country; and
- certain Prescription Medications that are administered by Your Provider as determined by the Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee.

Additionally, the following preventive medications obtained from a Participating Pharmacy are covered at no charge to You, including, but not limited to:

- immunizations for adults and children according to, and as recommended by the CDC and/or USPSTF;
- certain preventive medications according to, and as recommended by the USPSTF, that are on the Drug List and when obtained with a Prescription Order, such as:
  - aspirin;
  - fluoride;
  - iron;
  - folic acid supplements; and
  - medications for tobacco use cessation.
- FDA-approved prescription methods, according to, and as recommended by the HRSA:
  - condoms;
  - diaphragm with spermicide;
  - sponge with spermicide;
  - cervical cap with spermicide;
  - spermicide;
  - oral contraceptives (combined pill, mini pill, and extended/continuous use pill);
  - contraceptive patch;
  - vaginal ring;
  - contraceptive shot/injection; and
  - emergency contraceptives (both levonorgestrel and ulipristal acetate-containing products).

You must submit a claim for reimbursement for the purchase of over-the-counter contraception items. To receive reimbursement for these items, complete a Prescription Medication claim form and mail the form and receipt to Us for processing. Our Prescription Medication claim form is available by visiting Our website or contacting Customer Service.

When preventive medications or immunizations are obtained from a Nonparticipating Pharmacy, You will be responsible for any Deductible, Copayment and/or Coinsurance listed above for Prescription Medications. If Your Provider believes that Our covered preventive medications, including contraceptives, are medically inappropriate for You,

You may request a coverage exception for an equivalent preventive medication by contacting Customer Service. For additional information on covered Prescription Medications, visit Our website or contact Customer Service.

## **PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS CLAIMS AND ADMINISTRATION**

### **Prior Authorization**

Some Prescription Medications may require prior authorization before they are dispensed. We notify participating Providers, including Pharmacies, which Prescription Medications require prior authorization. Prescription Medications that require prior authorization must have medical information provided by the prescribing Provider to determine Medical Necessity. Prescribed Medications that require prior authorization will not be covered until they are prior authorized. For a list of medications that require prior authorization or if You have any questions, visit Our website or contact Customer Service.

### **Drug List Changes**

Any removal of a Prescription Medication from Our Drug List will be posted on Our website 30 days prior to the effective date of that change unless the removal is done on an emergency basis or if an equivalent Generic Medication becomes available without prior notice. In the case of an emergency removal, the change will be posted as soon as possible.

If You are taking a Prescription Medication while it is removed from the Drug List and its removal was not due to the Prescription Medication being removed from the market, becoming available over-the-counter or issuance of a black box warning by the Federal Drug Administration, We will continue to cover Your Prescription Medication for the time period required to use Our Drug List exception process to request continuation of coverage for the removed Prescription Medication and receive a decision through that process, unless patient safety requires an expedited replacement.

### **Drug List Exception Process**

Non-Drug List medications are not covered by Your Prescription Medications benefit. However, a Prescription Medication not on the Drug List may be covered in certain circumstances.

"Non-Drug List" means those self-administered Prescription Medications not listed on the Drug List.

To request coverage for a Prescription Medication not on the Drug List, You or Your Provider will need to request prior authorization so that We can determine that a Prescription Medication not on the Drug List is Medically Necessary. Your Prescription Medication not on the Drug List may be considered Medically Necessary if:

- medication policy criteria are met, if applicable;
- You are not able to tolerate a covered Prescription Medication(s) on the Drug List;
- Your Provider determines that the Prescription Medication(s) on the Drug List is not therapeutically effective for treating Your covered condition; or



- Your Provider determines that a dosage required for effective treatment of Your covered condition differs from the Prescription Medication on the Drug List dosage limitation.

The specific medication policy criteria to determine if a Prescription Medication not on the Drug List is Medically Necessary are available on Our website. You or Your Provider may request prior authorization by calling Customer Service or by completing and submitting the form on Our website.

Once prior authorization has been approved, the Prescription Medication not on the Drug List will be available for coverage at the Substituted Medication Copayment and/or Coinsurance level determined by Your benefit and will apply toward any Deductible or Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

### **Your Responsibility for Cost Differences of Chosen Medications**

You will be responsible for the applicable Copayment and/or Coinsurance for the Brand-Name Medication or Specialty Medication at the time of purchase. You will also be responsible for paying excess costs above Your applicable cost-share if either of the following occur:

- if You choose to fill a Prescription Order with a Brand-Name Medication and an equivalent Generic Medication is available, You will be responsible for paying the difference in cost; or
- if You choose to fill a Prescription Order with a Specialty Medication and a Specialty Biosimilar Medication is available, You will be responsible for paying the difference in cost.

The excess in cost does not apply toward any Out-of-Pocket Maximum. If the prescribing Provider specifies that the Brand-Name Medication or Specialty Medication must be dispensed, You will still be responsible for the excess in cost.

### **Pharmacy Network Information**

A nationwide network of Participating Pharmacies is available to You. You can find Participating Pharmacies on Our website or by contacting Customer Service.

You must present Your identification card to identify Yourself as Our Member when obtaining Prescription Medications from a Pharmacy or Home Delivery Supplier. If You do not present Your identification card You may be charged more than the Covered Prescription Medication Expense.

### **Claims Submitted Electronically**

Participating Pharmacies will submit claims electronically. If a Nonparticipating Pharmacy provides Your Prescription Medication and submits the claim electronically, We will pay the Nonparticipating Pharmacy directly. Nonparticipating Pharmacies, however, may charge amounts in excess of Covered Prescription Medication Expenses. If that happens, You will be responsible for the excess amounts, as well as any Deductible, Copayment and/or Coinsurance shown electronically to the Nonparticipating Pharmacy at the time of purchase.

**Claims Not Submitted Electronically**

It is best to use a Participating Pharmacy so Your claims can be submitted electronically, and so You won't have to pay the difference between the Pharmacy's charges and the Covered Prescription Medication Expense in addition to Your Deductible, Copayment and/or Coinsurance.

However, when a claim is not submitted electronically, You pay for the Prescription Medication in full at the time of purchase. For reimbursement, complete a Prescription Medication claim form and mail a copy of the form and the Prescription Medication receipt to Us. To find the Prescription Medication claim form, visit Our website or contact Customer Service.

We will reimburse You directly based on the Covered Prescription Medication Expense, minus the applicable Deductible, Copayment and/or Coinsurance that would have been required had the medication been purchased from a Participating Pharmacy.

**Home Delivery**

You can use home delivery services to purchase covered Prescription Medications. Home delivery coverage applies when Prescription Medications are purchased from a Home Delivery Supplier and the claim is submitted electronically. Not all Prescription Medications are available from Home Delivery Suppliers.

To buy Prescription Medications through the mail, send all of the following items to a Home Delivery Supplier at the address shown on the prescription home delivery form (which also includes refill instructions) available on Our website or from Your Group:

- a completed prescription home delivery form;
- any Deductible, Copayment and/or Coinsurance; and
- the original Prescription Order.

**Prescription Medications Dispensed by Excluded Pharmacies**

We do not permit excluded Pharmacies to submit claims after the excluded Pharmacies have been added to the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) list. A Pharmacy may be excluded if it has been investigated by the OIG and appears on the OIG's exclusion list.

You will be notified if You are receiving medications from a Pharmacy that is later determined to be an excluded Pharmacy so that You may obtain future Prescription Medications from a non-excluded Pharmacy. Up to the time of notification, Your previously submitted claims will still be processed.

**Refills**

You may obtain Prescription Medication refills once You have taken a minimum threshold amount of the previous medication. The minimum threshold amount is based on several factors, such as:

- a six-month look back period;
- the type of medication (for example, FDA-approved prescription contraceptives, controlled substances, Specialty Medications, or drugs in an adherence program);
- state or federal laws;

- for FDA-approved prescription contraceptives, You must have taken at least 50 percent of the previous medication fill(s); and
- generally, except for controlled substances, You must have taken at least 75 percent of the previous prescription.

However, if You:

- choose to refill Your Prescription Medications sooner, You will be responsible for the full cost of the Prescription Medication and those costs will not apply toward any Deductible and/or Out-of-Pocket Maximum.
- receive maintenance medications for chronic conditions, You may qualify for prescription "refill synchronization" which allows refilling Prescription Medications on the same day of the month.
- feel You need a refill sooner than allowed, a refill exception will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Contact Customer Service for further information on prescription refills, refill synchronization, or to request an exception for an early refill.

### **Discounts or Manufacturer Coupons**

Any reduction in Your cost-sharing resulting from the use of any discount or a drug manufacturer coupon will apply toward the Prescription Medication Out-of-Pocket Maximum when purchased through Our Specialty Pharmacy.

### **LIMITATIONS**

The following limitations apply to this Prescription Medications Section, except for certain preventive medications as specified in the Covered Prescription Medications Section:

#### **Prescription Medication Supply Limits**

- **30-Day Supply Limit:**
  - **Specialty Medications** – the largest allowable quantity for a Specialty Medication purchased from a Specialty Pharmacy, is a 30-day supply, unless the medication has an FDA-approved dosing regimen that exceeds 30 days and is packaged in a multi-month supply package. The Copayment and/or Coinsurance, if applicable, is based on each 30-day supply. The first fill is allowed at a Pharmacy. Additional fills must be provided at a Specialty Pharmacy. However, some Specialty Medications must have the first and subsequent fills at a Specialty Pharmacy. For more information on those medications, please visit Our website or contact Customer Service. Specialty Medications are not allowed through home delivery.
- **3-Month Supply Limit:**
  - **Prescription Contraceptives** – the largest allowable quantity for the first fill of a prescription contraceptive purchased from a Pharmacy or Home Delivery Supplier is a three-month supply (which may be dispensed in a Provider's office, if available). After the first fill, a 12-month supply is allowed for subsequent fills of the same contraceptive. The Copayment and/or Coinsurance, if applicable, is

based on each 30-day supply from a Pharmacy and each 90-day supply from a Home Delivery Supplier.

- **90-Day Supply Limit:**

- **Pharmacy** – the largest allowable quantity of a Prescription Medication purchased from a Pharmacy is a 90-day supply. A Provider may prescribe or You may purchase some medications in smaller quantities. The Copayment and/or Coinsurance is based on each 30-day supply.
- **Home Delivery Supplier** – the largest allowable quantity of a Prescription Medication purchased from a Home Delivery Supplier is a 90-day supply. A Provider may prescribe or You may purchase some medications in smaller quantities.
- **Multiple-Month Supply** – except for prescription contraceptives, the largest allowable quantity of a covered Prescription Medication that is packaged exclusively in a multiple-month supply and is purchased from a Pharmacy is a 90-day supply (even if the packaging includes a larger supply). The availability of that supply at a given Pharmacy or time is not a factor in identifying the smallest multiple-month supply. The Copayment and/or Coinsurance is based on the Prescription Order up to a 34-day supply within that multiple-month supply.

- **Maximum Quantity Limit:**

- For certain Prescription Medications, We establish maximum quantities other than those described previously. This means that, for those medications, there is a limit on the amount of medication that will be covered during a period of time. We use information from the FDA and from scientific publications to establish these maximum quantities. When You take a Prescription Order to a Participating Pharmacy or request a Prescription Medication refill and use Your identification card, the Pharmacy will let You know if a quantity limitation applies to the medication. You may also find out if a limit applies by contacting Customer Service.
- For certain Self-Administrable Cancer Chemotherapy Medications, due to safety factors and the Member's ability to tolerate these medications, the Prescription Medication may be reduced to an initial 14-day or 15-day supply before larger quantities are dispensed.
- Any amount over the established maximum quantity is not covered, except if the amount is Medically Necessary. The prescribing Provider must provide medical information in order to establish whether the amount in excess of the established maximum quantity is Medically Necessary.

## **EXCLUSIONS**

The following exclusions apply to this Prescription Medications Section and are not covered:

### **Biological Sera, Blood or Blood Plasma**

#### **Bulk Powders**

Except as included on Our Drug List and presented with a Prescription Order, bulk powders are not covered.

#### **Cosmetic Purposes**

This exclusion does not apply to services that are prescribed as Medically Necessary for gender affirming treatment, to the extent such services are permitted under applicable law and are in accordance with accepted standards of care. Prescription Medications used for Cosmetic purposes, including, but not limited to:

- removal, inhibition or stimulation of hair growth, except as related to a covered medical condition;
- anti-aging; or
- repair of sun-damaged skin.

#### **Devices or Appliances**

Except as provided in the Medical Benefits Section, devices or appliances of any type, even if they require a Prescription Order are not covered.

#### **Diagnostic Agents**

Except as provided in the Medical Benefits Section, diagnostic agents used to aid in diagnosis rather than treatment are not covered.

#### **Digital Therapeutics**

Except as included on Our Drug List and presented with a Prescription Order, digital therapeutics are not covered.

#### **Foreign Prescription Medications**

Foreign Prescription Medications are not covered, except for the following:

- Prescription Medications associated with an Emergency Medical Condition while You are traveling outside the United States; or
- Prescription Medications You purchase while residing outside the United States.

These exceptions apply only to medications with an equivalent FDA-approved Prescription Medication that would be covered in this section if obtained in the United States.

#### **General Anesthetics**

Except as provided in the Medical Benefits Section, general anesthetics are not covered.

#### **Medical Foods**

Except as provided in the Medical Benefits Section, medical foods are not covered.

### **Medications That Are Not Self-Administrable**

Except as provided in the Medical Benefits Section or as specifically indicated in this Prescription Medications Section, medications that are not considered self-administrable are not covered.

### **Nonprescription Medications**

Nonprescription medications that by law do not require a Prescription Order are not covered, except for the following:

- medications included on Our Drug List;
- medications approved by the FDA; or
- a Prescription Order by a Physician or Practitioner.

Nonprescription medications include, but are not limited to:

- over-the-counter medications;
- vitamins (except for folic acid supplements);
- minerals;
- food supplements;
- homeopathic medicines;
- nutritional supplements; and
- any medications listed as over-the-counter (except for over-the-counter contraceptives) in standard drug references, regardless of state law prescription requirements, such as pseudoephedrine and cough syrup products.

NOTE: Over-the-counter contraceptives and folic acid supplements are covered under this Prescription Medications Section.

### **Prescription Medications Dispensed in a Facility**

Prescription Medications dispensed to You while You are a patient in a Hospital, Skilled Nursing Facility, nursing home or other health care institution. Medications dispensed upon discharge should be processed by this benefit if obtained from a Pharmacy.

### **Prescription Medications Found to be Less than Effective under Drug Efficacy Safety Implementation (DESI)**

### **Prescription Medications Not Approved by the FDA**

### **Prescription Medications Not Dispensed by a Pharmacy Pursuant to a Prescription Order**

### **Prescription Medications Not on the Drug List**

Except as provided through the Drug List Exception Process provision, Prescription Medications that are not on the Drug List are not covered.

### **Prescription Medications Not within a Provider's License**

Prescription Medications prescribed by Providers who are not licensed to prescribe medications (or that particular medication) or who have a restricted professional practice license.

### **Prescription Medications with Therapeutic Alternatives**

Prescription Medications for which there are covered therapeutically equivalent (similar safety and efficacy) alternatives, or over-the-counter (nonprescription) alternatives.

### **Prescription Medications without Examination**

Except as provided in the Virtual Care benefit, whether the Prescription Order is provided by mail, telephone, internet or some other means, Prescription Medications without a recent and relevant in-person examination by a Provider, are not covered. Additionally, this exclusion does not apply for:

- hormonal contraceptive patches; or
- self-administered hormonal contraceptives prescribed by a Pharmacist.

An examination is "recent" if it occurred within 12 months of the date of the Prescription Order and is "relevant" if it involved the diagnosis, treatment or evaluation of the same or a related condition for which the Prescription Medication is being prescribed.

### **Professional Charges for Administration of Any Medication**

### **Repackaged Medications, Institutional Packs and Clinic Packs**

### **DEFINITIONS**

The following definitions apply to this Prescription Medications Section:

Brand-Name Medication means a Prescription Medication that is marketed and sold by limited sources or is listed in widely accepted references as a Brand-Name Medication based on manufacturer and price.

Compound Medication means two or more medications that are mixed together by the Pharmacist. To be covered, Compound Medications must contain a Prescription Medication that has been approved by the FDA and may be subject to review for Medical Necessity.

Covered Prescription Medication Expense means the total payment a Participating Pharmacy or Home Delivery Supplier has contractually agreed to accept as full payment for a Prescription Medication. A Participating Pharmacy or Home Delivery Supplier may not charge You more than the Covered Prescription Medication Expense for a Prescription Medication.

Drug List means Our list of selected Prescription Medications. We established Our Drug List and We review and update it routinely. It is available on Our website or by calling Customer Service. Medications are reviewed and selected for inclusion on Our Drug List by an outside committee of Providers, including Physicians and Pharmacists.

Generic Medication means a Prescription Medication that is equivalent to a Brand-Name Medication and is listed in widely accepted references as a Generic Medication. "Equivalent" means the FDA ensures that the Generic Medication has the same active ingredients, meets the same manufacturing and testing standards, and is as safe and as effective as the Brand-Name Medication. Medications available only from one source (also referred to as "single source") are not considered Generic Medications. If

listings in widely accepted references are conflicting or indefinite about whether a Prescription Medication is a generic or Brand-Name Medication, We will decide.

Home Delivery Supplier means a home delivery Pharmacy with which We have contracted for home delivery services.

Nonparticipating Pharmacy means a Pharmacy with which We neither have a contract nor have contracted access to any network it belongs to. Nonparticipating Pharmacies may not be able to or choose not to submit claims electronically.

Participating Pharmacy means either a Pharmacy with which We have a contract or a Pharmacy that participates in a network for which We have contracted to have access. Participating Pharmacies have the capability of submitting claims electronically.

