

# GROUP AGREEMENT

kp.org

## Willamette University





All Plans offered and underwritten by  
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest

April 3, 2023

Mark Taylor  
Willamette University  
900 State Street

Salem, OR 97301

Group number: 2014-019-022, 025

Dear Mark,

Thank you for selecting Kaiser Permanente for your group's health care needs.

Enclosed is the Deductible Added Choice Plan *Group Agreement* effective 4/1/2023 through 3/31/2024 for Willamette University. The *Group Agreement* includes group contract provisions, such as monthly Premium amounts, and incorporates the *Evidence of Coverage (EOC)*, which is the member portion of the contract. The *EOC* explains benefits and cost share amounts, limitations, exclusions, and other information to help the member understand their plan.

Also enclosed is a *Summary of Changes and Clarifications*. Please review this to learn about changes to the *Group Agreement* for this year.

We know you have a choice of health plans, and we appreciate your business. If you have any questions about this *Group Agreement* or your health plan, please contact Lindsay Tosky at (503) 813-2358.

Sincerely,

Kaiser Permanente Sales & Account Management Team  
Enclosures

/kjm

Kaiser Permanente Building  
500 N.E. Multnomah Street, Suite 100  
Portland, OR 97232-2099

LORWALG0123



# 2023 *Group Agreement* and *Evidence of Coverage* Summary of Changes and Clarifications for Oregon Large Employer Groups

This is a summary of changes and clarifications that we made to your *Group Agreement* for the 2023 plan year. The *Group Agreement* includes the *Evidence of Coverage (EOC)*, *Benefit Summary*, and any applicable notices, riders and endorsement documents. This summary does not include minor changes and clarifications we are making to improve the readability and accuracy of the *Group Agreement*, or changes that may occur throughout the remainder of the plan year as a result of federal or state mandates.

Other plan-specific or product-specific benefit changes, including changes to deductible, copayment or coinsurance amounts, may apply to your plan. Please refer to the 2023 renewal proposal and/or confirmation for your group and the 2023 Oregon and Washington Plan Changes brochure for information about these types of changes.

This Summary of Changes and Clarifications supplements the information contained in your *Group Agreement*. In the event of conflict between this summary and the *Group Agreement*, the *Group Agreement* shall control. Unless another date is listed, the changes described in this summary are effective when your *Group Agreement* renews in 2023. The products named below are offered and underwritten by Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest.

## Changes and clarifications that apply to medical plans

These changes apply to Kaiser Permanente's commercial (non-Medicare) group plans. Changes to our Senior Advantage plans may be found at the end of this summary.

### ***Benefit changes***

- **Colorectal cancer screening.** In the “Preventive Care Services” section of the *EOC*, we updated the intervals for colorectal cancer screenings and expanded the coverage description, in accordance with USPSTF guidelines and CMS FAQ 51 regarding coverage for preventive colonoscopies. Colorectal cancer screenings covered as preventive services include: fecal occult blood test, colonoscopy, follow-up colonoscopy after abnormal findings identified by flexible sigmoidoscopy or CT colonography screening, bowel prep medications and anesthesia for the screening procedures, polyp removal performed during a screening procedure, and pathology on a polyp biopsy.
- **Dependent out-of-area coverage.** For traditional, deductible and high deductible plans, we added naturopathic medicine visits to the services that we cover under the limited “Out-of-Area Coverage for Dependents” benefit.
- **Insulin cost share cap.** We lowered the Member cost share cap shown in the *Benefit Summary* from \$75 to \$35 for each 30-day supply of insulin.
- **Kaiser Permanente at Home™.** We added coverage under certain medical plans that provides care in a Member's home as an alternative to receiving acute care in a hospital. Services include home visits by healthcare professionals, communication devices, and medically necessary supplies and equipment. This coverage is not available in high deductible plans.

## Benefit clarifications

- **Breastfeeding equipment and supplies.** We clarified in the “Maternity and Newborn Care” section of the *EOC* that breastfeeding equipment and supplies are covered under the Preventive Care Services benefit.
- **Childbirth Services.** We corrected an error in the “Women’s Health Care Services” section of the Added Choice<sup>®</sup> *EOC* by removing a sentence that referred to home childbirth services. For Added Choice<sup>®</sup>, PPO Plus<sup>®</sup>, and Dual Choice PPO<sup>®</sup> plans, we also added explicit exclusion language to the “Maternity and Newborn Care” section, clarifying that we do not cover birthing center services or home birth services.
- **Court-Ordered screening interviews or treatment programs.** We clarified the “Substance Use Disorder Services” section of the *EOC*, adding court-ordered screening interviews or treatment programs for a Member convicted of driving under the influence of intoxicants (DUII) to the list of covered outpatient Services.
- **Federal No Surprises Act/Balance Billing Protection.** Several updates were made to the *EOC* to meet the requirements of the federal No Surprises Act and applicable state law. This includes added or revised definitions for “Ancillary Service,” “Charges,” “Emergency Services,” and “Independent Freestanding Emergency Department,” as well as modifications in the “Emergency Services,” “Post-Stabilization Care,” and “External Review” sections.
- **Infertility diagnosis services.** We removed an exclusion for donor semen, donor eggs, and the procurement and storage from the “Infertility Diagnosis Services” section because these services are associated with treatment of infertility, and are addressed in the “Infertility Treatment Services Rider.” Also in this section, we added intrauterine insemination (IUI) to the example list of procedures for conception by artificial means that we do not cover unless the Group has purchased an “Infertility Treatment Services Rider.”
- **Mastectomy.** We added a definition of mastectomy to the “Reconstructive Surgery Services” section of the *EOC* and clarified that Members who have undergone mastectomy are entitled to certain benefits under the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998.
- **Maternal diabetes management.** We updated the *Benefit Summary* and *EOC* documents to clarify that medication and supplies for maternal diabetes management are covered at no cost share.
- **Mental health and substance use disorder benefits.** We revised the “Mental Health Services” and “Substance Use Disorder Services” sections of the *EOC* to more accurately reflect how we administer these benefits.
  - Both sections now clearly state that we cover diagnoses listed in the current *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM)* published by the American Psychiatric Association.
  - We removed the covered provider licensing type list in the “Mental Health Services” section because the list had the appearance of excluding other providers who are licensed to provide covered services.
  - We also removed the crisis intervention, evaluation and treatment list from the “Mental Health Services” section because the list could be interpreted as limiting or restricting coverage.
  - We reorganized the sequence of content in the “Substance Use Disorder Services” section so that the benefit description is more aligned with the revised “Mental Health Services” section.
- **Professional Services for evaluation, fitting, and follow-up care for contact lenses.** We modified this exclusion in the *EOC* to clarify that these Services, while generally excluded, may be covered under

the “Pediatric Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider” or “Adult Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider” if the coverage is purchased by the Group.