Pharmacist means an individual licensed to dispense, prescribe, and/or administer Prescription Medications, counsel a patient about how the medication works, any possible adverse effects and perform other duties as described in their state's Pharmacy practice act.

Pharmacy means any duly licensed outlet in which Prescription Medications are dispensed.

Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee means an officially chartered group of practicing Physicians and Pharmacists who review the medical and scientific literature regarding medication use. The P&T Committee also provides input and oversight of the development of Our Drug List and medication policies. Additionally, the P&T Committee is free from conflict of interest of drug manufacturers and the majority of whom are also free from conflict of interest of Your coverage.

Prescription Medications and Prescribed Medications mean medications and biologicals that:

- relate directly to the treatment of an Illness or Injury;
- legally cannot be dispensed without a Prescription Order;
- by law must bear the legend, "Prescription Only"; or
- are specifically included on Our Drug List.

Prescription Order means a written prescription, oral or electronic request for Prescription Medications issued by a Provider who is licensed to prescribe medications.

Self-Administrable Prescription Medication, Self-Administrable Medication, Self-Administrable Injectable Medication or Self-Administrable Cancer Chemotherapy Medication means a Prescription Medication labeled by the manufacturer as intended to be safely administered by You or Your caregiver outside a medically supervised setting (such as a Hospital, Physician's office or clinic). Self-Administrable Cancer Chemotherapy Medications include oral Prescription Medications used to kill or slow the growth of cancerous cells. Information from the manufacturer, scientific literature, practice standards, Medicare practices, Medical Necessity and other information that is considered a relevant and reliable indication of safety and acceptability is used to determine a Self-Administrable Medication. We do not consider Your status, such as



Your ability to administer the medication, when determining whether a medication is self-administrable.

Specialty Biosimilar Medication means an FDA-approved Prescription Medication that has a biological similarity to a Specialty Medication. The Specialty Biosimilar Medication is identical in function to the comparable Specialty Medication and may be more cost efficient. Similar to the FDA's requirements for a generic equivalent, a Specialty Biosimilar Medication must meet the same manufacturing and testing standards, and must be as safe and effective as the comparable Specialty Medication.

Specialty Medications mean medications that may be used to treat complex conditions, including, but not limited to:

- multiple sclerosis;
- rheumatoid arthritis;
- cancer;
- clotting factor for hemophilia or similar clotting disorders; and
- hepatitis C.

Information from the manufacturer, scientific literature, practice standards, Medicare practices and other information that is considered relevant and reliable is used to determine a Specialty Medication. For a list of such medications, visit Our website or contact Customer Service.

Specialty Pharmacy means a Pharmacy or designated Hemophilia Treatment Center (HTC) that specializes in the distribution and medication management services of high cost injectables and Specialty Medications. To find a Specialty Pharmacy, visit Our website or contact Customer Service.

Substituted Medication means a Generic Medication or a Brand-Name Medication not on the Drug List that is approved for coverage at the Tier 3 benefit level. Substituted Medication also means a Specialty Medication not on the Drug List that is approved for coverage at the Tier 3 benefit level.

Tier 1 means medications that provide the highest overall value. Mostly includes Generic Medications but may include some Brand-Name Medications.

Tier 2 means medications that provide moderate overall value. Usually includes Brand-Name and Specialty Medications that are categorized based on how well they work and/or their cost compared to other medications that treat the same condition.

Tier 3 means medications that provide lower overall value. Usually includes Brand-Name and Specialty Medications that are categorized based on how well they work and/or their cost compared to other medications that treat the same condition.

## General Exclusions

The following are the general exclusions from coverage, other exclusions may apply as described elsewhere in this Booklet.

### SPECIFIC EXCLUSIONS

The following conditions, treatments, services, supplies or accommodations, **including any direct complications or consequences that arise from them**, are not covered. However, these exclusions will not apply with regard to a Covered Service for:

- an Injury, if the Injury results from an act of domestic violence or a medical condition (including physical and mental) and regardless of whether such condition was diagnosed before the Injury, as required by federal law;
- a preventive service as specified in the Preventive Care and Immunizations benefit and/or in the Prescription Medications Section; or
- services and supplies furnished in an emergency room for stabilization of a patient.

### Activity Therapy

The following activity therapy services are not covered:

- creative arts;
- play;
- dance;
- aroma;
- music;
- equine or other animal-assisted;
- recreational or similar therapy; and
- sensory movement groups.

### Adventure, Outdoor, or Wilderness Interventions and Camps

Outward Bound, outdoor youth or outdoor behavioral programs, or courses or camps that primarily utilize an outdoor or similar non-traditional setting to provide services that are primarily supportive in nature and rendered by individuals who are not Providers, are not covered, including, but not limited to, interventions or camps focused on:

- building self-esteem or leadership skills;
- losing weight;
- managing diabetes;
- contending with cancer or a terminal diagnosis; or
- living with, controlling or overcoming:
  - blindness;
  - deafness/hardness of hearing; or
  - a Behavioral Health Condition.

Services by Physicians or Practitioners in adventure, outdoor or wilderness settings may be covered if they are billed independently and would otherwise be a Covered Service in this Booklet.

### **Assisted Reproductive Technologies**

Assisted reproductive technologies, regardless of underlying condition or circumstance are not covered, including, but not limited to:

- cryogenic or other preservation, storage and thawing (or comparable preparation) of egg, sperm or embryo;
- in vitro fertilization;
- artificial insemination;
- embryo transfer;
- other artificial means of conception; or
- any associated surgery, medications, testing or supplies.

### **Cosmetic/Reconstructive Services and Supplies**

This exclusion does not apply to services that are prescribed as Medically Necessary for gender affirming treatment, to the extent such services are permitted under applicable law and are in accordance with accepted standards of care. Cosmetic and/or reconstructive services and supplies are not covered, except for the treatment of the following:

- congenital anomaly;
- to restore a physical bodily function lost as a result of Illness or Injury; or
- related to breast reconstruction following a Medically Necessary mastectomy, to the extent required by law. For more information on breast reconstruction, see the Women's Health and Cancer Rights notice.

"Mastectomy" means the surgical removal of all or part of a breast or a breast tumor suspected to be malignant.

"Reconstructive" means services, procedures or surgery performed on abnormal structures of the body, caused by congenital anomalies, developmental abnormalities, trauma, infection, tumors or disease. It is performed to restore function, but, in the case of significant malformation, is also done to approximate a normal appearance.

### **Counseling in the Absence of Illness**

Except as required by law, counseling in the absence of Illness is not covered.

### **Custodial Care**

Except as provided in the Palliative Care benefit, non-skilled care and helping with activities of daily living is not covered.

### **Dental Services**

Except as provided in the Repair of Teeth or Other Professional Services benefit, Dental Services provided to prevent, diagnose or treat diseases or conditions of the teeth and adjacent supporting soft tissues are not covered, including treatment that restores the function of teeth.

### **Expenses Before Coverage Begins or After Coverage Ends**

Services and supplies incurred before Your Effective Date under the Contract or after Your termination under the Contract. However, when the Contract is terminated and coverage for the entire Trust is immediately replaced by another group contract and You

are in the Hospital on the day this coverage ends, We will continue to provide benefits for that hospitalization until Your discharge from the Hospital or Your benefits have been exhausted, whichever comes first. (This exception does not apply to a Skilled Nursing Facility or any other type of facility, except a Hospital.)

### **Family Counseling**

Except when provided as part of the treatment for a child or adolescent with a covered diagnosis, family counseling is not covered.

### **Fees, Taxes, Interest**

Except as required by law, the following fees, taxes and interest are not covered:

- charges for shipping and handling, postage, interest or finance charges that a Provider might bill;
- excise, sales or other taxes;
- surcharges;
- tariffs;
- duties;
- assessments; or
- other similar charges whether made by federal, state or local government or by another entity.

### **Government Programs**

Except as required by law (such as cases of medical emergency or coverage provided by Medicaid) or for facilities that contract with Us, benefits that are covered (or would be covered in the absence of this plan) by any federal, state or government program are not covered.

Additionally, government facilities or government facilities outside the service area are not covered, except for the following:

- facilities contracting with the local Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield plan; or
- as required by law for emergency services.

### **Hearing Care**

Except as provided in the Medical Benefits Section, hearing care is not covered.

### **Hypnotherapy and Hypnosis Services**

Hypnotherapy and hypnosis services and associated expenses are not covered, including, but not limited to:

- treatment of painful physical conditions;
- behavioral health; or
- for anesthesia purposes.

### **Illegal Activity**

Services and supplies are not covered for treatment of an Illness, Injury or condition caused or sustained by a Member's **voluntary participation in** an activity where the Member is found guilty of an illegal activity in a criminal proceeding or is found liable for the activity in a civil proceeding. A guilty finding includes a plea of guilty or a no contest

plea. If benefits already have been paid before the finding of guilt or liability is reached, We may recover the payment from the person We paid or anyone else who has benefited from it.

### **Illegal Services, Substances and Supplies**

Services, substances and supplies that are illegal as defined by state or federal law.

### **Individualized Education Program (IEP)**

Services or supplies, including, but not limited to, supplementary aids and supports, as provided in an IEP developed and adopted pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

### **Infertility**

Except to the extent Covered Services are required to diagnose such condition, treatment of infertility is not covered, including, but not limited to:

- surgery;
- uterine transplants;
- fertility medications; and
- other medications associated with fertility treatment.

### **Investigational Services**

Except as provided in the Approved Clinical Trials benefit, Investigational services are not covered, including, but not limited to:

- services, supplies and accommodations provided in connection with Investigational treatments or procedures (Health Interventions); and
- any services or supplies provided by an Investigational protocol.

### **Motor Vehicle Coverage and Other Available Insurance**

When motor vehicle coverage, other available insurance or contract is either issued to, or makes benefits available to a Member (whether or not the Member makes a claim with such coverage), expenses are not covered for services and supplies that are payable by any:

- automobile medical;
- personal injury protection (PIP);
- automobile no-fault coverage;
- underinsured or uninsured motorist coverage;
- homeowner's coverage;
- commercial premises coverage;
- excess coverage; or
- similar contract or insurance.

Further, the Member is responsible for any cost-sharing required by the other insurance coverage, unless applicable state law requires otherwise. Once benefits in such contract or insurance are exhausted or considered to no longer be Injury-related by the no-fault provisions of the contract, benefits will be provided accordingly.

### **Non-Direct Patient Care**

Except as provided in the Virtual Care benefit, non-direct patient care services are not covered, including, but not limited to:

- appointments scheduled and not kept (missed appointments);
- charges for preparing or duplicating medical reports and chart notes;
- itemized bills or claim forms (even at Our request); and
- visits or consultations that are not in person.

### **Obesity or Weight Reduction/Control**

Except as provided in the Nutritional Counseling and Bariatric Services benefits, the Prescription Medications Section, or as required by law, such as for Preventive Care and Immunizations, services or supplies that are intended to result in or relate to weight reduction (regardless of diagnosis or psychological conditions) are not covered, including, but not limited to:

- medical treatment;
- medications;
- surgical treatment (including revisions, reversals, and treatment of complications); or
- programs.

### **Orthognathic Surgery**

Orthognathic surgery is not covered, except for the treatment of the following:

- orthognathic surgery due to an Injury;
- temporomandibular joint disorder;
- sleep apnea (specifically, telegnathic surgery);
- developmental anomalies; or
- congenital anomaly (including craniofacial anomalies).

"Orthognathic surgery" means surgery to manipulate facial bones, including the jaw, in patients with facial bone abnormalities resulting from abnormal development performed to restore the proper anatomic and functional relationship of the facial bones.

"Telegnathic surgery" means skeletal (maxillary, mandibular and hyoid) advancement to anatomically enlarge and physiologically stabilize the pharyngeal airway to treat obstructive sleep apnea.

### **Over-the-Counter Contraceptives**

Except as required by law, over-the-counter contraceptive supplies are not covered unless approved by the FDA.

### **Personal Items**

Items that are primarily for comfort, convenience, contentment, Cosmetics, hygiene, environmental control, education or general physical fitness are not covered, including, but not limited to:

- telephones;
- televisions;
- air conditioners, air filters or humidifiers;

- whirlpools;
- heat lamps;
- light boxes;
- weightlifting equipment; and
- therapy or service animals, including the cost of training and maintenance.

### **Physical Exercise Programs and Equipment**

Physical exercise programs or equipment are not covered (even if recommended or prescribed by Your Provider), including, but not limited to:

- hot tubs; or
- membership fees to spas, health clubs or other such facilities.

### **Private-Duty Nursing**

Private-duty nursing, including ongoing shift care in the home.

### **Provider-Administered Specialty Drugs**

Provider-Administered Specialty Drugs that are not obtained through the designated Specialty Pharmacy for Provider-Administered Specialty Drugs are not covered.

### **Reversals of Sterilizations**

Services and supplies related to reversals of sterilization.

### **Routine Foot Care**

### **Self-Help, Self-Care, Training or Instructional Programs**

Except as provided in the Medical Benefits Section or for services provided without a separate charge in connection with Covered Services that train or educate a Member, self-help, non-medical self-care, and training or instructional programs are not covered, including, but not limited to:

- childbirth-related classes including infant care; and
- instructional programs that:
  - teach a person how to use Durable Medical Equipment;
  - teach a person how to care for a family member; or
  - provide a supportive environment focusing on the Member's long-term social needs when rendered by individuals who are not Providers.

### **Services and Supplies Provided by a Member of Your Family**

Services and supplies provided to You by a member of Your immediate family are not covered.

"Immediate family" means:

- You and Your parents, parents' spouses or Eligible Domestic Partners, spouse or Eligible Domestic Partner, children, stepchildren, siblings and half-siblings;
- Your spouse's or Eligible Domestic Partner's parents, parents' spouses or Eligible Domestic Partners, siblings and half-siblings;
- Your child's or stepchild's spouse or Eligible Domestic Partner; and
- any other of Your relatives by blood or marriage who shares a residence with You.

### **Services and Supplies That Are Not Medically Necessary**

Services and supplies that are not Medically Necessary for the treatment of an Illness or Injury.

### **Services Required by an Employer or for Administrative or Qualification Purposes**

Physical or mental examinations and associated services (laboratory or similar tests) required by an employer or primarily for administrative or qualification purposes are not covered.

Administrative or qualification purposes include, but are not limited to:

- admission to or remaining in:
  - school;
  - a camp;
  - a sports team;
  - the military; or
  - any other institution.
- athletic training evaluation;
- legal proceedings (establishing paternity or custody);
- qualification for:
  - employment or return to work;
  - marriage;
  - insurance;
  - occupational Injury benefits;
  - licensure; or
  - certification.
- travel, immigration or emigration.

### **Sexual Dysfunction**

Except for Medically Necessary behavioral health services and supplies for a diagnosis of sexual dysfunction which are covered in the Behavioral Health Services benefit, services and supplies are not covered for or in connection with sexual dysfunction.

### **Subscription, Membership and Access-Related Fees**

Fees for accessing care, treatment, or advice are not covered, whether the access is for virtual or in-person care. Excluded fees include, but are not limited to:

- concierge fees;
- subscription fees;
- membership fees;
- retainer fees;
- VIP or priority access fees; and
- any other access-related fees.



### **Surrogacy**

Maternity and related medical services received by You Acting as a Surrogate are not Covered Services up to the amount You or any other person or entity is entitled to receive as payment or other compensation arising out of, or in any way related to, You Acting as a Surrogate. "Maternity and related medical services" include otherwise Covered Services for conception, prenatal, maternity, delivery and postpartum care. Refer to the Maternity Care and/or Right of Reimbursement and Subrogation Recovery Sections for more information.

### **Therapies, Counseling and Training**

The following therapies, counseling and training services are not covered:

- educational;
- vocational;
- social;
- image;
- self-esteem;
- milieu or marathon group therapy;
- premarital or marital counseling;
- employee assistance program services; and
- job skills or sensitivity training.

### **Third-Party Liability**

Services and supplies for treatment of Illness or Injury for which a third-party is or may be responsible.

### **Travel and Transportation Expenses**

Except as provided in the Ambulance Services benefit or as otherwise provided in the Medical Benefits Section, travel and transportation expenses are not covered.

### **Varicose Vein Treatment**

Except as provided in the Other Professional Services benefit, treatment of varicose veins is not covered.

### **Vision Care**

Vision care services are not covered, including, but not limited to:

- routine eye examinations;
- vision hardware;
- visual therapy;
- training and eye exercises;
- vision orthoptics;
- surgical procedures to correct refractive errors/astigmatism; and
- reversals or revisions of surgical procedures which alter the refractive character of the eye.

**War-Related Conditions**

The treatment of any condition caused by or arising out of an act of war, armed invasion, or aggression, or while in the service of the armed forces unless not covered by the Member's military or veterans coverage.

**Wigs**

Wigs or other hair replacements regardless of the reason for hair loss or absence.

**Work Injury/Illness**

When You have filed a claim with workers' compensation and Your work-related Illness or Injury has been accepted by workers' compensation, any services and supplies arising out of that accepted work-related Illness or Injury are not covered. Subject to applicable state or federal workers' compensation law, services and supplies received for work-related Illnesses or Injuries where You and Your Enrolled Dependent(s) fail to file a claim for workers' compensation benefits are not covered. The only exception is if You and Your Enrolled Dependent(s) are exempt from state or federal workers' compensation law.

## Contract and Claims Administration

This section explains administration of benefits and claims, including situations that may arise when Your health care expenses are the responsibility of a source other than Us. Payment of benefits will be made in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Booklet.

### ALTERNATIVE BENEFITS

Alternative benefits are benefits for services or supplies that are not otherwise covered under the Contract, but for which We may approve coverage after case management evaluation and analysis. We may cover alternative benefits through case management if We determine that alternative benefits are Medically Necessary and will result in overall reduced covered costs and improved quality of care. Before coverage of alternative benefits and the processing of associated claims, We, You (or Your legal representative) and, when required by Us, Your Physician or other Provider must agree in writing to the specific terms and conditions for payment. Alternative benefits are approved on a case-specific basis only. The fact that We may cover alternative benefits for You does not set any precedent for coverage of continued or additional alternative benefits for You, or anyone else covered.

### SUBMISSION OF CLAIMS AND REIMBURSEMENT

When claims are submitted and payment is due, We decide whether to pay You, the Provider or You and the Provider jointly. We may make benefit payments for a child covered by a legal qualified medical child support order (QMCSO) directly to the custodial parent or legal guardian of such child.

If We receive an inquiry regarding a properly submitted claim and We believe that You expect a response to that inquiry, We will respond to the inquiry within 30 days of the date We first received it.

### Category 1 and Category 2 Claims and Reimbursement

You must present Your identification card to a preferred or participating Provider and furnish any additional information requested. The Provider will submit the necessary forms and information to Us for processing Your claim.

We will pay a preferred or participating Provider directly for Covered Services. These Providers may require You to pay any Deductible, Copayment and/or Coinsurance at the time You receive care or treatment. Preferred and participating Providers have agreed not to bill You for balances beyond any Deductible, Copayment and/or Coinsurance and to accept the Allowed Amount as payment in full for Covered Services.

### Category 3 Claims and Reimbursement

In order for Us to pay for Covered Services, You or the nonparticipating Provider must first send Us a claim. We pay nonparticipating Providers directly for Covered Services. Be sure the claim is complete and includes the following information:

- an itemized description of the services given and the charges for them;
- the place of service;

- the date treatment was given;
- the diagnosis;
- the patient's name;
- Your identification number; and
- the group number.

If the treatment is for an Injury, include a statement explaining the date, time, place and circumstances of the Injury when You send Us the claim.

Nonparticipating Providers have not agreed to accept the Allowed Amount as payment in full for Covered Services. You generally are responsible for paying any difference between the amount billed by the nonparticipating Provider and the Allowed Amount in addition to any amount You must pay due to Deductible, Copayment and/or Coinsurance. (See Services Received From An Oregon Nonparticipating Provider In A Preferred or Participating Healthcare Facility in the Medical Benefits Section for an exception to balance billing.) For nonparticipating Providers, the Allowed Amount may be based upon the billed charges for some services, as determined by Us or as otherwise required by law.

### Reimbursement Examples by Category

Here are reimbursement examples for Category 1, 2 or 3. Let's assume We pay 80 percent of the Allowed Amount for Category 1 and 60 percent of the Allowed Amount for Categories 2 and 3. The benefit table would appear as follows:

<b>Category: 1</b>	<b>Category: 2</b>	<b>Category: 3</b>
<b>Provider: Preferred</b>	<b>Provider: Participating</b>	<b>Provider: Nonparticipating</b>
<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 20% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount.	<b>Payment:</b> After Deductible, You pay 40% of the Allowed Amount and the balance of billed charges.

In this example, the Provider's charge for a service is \$5,000 and the Allowed Amount for that charge is \$4,000 for Categories 1 and 2. We will assume that You have met the Deductible and that You have not met the Out-of-Pocket Maximum:

- Category 1: We would pay 80 percent of the Allowed Amount and You would pay 20 percent of the Allowed Amount, as follows:
  - Amount preferred Provider must "write-off" (that is, cannot charge You for): \$1,000
  - Amount We pay (80% of the \$4,000 Allowed Amount): \$3,200
  - **Amount You pay** (20% of the \$4,000 Allowed Amount): **\$800**
  - Total: \$5,000
- Category 2: We would pay 60 percent of the Allowed Amount and You would pay 40 percent of the Allowed Amount, as follows:

- Amount participating Provider must "write-off" (that is, cannot charge You for):  
\$1,000
  - Amount We pay (60% of the \$4,000 Allowed Amount): \$2,400
  - **Amount You pay** (40% of the \$4,000 Allowed Amount): **\$1,600**
  - Total: \$5,000
- Category 3: We would pay 60 percent of the Allowed Amount. (For purposes of this example, We assume \$4,000 also is the Reasonable Charge upon which the nonparticipating Provider's Allowed Amount is based. The Reasonable Charge can be lower than the Category 1 or 2 Allowed Amount.) Because the nonparticipating Provider does not accept the Allowed Amount, You would pay 40 percent of the Allowed Amount, plus the \$1,000 difference between the nonparticipating Provider's billed charges and the Allowed Amount, as follows:
    - Amount We pay (60% of the \$4,000 Allowed Amount): \$2,400
    - **Amount You pay** (40% of the \$4,000 Allowed Amount and the \$1,000 difference between the billed charges and the Allowed Amount): **\$2,600**
    - Total: \$5,000

The actual benefits may vary, so review the benefit sections to determine how Your benefits are paid. For example, the Allowed Amount may vary for a Covered Service depending upon the selected Provider.

### Timely Filing of Claims

Written proof of loss (submission of a claim) must be received within one year after the date of service. Claims that are not filed in a timely manner will be denied, unless You can reasonably demonstrate that the claim could not have been filed in a timely manner. Benefits or coverage will not be invalidated nor reduced if it can be shown that it was not reasonably possible to file the claim and that the claim was submitted as soon as reasonably possible. You may appeal the denial in accordance with the appeal process to demonstrate that the claim could not have been filed in a timely manner.

### Claim Determinations

Within 30 days of Our receipt of a claim, We will notify You of Our action. However, this 30-day period may be extended by an additional 15 days due to lack of information or extenuating circumstances. We will notify You of the extension within the initial 30-day period and provide an explanation of why the extension is necessary.

If We require additional information to process the claim, We must allow You at least 45 days to provide it to Us. If We do not receive the requested information within the time We have allowed, We will deny the claim.

### Explanation of Benefits

We use a form called an Explanation of Benefits (EOB). It is not a bill. It explains how a claim was processed and includes the date of service, the amount billed, the amount covered, the amount We paid and any balance You may be responsible for. If We deny all or part of a claim, the reason for Our action will be stated on the EOB. The EOB will also include instructions for filing an appeal or Grievance if You disagree with the action.

## **CONTINUITY OF CARE**

You may qualify to receive 120 days of continued coverage (or 120 days from the date You are no longer a continuing care patient, whichever is earlier) at the Category 1 or Category 2 benefit level, if one of the following situations apply:

- Your Provider was a contracted preferred or participating Provider, but is no longer contracted (this provision does not apply if the contract with the Provider was terminated due to a failure to meet quality standards or for fraud); or
- Your Group's Contract with Us is terminated for reasons other than fraud, and your Group's new health plan does not include Your preferred or participating Provider in its network.

To qualify for continued coverage, You must be:

- undergoing a course of treatment for a certain serious and complex condition from the Provider;
- undergoing a course of institutional or inpatient care from the Provider;
- scheduled to undergo non-elective surgery from the Provider (including postoperative care following surgery);
- pregnant and undergoing a course of treatment for pregnancy from the Provider; or
- determined to be terminally ill and receiving treatment for such illness from the Provider.

We will notify You of Your right to receive continued care from the Provider or You may contact Us with a need for continued care. Coverage under this Continuity of Care provision will be subject to the benefits of this Booklet and provided on the same terms and conditions as any other preferred or participating Provider. Your Provider must accept the Allowed Amount and cannot bill You for any amount beyond any Deductible, Copayment and/or Coinsurance. Contact Customer Service for further information and guidance.

## **OUT-OF-AREA SERVICES**

We have a variety of relationships with other Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield Licensees. Generally, these relationships are called "Inter-Plan Arrangements." These Inter-Plan Arrangements work based on rules and procedures issued by the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association. Whenever You access health care services outside the geographic area We serve, the claim for those services may be processed through one of these Inter-Plan Arrangements.

When You receive care outside of the geographic area We serve, You may receive it from Providers as described below. Providers contracted with the local Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield Licensee in that geographic area ("Host Blue") as a preferred Provider are paid at the preferred Provider level and will not bill You for balances beyond any Deductible, Copayment and/or Coinsurance for Covered Services. Providers that contract with the Host Blue as a participating Provider are paid at the participating Provider level and will not bill You for balances beyond any Deductible, Copayment and/or Coinsurance for Covered Services. Some Providers ("nonparticipating Providers") don't contract with the Host Blue.

### **BlueCard Program**

In the BlueCard Program, when You receive Covered Services within the geographic area served by a Host Blue, We will remain responsible for doing what We agreed to in the Contract. However, the Host Blue is responsible for contracting with and generally handling all interactions with its Providers that participate in the BlueCard Program.

When You receive Covered Services outside Our Service Area and the claim is processed through the BlueCard Program, the amount You pay for Covered Services is calculated based on the lower of:

- The billed charges for Your Covered Services; or
- The negotiated price that the Host Blue makes available to Us.

Often, this "negotiated price" is a simple discount that reflects an actual price that the Host Blue pays to the Provider. Sometimes, it is an estimated price that takes into account special arrangements with a Provider or a group of Providers. In other cases, it may be an average price, based on a discount that results in expected average savings for services from similar types of Providers. Host Blues may use several factors to set an estimated or average price, including types of settlements, incentive payments, and/or other credits or charges. Estimated and average pricing may also take into account adjustments to correct Host Blue estimates of past prices. However, such adjustments will not affect the price used for Your claim because those adjustments will not be applied after a claim has already been paid.

### **Value-Based Programs**

You may receive Covered Services under a Value-Based Program ("VBP") inside a Host Blue's service area. Host Blue may pay Providers that participate in a VBP for reaching agreed-upon cost and quality goals, meeting outcome measures, and coordinating care between its Providers. You will not be responsible for paying fees associated with a VBP, except when a Host Blue passes these fees to Us through average pricing or fee schedule adjustments.

### **Inter-Plan Programs: Federal/State Taxes/Surcharges/Fees**

Federal or state law may require a surcharge, tax, or other fee. If applicable, We will include any such surcharge, tax, or other fee as part of the claim charge passed on to You.

### **Nonparticipating Providers Outside Our Service Area**

When Covered Services are provided outside of Our Service Area by nonparticipating Providers, the amount You pay will normally be based on either Host Blue's nonparticipating Provider local payment or pricing arrangements required by applicable state law. We may use other payment methods in certain situations, such as billed charges for Covered Services, the payment We would make if the health care services had been obtained within Our Service Area, or a special negotiated payment to determine the amount We will pay for services provided by nonparticipating Providers. In any of these situations, You may be responsible for the difference between the nonparticipating Provider's billed amount and Our payment for Covered Services. Federal or state law, as applicable, will govern payments for nonparticipating emergency services.

## **BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD GLOBAL® CORE**

If You are outside the United States, You may be able to take advantage of Blue Cross Blue Shield Global® Core ("BCBS Global® Core ") when accessing Covered Services. BCBS Global® Core is unlike the BlueCard Program available in the United States in certain ways. For instance, although BCBS Global® Core helps you access a provider network, the network is not served by a Host Blue.

You may have to pay the Provider upfront and submit any claims to Us Yourself in order to obtain reimbursement for those services. When You pay for Covered Services outside the United States, You should complete and submit a BCBS Global® Core claim form with the Provider's itemized bill(s) to the service center (address is on the form) to initiate claims processing. If You contact the BCBS Global® Core service center for assistance, in most cases, Hospitals will not require You to pay for covered inpatient services (except for any applicable Deductible, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance). In such cases, the Hospital will also submit Your claims to the service center.

If You need medical assistance services or help locating a Provider outside the United States, or if You need assistance with a claim submission, You should call the service center at 1-800-810-BLUE (2583) or call collect at 1-804-673-1177, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. An assistance coordinator, working with a medical professional, can arrange a Physician appointment or hospitalization, if necessary. The claim form is available from Us, the service center, or online at [www.bcbsglobalcore.com](http://www.bcbsglobalcore.com).

Covered Services received from Providers outside the United States may not be subject to state or federal protections from surprise or balance billing, and therefore You may be billed for balances beyond any Deductible, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance for Covered Services.

## **CLAIMS RECOVERY**

If We pay a benefit to which You or Your Enrolled Dependent was not entitled, or if We pay a person who is not eligible for benefits at all, We have the right to recover the payment from the person We paid or anyone else who benefited from it, including a provider of services. Our right to recovery includes the right to deduct the mistakenly paid amount from future benefits We would provide the Enrolled Employee or any Enrolled Dependents, even if the mistaken payment was not made on that person's behalf.

We regularly work to identify and recover claims payments that should not have been made (for example, claims that are the responsibility of another, duplicates, errors, fraudulent claims, etc.). We will credit all amounts that We recover, less Our reasonable expenses for obtaining the recoveries, to Your Group's experience or the experience of the pool by which You or Your Group is rated. Crediting reduces claims expense and helps reduce future premium rate increases.

This Claims Recovery provision in no way reduces Our right to reimbursement or subrogation. Refer to the Right of Reimbursement and Subrogation Recovery provision for additional information.



## **RIGHT OF REIMBURSEMENT AND SUBROGATION RECOVERY**

As used herein, the term "third-party," means any party that is, or may be, or is claimed to be responsible for Illness or Injuries to You. Such Illness or Injuries are referred to as "third-party Injuries." Third-party includes any party responsible for payment of expenses associated with the care or treatment of third-party Injuries.

If We pay benefits under this Booklet to You for expenses incurred due to third-party Injuries, then We retain the right to repayment of the full cost, to the extent permitted by applicable law, of all benefits provided by Us on Your behalf that are associated with the third-party Injuries. To the extent that such third-party Injuries are the result of a motor vehicle accident, and to the extent that Our right to repayment is governed by Oregon law, We retain the right to repayment of the cost of benefits provided from any settlement, judgement, or other payment received by You to the extent that such settlement, judgement, or other payment exceeds the amount that fully compensates You for Your Injuries. Our rights of recovery apply to any recoveries made by or on Your behalf from the following sources, including, but not limited to:

- payments made by a third-party or any insurance company on behalf of the third-party;
- any payments or awards from an uninsured or underinsured motorist coverage policy;
- any workers' compensation or disability award or settlement;
- medical payments coverage from any automobile policy, premises or homeowners' medical payments coverage or premises or homeowners' insurance coverage; and
- any other payments from a source intended to compensate You for Injuries resulting from an accident or alleged negligence.

By accepting benefits under this Booklet, You specifically acknowledge Our right of subrogation. When We pay health care benefits for expenses incurred due to third-party Injuries, We shall be subrogated to Your right of recovery against any party to the extent of the full cost, to the extent permitted by applicable law, of all benefits provided by Us. We may proceed against any party with or without Your consent.

By accepting benefits under this Booklet, You also specifically acknowledge Our right of reimbursement. This right of reimbursement attaches when We have paid benefits due to third-party Injuries and You or Your representative have recovered any amounts from a third-party. By providing any benefit under this Booklet, We are granted an assignment of the proceeds of any settlement, judgment or other payment received by You to the extent permitted by applicable law of the full cost of all benefits provided by Us. Our right of reimbursement is cumulative with and not exclusive of Our subrogation right and We may choose to exercise either or both rights of recovery.

In order to secure Our recovery rights, You agree to assign to Us any benefits or claims or rights of recovery You have in any automobile policy or other coverage, to the full extent permitted by applicable law of Our subrogation and reimbursement claims. This assignment allows Us to pursue any claim You may have, whether or not You choose to pursue the claim.

### **Advancement of Benefits**

If You have a potential right of recovery for Illnesses or Injuries from a third-party who may have legal responsibility or from any other source, We may advance benefits pending the resolution of a claim to the right of recovery and all of the following conditions apply:

- By accepting or claiming benefits, You agree that We are entitled to reimbursement of the full amount of benefits that We have paid, to the extent permitted by applicable law, out of any settlement or recovery from any source. This includes any judgment, settlement, disputed claim settlement, uninsured motorist payment or any other recovery related to the Illness or Injury for which We have provided benefits.
- You or Your representative agree to give Us a first-priority lien on any recovery, settlement, judgment or other source of compensation which may be received from any party to the extent permitted by applicable law of the full cost of all benefits associated with third-party Injuries provided by Us (regardless of whether specifically set forth in the recovery, settlement, judgment or compensation agreement).
- Further, You agree to pay, as the first priority, from any recovery, settlement, judgment or other source of compensation, any and all amounts due to Us as reimbursement for the full cost, to the extent permitted by applicable law, of all benefits associated with third-party Injuries paid by Us (regardless of whether specifically set forth in the recovery, settlement, judgment or compensation agreement).
- Our rights apply without regard to the source of payment for medical expenses, whether from the proceeds of any settlement, arbitration award or judgment or other characterization of the recovery by the Member and/or any third-party or the recovery source. We are entitled to reimbursement from the first dollars received from any recovery to the extent permitted by applicable law. This applies regardless of whether:
  - the third-party or third-party's insurer admits liability;
  - the health care expenses are itemized or expressly excluded in the recovery; or
  - the recovery includes any amount (in whole or in part) for services, supplies or accommodations covered in this Booklet.
- We will not reduce Our reimbursement or subrogation due to Your not being made whole unless such a reduction is required by applicable law. Our right to reimbursement or subrogation, however, will not exceed the amount of recovery.
- By accepting benefits under this Booklet, You or Your representative agree to notify Us promptly (within 30 days) and in writing when notice is given to any party of the intention to investigate or pursue a claim to recover damages or obtain compensation due to third-party Injuries sustained by You.
- You and Your representative must cooperate with Us and do whatever is necessary to secure Our rights of subrogation and reimbursement under this Booklet. We may require You to sign and deliver all legal papers and take any other actions requested to secure Our rights (including an assignment of rights to pursue Your claim if You fail to pursue Your claim of recovery from the third-party or other source). Unless prohibited by applicable law, if We ask You to sign a trust agreement or other

document to reimburse Us from the proceeds of any recovery, You will be required to do so as a condition to advancement of any benefits.