- **Travel Immunizations.** We revised this exclusion in the *EOC* to clarify that only travel-related immunizations for yellow fever, typhoid, and Japanese encephalitis are excluded rather than all travel services.

### **Other changes or clarifications**

- **Chemical dependency.** The term “chemical dependency” has been replaced with “Substance Use Disorder” throughout the *EOC* and *Benefit Summary* to align with the predominant terminology.
- **Cost-Estimator tool.** We enhanced the "What you Pay" section in the *EOC*, directing Members to a cost estimator tool on [kp.org](http://kp.org) for assistance with planning estimated costs of Services.
- **Dependents.** We revised the “Premium, Eligibility, and Enrollment” section of the *EOC* to include foster children and children newly placed for foster care as eligible dependents.
- **Disabled dependents.** We added a reference to disabled dependents in the “Dependent Limiting Age” definition to clarify that while we require most dependents to be under the Dependent Limiting Age in order to enroll and remain enrolled, this does not apply to Spouses and disabled dependents.
- **External Review.** We revised the “External Review” section of the *EOC* to reflect Oregon regulation allowing the Member to initiate a request for external review and subsequently provide a waiver form enabling us to disclose their protected health information. In addition, the section informs Members that they have five business days to submit additional information to the independent review organization during the external review process.
- **How to Obtain Services.** In the *EOC* for traditional, deductible and high deductible plans, we updated the link for Members to use to search for providers and care locations to [kp.org/doctors](http://kp.org/doctors).
- **MedImpact Pharmacy.** For Added Choice<sup>®</sup>, PPO Plus<sup>®</sup>, and Dual Choice PPO<sup>®</sup> plans, the definition of MedImpact Pharmacy has been revised to include the full name of the pharmacy sub-network.
- **“No-Fault Insurance” definition.** We added a definition of "no-fault insurance" to the “Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties or Covered by No-Fault Insurance” section of the *EOC*.
- **Non-Urgent Pre-Service claims.** We added an email option for Members to use to request a pre-service benefit determination, and updated the department name and phone number for Members who prefer to call us or mail their pre-service claim to us.
- **Preventive Care Services additional information.** We updated the *EOC* “Preventive Care Services” section with a more direct link [kp.org/prevention](http://kp.org/prevention), to help Members access additional information about these benefits and services.
- **Primary care and specialty care office visits.** We removed the parenthetical clause after “Primary care visit” and “Specialty care visit” in the “Outpatient Services” section of the *Benefit Summary*. This language gave examples of types of office visits, or services that could be provided during an office visit, such as health education services. Because the listed examples are services that are addressed elsewhere in the *EOC* or *Benefit Summary*, we removed them from the primary care and specialty care office visit rows to reduce the potential for confusion about the cost share.
- **Urgent Care.** We modified the “Urgent Care” section in the *EOC* for traditional, deductible and high deductible plans for consistency with other products, and added a link to [kp.org/getcare](http://kp.org/getcare) for Members to find nearby urgent care locations.

- **Utilization Review criteria.** In the “Prior Authorization Review Requirements” section of the *EOC*, the department name and phone number for Members to request Utilization Review criteria has been updated so that any reference to contacting Member Relations has been changed to either Member Services or Customer Service, depending on the plan.
- **Workers’ Compensation or Employer’s Liability.** We simplified the language in the “Workers’ Compensation or Employer’s Liability” section of the *EOC* to make it clear that we will provide covered services even if it is unclear whether or not the Member is entitled to a payment or settlement.

## Changes and clarifications that apply to medical benefit riders

### **Benefit clarifications**

- **Infertility Treatment Services rider.** We modified the rider exclusions to clarify that we cover procurement and storage of the Member’s own semen or eggs when used for their covered infertility treatment services. We also clarified that we cover ovum transplant (transfer) associated with a covered assisted reproductive technology procedure, such as in vitro fertilization (IVF).
- **Outpatient Prescription Drug rider.** We revised the “Outpatient Prescription Drug Rider Limitations” section to clarify that Members can refill most prescriptions when they have used at least 70% of the quantity.
- **Travel Immunization rider.** We changed the Travel Services Rider title to “Travel Immunizations Rider” and modified the language to more accurately reflect that the rider only covers travel-related immunizations for yellow fever, typhoid, and Japanese encephalitis.

## Changes and clarifications that apply to dental plans

### **Benefit changes**

- **Emergency visit cost share.** We removed the \$25 emergency dental visit cost share from the *Benefit Summary* and any references to this additional cost share are also removed from the *EOC*. Effective January 1, 2023, Members will no longer have an additional \$25 cost share for dental emergency or urgent care visits at Kaiser Permanente dental offices.
- **Tooth restoration (fillings).** For Dental Choice PPO dental plans, we enhanced the benefit for amalgam and composite fillings. The benefit limit has changed from once per tooth every 36 months to once per tooth surface every 24 months.

### **Benefit clarifications**

- **Dental x-rays.** We clarified the benefit coverage for dental x-rays in the Dental Choice PPO plan *EOC*. Covered x-rays include one full mouth complete series or one panoramic radiographic image every 3 years, supplementary bite wing series once a year, and periapical x-rays and occlusal x-rays as necessary based on the dentist’s assessment of the Member’s oral health and risk factors.

### **Other changes or clarifications**

- **Dental Third-Party Administrator change.** Effective January 1, 2023, SKYGEN USA will no longer be our third-party administrator for our Dental Choice plan benefits. References to SKYGEN have been replaced with “we,” “us,” and Dental Choice Customer Service.



- **Dependents.** We revised the “Premium, Eligibility, and Enrollment” section of the *EOC* to include foster children and children newly placed for foster care as eligible dependents.
- **How to Obtain Services.** In the *EOC* for Dental Choice PPO plans, we updated the link for Members to use to search for participating providers to [kp.org/dental/nw/ppo](https://kp.org/dental/nw/ppo).

## Changes and clarifications that apply to Senior Advantage plans

For the first time in many years, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) made structural changes (e.g. length, formatting) to the model documents used by Medicare Advantage Organizations, such as Kaiser Permanente. The substance primarily remains the same, but there are numerous changes for the 2023 documents including: increased use of plain language, elimination of duplicative language, elimination of some tables, elimination of some Tables of Contents, general reorganization of topics, and fewer pages.

In light of the extensive changes, we selected several items below that may be of most interest.

### **Benefit changes or clarifications**

- **Cardiac and pulmonary rehab therapies cost share cap.** CMS sets annual cost sharing limits for certain benefits, and they reduced the cost share limit for pulmonary rehabilitation from \$30 to \$20 for 2023. Kaiser Permanente is applying this new cost share cap to cardiac rehabilitation, pulmonary rehabilitation and supervised exercise therapy (SET) visits. Members in our Senior Advantage plans won't pay more than \$20 per visit for these outpatient visits.
- **Durable medical equipment (DME) and related supplies – glucose monitors and oxygen equipment.** We added non-therapeutic continuous glucose monitors and supplies to the list of DME items that are covered at no charge. In addition, information about the Member's cost sharing for home oxygen equipment was moved from Chapter 3 of the *EOC* to the DME section of the Medical Benefits Chart. The Member cost sharing (20% coinsurance) has not changed.
- **Fitness benefit (the Silver&Fit® Healthy Aging and Exercise Program).** The list of Silver&Fit online services has been updated to include on-demand workout videos, Workout Plans, the Well-Being Club, and a newsletter. The Well-Being Club is an enhanced feature of the Silver&Fit website that gives Members the opportunity to view customized resources as well as attend live-streaming classes and events.
- **Hearing services.** We clarified that evaluation and fitting for hearing aids is covered only if the Member is enrolled in a plan with a hearing aid benefit.
- **Hospice care.** We added more detail to the description of the hospice care benefit to let Members know that we will help them find a Medicare-certified hospice program in the plan's service area; and also explaining that when a Member is admitted to a hospice, they may choose to stay in their Medicare Advantage plan and, if so, must continue to pay plan premiums.
- **Insulin cost share cap.** Effective January 1, 2023, Members enrolled in our Senior Advantage plans won't pay more than \$35 for each one-month supply of insulin, no matter what drug tier the insulin product is on. This change is as a result of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022.
- **Screening for lung cancer.** We modified the age range and smoking history criteria for screening individuals for lung cancer with low dose computed tomography (LDCT). Eligible Members are people aged 50 – 77 years who have no signs or symptoms of lung cancer, but who have a history of tobacco smoking of at least 20 pack-years.

- **Telehealth services.** We added podiatry to the list of covered telehealth services in the physician/practitioner services section of the Medical Benefits Chart. This section was also modified to provide more detail about telehealth services for diagnosis, evaluation, and treatment of mental health disorders.



## **Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest**

*A nonprofit corporation*

Portland, Oregon

## **Large Group Plan Group Agreement**

**Group Name: Willamette University**

**Group Number: 2014-019-022, 025**

### ***Term of Agreement***

4/1/2023 through 3/31/2024

### ***Anniversary date***

April 1

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffrey A. Collins".

Jeffrey A. Collins  
President, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan  
and Hospitals of the Northwest

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# KAISER FOUNDATION HEALTH PLAN OF THE NORTHWEST

## A Nonprofit Corporation

### Group Agreement

## INTRODUCTION

This *Group Agreement (Agreement)*, including the attached *Evidence of Coverage (EOC)* incorporated herein by reference, and any amendments, constitutes the contract between Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest (Company) and **Willamette University** (Group). In this *Agreement*, some capitalized terms have special meaning; please see the “Definitions” section in the *EOC* document for terms you should know.

To be eligible under this *Agreement*, the Group must meet the underwriting requirements set forth in Company’s Rate Assumptions and Requirements document.

## PREMIUM

Group will pay to Company, for each Subscriber and their Dependents, the Premium amount(s) specified for each month on or before the date on the monthly invoice or, if Group is self-pay, then the date to which Company and Group agree in writing, but in no event later than the last day of the month preceding the month of coverage (the “Premium Due Date”).

When this *Agreement* terminates, if Group does not have another agreement with Company, then the due date for all Premium amounts will be the earlier of: (1) the last Premium Due Date, or (2) the termination date of this *Agreement*.

## Monthly Premium Amounts

Group will pay Company the following Premium amount(s) each month for each Subscriber and their Dependents. Only Members for whom Company has received the appropriate Premium payment listed below are entitled to coverage under this *Agreement*, and then only for the period for which Company has received appropriate payment.

Subscriber only: \$1087.96

Subscriber with one Family Dependent: \$2175.92

Subscriber with two or more Family Dependents: \$3024.53

## Medicare as Secondary Payer

Members who are eligible and enrolled in Medicare Part A or B and for whom Medicare is secondary payer are subject to the same Premium amounts (shown above) and receive the same benefits as Members who are not eligible for Medicare. Members who are eligible and enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B as secondary payer and who meet applicable eligibility requirements may also enroll in a Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Plan. These Members receive the coverages described in both the non-Medicare Plan and the Senior Advantage Plan, and the Premium amounts for these Members are the Premium amounts for the non-Medicare Plan (shown above).

## Medicare as Primary Payer

Premium amounts are based on the assumption that Company or its designee will receive Medicare payments for Medicare-covered Services provided to certain types of Members. For each Member to whom this “Medicare as Primary Payer” section applies, Group must pay the applicable Premium shown above in this “Monthly Premium Amounts” section if the Member is for any reason not enrolled through Group in Kaiser

Permanente Senior Advantage (including inability to enroll because they do not meet the Senior Advantage Plan's eligibility requirements or Group does not offer a Senior Advantage Plan).

Those Members eligible for Medicare based on disability, end stage renal disease (ESRD), domestic partner status, or who are Medicare eligible and enrolled in COBRA will be charged the Premium amount for the non-Medicare Plan (shown above).

**Members to whom this “Medicare as Primary Payer” section applies.** This “Medicare as Primary Payer” section applies to Members who meet all of the following requirements:

- They are age 65 or over.
- They are eligible for Medicare Parts A and B as primary payer (i.e., retirees).

## **TERM OF AGREEMENT, ACCEPTANCE OF AGREEMENT, AND RENEWAL**

### **Term of Agreement**

Unless terminated as set forth in the “Termination of *Agreement*” section, this *Agreement* is effective for the term shown on the cover page.

### **Acceptance of Agreement**

Group will be deemed as having accepted this *Agreement* and any amendments issued during the term of this *Agreement*, if Group pays Company any amount toward Premium.

Group may **not** change this *Agreement* by adding or deleting words, and any such addition or deletion is void. If Group wishes to change anything in this *Agreement*, Group must contact its Company account manager. Company might not respond to any changes or comments that Group may submit. Group may not construe Company's lack of response to any submitted changes or comments to imply acceptance. Company will issue a new *agreement* or amendment if Company and Group agree on any changes.