- You must agree that nothing will be done to prejudice Our rights. This includes, but is not limited to, refraining from making any settlement or recovery which specifically attempts to reduce or exclude the full cost of all benefits paid by Us. You will also cooperate fully with Us, including signing any documents within the required time and providing prompt notice of any settlement or other recovery. You must notify Us of any facts that may impact Our right to reimbursement or subrogation, including, but not necessarily limited to, the following:
  - the filing of a lawsuit;
  - the making of a claim against any third-party;
  - scheduling of settlement negotiations (including, but not necessarily limited to, a minimum of 21 days advance notice of the date, time, location and participants to be involved in any settlement conferences or mediations); or
  - intent of a third-party to make payment of any kind to Your benefit or on Your behalf and that in any manner relates to the Illness or Injury that gives rise to Our right of reimbursement or subrogation (notification is required a minimum of five business days before the settlement).
- You and/or Your agent or attorney must agree to serve as constructive trustee and keep any recovery or payment of any kind related to Your Illness or Injury which gave rise to Our right of subrogation or reimbursement segregated in its own account, until Our right is satisfied or released.
- In the event You and/or Your agent or attorney fails to comply with any of these conditions, We may recover any such benefits advanced for any Illness or Injury through legal action.
- Any benefits We have provided or advanced are provided solely to assist You. By paying such benefits, We are not acting as a volunteer and are not waiving any right to reimbursement or subrogation.

We may recover the full cost of all benefits paid by Us under this Booklet to the extent permitted by applicable law without regard to any claim of fault on Your part, whether by comparative negligence or otherwise. No court costs or attorney fees may be deducted from Our recovery, and We are not required to pay or contribute to paying court costs or attorney's fees for the attorney hired by You to pursue Your claim or lawsuit against any third-party. In the event You or Your representative fail to cooperate with Us, You shall be responsible for all benefits paid by Us in addition to costs and attorney's fees incurred by Us in obtaining repayment to the extent permitted by applicable law.

### **Motor Vehicle Coverage**

If You are involved in a motor vehicle accident, You may have rights both with motor vehicle insurance coverage and against a third-party who may be responsible for the accident. In that case, this Right of Reimbursement and Subrogation Recovery provision still applies.

## **Workers' Compensation**

Here are some rules which apply in situations where a workers' compensation claim has been filed:

- You must notify Us in writing within five days of any of the following:
  - filing a claim;
  - having the claim accepted or rejected;
  - appealing any decision;
  - settling or otherwise resolving the claim; or
  - any other change in status of Your claim.
- We will expedite prior authorization during the interim period before workers' compensation initially accepts or denies Your work-related Injury or occupational disease.
- If the entity providing workers' compensation coverage denies Your claim as a non-compensable workers' compensation claim and You have filed an appeal, We may advance benefits for Covered Services if You agree to hold any recovery obtained in a segregated account for Us.

## **Fees and Expenses**

We are not liable for any expenses or fees incurred by You in connection with obtaining a recovery. However, You may request that We pay a proportional share of attorney's fees and costs at the time of any settlement or recovery to otherwise reduce the required reimbursement amount to less than the full amount of benefits paid by Us. We have discretion whether to grant such requests.

## **Future Medical Expenses**

Unless prohibited by applicable law, benefits for otherwise Covered Services may be excluded when You have received a recovery from another source relating to an Illness or Injury for which We would normally provide benefits. However, the amount of any Covered Services excluded in this provision will not exceed the amount of Your recovery.

## **COORDINATION OF BENEFITS**

If You are covered by any other individual or group medical contract or plan (referred to as "Other Plan" and defined below), the benefits in this Booklet and those of the Other Plan will be coordinated in accordance with the provisions of this section.

## **Definitions**

The following are definitions that apply to this Coordination of Benefits provision:

Allowable Expense means, with regard to services that are covered in full or part by this Booklet or any Other Plan(s) covering You, the amount on which that plan would base its benefit payment for a service, including Coinsurance or Copayments, if any, and without reduction for any applicable Deductible. The following are examples of expenses that are not an Allowable Expense:

- An expense or portion of an expense not covered by any of Your involved plans.

- The difference between the cost of a private Hospital room and the cost of a semiprivate Hospital room, unless one of Your involved plans provides coverage for private Hospital rooms.
- Any expenses for other types of coverage or benefits when this coverage restricts coordination of benefits to certain types of coverage or benefits. This Coordination of Benefits provision applies to all benefits provided in this Booklet.
- Any amount by which a Primary Plan's benefits were reduced because You did not comply with that plan's provisions regarding second surgical opinion or precertification of services or failed to use a preferred Provider (except, if the Primary Plan is a closed panel plan and does not pay because a nonpanel Provider is used, the Secondary Plan (if it is not a closed panel plan) shall pay as if it were the Primary Plan).
- A Primary Plan's deductible, if the Primary Plan is a high-deductible health plan as defined in the Internal Revenue Code and We are notified both that all plans covering a person are high-deductible health plans and that the person intends to contribute to a health savings account in accordance with the Internal Revenue Code.
- An expense that a Provider is prohibited by law or contract from charging You.

When a plan provides benefits in the form of services, the reasonable cash value of each service provided will be considered both an Allowable Expense and a benefit paid.

Birthday means only the day and month of birth, regardless of the year.

Claim Determination Period means a Calendar Year. A Claim Determination Period does not include any time when You were not enrolled under the Contract.

Custodial Parent means the parent awarded custody of a child by a court decree. In the absence of a court decree, the parent with whom the child resides more than one half of the Calendar Year without regard to any temporary visitation is the Custodial Parent.

Group-Type Coverage is a coverage that is not available to the general public and can be obtained and maintained only because of membership in or connection with a particular organization or group, including blanket coverage. Group-Type Coverage does not include an individually underwritten and issued guaranteed renewable coverage, even if the coverage is purchased through payroll deduction at a premium savings to the covered person.

Other Plan means any of the following with which this coverage coordinates benefits:

- group, blanket, individual, and franchise health insurance and prepayment coverage;
- group, blanket, individual, and franchise health maintenance organization or other closed panel plan coverage;
- Group-Type Coverage;
- labor-management trust plan, union welfare plan, employer organization plan, and employee benefit organization plan coverage;
- uninsured group or Group-Type Coverage arrangements;
- medical care components of group long-term care coverage, such as skilled nursing care; and

- hospital, medical, and surgical benefits of Medicare and other governmental coverages, as permitted by law.

Other Plan does not include:

- independent noncoordinated hospital indemnity coverage or other fixed indemnity coverage;
- school accident-type coverage that covers students for accidents only, including athletic injuries, either on a 24-hour basis or a "to and from school basis";
- group long-term care insurance for non-medical services (such as personal care, adult daycare, homemaker services, assistance with activities of daily living, respite care, and Custodial Care) or that pay a fixed daily benefit without regard to actual expenses incurred or services received;
- accident only coverage;
- specified disease or specified accident coverage;
- Medicare supplement coverage;
- a Medicaid state plan; or
- a governmental plan that, by law, provides benefits that are excess to those of private insurance or other nongovernmental coverage.

Primary Plan means the plan that must determine its benefits for Your health care before the benefits of an Other Plan and without taking the existence of that Other Plan into consideration. (This is also referred to as that plan being "primary" to that Other Plan.) There may be more than one Primary Plan. A plan is a Primary Plan with regard to another plan in any of the following circumstances:

- the plan has no order of benefit determination provision;
- the plan is prohibited by law from using any order of benefits determination provision other than the one included herein and the plan contains a different order of benefit determination; or
- both plans use the order of benefit determination provision included herein and by that provision the plan determines its benefits first.

Secondary Plan means a plan that is not a Primary Plan. You may have more than one Secondary Plan. If You are covered by more than one Secondary Plan, the order of benefit determination provision decides the order in which Your Secondary Plans' benefits are determined in relation to each other.

Year means Calendar Year (January 1 through December 31).

### **Order of Benefit Determination**

The order of benefit determination is identified by using the first of the following rules that apply:

**Non-dependent Coverage:** A plan that covers You other than as a dependent will be primary to a plan for which You are covered as a dependent.

**Dependent Coverage:** Except where the order of benefit determination is being identified among plans covering You as the dependent of Your parents who are separated or divorced and/or those parents' spouses, a plan that covers You as the

dependent of Your parent whose Birthday occurs earlier in the Year will be primary over a plan that covers You as the dependent of Your parent whose Birthday occurs later in the Year. If both parents covering You as a dependent have the same Birthday, the plan of the parent who has been covered by their plan longer shall be primary to the plan of the parent who has been covered by their plan for a shorter period.

If a court decree specifies that Your parent is responsible for Your health care expenses or health care coverage and that parent's plan has actual knowledge of that term of the decree, the plan of that parent is primary to the plan of Your other parent. If the parent with that responsibility has no coverage for You, but that parent's spouse does and the spouse's plan has actual knowledge of that term in the decree, the plan of the spouse shall be primary to the plan of Your other parent. If benefits have been paid or provided by a plan before it has actual knowledge of the term in the court decree, these rules do not apply until that plan's next Contract Year.

If a court decree awards joint custody of You without specifying that one of Your parents is responsible for Your health care expenses or health care coverage, a plan that covers You as the dependent of Your parent whose Birthday occurs earlier in the Year will be primary over a plan that covers You as the dependent of Your parent whose Birthday occurs later in the Year. If both parents have the same Birthday, the plan of the parent who has been covered by their plan longer shall be primary to the plan of the other parent. If the Other Plan does not contain this dependent rule, the Other Plan's dependent rule will govern.

If none of the above dependent rules identifies the order of benefits determination among plans covering You as the dependent of parents who are separated or divorced and/or those parents' spouses:

- The plan of Your Custodial Parent shall be primary to the plan of Your Custodial Parent's spouse.
- The plan of Your Custodial Parent's spouse shall be primary to the plan of Your noncustodial parent.
- Then the plan of Your noncustodial parent shall be primary to the plan of Your noncustodial parent's spouse.

If You are covered by more than one plan of individuals who are not Your parents, the above Dependent Coverage rules shall be applied to determine the order of benefit determination as if those individuals were Your parents.

If You are covered by either or both of Your parents' plans and as a dependent under Your spouse's plan, the rule in the Longer/shorter length of coverage section below shall be applied to determine the order of benefit determination. If Your coverage under Your spouse's plan began on the same date as Your coverage under one or both of Your parents' plans, the order of benefit determination between or among those plans shall be determined by applying the birthday rule in the first paragraph of this Dependent Coverage section to Your parent(s) and spouse.

**Active/inactive employees:** A plan that covers You as an employee who is neither laid off nor retired (or as that employee's dependent) is primary to a plan by which You

are covered as a laid off or retired employee (or as the dependent of a laid off or retired employee). If the Other Plan does not have this rule and if, as a result, the plans do not agree on the order of benefits, this rule will not apply.

**Continuation coverage:** A plan which covers You as an employee or retired employee, or as an employee's or retired employee's dependent, will be primary to a plan that is providing continuation coverage. If the Other Plan does not have this rule and if, as a result, the plans do not agree on the order of benefits, this rule will not apply.

**Longer/shorter length of coverage:** When none of the paragraphs above establishes an order of benefit determination, the benefits of the plan that has covered You for the longer period of time will be determined before the benefits of the plan that has covered You for the shorter period of time. To determine the length of time You have been covered by a plan, two plans will be treated as one if You were eligible by the second within 24 hours after the first ended. The start of a new plan does not include:

- a change in the amount or scope of a plan's benefits;
- a change in the entity that pays, provides or administers the plan's benefits; or
- a change from one type of plan to another (such as from a single-employer plan to that of a multiple employer plan).

Your length of time covered by a plan is measured from Your first date of coverage with that plan. If that date is not readily available for a group plan, the date You first became a member of the group will be used as the date from which to determine the length of time coverage with the present plan has been in force.

If an order of benefit determination is not identified by the preceding rules, the plans shall share equally in the Allowable Expenses.

Each of the plans by which You are covered, and each of the benefits within the plan, will be considered separately in administering this Coordination of Benefits provision.

### **Primary Health Plan Benefits**

When, in accordance with the order of benefit determination, this coverage is the Primary Plan, We will pay the benefits in this Booklet as if no Other Plan exists.

### **Secondary Health Plan Benefits**

If, in accordance with the order of benefit determination, one or more Other Plans are primary to this coverage, the benefits in this Booklet will be calculated as follows:

We will calculate the benefits that We would have paid for a service if this coverage were the Primary Plan. We will compare the Allowable Expense in this Booklet for that service to the Allowable Expense for it with the Other Plan(s) by which You are covered. We will pay the lesser of:

- the unpaid charges for the service, up to the higher (highest) Allowable Expenses among the involved plans; or
- the benefits that We would have paid for the service if this coverage were the Primary Plan.



Deductibles, Coinsurance and Copayments, if any, in this Booklet will be used in the calculation of the benefits that We would have paid if this were the Primary Plan, but they will not be applied to the unpaid charges You owe after the Primary Plan's payment. Our payment therefore will be reduced so that it, when combined with the Primary Plan's payment, does not exceed the higher (highest) Allowable Expense among the involved plans and We will credit toward any Deductible in this Booklet any amount that would have been credited to the Deductible if this coverage had been the only plan.

If this coverage is the Secondary Health Plan according to the order of benefit determination and any Other Plan(s) claim to be "always secondary" or use order of benefit determination rules inconsistent with those in this Booklet, We will pay benefits first, but the amount paid will be calculated as if this coverage is a Secondary Health Plan. If the Other Plan(s) do not provide Us with the information necessary for Us to determine Our appropriate secondary benefits payment within a reasonable time after Our request, We shall assume their benefits are identical to Ours and pay benefits accordingly, subject to adjustment upon receipt of the information requested from the Other Plan(s) within two years of Our payment.

Nothing contained in this Coordination of Benefits provision requires Us to pay for all or part of any service that is not covered by this coverage. Further, in no event will this Coordination of Benefits provision operate to increase Our payment over what We would have paid in the absence of this Coordination of Benefits provision.

#### **Right to Receive and Release Needed Information**

Certain facts are needed to apply coordination of benefits provisions. We have the right to decide which facts We need. We may get needed facts from, or give them to, any other organization or person as permitted by law, and need not tell or get the consent of any person to do this. You will promptly furnish to Us any information necessary or appropriate to administer this Coordination of Benefits provision. Receipt of such information by Us will be a condition precedent to Our obligation to provide benefits in this Booklet.

#### **Facility of Payment**

Any payment made by any Other Plan(s) may include an amount that should have been paid by this coverage. If so, We may pay that amount to the organization that made the payment. That amount will then be treated as though it were a benefit paid by this coverage. We will not have to pay that amount again. The term "payment made" includes providing benefits in the form of services, in which case payment made means reasonable cash value of the benefits provided in the form of services.

#### **Right of Recovery**

If We provide benefits to or on behalf of You in excess of the amount that would have been payable in this Booklet by reason of Your coverage with any Other Plan(s), We will be entitled to recover from You, Your assignee or beneficiary, or from the Other Plan(s) upon request.

A Secondary Plan that provides benefits in the form of services may recover the reasonable cash value of the services from the Primary Plan to the extent that benefits

for the services are covered by the Primary Plan and have not already been paid or provided by it.

## Resolving Your Concerns

If You believe a policy, action or decision of Ours is incorrect, contact Our Customer Service department.

If You have concerns regarding a decision, action or statement by Your Provider, We encourage You to discuss these concerns with the Provider. If You remain dissatisfied after discussing Your concern with Your Provider, You may contact Our Customer Service department for assistance.

Our Grievance process is designed to help You resolve Your complaint or concern and to allow You to appeal an Adverse Benefit Determination. We offer one internal level of appeal of Our Adverse Benefit Determinations. We also offer an external appeal with an Independent Review Organization (IRO) for some of Our Adverse Benefit Determinations if You remain dissatisfied with Our Internal Appeal decision. See External Appeal – IRO later in this section for more information.

NOTE: For all appeals, written materials provided in support of the appeal that include others' medical or health records and other personal health information should not be submitted.

### INTERNAL APPEAL

An Internal Appeal, including an internal expedited appeal, must be pursued within 180 days of Your receipt of Our Adverse Benefit Determination. If You don't act within this time period, You will not be able to continue to pursue the appeal process and may jeopardize Your ability to pursue the matter in any forum.

Internal Appeals, including internal expedited appeals, are reviewed by an employee or employees who were not involved in, or subordinate to anyone involved in, the initial decision that You are appealing. In appeals that involve issues requiring medical judgment, the decision is made by Our staff of health care professionals. You or Your Representative may submit written materials supporting Your appeal, including written testimony on Your behalf.

You are entitled to receive continued coverage of the disputed item or service pending the conclusion of the Internal Appeal process. However, You will be responsible for any amounts We pay for the item or service during this time if We deny Your appeal.

### What You May Appeal – Internal Appeal

You may appeal an Adverse Benefit Determination or any other issue as required by state law or regulation.

### INTERNAL EXPEDITED APPEAL

If You or Your treating Provider determines that Your health could be jeopardized by waiting for a decision from the regular appeal process, You or Your Provider may specifically request an expedited appeal within 180 days of Your receipt of Our Adverse Benefit Determination. The internal expedited appeal request should state the need for a decision on an expedited basis and must include documentation necessary for the appeal decision. You or Your Representative, on Your behalf, will be given the

opportunity (within the constraints of the expedited appeal time frame) to provide written materials, including written testimony on Your behalf.

### **What You May Appeal – Internal Expedited Appeal**

An internal expedited appeal is available in clinically urgent situations if:

- the Adverse Benefit Determination concerns an admission, the availability of care, a continued stay, or a health care service for a medical condition for which You received emergency services, and You have not yet been discharged from a health care facility;
- a Provider with whom You have an established clinical relationship certifies in writing and provides supporting documentation that the ordinary time period for external review would seriously jeopardize Your life or health or Your ability to regain maximum function; or
- according to a Physician with knowledge of Your medical condition, the regular appeals time frame would subject You to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the disputed care or treatment.

### **FILING AN INTERNAL APPEAL**

Both internal and internal expedited appeals can be initiated through either written or verbal request using any of the following methods:

<b>Method of Request</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
Secure Online Account	Sign into Your account at <b>regence.com</b> Navigate to Appeals and appeal online
E-mail	<b>MemberAppeals@regence.com</b>
Fax	1-888-496-1542
Phone	Call the Customer Service phone number on Your identification card
Mail	Attn: Member Appeals Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon P.O. Box 1106 Lewiston, ID 83501-1106

We will acknowledge receipt of a Grievance or an appeal within seven days of receiving it.

An Adverse Benefit Determination may be overturned by Us at any time during the Appeal process if We receive newly submitted documentation and/or information which establishes coverage, or upon the discovery of an error the correction of which would result in overturning the Adverse Benefit Determination.

**INTERNAL APPEAL DETERMINATION TIMING**

Type of Appeal	When to Expect a Response
Post-Service appeal	In writing, within 30 days of Our receipt of the appeal
Pre-Service appeal	In writing, within 30 days of Our receipt of the appeal
Expedited appeal	Verbal notice of the decision will be provided to You or Your Representative as soon as possible after the decision, but no later than 72 hours of Our receipt of the expedited appeal, followed by written notice within 3 working days

**EXTERNAL REVIEW – IRO**

**You have the right to an external review by an IRO.** A request for a review by an IRO is available only after You have exhausted the Internal Appeal process, unless:

- We have mutually agreed to waive the exhaustion requirement;
- We failed to strictly comply with state and federal requirements for Internal Appeals; or
- You request expedited external appeal at the same time as You request expedited Internal Appeal.

We coordinate external reviews, but the decision is made by an IRO at no cost to You.

**We are bound by the decision of the IRO and may be penalized by the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation if We fail to comply with the IRO's decision. You have the right to sue Us if the decision of the IRO is not implemented.**

If You want more information regarding IRO review, contact Our Customer Service department. You can also contact the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation by:

- calling 1-503-947-7984 or the toll-free message line at 1-888-877-4894;
- writing to the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation, Consumer Advocacy Unit, P.O. Box 14480, Salem, OR 97309-0405;
- visiting the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation website: [dfr.oregon.gov/help/complaints-licenses/Pages/file-complaint.aspx](http://dfr.oregon.gov/help/complaints-licenses/Pages/file-complaint.aspx); or
- e-mail at: [DFR.InsuranceHelp@oregon.gov](mailto:DFR.InsuranceHelp@oregon.gov).

The IRO decision is binding, except to the extent other remedies are available under state or federal law. Exercise of Your right to IRO review is at Your option.

Alternatively, You may use another forum as the final level of appeal, including, but not limited to, civil action under Section 502(a) of ERISA, where applicable, or under a state statute or rule.

### What You May Appeal – Standard External Review Request

The issue being submitted to the IRO for external review must be a dispute over an Adverse Benefit Determination We have made concerning whether a course or plan of treatment is:

- Medically Necessary;
- experimental or Investigational;
- part of an active course of treatment for purposes of continuity of care;
- delivered in an appropriate health care setting at the appropriate level of care; or
- whether an exception to Our Drug List should be granted.

When We notify You of Our Internal Appeal decision, We will send You instructions on how to request external review and **may include a waiver which is a HIPAA release form that allows Us to provide Your medical records to the IRO to review Your external appeal request.**

### Standard External Review Request Timing

A request for external review must be made within 180 days of Your receipt of Our Adverse Benefit Determination.

Appeal Step	When to Expect a Response
We must notify the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation of Your request	By the second business day after We receive it even if You have not provided all the documents required
The Oregon Division of Financial Regulation will select an IRO and notify You of the IRO selection	Upon selection in both writing and by fax
You may submit additional information to the IRO	Within 5 business days after You receive notice of the IRO's appointment
We will provide the IRO with specific documentation regarding Our Adverse Benefit Determination and the signed waiver granting access to Your medical records	Within 5 business days of receiving the IRO selection
The IRO will make its decision	Within 30 days after You apply for external review
The IRO will send written notice of its decision	Within 5 days of the decision
If the IRO decides to reverse the original determination, We will provide coverage or payment of the claim	Upon receipt of the IRO's notice of the decision

### What You May Appeal – Expedited External Review Request

If You disagree with the decision made in the internal expedited appeal, You may request an external expedited review by an IRO if:

- the Adverse Benefit Determination concerns an admission, the availability of care, a continued stay, or a health care service for a medical condition for which You received emergency services, and You have not yet been discharged from a health care facility;
- a Provider with whom You have an established clinical relationship certifies in writing and provides supporting documentation that the ordinary time period for external review would seriously jeopardize Your life or health or Your ability to regain maximum function; or
- according to a Physician with knowledge of Your medical condition, the regular appeals time frame would subject You to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the disputed care or treatment.

We coordinate external expedited reviews, but the decision is made by an IRO at no cost to You. **We may request a waiver which is a HIPAA release form that grants the IRO access to medical records that may be required to be reviewed for the purpose of reaching a decision on the expedited appeal.**

### Expedited External Review Request Timing

You may request an external expedited review at the same time You request an internal expedited appeal from Us.

Appeal Step	When to Expect a Response
We must notify the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation of Your request	Upon receipt
The Oregon Division of Financial Regulation will select an IRO and notify You of the IRO selection	Upon selection in both writing and by fax
We will provide the IRO with the expedited appeal documentation	Upon selection by fax or overnight mailing of the records
You may submit additional information to the IRO	No later than 24 hours after the appointment of the IRO
Verbal notice of the IRO's decision will be provided to You and Your representative	As soon as possible after the decision, but no later than within 72 hours of Your request
If the IRO decides to reverse the original determination, We will provide coverage or payment of the claim	Upon receipt of the IRO's notice of the decision

## FILING AN EXTERNAL REVIEW REQUEST

Both standard and expedited external review can be initiated through either written or verbal request using any of the following methods:

Method of Request	Contact Information
Secure Online Account	Sign into Your account at <b>regence.com</b> Navigate to Appeals and appeal online
E-mail	<b>ExternalAppeals@regence.com</b>
Fax	1-888-309-8720
Mail	Attn: Level 2/3 Member Appeals Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon P.O. Box 1106 Lewiston, ID 83501-1106
You may also initiate an external review by submitting Your request to the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation using one of the following:	
Online	Oregon Division of Financial Regulation online at: <b>DFR.oregon.gov/help/complaints-licenses</b>
E-mail	<b>Exreview.ins@dcbs.oregon.gov</b>

## ASSISTANCE

If You have any questions about the appeal process, contact Our Customer Service or write to the following address: Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon, P.O. Box 1106, Lewiston, ID 83501-1106.

You also have the right to file a complaint and seek assistance from the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation. Assistance is available by:

- calling 1-503-947-7984 or the toll-free message line at 1-888-877-4894;
- writing to the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation, Consumer Advocacy Unit, P.O. Box 14480, Salem, OR 97309-0405;
- visiting the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation website:  
**dfr.oregon.gov/help/complaints-licenses/Pages/file-complaint.aspx**; or
- e-mail at: **DFR.InsuranceHelp@oregon.gov**.

You also are entitled to receive from Us, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to and copies of all documents, records, and other information considered, relied upon, or generated in, or otherwise relevant to, an Adverse Benefit Determination.



## DEFINITIONS

The following definitions apply to this Resolving Your Concerns Section:

Adverse Benefit Determination means Our denial, reduction or termination of a health care item or service, or Our failure or refusal to provide or to make a payment in whole or in part for a health care item or service, that is based on Our:

- denial of eligibility for or termination of enrollment;
- rescission or cancellation of a policy;
- imposition of a preexisting condition exclusion, source-of-injury exclusion, network exclusion, annual benefit limit or other limitation on otherwise covered items or services;
- determination that a health care item or service is experimental, Investigational or not Medically Necessary, effective or appropriate; or
- determination that a course or plan of treatment that You are undergoing is an active course of treatment for purposes of continuity of care.

Grievance means a submission by You or Your authorized Representative that either is a written or oral request for Internal Appeal or external review (including expedited appeal or review), or is a written complaint regarding:

- health care service availability, delivery, or quality;
- payment, handling, or reimbursement of a health care service claim; or
- contractual matters between You and Us.

Independent Review Organization (IRO) is an independent Physician review organization that acts as the decision-maker for external appeals and external expedited appeals and that is not controlled by Us.

Internal Appeal means a review by Us of an Adverse Benefit Determination made by Us.

Post-Service means any claim for benefits that is not considered Pre-Service.

Pre-Service means any claim for benefits which We must approve in advance, in whole or in part, in order for a benefit to be paid.

Representative means someone who represents You for the Grievance. The Representative may be Your personal Representative or a treating Provider. It may also be another party, such as a family member, as long as You or Your legal guardian authorize in writing, disclosure of personal information for the Grievance. No authorization is required from the parent(s) or legal guardian of an enrolled dependent child who is less than 13 years old. For expedited appeals only, a health care professional with knowledge of Your medical condition is recognized as Your Representative. Even if You have previously designated a person as Your Representative for a previous matter, an authorization designating that person as Your Representative in a new matter will be required (but redesignation is not required for a complaint that becomes an appeal or between each level of appeal). If no authorization exists and is not received in the course of the Grievance, the determination and any

personal information will be disclosed to You, Your personal Representative or treating Provider only.

## Eligibility and Enrollment

This section explains how to enroll Yourself and/or Your eligible dependents when first eligible, during a period of special enrollment or during an annual open enrollment period. It describes when coverage under the Contract begins for You and/or Your eligible dependents. Payment of any corresponding monthly premiums is required for coverage to begin on the indicated dates. Eligibility for retirees and their dependents is dictated by the terms of the Trust and requires enrollment within 30 days of the retiree becoming eligible for coverage, with an effective date of the first day following retirement. Individuals not enrolled as dependents by the retiree at his or her initial enrollment as an Enrolled Retiree may not be added later, except as required by law.

NOTE: Where a reference is made to spouse, all of the same terms and conditions of the Contract will be applied to an Eligible Domestic Partner.

### INITIALLY ELIGIBLE AND WHEN COVERAGE BEGINS

You will be entitled to enroll in coverage for Yourself and Your eligible dependents within 30 days of initially becoming eligible for coverage per the eligibility requirements in effect with the Trust and as stated in the following paragraphs. Coverage for You and Your enrolling eligible dependents will begin on the Effective Date.

If You and/or Your eligible dependents do not enroll for coverage under the Contract when first eligible or You do not enroll in a timely manner, You and/or Your eligible dependents must wait until the next annual open enrollment period to enroll, except as described in the Special Enrollment provision below.

### Employees

You become eligible to enroll in coverage on the first day of the second month following a month in which You worked enough qualifying hours required by Your labor contract.

### Dependents

Your Enrolled Dependents are eligible for coverage when You have listed them on the enrollment form or on subsequent change forms and when We have enrolled them in coverage under the Contract. Your newly Eligible Domestic Partner who is not a Registered Domestic Partner is eligible for coverage when a domestic partnership is established and an enrollment form or a subsequent change form is submitted to Us along with an affidavit of qualifying domestic partnership. "Established" means the date on which the conditions described below are met. Dependents are limited to the following:

- The person to whom You are legally married (spouse).
- Your Registered Domestic Partner. Registered Domestic Partnership means:
  - a contract, in accordance with Oregon law, entered into in person between two individuals who are at least 18 years of age, who are otherwise capable and at least one of whom is a resident of Oregon; or
  - a civil contract entered into, in-person, between two individuals, which recognizes their intimate relationship and common domestic life and is registered by a U.S. state or municipality or a comparable governmental entity.

- Your domestic partner who is not a Registered Domestic Partner, provided that all of the following conditions are met:
  - You have completed, executed and submitted an affidavit of qualifying domestic partnership form with regard to Your domestic partner;
  - both You and Your domestic partner are age 18 or older;
  - You and Your domestic partner share a close, personal relationship and are responsible for each other's common welfare;
  - neither You nor Your domestic partner is legally married to anyone else or has had another domestic partner within the 30 days immediately before enrollment of Your domestic partner;
  - You and Your domestic partner share the same regular and permanent residence and intend to continue doing so indefinitely;
  - You and Your domestic partner share joint financial responsibility for Your basic living expenses, including food, shelter and medical expenses; and
  - You and Your domestic partner are not more closely related by blood than would bar marriage in Your state of residence.
- Your (or Your spouse's or Your Eligible Domestic Partner's) child who is under age 26 and who meets any of the following criteria:
  - Your (or Your spouse's or Your Eligible Domestic Partner's) natural child, stepchild, adopted child or child legally placed with You (or Your spouse or Your Eligible Domestic Partner) for adoption;
  - a child for whom You (or Your spouse or Your Eligible Domestic Partner) have court-appointed legal guardianship; or
  - a child for whom You (or Your spouse or Your Eligible Domestic Partner) are required to provide coverage by a legal qualified medical child support order (QMCSO).
- Your (or Your spouse's or Your Eligible Domestic Partner's) grandchild as long as the parent is enrolled in the Plan.
- Your (or Your spouse's or Your Eligible Domestic Partner's) child who is age 26 or over and incapable of self-support because of developmental disability, mental illness or physical disability that began before the child's 26th birthday. You must complete and submit Our affidavit of dependent eligibility form, with written evidence of the child's incapacity, within 31 days of the later of the child's 26th birthday or Your Effective Date and either:
  - the child is an enrolled child immediately before their 26th birthday; or
  - the child's 26th birthday preceded Your Effective Date and the child has been continuously covered as a dependent on either a parent's or legal guardian's group coverage since that birthday.

Our affidavit of dependent eligibility form is available by visiting Our website or by calling Customer Service.

## **NEWLY ELIGIBLE DEPENDENTS**

You may enroll a dependent who becomes eligible for coverage after Your Effective Date by completing and submitting an enrollment request (and, for an Eligible Domestic Partner who is not a Registered Domestic Partner, an affidavit of qualifying domestic partnership form).

Enrollment requests must be made according to the following:

- within 60 days of the date of birth, adoption or placement for adoption for a new child.
- within 30 days of the dependent's attaining eligibility for all other newly eligible dependents.

Coverage for such dependents will begin on their Effective Dates (which, for a new child by birth, adoption or placement for adoption, is the date of birth, adoption or placement for adoption, if enrolled within the specified 60 days).

## **SPECIAL ENROLLMENT**

There are certain situations when You may enroll Yourself and/or Your eligible dependents, even though You didn't do so when first eligible, and You do not have to wait for an annual open enrollment period. You must submit an enrollment form (and, in the case of an Eligible Domestic Partner who is not a Registered Domestic Partner, a completed affidavit of qualifying domestic partnership form) on behalf of all individuals who become eligible based on the provisions below.

If You declined coverage for Yourself or any eligible dependent(s) when first eligible, You (unless already enrolled) and Your eligible dependent(s) are eligible to enroll for coverage under the Contract within 30 days from the date of one of the following qualifying events (except that where the qualifying event is involuntary loss of coverage under Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), You have 60 days from the date of the qualifying event to enroll):

- You and/or Your eligible dependent(s) lose coverage under another group or individual Health Benefit Plan due to one of the following:
  - an employer's contributions to that other plan are terminated;
  - exhaustion of federal COBRA or any state continuation; or
  - loss of eligibility, such as legal separation, divorce, termination of domestic partnership, death, termination of employment or reduction in hours.
- You involuntarily lose coverage under Medicare, CHAMPUS/Tricare, Indian Health Service or a publicly sponsored or subsidized health plan (other than CHIP, see below).
- You lose coverage under Medicaid or CHIP.

For the above qualifying events coverage will be effective on the day after the prior coverage ended. Loss of eligibility does not include a loss because You failed to timely pay Your portion of the premium or when termination of coverage was due to fraud. It also doesn't include Your decision to terminate coverage. However, it may include Your

decision to take another action (for example, terminating employment) that results in a loss of eligibility.

If You declined coverage for Yourself or any eligible dependent(s) when first eligible, You (unless already enrolled) and Your eligible dependent(s) are eligible to enroll for coverage under the Contract within 30 days from the date of one of the following qualifying events:

- You marry or begin a domestic partnership; or
- You acquire a new child by birth, adoption or placement for adoption. NOTE: Your Eligible Domestic Partner is not eligible to enroll for coverage under the Contract in this situation.

If You declined coverage for Yourself or any eligible dependent(s) when first eligible, You (unless already enrolled) and Your eligible dependent(s) are eligible to enroll for coverage under the Contract within 60 days from the date of the following qualifying event:

- You and/or Your eligible dependent(s) become eligible for premium assistance with Medicaid or CHIP.

For the above qualifying events coverage will be effective on the first of the month following the date of the qualifying event. However, if the qualifying event is a child's birth, adoption or placement for adoption, coverage is effective from the date of the birth, adoption or placement.

### **ANNUAL OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD**

The annual open enrollment period is the period of time before the Trust's Renewal Date and is the only time, other than initial eligibility or a special enrollment period, during which You and/or Your eligible dependents may enroll. You must submit an enrollment form (and, for an Eligible Domestic Partner who is not a Registered Domestic Partner, an affidavit of qualifying domestic partnership form) on behalf of all individuals You want enrolled. Coverage will begin on the Effective Date.