### **Renewal**

This *Agreement* is guaranteed renewable but does not automatically renew. If Group complies with all of the terms of this *Agreement*, Company will offer to renew this *Agreement*, upon not less than 30 days prior written notice to Group, either by sending Group a new group *agreement* to become effective immediately after termination of this *Agreement*, or by extending the term of this *Agreement* pursuant to “Amendments Effective on Anniversary Date” in the “Amendment of *Agreement*” section. The new or extended group *agreement* will include a new term of *agreement* and other changes. If Group does not renew this *Agreement*, Group must give Company written notice as described under “Termination on Notice” in the “Termination of *Agreement*” section.

## **AMENDMENT OF AGREEMENT**

### **Amendments Effective on Anniversary Date**

Upon not less than 30 days prior written notice to Group, Company may extend the term of this *Agreement* and make other changes by amending this *Agreement* effective on the anniversary date of any year (see cover page for anniversary date).

### **Amendment due to Tax or Other Charges**

If during the term of this *Agreement* a government agency or other taxing authority imposes or increases a tax or other charge (other than a tax on or measured by net income) upon Company, Medical Group, or Kaiser

Foundation Hospitals or upon any activity of any of them, then upon 31 days prior written notice, Company may increase Group's Premium to include Group's share of the new or increased tax or charge.

## **Other Amendments**

Company may amend this *Agreement* at any time by giving written notice to Group, in order to: (a) address any law or regulatory requirement; (b) reduce or expand the Company Service Area; or (c) increase any benefits of any Medicare product approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), if applicable to this *Agreement*.

## **TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT**

This *Agreement* will terminate under any of the conditions listed in this "Termination of *Agreement*" section. All rights to benefits under this *Agreement* end at 11:59 p.m. PT on the termination date, except as expressly provided in the "Termination of Membership" or "Continuation of Membership" sections of *the EOC*.

If this *Agreement* terminates and Group does not replace this coverage with another Plan, Company will give Group written notice of termination not later than 10 working days after the termination date and will explain the rights of Members regarding continuation of coverage as provided by federal and state law.

If Company fails to give notice as required, this *Agreement* shall continue in effect from the date notice should have been given until the date the Group receives the notice. Company will waive the Premium for the period for which coverage is continued and the time period within which Member may exercise any right to continuation shall commence on the date that Group receives the notice. Company will properly notify Members of their right to continuation of coverage under federal and state law.

## **Termination on Notice**

Group may terminate this *Agreement* by giving prior written notice to Company not less than 30 days prior to the termination date and remitting all amounts payable relating to this *Agreement*, including Premium, for the period through the termination date.

## **Termination due to Nonacceptance of Amendments**

All amendments are deemed accepted by Group unless Group gives Company written notice of nonacceptance at least 15 days before the effective date of the amendment in which case this *Agreement* will terminate the day before the effective date of the amendment.

## **Termination for Nonpayment**

When Group fails to pay Premium on or before the Premium Due Date, Group shall have a period of at least 31 days to pay all Premiums owed ("Grace Period"). The Grace Period shall begin the day after the Premium Due Date. If Group fails to pay all Premiums owed (including those owed for the Grace Period) on or before the last day of the Grace Period, then Company may, at its option and in lieu of any other remedy, terminate this Agreement without further extension or consideration.

Company will notify Group of the past-due amount and the effective date of termination. Such notice shall be sent at least 10 days prior to the effective date of termination. Group shall continue to be liable for all Premiums due through the date of termination.

This Agreement will remain in full force and effect throughout the Grace Period and Group will remain responsible for payment of Premiums. If Company receives full payment of Premiums on or before the last day of the Grace Period, this Agreement will remain in effect according to its terms and conditions.

If Premiums are paid after the Grace Period ends, Company may charge interest on the overdue Premiums. Interest shall not accrue during the Grace Period, and the (simple) interest rate shall be 6 percent per year or the maximum amount permitted by applicable law, whichever is less.

## **Termination for Fraud**

Company may terminate this *Agreement* by giving at least 30 days prior written notice to Group, if Group commits fraud or makes an intentional misrepresentation of material fact as prohibited by the terms of the Plan. For example, an intentional misrepresentation of material fact occurs if Group intentionally furnishes incorrect or incomplete material information to Company or is aware that incorrect or incomplete material information has been provided to Company on enrollment or other Company forms.

## **Termination for Violation of Contribution or Participation Requirements**

Company may terminate this *Agreement* upon 31 days prior written notice to Group, if Group fails to comply with Company's contribution or participation requirements (including those listed in the "Contribution and Participation Requirements" section).

## **Termination for Discontinuance of a Product or all Products within a Market**

Company may terminate a particular product or all products offered in the group market as permitted by law.

Company may terminate this *Agreement* if it ceases to write new business in the group market in Oregon or in a specific service area within Oregon, or elects not to renew all of its group Plans in Oregon or in a specific service area within Oregon, or both cease offering and cease renewing all products in Oregon or a specific service area in Oregon, if Company fails to reach an agreement with health care providers. To discontinue all products, Company must: (a) notify the Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services and all Groups; and (b) not cancel coverage for 180 days after the date of notice to the Director and Groups.

Company may terminate this *Agreement* if it elects not to offer or renew, or offer and renew, this type of Plan in Oregon or within a specific service area within Oregon. Except as provided below regarding failure to reach agreement with providers, in order to discontinue a product, Company must: (a) cease to offer and/or cease to renew this Plan for all groups; (b) offer (in writing) to each group covered by this Plan, enrollment in any other Plan offered by Company in the group market, not less than 90 days prior to discontinuance; and (c) act uniformly without regard to claims experience of affected groups or the health status of any current or prospective Member.

Company may terminate this *Agreement* if the Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services orders Company to discontinue coverage upon finding that continuation of coverage (a) would not be in the best interests of the Members; or (b) would impair Company's ability to meet its contractual obligations.

Company may terminate this *Agreement* by providing not less than 90 days prior written notice if there are no Members covered under this *Agreement*.

Company may terminate this *Agreement* if it is unable to reach an agreement with the health care providers to provide Services within a specific service area. Company must: (a) cease to offer and cease to renew this Plan for all groups within the service area; and (b) not less than 90 days prior to discontinuance, notify the Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services and each group in that service area of the decision to discontinue offering the Plan(s) and offer all other group Plans available in that service area.

## **CONTRIBUTION AND PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS**

No change in Group's contribution or participation requirements is effective for purposes of this *Agreement* unless Company consents in writing.