### **DOCUMENTATION OF ELIGIBILITY**

You must promptly provide (or coordinate) any necessary and appropriate information to determine the eligibility of a dependent. We must receive such information before enrolling a person as a dependent under the Contract.

## **When Coverage Ends**

This section describes the situations when coverage will end for You and/or Your Enrolled Dependents. You must notify Your employer and/or the Group Representative within 30 days of the date on which an Enrolled Dependent is no longer eligible for coverage.

No person will have a right to receive any benefits after the date coverage is terminated. Termination of Your or Your Enrolled Dependent's coverage under the Contract for any reason will completely end all Our obligations to provide You or Your Enrolled Dependent benefits for Covered Services received after the date of termination. This applies whether or not You or Your Enrolled Dependent is then receiving treatment or is in need of treatment for any Illness or Injury incurred or treated before or while the Contract was in effect. However, when the Contract is terminated and coverage for the entire Trust is immediately replaced by another group contract and You are in the Hospital on the day this coverage ends, We will continue to provide benefits for that hospitalization until Your discharge from the Hospital or Your benefits have been exhausted, whichever comes first. (This exception does not apply to a Skilled Nursing Facility or any other type of facility, except a Hospital.)

### **CONTRACT TERMINATION**

If the Contract is terminated or not renewed by the Trust or Us, coverage ends for You and Your Enrolled Dependents on the date the Contract is terminated or not renewed.

If the Contract is terminated and coverage is not replaced by the Trust, We will mail the Trust a notice of termination. It is then the duty of the Trust to send each Enrolled Employee a notice of the termination, explaining rights to continuation of coverage under federal and/or state law.

### **MEMBER EMPLOYER TERMINATION**

If Your employer ceases to be a Member Employer, coverage ends for You and Your Enrolled Dependents on the date Your employer ceases to participate under the Contract.

### **WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU ARE NO LONGER ELIGIBLE**

If You are no longer eligible as explained in the following paragraphs, coverage ends for You and Your Enrolled Dependents on the last day of the month in which Your eligibility ends. However, it may be possible for You and/or Your Enrolled Dependents to continue coverage under the Contract according to the COBRA Continuation of Coverage, Non-COBRA Continuation of Coverage or the Other Continuation Options Sections.

### **Termination of Your Employment or You are No Longer Eligible**

If You are no longer eligible due to termination of employment or You are otherwise no longer eligible according to the terms of the Contract (such as because You failed to work the qualifying hours required by Your labor contract), coverage will end for You and all Enrolled Dependents on the last day of the month in which eligibility ends. You may, however, be eligible to become an Enrolled Retiree.

### **Nonpayment of Premium**

If You fail to make required timely premium contributions, coverage will end for You and all Enrolled Dependents.

### **WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOUR ENROLLED DEPENDENTS ARE NO LONGER ELIGIBLE**

If Your dependent is no longer eligible as explained in the following paragraphs, coverage ends for Your Enrolled Dependents on the last day of the month in which their eligibility ends. However, it may be possible for an ineligible dependent to continue coverage under the Contract according to the COBRA Continuation of Coverage, Non-COBRA Continuation of Coverage or the Other Continuation Options Sections.

#### **Divorce or Annulment**

Eligibility ends for Your enrolled spouse and the spouse's children (unless such children remain eligible by virtue of their continuing relationship to You) on the last day of the month following the date a divorce or annulment is final.

#### **Death of the Enrolled Employee**

If You die, coverage for Your Enrolled Dependents ends on the last day of the month in which Your death occurs.

#### **Dissolution or Annulment of Registered Domestic Partnership**

If the contract with Your Registered Domestic Partner ends, eligibility ends for the domestic partner and the domestic partner's children (unless such children remain eligible by virtue of their continuing relationship to You) on the last day of the month following the date the dissolution or annulment was final.

#### **Termination of Non-Registered Domestic Partnership**

If Your domestic partnership other than a Registered Domestic Partnership terminates, eligibility ends for the domestic partner and the domestic partner's children (unless such children remain eligible by virtue of their continuing relationship to You) on the last day of the month following the date of termination of the domestic partnership. Termination of Your domestic partnership includes any change in status such that You and Your domestic partner no longer meet any of the requirements outlined in the definition of a dependent. You are required to provide notice of the termination of a domestic partnership within 30 days of its occurrence. You may not file another affidavit of qualifying domestic partnership within 90 days after a request for termination of a domestic partnership has been received.

#### **Loss of Dependent Status**

- Eligibility ends on the last day of the month in which an enrolled child exceeds the dependent age limit.
- Eligibility ends on the date in which an enrolled child is removed from placement due to disruption of placement before legal adoption.
- Eligibility ends on the last day of the month in which an enrolled child is no longer an eligible dependent for any other cause not described above.



## **OTHER CAUSES OF TERMINATION**

Members terminated for either of the following reasons may be able to continue coverage under the Contract according to the COBRA Continuation of Coverage, Non-COBRA Continuation of Coverage or the Other Continuation Options Sections.

### **Fraudulent Use of Benefits**

If You or Your Enrolled Dependent engages in an act or practice that constitutes fraud in connection with coverage or makes an intentional misrepresentation of material fact in connection with coverage, coverage under the Contract will terminate for that Member.

### **Fraud or Misrepresentation in Application**

We have issued this Booklet in reliance upon all information furnished to Us by You or on behalf of You and Your Enrolled Dependents. In the event of any intentional misrepresentation of material fact or fraud regarding a Member (including, but not limited to, a person who is listed as a dependent, but does not meet the eligibility requirements in effect with the Trust or Member Employer), We may take any action allowed by law or Contract, including denial of benefits or termination of coverage and may subject the person making the misrepresentation or fraud to prosecution for insurance fraud and associated penalties.

If We rescind Your coverage, other than for failure to pay premium, We will provide You with at least 30 days advance written notice prior to rescinding coverage.

## **FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE**

If Your employer grants You a leave of absence under an applicable state or federal family and medical leave law the following rules will apply. The federal Family and Medical Leave Act is generally applicable to private employers of 50 or more employees and public employers of any size. State law may be applicable more broadly. You and Your Enrolled Dependents will be entitled to continued coverage under this provision only to the extent You are eligible for leave under the terms of the applicable law:

- You will remain eligible to be enrolled under the Contract (with Your Enrolled Dependents) during the leave for a period of up to 12 weeks, or as required by law, during a 12-month period:
  - for You to care for Your (or Your spouse's or Eligible Domestic Partner's) newborn child;
  - for You to care for Your spouse or Eligible Domestic Partner, child, parent, or other relative as required by law with a serious health condition;
  - for You to care for a child placed with You (or Your spouse or Eligible Domestic Partner) for adoption or foster care;
  - if You suffer a serious physical or Behavioral Health Condition; or
  - for another reason for which applicable law requires leave to be available.

During the leave, You must continue to pay Your portion of the monthly premium through Your employer to the Trust or Group Representative on time. The provisions described here will not be available if the Contract terminates or Your employer ceases to be a Member Employer.

If You elect not to remain enrolled during the leave, You (and dependents You had enrolled immediately before the leave) will be eligible to be reenrolled under the Contract on the date You return from the leave. In order to reenroll after You return from a leave, You must sign a new enrollment form as if You were a newly eligible employee. In this situation, if You reenroll within the required time, all of the terms and conditions of the Contract will resume at the time of reenrollment as if there had been no lapse in coverage. You (and any re-enrolled dependents) will receive credit for any waiting period served before the leave and You will not have to re-serve any probationary period under the Contract.

You and any Enrolled Dependents will not be entitled to any other extension of benefits described in this section for the same situation that entitles You and them to coverage according to this provision. Entitlement to leave does not constitute a qualifying event for COBRA continuation. However, You and Your dependents may be entitled to COBRA continuation coverage if You do not return to active employment following leave. The duration of that COBRA continuation will be calculated from the date You fail to return from FMLA leave.

The provisions and administration described here are based on the requirements of, and will be governed by, the applicable law and any subsequent amendments and regulations. If any conflicts arise between the provisions described here and applicable law, the minimum requirements of the law will govern. The Group Representative must keep Us advised regarding the eligibility for coverage of any employee who may be entitled to the benefits extended by an applicable leave.

### **MILITARY LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

If You are covered under this plan and are called to active duty or join any branch of the United States armed forces, and Your military duty would result in a loss of coverage under this plan, You are eligible for continued coverage under this plan for up to 24 months or the duration of your military leave, whichever is shorter, under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA).

#### **Continuation of Coverage**

This continuation of coverage is in lieu of and not in addition to any other continuation of coverage provisions. Your dependents do not have an independent right to elect USERRA coverage.

#### **Premium Contributions**

To maintain coverage during Your leave, You must pay premiums to the employer Group. If Your leave is less than 30 days, Your premium contribution rate will be the same as for active employees. If Your leave is 30 days or longer, Your premium contribution will not exceed 102% of the cost of coverage for active employees.

#### **Provisions and Limitations**

When Your coverage under this plan is reinstated, all provisions and limitations of this plan will apply as if You had not taken Your military leave and Your coverage had been continuous. You will not have to serve any group eligibility waiting period. However, this waiver of limitations does not provide coverage for any illness or injury caused or aggravated by Your military service, as determined by the Veterans Administration.

For complete information regarding Your rights under USERRA, contact the employer Group.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

If You are granted a temporary non-family and medical leave of absence by Your employer and approved by the Group Representative, You can continue coverage (for Yourself and Your Enrolled Dependents) for the length of time determined by the Trust. See the Group Representative for more details on Your leave of absence policy. Premiums must be paid through Your employer to the Group Representative in order to maintain coverage during a non-family and medical leave of absence.

A leave of absence is an employer-granted period off work made at Your request during which You are still considered to be employed and are carried on the Member Employer's employment records. A leave can be granted for any reason acceptable to Your employer and the Group Representative. If You are on a family and medical leave under applicable law, You remain eligible under the Contract only for a period equivalent to legally required leave and may not also continue coverage with a non-family and medical leave.

If You and/or Your Enrolled Dependents elect not to remain enrolled during the leave of absence, You (and/or Your Enrolled Dependents) may reenroll under the Contract only during the next annual open enrollment period.

## COBRA Continuation of Coverage

COBRA is a continuation of this coverage for a limited time after certain events cause a loss of eligibility. COBRA continuation does not apply to all groups. The following is a very brief and general summary of COBRA and complete details are available from the Group Representative.

If Your group coverage is subject to COBRA, COBRA continuation is available to Your Enrolled Dependents if they lose eligibility because:

- Your employment is terminated (unless the termination is for gross misconduct);
- Your hours of work are reduced;
- You die;
- You and Your spouse divorce or the marriage is annulled;
- You and Your domestic partner terminate the domestic partnership;
- You become entitled to Medicare benefits; or
- Your enrolled child loses eligibility as a child under this coverage.

COBRA also is available to You if You lose eligibility because Your employment terminates (other than for gross misconduct) or Your hours of work are reduced. (A special COBRA continuation also applies to You and Your Enrolled Dependents per certain conditions if Your former employer files for bankruptcy.)

There are some circumstances involving disability or the occurrence of a second one of these events that can result in extension of the limited period of continuation following a termination of employment or reduction in working hours. COBRA also can terminate earlier than the maximum periods.

### General Rules

You or Your Enrolled Dependents are responsible for payment of the full premium for COBRA continuation, plus an administration fee, even if the Member Employer contributes toward the premiums of those not on COBRA continuation. The administration fee is two percent or, during any period of extension for disability, 50 percent.

In order to preserve Your and Your Enrolled Dependent's rights with COBRA, You or Your Enrolled Dependents must inform the Group Representative in writing within 60 days of:

- Your divorce or annulment, termination of domestic partnership or a loss of eligibility of a child;
- Your initial loss of eligibility due to Your termination of employment or reduction in working hours and You experience another one of the events listed above; or
- a Social Security disability determination that You or Your Enrolled Dependent were disabled per Social Security at the time of a termination of employment or reduction in working hours or within the first 60 days of COBRA continuation following that event. (If a final determination is later made that You or Your Enrolled Dependent is no longer disabled per Social Security, You or Your Enrolled Dependent must

provide the Group Representative notice of that determination within 30 days of the date it is made.)

The Member Employer also must meet certain notification, election and payment deadline requirements. It is very important that You keep Your employer and the Trust or Group Representative informed of the current address of all Members who are or may become qualified beneficiaries.

If You or Your Enrolled Dependents do not elect COBRA continuation coverage, coverage under the Contract will end according to the terms of the Contract and We will not pay claims for services provided on and after the date coverage ends.

**Notice**

The Contract includes additional details on the COBRA Continuation provisions outlined here and complete details are available from Your employer or Group Representative.

## **Non-COBRA Continuation of Coverage**

If the Member Employer is not required to offer COBRA Continuation of Coverage, the Member Employer must offer a continuation of group coverage benefits to You and Your Enrolled Dependents upon loss of eligibility for coverage.

Your employer makes determinations for eligibility of non-COBRA continuation of coverage and will notify You and Your Enrolled Dependents of this continuation right. If You and/or Your Enrolled Dependents do not receive notice, You may contact Us directly within 60 days following termination of coverage and elect continuation of coverage.

If You and/or Your Enrolled Dependents choose to continue coverage according to this right, You must enroll in writing and pay the premium for such coverage within 60 days of coverage termination. You will be required to make timely premium payments to the Trust or Group Representative. The Trust or Group Representative may charge You and Your Enrolled Dependents a premium no higher than the current rate paid for coverage of a comparable Member (or Members) who lost coverage and neither Your employer nor the Trust or Group Representative is required to make any contribution toward premiums for continuation coverage. Where an enrollment form and premium are received within the 60-day period, the accepting Member's coverage continues, without interruption, from the date the Member's coverage was terminated.

This continuation of coverage will terminate when the first of the following occurs:

- You and/or Your Enrolled Dependents fail to make payment of premiums for the coverage as instructed and within the established time frame;
- nine months elapse; or
- the Group's coverage is terminated.

If the Trust or Your employer replaces coverage with a similar plan, those who have continued coverage may obtain coverage with the replacement policy for the balance of the period that they would have been allowed to extend benefits with the replaced coverage.

## Other Continuation Options

This section describes situations when coverage may also be extended for You and/or Your Enrolled Dependents beyond the date of termination.

### **Strike or Lockout**

If You are employed under a collective bargaining agreement and involved in a work stoppage because of a strike or lockout, Your coverage can be continued for up to six months. You must pay the full premium, including any part usually paid by Your employer or the Group Representative, directly to the union or trust that represents You. The union or trust must continue to pay Us the premiums according to the Contract. Coverage cannot be continued if less than 75 percent of those normally enrolled continue coverage or if You otherwise lose eligibility under the Contract. This six months of continued coverage is in lieu of and not in addition to any continuation of coverage provisions of the Contract.

### **Workers' Compensation Claim**

If You are no longer eligible due to an Illness or Injury for which You have filed a Workers' Compensation claim, You can continue coverage for up to six months after Your eligibility ends, or until You obtain full-time employment with another employer, whichever happens first. You must make payment of premiums for the coverage to Your employer or the Group Representative as instructed and within the established time frame in order to maintain coverage during this period. This six months of continued coverage runs simultaneously with any leave under the FMLA. Any continuation of coverage will apply following the conclusion of Your workers' compensation coverage.

## General Provisions and Legal Notices

This section explains various general provisions and legal notices regarding Your benefits under this coverage.

### CHOICE OF FORUM

Any legal action arising out of the Contract must be filed in a court in the state of Oregon.

### ERISA (IF APPLICABLE)

This provision applies if the Contract is part of an employee welfare benefit plan regulated by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 as amended (ERISA).

The Trust and Member Employers intend that the Contract be maintained for the exclusive benefit of the employees and intends to continue this coverage indefinitely. However, the Trust and Member Employers reserve the right to discontinue or change this coverage at any time. If the Contract is terminated for any reason and is not replaced with comparable benefits, employees of the Member Employers will receive ample notice. Employees will also receive instructions for converting their coverage to an individual plan.

### Rights and Protection

Employees are entitled to certain rights and protection per ERISA. ERISA provides that all employees shall be entitled to:

- Examine without charge, at the plan administrator's office, all policy documents, including insurance policies and copies of certain documents filed by the plan administrator with the U.S. Department of Labor, such as detailed annual reports and policy descriptions.
- Obtain copies of documents governing the operation of the plan upon written request to the plan administrator. The plan administrator may make a reasonable charge for the copies.
- Continue, at their own expense, health care coverage of themselves, their spouses and children if coverage ends due to certain qualifying events.
- Review the summary plan description and governing documents of the coverage for rules and other details about such COBRA continuation rights.

### Duties

In addition to creating rights for employees, ERISA imposes duties upon the people who are responsible for the operation of the employee benefit plan. The people who operate the plan, called "fiduciaries," have a duty to do so prudently and in the interest of employees and their dependents. No one, including the employer, or any other person, may fire an employee or otherwise discriminate against one in any way to prevent an employee from obtaining a welfare benefit or exercising their rights per ERISA.

If an employee's claim for a welfare benefit is denied (or ignored) in whole or in part, the employee must receive a written explanation of the reason for the denial. Employees have the rights to obtain copies of related documents without charge and to appeal any



denial within certain time frames. According to ERISA, there are steps they can take to enforce the above rights. For instance, if an employee submits a written request for certain materials from the plan administrator and does not receive the materials within 30 days, the employee may file suit in a federal court. In such a case, the court may require the plan administrator to provide the materials and pay the employee up to \$110 a day until the materials are received, unless the materials were not sent because of reasons beyond the control of the plan administrator.

### **Denied Claims**

If an employee has a claim for benefits which is denied (or ignored), in whole or in part, the employee may file suit in a state or federal court. An employee may also do so if they disagree with a decision or lack thereof concerning the qualified status of a domestic relations order or medical child support order. If fiduciaries misuse money, or if an employee is discriminated against for asserting their rights, employees may seek assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor or file suit in a federal court. The court will decide who should pay court costs and legal fees. If an employee is successful, the court may order the person an employee has sued to pay these costs and fees. If an employee loses, the court may order the employee who sued to pay these costs and fees, for example, if it finds the claim frivolous. If an employee has any questions about the plan, they should contact the plan administrator.

### **If You Need More ERISA Information**

If an employee has any questions about this statement or their rights per ERISA, or if they need assistance obtaining documents from the plan administrator, the employee should contact the nearest Field Office of the Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor (listed in the telephone directory) or the Division of Technical Assistance and Inquiries, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210. Employees can also obtain publications about their ERISA rights and responsibilities by calling the publications hotline of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.

### **GOVERNING LAW**

The Contract will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the United States of America and by the laws of the state of Oregon without regard to its conflict of law rules.

### **TRUST IS AGENT**

The Trust is Your agent for all purposes under the Contract and not Our agent. You are entitled to health care benefits pursuant to an agreement between Us and the Trust. In the Contract, the Trust agrees to act as agent for You in acknowledging Your agreement to the terms, provisions, limitations and exclusions contained in this Booklet. You, through the enrollment form signed by the Enrolled Employee, and as beneficiaries of the Contract, acknowledge and agree to the terms, provisions, limitations and exclusions in this Booklet.

### **LIMITATIONS ON LIABILITY**

You have the exclusive right to choose a health care Provider. We are not responsible for the quality of health care You receive, since all those who provide care do so as

independent contractors. Since We do not provide any health care services, We cannot be held liable for any claim or damages connected with Injuries You suffer while receiving health services or supplies provided by professionals who are neither Our employees nor agents.

Under state law, Providers contracting with a health care service contractor like Us to provide services to its Members agree to look only to the health care service contractor for payment of services that are covered by the Contract and may not bill You if the health care service contractor fails to pay the Provider for whatever reason. The Provider may bill You for applicable Deductible, Copayment and/or Coinsurance and for non-Covered Services, except as may be restricted in the Provider contract.

In addition, We will not be liable to any person or entity for the inability or failure to procure or provide the benefits in this Booklet by reason of epidemic, disaster or other cause or condition beyond Our control.

### **MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT**

We shall have the right to modify or amend the Contract from time to time. However, no modification or amendment will be effective until a minimum of 30 days (or as required by law) after written notice has been given to the Trust. The modification must be uniform within the product line and at the time of renewal. Exceptions to this modification provision for circumstances beyond Our control are further addressed in the Contract. No modification or amendment of the Contract will affect the benefits of any Member who is, on the Effective Date of such modification or amendment, confined in a Hospital or other facility on an inpatient basis, until the first discharge from such facility occurring after such Effective Date.

### **NO WAIVER**

The failure or refusal of either party to demand strict performance of the Contract or to enforce any provision will not act as or be construed as a waiver of that party's right to later demand its performance or to enforce that provision. No provision of the Contract will be considered waived by Us unless such waiver is reduced to writing and signed by one of Our authorized officers.

### **NONASSIGNMENT**

Only You are entitled to benefits under the Contract. These benefits are not assignable or transferable to anyone else and You (or a custodial parent or the state Medicaid agency, if applicable) may not delegate, in full or in part, benefits or payments to any person, corporation or entity. Any attempted assignment, transfer or delegation of benefits will be considered null and void and will not be binding on Us. You may not assign, transfer or delegate any right of representation or collection other than to legal counsel directly authorized by You on a case-by-case basis.

### **NOTICES**

Any notice to Members required in the Contract will be considered properly given if written notice is deposited in the United States mail or with a private carrier. Notices to an Enrolled Employee or Enrolled Retiree will be addressed to the last known address appearing in Our records. If We receive a United States Postal Service change of address (COA) form for an Enrolled Employee or Enrolled Retiree, We will update Our

records accordingly. Additionally, We may forward notice for an Enrolled Employee or Enrolled Retiree to the Trust or Group Representative if We become aware that We don't have a valid mailing address for the Enrolled Employee or Enrolled Retiree. Any notice to Us required in the Contract may be mailed to Our Customer Service address. However, notice to Us will not be considered to have been given to and received by Us until physically received by Us.

### **PREMIUMS**

Premiums are to be paid in advance to Us by the Group Representative on or before the premium due date. Failure by the Trust to make timely payment of premiums may result in Our terminating the Trust's, a Member Employer's, or a Member's coverage on the last day of the month through which premiums are paid or such later date as provided by applicable law.

### **RELATIONSHIP TO BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD ASSOCIATION**

The Trust on behalf of itself, its Member Employers, and its Members expressly acknowledges its understanding that the Contract constitutes an agreement solely between the Trust and Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon, which is an independent corporation operating under a license from the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association, an association of independent Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans (the Association), permitting Us to use the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Service Marks in the state of Oregon and in Clark County in the state of Washington and that We are not contracting as the agent of the Association. The Trust on behalf of itself, its Member Employers, and its Members further acknowledges and agrees that it has not entered into the Contract based upon representations by any person or entity other than Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon and that no person or entity other than Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon will be held accountable or liable to the Trust, its Member Employers, or the Members for any of Our obligations to the Trust, its Member Employers, or the Members created under the Contract. This paragraph will not create any additional obligations whatsoever on the part of Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon other than those obligations created under other provisions of the Contract.

### **REPRESENTATIONS ARE NOT WARRANTIES**

In the absence of fraud, all statements You make in an enrollment form will be considered representations and not warranties. No statement made for obtaining coverage will void such coverage or reduce benefits unless contained in a written document signed by You, a copy of which is furnished to You.

### **RIGHT TO RECEIVE AND RELEASE NECESSARY INFORMATION AND MEDICAL RECORDS**

It is important to understand that Your personal health information may be requested or disclosed by Us. This information will be used for the purpose of facilitating health care treatment, payment of claims or business operations necessary to administer health care benefits; or as required by law.

The information requested or disclosed may be related to treatment or services received from:

- an insurance carrier or group health plan;
- any other institution providing care, treatment, consultation, pharmaceuticals or supplies;
- a clinic, Hospital, long-term care or other medical facility; or
- a Physician, dentist, Pharmacist or other physical or behavioral health care Practitioner.

Health information requested or disclosed by Us may include, but is not limited to:

- billing statements;
- claim records;
- correspondence;
- dental records;
- diagnostic imaging reports;
- Hospital records (including nursing records and progress notes);
- laboratory reports; and
- medical records.

We are required by law to protect Your personal health information and must obtain prior written authorization from You to release information not related to routine health insurance operations. A Notice of Privacy Practices is available by visiting Our website or contacting Customer Service.

You have the right to request, inspect and amend any records that We have that contain Your personal health information. Contact Customer Service to make this request.

**NOTE: This provision does not apply to information regarding HIV/AIDS, psychotherapy notes, alcohol/drug services and genetic testing. A specific authorization will be obtained from You in order for Us to receive information related to these health conditions.**

#### **TAX TREATMENT**

We do not provide tax advice. Consult Your financial or tax advisor for information about the appropriate tax treatment of benefit payments and reimbursements or rewards through a value-added program.

#### **WHEN BENEFITS ARE AVAILABLE**

In order for health expenses to be covered, they must be incurred while coverage is in effect. Coverage is in effect when all of the following conditions are met:

- the person is eligible to be covered according to the eligibility provisions of the Contract;
- the person has enrolled in coverage and has been enrolled by Us; and
- premium for the person for the current month has been paid by the Trust on a timely basis.

The expense of a service is incurred on the day the service is provided and the expense of a supply is incurred on the day the supply is delivered to You. However, when the Contract is terminated and coverage for the entire Trust is immediately replaced by

another group contract and You are in the Hospital on the day this coverage ends, We will continue to provide benefits for that hospitalization until Your discharge from the Hospital or Your benefits have been exhausted, whichever comes first. (This exception does not apply to a Skilled Nursing Facility or any other type of facility, except a Hospital.)

**WOMEN'S HEALTH AND CANCER RIGHTS**

If You are receiving benefits in connection with a mastectomy and You, in consultation with Your attending Physician, elect breast reconstruction, We will provide coverage (subject to the same provisions as any other benefit) for:

- reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy was performed;
- surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance;
- prosthesis and treatment of physical complications of all stages of mastectomy, including lymphedemas; and
- inpatient care related to the mastectomy and post-mastectomy services.

We will provide a single determination of prior authorization for all services related to a covered mastectomy that are part of Your course or plan of treatment.

## Definitions

The following are definitions of important terms, other terms are defined where they are first used.

Affiliate means a company with which We have a relationship that allows access to Providers in the state in which the Affiliate serves and includes only the following companies: Regence BlueShield of Idaho in the state of Idaho, Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Utah in the state of Utah and Regence BlueShield in parts of the state of Washington.

Allowed Amount means:

- For preferred and participating Providers, the amount that they have contractually agreed to accept as payment in full for Covered Services.
- For nonparticipating Providers who are not accessed through the BlueCard Program, the amount We have determined to be Reasonable Charges or have negotiated for Covered Services.
- For nonparticipating Providers accessed through the BlueCard Program, the lower of the Provider's billed charges and the amount that the Host Blue identifies to Us as the amount on which it would base a payment to that Provider. In exceptional circumstances, such as if the Host Blue does not identify an amount on which it would base payment, We may substitute another payment basis.

Charges in excess of the Allowed Amount are not considered Reasonable Charges and are not reimbursable. For questions regarding the basis for determination of the Allowed Amount, contact Customer Service.

Ambulatory Surgical Center means a facility or that portion of a facility licensed by the state in which it is located, that operates exclusively to provide surgical services to patients who do not require hospitalization and for whom the expected duration of services does not exceed 24 hours following admission.

Ambulatory Surgical Center does not mean:

- individual or group practice offices of private Physicians or dentists that do not contain a distinct area used for outpatient surgical treatment on a regular and organized basis, or that only provide surgery routinely provided in a Physician's or dentist's office using local anesthesia or conscious sedation; or
- a portion of a licensed Hospital designated for outpatient surgical treatment.

Booklet is the description of the benefits for this coverage. The Booklet is part of the Contract between the Trust and Us.

Calendar Year means the period from January 1 through December 31 of the same year; however, the first Calendar Year begins on the Member's Effective Date.

Category 1 means the benefit reimbursement level for services that are received from a Provider who has an effective participating contract with Us or one of Our Affiliates which designates the Provider as a preferred Provider as well as Providers outside the

area that We or one of Our Affiliates serves, but who have contracted with another Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield organization in the BlueCard Program (designated as a Provider in the "Preferred Provider Organization ("PPO") Network") to provide services and supplies to Members in accordance with the provisions of this coverage. Your network is Preferred. Category 1 reimbursement is generally at the highest payment level and You will not be charged for balances beyond any Deductible, Copayment and/or Coinsurance for Covered Services.

Category 2 means the benefit reimbursement level for services that are received from a Provider who has an effective participating contract with Us or one of Our Affiliates which designates the Provider as a participating Provider as well as Providers outside the area that We or one of Our Affiliates serves, but who have contracted with another Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield organization in the BlueCard Program (designated as a Provider in the "Participating Network") to provide services and supplies to Members in accordance with the provisions of this coverage. Category 2 reimbursement is generally a lower payment level than Category 1, but You will not be charged for balances beyond any Deductible, Copayment and/or Coinsurance for Covered Services.

Category 3 means the benefit reimbursement level for services that are received from a Provider who does not have an effective participating contract with Us or one of Our Affiliates to provide services and supplies to Members. Category 3 reimbursement is generally the lowest payment level of all categories, and You may be billed for balances beyond any Deductible, Copayment and/or Coinsurance for Covered Services.

Commercial Seller includes, but is not limited to, retailers, wholesalers or commercial vendors that are not Providers, who are approved to provide new medical supplies, equipment and devices in accordance with the provisions of this coverage.

Cosmetic means services or supplies (including medications) that are provided primarily to improve or change appearance to normal structures of the body.

Covered Service means a service, supply, treatment or accommodation that is listed in the benefit sections in this Booklet.

Custodial Care means care for watching and protecting a patient, rather than being a Health Intervention. Custodial Care includes care that helps the patient conduct activities of daily living that can be provided by a person without medical or paramedical skills and/or is primarily to separate the patient from others or preventing self-harm.

Dental Services means services or supplies (including medications) provided to prevent, diagnose, or treat diseases or conditions of the teeth and adjacent supporting soft tissues, including treatment that restores the function of teeth.

Durable Medical Equipment means an item that can withstand repeated use, is primarily used to serve a medical purpose, is generally not useful to a person in the absence of Illness or Injury and is appropriate for use in the Member's home.

Effective Date means the date specified by Us, following Our receipt of the enrollment form, as the date coverage begins for You and/or Your dependents.

Eligible Domestic Partner means a domestic partner who meets the dependent eligibility requirements in the Eligibility and Enrollment Section.

Emergency Medical Condition means a medical condition that manifests itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) so that a prudent layperson who has an average knowledge of medicine and health would reasonably expect the absence of immediate medical attention at a Hospital emergency room to result in any one of the following:

- placing the Member's health, or with respect to a pregnant Member, the health of the unborn child, in serious jeopardy;
- serious impairment to bodily functions;
- serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part; or
- a behavioral health crisis. "Behavioral health crisis" means a disruption in an individual's mental or emotional stability or functioning resulting in an urgent need for immediate outpatient treatment in an emergency department or admission to a Hospital to prevent a serious deterioration in the individual's mental or physical health.

Emergency Medical Condition also includes a condition with respect to a pregnant Member who is having contractions, for which there is inadequate time for a safe transfer to another Hospital before delivery or for which transfer may pose a threat to the health or safety of the Member or unborn child.

Enrolled Dependent means an Enrolled Employee's or Enrolled Retiree's eligible dependent who is listed on the completed enrollment form and who is enrolled under the Contract.

Enrolled Employee means an employee of a Member Employer who is eligible under the terms of the Contract, has completed an enrollment form and is enrolled under this coverage.

Enrolled Retiree means a former employee of a Member Employer, who is eligible under the terms of the Contract, has completed an enrollment form, and is enrolled under this coverage.

Family means an Enrolled Employee or Enrolled Retiree and any Enrolled Dependents.

Group Representative means the Western States Health and Welfare Trust Fund of the OPEIU administrator who has been designated by the Trust to act as its agent to remit the premium of all Member Employers to Us and to give and receive notices under this plan.

Health Benefit Plan means any Hospital-medical-surgical expenses policy or certificate issued by insurers including health care service contractors and health maintenance organizations, and includes any benefit plan provided by a multiple employer welfare arrangement or by another benefit arrangement, as defined in the Federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 as amended (ERISA).



Health Intervention is a medication, service or supply provided to prevent, diagnose, detect, treat or palliate the following:

- disease;
- Illness or Injury;
- genetic or congenital anomaly;
- pregnancy;
- biological or psychological condition that lies outside the range of normal, age-appropriate human variation; or
- to maintain or restore functional ability.

A Health Intervention is defined not only by the intervention itself, but also by the medical condition and patient indications for which it is being applied.

Health Outcome means an outcome that affects health status as measured by the length or quality of a person's life. The Health Intervention's overall beneficial effects on health must outweigh the overall harmful effects on health.

Hospital means a facility that is licensed as a general acute or specialty Hospital by the state in which the Hospital is located. A Hospital provides continuous 24-hour nursing services by registered nurses. A Hospital has an attending medical staff consisting of one or more Physicians. A Hospital per this definition is not, other than incidentally, a place for rest, a nursing home or a facility for convalescence.

Illness means a:

- congenital malformation that causes functional impairment;
- condition, disease, ailment or bodily disorder, other than an Injury; or
- pregnancy.

Illness does not include any state of behavioral health or mental disorder which is otherwise defined in the Behavioral Health Services benefit.

Injury means physical damage to the body caused by:

- a foreign object;
- force;
- temperature;
- a corrosive chemical; or
- the direct result of an accident, independent of Illness or any other cause.

An Injury does not mean Injury to teeth due to chewing and does not include any condition related to pregnancy.

Investigational means a Health Intervention that fails to meet any of the following criteria:

- If a medication or device, the Health Intervention must have final approval from the FDA as being safe and effective for general marketing. However, if a medication is prescribed for other than its FDA-approved use and is recognized as effective for the

use for a particular diagnosed condition, benefits for the medication may be provided when so used.

- The Scientific Evidence must permit conclusions concerning the effect of the Health Intervention on Health Outcomes, which include the disease process, Illness or Injury, length of life, ability to function and quality of life.
- The Health Intervention must improve net Health Outcome.
- Medications approved under the FDA's Accelerated Approval Pathway must show improved Health Outcomes.
- The Scientific Evidence must show that the Health Intervention is at least as beneficial as any established alternatives.
- The improvement must be attainable outside the laboratory or clinical research setting.

In applying the above criteria, We will review Scientific Evidence from well-designed clinical studies found in peer-reviewed medical literature, if available, and information obtained from the treating Physician or Practitioner regarding the Health Intervention.

Lifetime means the entire length of time a Member is covered under the Contract (which may include more than one coverage) through the Trust with Us.