### **Group must:**

- Meet all underwriting requirements set forth in Company's Rate Assumptions and Requirements document.



- With respect to all persons entitled to coverage under Group’s Plan(s), offer enrollment in Company’s Plan to all such persons on conditions no less favorable than those for any other Plan available through Group.
- Permit Company to examine Group’s records with respect to contribution and participation requirements, eligibility, and payments under this *Agreement*.

## **MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

### **Administration of Agreement**

Company may adopt policies, procedures, rules, and interpretations to promote efficient administration of this *Agreement*.

### **Assignment**

Company may assign this *Agreement*. Group may not assign this *Agreement* or any of the rights, interests, claims for money due, benefits, or obligations hereunder without Company’s prior written consent. This *Agreement* shall be binding on the successors and permitted assignees of Company and Group.

### **Attorney Fees and Costs**

If Company or Group institutes legal action against the other to collect any sums owed under this *Agreement*, the party that substantially prevails will be reimbursed for its reasonable costs of collection, including attorneys’ fees, by the other party.

### **Governing Law**

Except as preempted by federal law, this *Agreement* will be governed in accord with Oregon law and any provision that is required to be in this *Agreement* by state or federal law shall bind Group and Company regardless of whether that provision is set forth in this *Agreement*.

### **Grandfathered Health Plan Coverage**

For any coverage identified in an *EOC* as a “grandfathered health plan” under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and regulations, Group must immediately inform Company if this coverage does not meet (or no longer meets) the requirements for grandfathered status. This includes, but is not limited to, any change in its contribution rate to the cost of any grandfathered health plan(s) during the contract year. Group represents that, for any coverage identified as a grandfathered health plan in the applicable *EOC*, Group has not decreased its contribution rate more than five percent for any rate tier in that plan when compared to the contribution rate in effect on March 23, 2010 for the same plan. Company will rely on Group’s representation when issuing and/or continuing grandfathered health plan coverage.

### **No Waiver**

Company’s failure to enforce any provision of this *Agreement* will not constitute a waiver of that or any other provision or impair Company’s right thereafter to require Group’s strict performance of any provision.

### **Notices**

Notices must be sent to the addresses listed below, except that Company or Group may change its address for notices by giving written notice to the other. Notices are deemed given when delivered in person, sent via email, or deposited in a U.S. Postal Service receptacle for the collection of U.S. mail.

**Notices from Company to Group will be sent to:**

Group Contact Mark Taylor  
Group Name Willamette University  
Group Address 900 State Street  
Group Address  
Group Address Salem, OR 97301  
Producer Contact Frederick Fischer  
Producer Name PCF Insurance Services of The West LLC  
Producer Address 412 Jefferson Parkway Ste #203  
Producer Address  
Producer Address Lake Oswego, OR 97035

**Note:** When Company sends Group a new (or renewed) group *agreement*, Company will enclose a summary that discusses the changes Company has made to this *Agreement*. Groups that want information about changes before receiving the new group *agreement* may request advance information from Group's Company account manager. Also, if Group designates in writing a third party such as a "Producer of Record," Company may send the advance information to the third party rather than to Group (unless Group requests a copy also).

**Notices from Group to Company regarding billing and enrollment must be sent to:**

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest  
P.O. Box 23127  
San Diego, CA 92193  
Or emailed to: [csc-den-roc-group@kp.org](mailto:csc-den-roc-group@kp.org)

**Notices from Group to Company regarding Premium payments must be sent to:**

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest  
PO Box 34178  
Seattle, WA 98124

**Notices from Group to Company regarding termination of this *Agreement* must be sent to the Group's account manager at:**

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest  
500 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 100  
Portland, OR 97232

**Other Group Coverages that Cover Essential Health Benefits (EHBs)**

Essential Health Benefits means benefits that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary defines as essential health benefits. Essential Health Benefits must be equal to the scope of benefits provided under a typical employer plan, except that they must include at least the following: ambulatory services, emergency services, hospitalization, maternity and newborn care, mental health and substance use disorder services (including behavioral health treatment), prescription drugs, rehabilitative and habilitative services and devices, laboratory services, preventive and wellness services and chronic disease management, and pediatric services (including oral and vision care).

For each non-grandfathered non-Medicare health plan coverage, except for any retiree-only coverage, Group must do all of the following if Group provides Company Members with other medical or dental coverage (for example, separate pharmacy coverage) that covers any Essential Health Benefits that Company coverage does not cover:

- Notify Company of the Out-of-Pocket Maximum (OOPM) that applies to those Essential Health Benefits in each of the other medical or dental coverages.
- Ensure that the sum of the OOPM in Company's coverage plus the OOPMs that apply to those Essential Health Benefits in all of the other medical and dental coverages does not exceed the annual limitation on cost sharing described in 45 CFR 156.130.

## **Premium Rebates**

If state or federal law requires Company to rebate premiums from this or any earlier contract year and Company rebates premiums to Group, Group represents that Group will use that rebate for the benefit of Members, in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Public Health Service Act, the Affordable Care Act, and the obligations of a fiduciary under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA).

## **Reporting Membership Changes and Retroactivity**

Company's billing statement to Group explains how to report membership changes. Group's Kaiser Permanente account manager can also provide Group with this information. Group must report membership changes (including sending Company-approved membership forms) within the time limit for retroactive changes and in accord with any applicable "rescission" provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and regulations. The time limit for retroactive membership changes is the calendar month when Company's San Diego Service Center receives Group's notification of the change plus the previous two months unless Company agrees otherwise in writing.

## **Representation Regarding Waiting Periods**

Pursuant to section 2708 of the Public Health Service Act (PHSA) and 45 CFR 147.116(b), Group hereby represents that Group does not impose a waiting period exceeding 90 days on its employees who meet Group's substantive eligibility requirements. (A waiting period is the period that must pass before coverage for an individual who is otherwise eligible to enroll under the terms of a group health plan can become effective, including completion of Group's reasonable and bona fide employment-based orientation period that does not exceed one month, if any.)

In addition, Group represents that eligibility data provided by the Group to Company will include coverage effective dates for Group's employees that correctly account for eligibility in compliance with the waiting period requirements in 45 CFR 147.116.

## **Social Security and Tax Identification Numbers**

Within 60 days after Company sends Group a written request, Group will send Company a list of all Members covered under this *Agreement*, along with the following:

- The Member's Social Security number.
- The tax identification number of the employer of the Subscriber in the Member's Family.
- Any other information that Company is required by law to collect.