Medically Necessary or Medical Necessity means health care services or supplies that a Physician or other health care Provider, exercising prudent clinical judgment, would provide to a patient to prevent, evaluate, diagnose or treat an Illness, Injury, disease or its symptoms, and that are:

- in accordance with generally accepted standards of medical practice. "Generally accepted standards of medical practice" means standards that are based on credible Scientific Evidence published in Peer-Reviewed Medical Literature generally recognized by the relevant medical community, Physician Specialty Society recommendations and the views of Physicians and other health care Providers practicing in relevant clinical areas and any other relevant factors.
- clinically appropriate, in terms of type, frequency, extent, site and duration, and considered effective for the patient's Illness, Injury or disease;
- not primarily for the convenience of the patient, Physician or other health care Provider; and
- not more costly than an alternative service or sequence of services or supply at least as likely to produce equivalent therapeutic or diagnostic results as to the diagnosis or treatment of that patient's Illness, Injury or disease.

Member means an Enrolled Employee, Enrolled Retiree or an Enrolled Dependent.

Member Employer means a business entity qualifying for membership or participation in the Trust and choosing to participate under the Contract to provide coverage to its employees and their dependents as Enrolled Employees or Enrolled Retirees and Enrolled Dependents, respectively.

Physician means an individual who is duly licensed to practice medicine and/or surgery in all of its branches or to practice as an osteopathic Physician and/or surgeon.

Physician also includes a podiatrist practicing within the scope of a license issued under ORS 677.805 to 677.840.

Practitioner means an individual who is duly licensed to provide medical or surgical services that are similar to those provided by Physicians. Practitioners include, but are not limited to:

- podiatrists who do not meet the definition of Physician;
- Physician's associates;
- psychologists;
- licensed clinical social workers;
- certified nurse Practitioners;
- registered physical, occupational, speech or audiological therapists;
- registered nurses or licensed practical nurses, (but only for services rendered upon the written referral of a doctor of medicine or osteopathy, and only for those services for which nurses customarily bill patients);
- dentists (doctor of medical dentistry or doctor of dental surgery, or a denturist); and
- other health care professionals practicing within the scope of their respective licenses.

Provider means:

- a Hospital;
- a Skilled Nursing Facility;
- an Ambulatory Surgical Center;
- a Physician;
- a Practitioner; or
- other individual or organization which is duly licensed to provide medical or surgical services.

Reasonable Charges means an amount determined based on one of the following, as determined by Us:

- a percentage of the fee paid by Medicare for the same services or supplies;
- a percentage of the amount that the same or similar category of participating Providers have contractually agreed to accept as payment in full for the same or similar services or supplies in the same or similar service area; or
- a percentage of the nonparticipating Provider's billed charges.

Under no circumstances will any fee exceeding 300% of the fee paid by Medicare for the same services or supplies be considered Reasonable Charges.

Regardless of anything in this Booklet to the contrary, if We are required by applicable law to base payment on another amount, that amount will be Reasonable Charges.

Retail Clinic means a walk-in health clinic located within a retail operation and providing, on an ambulatory basis, preventive and primary care services. A Retail Clinic does not include:

- an office or independent clinic outside a retail operation;

- an Ambulatory Surgical Center;
- an urgent care center or facility;
- a Hospital;
- a Pharmacy;
- a rehabilitation facility; or
- a Skilled Nursing Facility.

Scientific Evidence means scientific studies published in or accepted for publication by medical journals that meet nationally recognized requirements for scientific manuscripts and that submit most of their published articles for review by experts who are not part of the editorial staff; or findings, studies or research conducted by or under the auspices of federal government agencies and nationally recognized federal research institutes. However, Scientific Evidence shall not include published peer-reviewed literature sponsored to a significant extent by a pharmaceutical manufacturing company or medical device manufacturer or a single study without other supportable studies.

Skilled Nursing Facility means a facility or distinct part of a facility which is licensed by the state in which it is located as a nursing care facility and which provides skilled nursing services by or under the direction and supervision of a registered nurse.

Upfront Benefit means those Covered Services designated as "Upfront" which are usually accessible to the Member without first having to satisfy any Deductible amount. There may not be any Coinsurance amount required for an Upfront Benefit. However, a Copayment may apply for each visit or access to an Upfront Benefit. Once an Upfront Benefit visit maximum has been reached, additional coverage is available subject to any Deductible, Copayment and/or Coinsurance. Refer to the Upfront Benefit to determine coverage.

## Appendix: Value-Added Services

Your Regence coverage includes access to the value-added services detailed in this Appendix. Services may be provided through third-party program partners who are solely responsible for their services. **THESE VALUE-ADDED SERVICES ARE VOLUNTARY, NOT INSURANCE AND ARE OFFERED IN ADDITION TO THE BENEFITS OF THIS BOOKLET.** These value-added services may work alongside Your coverage. Such services are otherwise covered in the benefits provisions of this Booklet.

For additional information regarding any of these value-added services, visit Our website or contact Customer Service. Contact information for value-added services for specific program partners is also included below, if applicable.

### JOINT, SPINE, AND MUSCLE PROGRAM

The Joint, Spine, and Muscle program is a digitally delivered program that is provided at no cost to You, to help manage mobility and pain with Your joints, spine, and muscles. In addition, based upon Your specific health condition, You may have access to a customized care plan including guided exercise therapy, one-on-one video coaching with a care team, curated health education, and behavior change support. For those who do not have a way to participate in the digital program, visit Our website or contact Customer Service. You may be eligible for the following at no cost to You:

- exercise bands;
- wearable motion sensors and chargers;
- wearable pain relief device; and/or
- yoga mat.

### KIDNEY HEALTH MANAGEMENT

If You are identified to participate, the Kidney Health Management program addresses the medical management needs of chronic kidney disease (CKD) stages 3, 4, 5 and unknown as well as end stage renal disease (ESRD). The program defers progression of CKD, reduces the cost of care by avoiding adverse events such as emergency room visits, hospitalizations and post-acute care.

### NURSE ADVICE

You have access to registered nurses to answer Your health-related questions or concerns and to help You make informed decisions on seeking the appropriate level of care (whether to seek care in an emergency room, urgent care, office visit or self-care at home). This service is available to You on an unlimited basis at no additional cost. However, if You are experiencing a medical emergency, immediately call 911 instead.

### PREGNANCY PROGRAM

Pregnancy is a time of planning and excitement, but it can also be a time of confusion and questions. The Pregnancy Program can provide answers and assistance so that You can relax and enjoy those nine life-changing months.

If You are expecting a child, this program offers access to a nurse 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and educational materials tailored to Your needs. Since the Pregnancy

Program is most beneficial when You enroll early in a pregnancy, call 1-888-JOY-BABY (569-2229) or visit Our website right away to get started.

**REGENCE EMPOWER**

Regence Empower is a well-being program that offers a range of tools, information and support for a healthy lifestyle. It may include the following:

- earning up to a total of \$100 in gift cards for completion of well-being activities such as an online health risk assessment, health screening(s) and wellness examination(s) (for the Enrolled Employee or Enrolled Retiree and their enrolled spouse or Eligible Domestic Partner);
- earning up to a total of \$25 in gift cards for completion of well-being activities (for enrolled dependents, other than a spouse or Eligible Domestic Partner, age 13 and older);
- incentives to reward participation in healthy activities; and
- online tools that integrate with fitness apps and devices to track progress toward Your health and well-being goals.

## Disclosure Statement Patient Protection Act

In accordance with Oregon law (Senate Bill 21, known as the Patient Protection Act), the following Disclosure Statement includes questions and answers to fully inform You about the benefits and policies of this health insurance plan.

### **WHAT ARE MY RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AS A MEMBER OF REGENCE BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD OF OREGON?**

No one can deny You the right to make Your own choices. As a Member, You have the right to:

- be treated with dignity and respect;
- impartial access to treatment and services without regard to race, religion, gender, national origin or disability;
- know the name of the Physicians, nurses or other health care professionals who are treating You;
- medical care necessary to correctly diagnose and treat any covered Illness or Injury;
- have Providers tell You about the diagnosis, the treatment ordered, the prognosis of the condition and instructions required for follow-up care;
- know why various tests, procedures or treatments are done, who the persons are who give them and any risks You need to be aware of;
- refuse to sign a consent form if You do not clearly understand its purpose, cross out any part of the form You don't want applied to care or have a change of mind about treatment You previously approved;
- refuse treatment and be told what medical consequences might result from Your refusal;
- be informed of policies regarding "living wills" as required by state and federal laws (these kinds of documents explain Your rights to make health care decisions, in advance, if You become unable to make them);
- expect privacy about care and confidentiality in all communications and in Your medical records;
- expect clear explanations about benefits and exclusions;
- contact Our Customer Service department and ask questions or present complaints; and
- be informed of the right to appeal an action or denial and the related process.

You have a responsibility to:

- tell the Provider You are covered by Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon and show Your identification card when requesting health care services;
- be on time for appointments and to call immediately if there is a need to cancel an appointment or if You will be late. You are responsible for any charges the Provider makes for "no shows" or late cancellations;
- provide complete health information to the Provider to help accurately diagnose and treat Your condition;
- follow instructions given by those providing health care to You;

- review this health care benefits Booklet to make sure services are covered by the Contract;
- make sure services are prior authorized when required by the Contract before receiving medical care;
- contact Our Customer Service department if You believe adequate care is not being received;
- read and understand all materials about Your health benefits and make sure Family Members that are covered under the Contract also understand them;
- give an identification card to Your enrolled Family Members to show at the time of service; and
- pay any required Copayments at the time of service.

### **HOW DO I ACCESS CARE IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY?**

If You experience an emergency situation, You should obtain care from the nearest appropriate facility, or dial 911 for help.

If there is any doubt about whether Your condition requires emergency treatment, You can always call the Provider for advice. The Provider is able to assist You in coordinating medical care and is an excellent resource to direct You to the appropriate care since they are familiar with Your medical history.

### **HOW WILL I KNOW IF MY BENEFITS CHANGE OR ARE TERMINATED?**

As a Member of the Western States Health and Welfare Trust Fund, if You are insured through a group plan at work, Your employee benefits administrator will be notified by the Group Representative if and when Your benefits change. In the event Your Group contract terminates and Your employer does not replace the coverage with another group contract, Your employer is required by law to advise You in writing of the termination.

### **WHAT HAPPENS IF I AM RECEIVING CARE AND MY DOCTOR IS NO LONGER A CONTRACTING PROVIDER?**

When a Physician's or Practitioner's (herein Provider) contract ends with Us for any reason, We will give notice to those Members that We know, or should reasonably know, are under the care of the Provider of their rights to receive continued care (called "continuity of care"). We will send this notice no later than ten days after the Provider's termination date or ten days after the date We learn the identity of an affected Member, whichever is later. The exception to Our sending the notice is when the Provider is part of a group of Providers and We have agreed to allow the Provider group to provide continuity of care notification to Members.

When Continuity Of Care Applies. If You are undergoing an active course of treatment by a preferred or participating Provider and benefits for that Provider would be denied (or paid at a level below the benefit for a nonparticipating Provider) if the Provider's contract with Us is terminated or the Provider is no longer participating with Us, We will continue to pay benefits for services and supplies provided by the Provider as long as:

- You and the Provider agree that continuity of care is desirable and You request continuity of care from Us;
- the care is Medically Necessary and otherwise covered under the Contract;



- You remain eligible for benefits and enrolled under the Contract; and
- the Contract has not terminated.

Continuity of care does not apply if the contractual relationship between the Provider and Us ends in accordance with quality of care provisions of the Contract between the Provider and Us, or because the Provider:

- retires;
- dies;
- no longer holds an active license;
- has relocated outside of Our service area;
- has gone on sabbatical; or
- is prevented from continuing to care for patients because of other circumstances.

How Long Continuity Of Care Lasts. Except as follows for pregnancy care, We will provide continuity of care until the earlier of the following dates:

- the day following the date on which the active course of treatment entitling You to continuity of care is completed; or
- the 120th day after notification of continuity of care.

If You become eligible for continuity of care after the second trimester of pregnancy, We will provide continuity of care for that pregnancy until the earlier of the following dates:

- the 45th day after the birth;
- the day following the date on which the active course of treatment entitling You to continuity of care is completed; or
- the 120th day after notification of continuity of care.

The notification of continuity of care will be the earlier of the date We or, if applicable, the Provider group notifies You of the right to continuity of care, or the date We receive or approve the request for continuity of care.

### **COMPLAINT AND APPEALS: IF I AM NOT SATISFIED WITH MY HEALTH PLAN OR PROVIDER WHAT CAN I DO TO FILE A COMPLAINT OR GET OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE?**

To voice a complaint with Us, simply follow the process outlined in the Resolving Your Concerns Section of this Booklet. This includes if applicable, information about filing an appeal through an IRO without charge to You.

You also have the right to file a complaint and seek assistance from the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation. Assistance is available by:

- calling 1-503-947-7984 or the toll-free message line at 1-888-877-4894;
- writing to the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation, Consumer Advocacy Unit, P.O. Box 14480, Salem, OR 97309-0405;
- visiting the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation website: [dfr.oregon.gov/help/complaints-licenses/Pages/file-complaint.aspx](http://dfr.oregon.gov/help/complaints-licenses/Pages/file-complaint.aspx); or
- e-mail at: [DFR.InsuranceHelp@oregon.gov](mailto:DFR.InsuranceHelp@oregon.gov).

## **HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUR CORPORATE POLICIES AND PRACTICES?**

Your feedback is very important to Us. If You have suggestions for improvements about coverage or Our services, We would like to hear from You.

We have formed several advisory committees to allow participation in the development of corporate policies and to provide feedback:

- the Member Advisory Committee for Members;
- the Marketing Advisory Panel for employers; and
- the Provider Advisory Committee for health care professionals.

If You would like to become a member of the Member Advisory Committee, send Your name, identification number, address and phone number to the vice president of Customer Service at the following address. The advisory committees generally meet two times per year.

Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon, Attn: Vice President, Customer Service, P.O. Box 1106, Lewiston, ID 83501-1106 or send Your comments to Us through Our website.

Please note that the size of the committees may not allow Us to include all those who indicate an interest in participating.

## **WHAT ARE YOUR PRIOR AUTHORIZATION AND UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT CRITERIA?**

Prior authorization is the process We use to determine the benefits, eligibility and Medical Necessity of a service before it is provided. Contact Our Customer Service department at the phone number on the back of Your identification card or ask Your Provider for a list of services that need to be prior authorized. Many types of treatment may be available for certain conditions; the prior authorization process helps the Provider work together with You, other Providers and Us to determine the treatment that best meets Your medical needs and to avoid duplication of services.

This teamwork helps save thousands of dollars in premiums each year, which then translates into savings for You. Prior authorization is Your assurance that medical services won't be denied because they are not Medically Necessary.

Utilization management is a process in which We examine services a Member receives to ensure that they are Medically Necessary and appropriate with regard to widely accepted standards of good medical practice. For further explanation, look at the definition of Medically Necessary in the Definitions Section.

Let Us know if You would like a written summary of information that We may consider in Our utilization management of a particular condition or disease. Simply call the Customer Service phone number on the back of Your identification card, or log onto Our website.

### **HOW ARE IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS (SUCH AS MY MEDICAL RECORDS) KEPT CONFIDENTIAL?**

We have a written policy to protect the confidentiality of health information. Only employees who need to know in order to do their jobs have access to a Member's personal information. Disclosure outside the company is permitted only when necessary to perform functions related to providing Your coverage and/or when otherwise allowed by law. Note that with certain limited exceptions, Oregon law requires insurers to obtain a written authorization from the Member or their representative before disclosing personal information. One exception to the need for a written authorization is disclosure to a designee acting on behalf of the insurer for the purpose of utilization management, quality assurance or peer review.

### **MY NEIGHBOR HAS A QUESTION ABOUT THEIR POLICY WITH YOU AND DOESN'T SPEAK ENGLISH VERY WELL. CAN YOU HELP?**

Yes. Simply have Your neighbor call Our Customer Service department at the number on their identification card. One of Our representatives will coordinate the services of an interpreter over the phone. We can help with sign language as well as spoken languages.

### **WHAT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CAN I GET FROM YOU UPON REQUEST?**

The following documents are available by calling a Customer Service representative:

- Rules related to Our Drug List, including information on whether a particular medication is included or excluded from the Drug List.
- Provisions for referrals for specialty care, behavioral health services and Hospital services and how Members may obtain the care or services.
- Our annual report on complaints and appeals.
- A description of Our risk-sharing arrangements with Physicians and other Providers consistent with risk-sharing information required by the Health Care Financing Administration. A description of Our efforts to monitor and improve the quality of health services.
- Information about procedures for credentialing network Providers and how to obtain the names, qualifications and titles of the Providers responsible for a Member's care.
- Information about Our prior authorization and utilization management procedures.

### **WHAT OTHER SOURCE CAN I TURN TO FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR COMPANY?**

The following information regarding the Health Benefit Plans of Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon is available from the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation:

- The results of all publicly available accreditation surveys.
- A summary of Our health promotion and disease prevention activities.
- Samples of the written summaries delivered to policyholders.
- An annual summary of Grievances and appeals.
- An annual summary of utilization management policies.
- An annual summary of quality assessment activities.
- An annual summary of scope of network and accessibility of services.

To obtain the mentioned information, contact Our Customer Service department. You can also contact the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation by:

- calling 1-503-947-7984 or the toll-free message line at 1-888-877-4894;
- writing to the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation, Consumer Advocacy Unit, P.O. Box 14480, Salem, OR 97309-0405;
- visiting the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation website:  
**[dfr.oregon.gov/help/complaints-licenses/Pages/file-complaint.aspx](http://dfr.oregon.gov/help/complaints-licenses/Pages/file-complaint.aspx)**; or
- e-mail at: **[DFR.InsuranceHelp@oregon.gov](mailto:DFR.InsuranceHelp@oregon.gov)**.

**For more information call Us at 1-888-367-2116**

**[regence.com](http://regence.com)**