## **Summaries of Benefits and Coverage**

Group will provide electronic or paper summaries of benefits and coverage (SBCs) to participants and beneficiaries to the extent required by law, except that Company will provide SBCs to Members who make a request to Company.



# KAISER FOUNDATION HEALTH PLAN OF THE NORTHWEST

*A Nonprofit Corporation*

## 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 and/or your plan does not cover out-of-network services.

“Out-of-network” 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 your in-network costs for the same service and might not count toward your plan's deductible or annual out-of-pocket limit. Your health plan coverage may not cover out-of-network services when you agree (consent) to receive services from the out-of-network providers.

“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. Providers and facilities are not balance billing you when they seek to collect cost sharing or another amount that you agreed to pay or are required to pay under your plan for the services that they provided.

### **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 can 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, or when an in-network provider is not available. 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 out-of-network care. You can choose a provider or facility in your plan's network.

**When balance billing isn't allowed, you also have these protections:**

- You're only responsible for paying your share of the cost (like the copayments, coinsurance, and deductible 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 and facilities.
  - Base what you owe the provider or facility (your 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 non-emergency services provided by certain out-of-network providers at an in-network facility toward your in-network deductible and out-of-pocket limit.

**If you think you've been wrongly billed by a provider or facility**, contact the federal government at [www.cms.gov/nosurprises/consumers](http://www.cms.gov/nosurprises/consumers) or by calling **1-800-985-3059**; or the Division of Financial Regulation, Department of Consumer and Business Services at <https://dfr.oregon.gov/help/complaints-licenses/Pages/file-complaint.aspx> or call **1-888-877-4894**.

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



# Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest

*A nonprofit corporation*  
Portland, Oregon

## Large Group Added Choice® Plan Evidence of Coverage

**Group Name: Willamette University**  
**Group Number: 2014-019-022, 025**

This *Evidence of Coverage* is effective 4/1/2023 through 3/31/2024

Printed: April 3, 2023

### **Member Services**

Monday through Friday (except holidays)  
8 a.m. to 6 p.m. PT

All areas.....1-866-616-0047

### **TTY**

All areas..... 711

### **Language interpretation services**

All areas.....1-800-324-8010

**kp.org**





## ADDED CHOICE® PLAN BENEFIT SUMMARY

This “Benefit Summary,” which is part of the *Evidence of Coverage (EOC)*, is a summary of answers to the most frequently asked questions about benefits. This summary does not fully describe benefits, limitations, or exclusions. To see complete explanations of what is covered for each benefit, including exclusions and limitations, and for additional benefits that are not included in this summary, please refer to the “Benefits,” “Exclusions and Limitations,” and “Reductions” sections of this *EOC*. For a list of defined terms, refer to the “Definitions” section of this *EOC*.

Services that are subject to the Deductible are indicated below. After you meet your Deductible, you pay the amount listed in this summary.

When you receive covered Services from Select Providers or PPO Providers, your Coinsurance is a percentage of Charges, which are rates we have negotiated with the provider.

When you receive covered Services from Non-Participating Providers, your Coinsurance is a percentage of the actual amount the Non-Participating Provider bills for the covered Service, up to the Allowed Amount.

Services received from Select Providers, PPO Providers, or Non-Participating Providers will all be combined to count toward any applicable visit limits, unless otherwise indicated in this *EOC*.

Some Services require prior authorization, as described in this *EOC*. Refer to “Services Subject to Prior Authorization Review” and “Failure to Satisfy Prior Authorization Review Requirements” in the “How to Obtain Services” section for more information.

Calendar year is the time period (Year) in which dollar, day, and visit limits, Deductibles and Out-of-Pocket Maximums accumulate.

	Select Providers	PPO Providers	Non-Participating Providers
<b>Deductible</b>			
For Services that are subject to the Deductible, the amounts you pay for covered Services from Select Providers also count toward the Deductible for Services from PPO Providers, and vice versa. The amounts you pay for Services from Non-Participating Providers only count toward the Deductible for Services from Non-Participating Providers.			
Self-only Deductible per Year (for a Family of one Member)	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$3,000
Individual Family Member Deductible per Year (for each Member in a Family of two or more Members)	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$3,000
Family Deductible per Year (for an entire Family)	\$3,000	\$6,000	\$9,000
<b>Out-of-Pocket Maximum</b>			
All Deductible, Copayment, and Coinsurance amounts count toward the Out-of-Pocket Maximum, unless otherwise indicated in this <i>EOC</i> . For Services that count toward the Out-of-Pocket Maximum, the amounts you pay for covered Services from Select Providers also count toward the Out-of-Pocket Maximum for Services from PPO Providers, and vice versa, and do not count toward the Out-of-Pocket Maximum for Services from Non-Participating Providers. The amounts you pay for Services from Non-Participating Providers only count toward the Out-of-Pocket Maximum for Services from Non-Participating Providers.			
Self-only Out-of-Pocket Maximum per Year (for a Family of one Member)	\$4,000	\$6,000	\$7,500
Individual Family Member Out-of-Pocket Maximum per Year (for each Member in a Family of two or more Members)	\$4,000	\$6,000	\$7,500

	Select Providers	PPO Providers	Non-Participating Providers
Family Out-of-Pocket Maximum per Year (for an entire Family)	\$8,000	\$12,000	\$15,000
<b>Preventive Care Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
Routine preventive physical exam (includes adult, well baby, and well child)	\$0	\$0	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Immunizations	\$0	\$0	\$0
Preventive tests	\$0	\$0	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
<b>Outpatient Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
Primary care visit	\$25	\$35	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Specialty care visit	\$35	\$45	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
TMJ therapy visit	\$35 after Deductible	\$45 after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Routine eye exam (covered until the end of the month in which Member turns 19 years of age)	\$0	\$0	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Routine eye exam for Members age 19 years and older	\$25	\$35	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Nurse treatment room visits to receive injections	\$10	20% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Administered medications, including injections (all outpatient settings)	20% Coinsurance after Deductible	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Urgent Care visit	\$45	\$55	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Emergency department visit	\$200 after Deductible (Waived if admitted)		
Outpatient surgery visit	20% Coinsurance after Deductible	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Vasectomy	\$0	\$0	Subject to the applicable Cost Share for Services from Non-Participating Providers
Interrupted pregnancy surgery	\$0	\$0	Subject to the applicable Cost Share for Services from Non-Participating Providers
Chemotherapy/radiation therapy visit	\$35 after Deductible	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Respiratory therapy visit	\$35 after Deductible	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Cardiac rehabilitative therapy visit	\$35 after Deductible	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
<b>Inpatient Hospital Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
Room and board, surgery, anesthesia, X-ray, imaging, laboratory, and drugs	20% Coinsurance after Deductible	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible

	Select Providers	PPO Providers	Non-Participating Providers
Vasectomy	\$0	\$0	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Interrupted pregnancy surgery	\$0	\$0	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
<b>Kaiser Permanente at Home™</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
Medical Services in your home as an alternative to receiving acute care in a hospital	\$0	Not covered	Not covered
<b>Ambulance Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
Per emergency transport	20% Coinsurance after Deductible		
Per non-emergency transport	20% Coinsurance after Deductible	Not applicable	40% Coinsurance after Deductible. Maximum benefit is \$2,000 per Year.
<b>Bariatric Surgery Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
Inpatient hospital Services	20% Coinsurance after Deductible	Not Covered	Not covered
<b>Dialysis Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
Outpatient dialysis visit	\$35 after Deductible	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Home dialysis	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>External Prosthetic Devices and Orthotic Devices</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
External Prosthetic Devices	20% Coinsurance after Deductible	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Orthotic Devices	20% Coinsurance after Deductible	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
<b>Habilitative Services</b> (Visit or day maximums do not apply to habilitative Services for treatment of mental health conditions.)	<b>You Pay</b>		
Outpatient physical, speech, and occupational therapies (20 visits per therapy per Year)	\$35	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Inpatient Services	20% Coinsurance after Deductible	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
<b>Hearing Aid Services for Dependents</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
Hearing exams, testing, and visits for hearing loss Services	\$35	\$45	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Hearing aids and hearing assistive technologies (for Members who are under the Dependent Limiting Age), limited to once per hearing impaired ear every 36 months.	20% Coinsurance after Deductible	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
<b>Home Health Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
Home health (up to 130 visits per Year)	\$0 after Deductible	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
<b>Hospice Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
Hospice Services (Respite care is limited to no more than five consecutive days in a 30-day period.)	\$0	\$0	\$0

	Select Providers	PPO Providers	Non-Participating Providers
<b>Infertility Diagnosis Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
Office visit	50% Coinsurance after Deductible	50% Coinsurance after Deductible	50% Coinsurance after Deductible
Diagnostic imaging and laboratory tests	50% Coinsurance after Deductible	50% Coinsurance after Deductible	50% Coinsurance after Deductible

<b>Limited Outpatient Prescription Drugs and Supplies</b>	<b>Select Pharmacies or MedImpact Pharmacies You Pay</b>		
Certain preventive medications (including, but not limited to, aspirin, fluoride, and liquid iron for infants)	\$0		
Certain self-administered IV drugs, fluids, additives, and nutrients including the supplies and equipment required for their administration	\$0		
Blood glucose test strips	Refer to your Outpatient Prescription Drug Rider		
Contraceptive drugs or devices	\$0		
Insulin	Subject to the applicable drug tier Copayment or Coinsurance shown in your Outpatient Prescription Drug Rider, up to \$35 for each 30-day supply		
Self-administered chemotherapy medications used for the treatment of cancer	Refer to your Outpatient Prescription Drug Rider		
Tobacco use cessation drugs	\$0		

	Select Providers	PPO Providers	Non-Participating Providers
<b>Maternity and Newborn Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
Scheduled prenatal care visits and postpartum visits	\$0	\$0	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Maternal diabetes management, including medication and supplies (Medically Necessary Services beginning with conception and ending through six weeks postpartum)	\$0	\$0	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Inpatient hospital Services	20% Coinsurance after Deductible	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Newborn nurse home visiting Services	\$0	Not covered	Not covered
<b>Medical Foods and Formula</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
Medical foods and formula	20% Coinsurance after Deductible	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
<b>Mental Health Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
Outpatient Services	\$25 per visit	\$35 per visit	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Intensive outpatient Services	\$25 per day	\$35 per day	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Partial hospitalization	\$25 per day	\$35 per day	40% Coinsurance after Deductible

	Select Providers	PPO Providers	Non-Participating Providers
Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Services	\$0	Not covered	Not covered
Inpatient hospital Services	20% Coinsurance after Deductible	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Residential Services	20% Coinsurance after Deductible	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
<b>Naturopathic Medicine</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
Evaluation and treatment	\$25	\$35	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
<b>Outpatient Durable Medical Equipment (DME)</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
Outpatient Durable Medical Equipment (DME)	20% Coinsurance after Deductible	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Home ultraviolet light therapy equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0
Peak flow meters, blood glucose monitors, and lancets	20% Coinsurance	30% Coinsurance	40% Coinsurance
<b>Outpatient Laboratory, X-ray, Imaging, and Special Diagnostic Procedures</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
Laboratory	\$25 per department visit	\$35 per department visit	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Genetic testing	\$25 per department visit	\$35 per department visit	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
X-ray, imaging, and special diagnostic procedures	\$25 per department visit	\$35 per department visit	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
CT, MRI, PET scans	\$100 per department visit	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible

	Select Providers	PPO Providers	Non-Participating Providers
<b>Reconstructive Surgery Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
Inpatient hospital Services	20% Coinsurance after Deductible	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Outpatient surgery visit	20% Coinsurance after Deductible	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
<b>Rehabilitative Therapy Services</b> (Visit or day maximums do not apply to rehabilitative therapy Services for treatment of mental health conditions.)	<b>You Pay</b>		
Outpatient physical, speech, and occupational therapies (20 visits per therapy per Year)	\$35	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Inpatient Services	20% Coinsurance after Deductible	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
<b>Skilled Nursing Facility Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
Inpatient skilled nursing Services (up to 100 days per Year)	20% Coinsurance after Deductible	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible

	Select Providers	PPO Providers	Non-Participating Providers
<b>Substance Use Disorder Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
Outpatient Services	\$25 per visit	\$35 per visit	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Inpatient hospital Services	20% Coinsurance after Deductible	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Residential Services	20% Coinsurance after Deductible	30% Coinsurance after Deductible	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
Day treatment Services	\$25 per day	\$35 per day	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
<b>Telemedicine Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
Telephone and video visits	\$0	\$0	Cost Share applicable to the Service when provided in person
E-visits	\$0	\$0	Cost Share applicable to the Service when provided in person
<b>Transplant Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
Inpatient hospital Services	20% Coinsurance after Deductible	Not covered	Not covered
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## INTRODUCTION

This *Evidence of Coverage (EOC)*, including the “Benefit Summary” and any benefit riders attached to this *EOC*, describes the health care benefits of the Large Group Added Choice® Plan provided under the *Group Agreement (Agreement)* between Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest and your Group. For benefits provided under any other Plan, refer to that Plan’s evidence of coverage.

The provider network for this Added Choice® Plan is the Added Choice network.

In this *EOC*, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest is sometimes referred to as “Company,” “we,” “our,” or “us.” Members are sometimes referred to as “you.” Some capitalized terms have special meaning in this *EOC*. See the “Definitions” section for terms you should know. The benefits under this Plan are not subject to a pre-existing condition waiting period.

It is important to familiarize yourself with your coverage by reading this *EOC* and the “Benefit Summary” completely, so that you can take full advantage of your Plan benefits. Also, if you have special health care needs, carefully read the sections applicable to you.

If you would like additional information about your benefits, important health plan disclosures, other products or services, please call Member Services or e-mail us by registering at [kp.org](http://kp.org).

## Term of this EOC

This *EOC* is effective for the period stated on the cover page, unless amended. Your Group’s benefits administrator can tell you whether this *EOC* is still in effect.

## DEFINITIONS

The following terms, when capitalized and used in any part of this *EOC*, mean:

**Added Choice Medical Facilities Directory.** The *Added Choice Medical Facilities Directory* includes addresses, maps, and telephone numbers for Select Medical Offices and other Select Facilities and provides general information about getting care at Kaiser Permanente. After you enroll, you will receive an email or a flyer that explains how you may either download an electronic copy of the *Added Choice Medical Facilities Directory* or request that the *Added Choice Medical Facilities Directory* be mailed to you.

**Allowed Amount.** The lower of the following amounts:

- The actual fee the provider, facility, or vendor charged for the Service.
- 160 percent of the Medicare fee for the Service, as indicated by the applicable Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code or Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) code shown on the current Medicare fee schedule. The Medicare fee schedule is developed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and adjusted by Medicare geographical practice indexes. When there is no established CPT or HCPCS code indicating the Medicare fee for a particular Service, the Allowed Amount is 70 percent of the actual fee the provider, facility, or vendor charged for the Service.

**Ancillary Service.** Services that are:

- Related to emergency medicine, anesthesiology, pathology, radiology, and neonatology, whether provided by a physician or non-physician practitioner.
- Provided by assistant surgeons, hospitalists, and intensivists.
- Diagnostic Services, including radiology and laboratory Services.
- Provided by a Non-Participating Provider if there is no Select Provider or PPO Provider who can furnish such Service at the facility.

- Provided as a result of unforeseen, urgent medical needs that arise at the time the Service is provided, regardless of whether the Non-Participating Provider or Non-Participating Facility satisfies the notice and consent requirements under federal law.

**Behavioral Health Assessment.** Behavioral Health Assessment means an evaluation in person or using telemedicine, to determine a patient's need for immediate crisis stabilization, by a provider as listed in the "Mental Health Services" section.

**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.

**Benefit Summary.** A section of this *EOC* which provides a brief description of your medical Plan benefits and what you pay for covered Services.

**Charges.** Charges means the following:

- For Services provided by Medical Group or Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, the amount in Company's schedule of Medical Group and Kaiser Foundation Hospitals charges for Services provided to Members.
- For Services for which a provider or facility (other than Medical Group or Kaiser Foundation Hospitals) is compensated on a capitation basis, the amount in the schedule of charges that Company negotiates with the capitated provider.
- For Services received from other providers or facilities we contract with, the amount the provider or facility has agreed to accept as payment.
- For items obtained at a pharmacy owned and operated by Kaiser Permanente, the amount the pharmacy would charge a Member for the item if the Member's benefit Plan did not cover the pharmacy item. This amount is an estimate of: the cost of acquiring, storing, and dispensing drugs, the direct and indirect costs of providing pharmacy Services to Members, and the pharmacy program's contribution to the net revenue requirements of Company.
- For Emergency Services received from a Non-Participating Provider or a Non-Participating Facility (including Post-Stabilization Care that constitutes Emergency Services under federal law), the amount required to be paid by Company pursuant to state law, when it is applicable, or federal law, including any amount determined through negotiation or an independent dispute resolution (IDR) process.
- For all other Services received from a Non-Participating Provider, or Non-Participating Facility (including Post-Stabilization Services that are not Emergency Services under federal law), the amount (1) required to be paid pursuant to state law, when it is applicable, or federal law, including any amount determined through negotiation or an independent dispute resolution (IDR) process, or (2) in the event that neither state or federal law prohibiting balance billing apply, then the amount agreed to by the Non-Participating Provider or Non-Participating Facility and Company or, absent such an agreement, the Allowed Amount.

**Coinsurance.** The percentage of Charges or the percentage of the Allowed Amount that you must pay when you receive a covered Service.

**Company.** Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest, an Oregon nonprofit corporation. This *EOC* sometimes refers to our Company as "we," "our," or "us."

**Copayment.** The defined dollar amount that you must pay when you receive a covered Service.

**Cost Share.** The Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance you must pay for covered Services.

**Deductible.** The amount you must pay for certain Services you receive in a Year before we will cover those Services, subject to any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance, in that Year. Deductible amounts include the Deductible take-over amounts as described in the "What You Pay" section of this *EOC*.

**Dependent.** A Member who meets the eligibility requirements for a Dependent as described in the “Who Is Eligible” section.

**Dependent Limiting Age.** The “Premium, Eligibility, and Enrollment” section requires that most types of Dependents (other than Spouses and disabled Dependents as described in the “Dependents” section) be under the Dependent Limiting Age in order to be eligible for membership. The “Benefit Summary” shows the Dependent Limiting Age (the student Dependent Limiting Age is for students, and the general Dependent Limiting Age is for non-students).

**Durable Medical Equipment (DME).** A non-disposable supply or item of equipment that is able to withstand repeated use, primarily and customarily used to serve a medical purpose and generally not useful to you if you are not ill or injured.

**Emergency Medical Condition.** An Emergency Medical Condition means a medical condition:

- That manifests itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) such that a prudent layperson, who possesses an average knowledge of health and medicine, could reasonably expect the absence of immediate medical attention to result in any of the following:
  - Placing the person’s health (or, with respect to a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child) in serious jeopardy.
  - Serious impairment to bodily functions.
  - Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part.
- With respect to a pregnant woman who is having contractions, for which there is inadequate time to effect a safe transfer to another hospital before delivery or for which a transfer may pose a threat to the health or safety of the woman or the unborn child.
- That is a Behavioral Health Crisis.

**Emergency Medical Service Provider.** A person who has received formal training in prehospital and emergency care, and is licensed to attend any person who is ill or injured or who has a disability. Police officers, firefighters, funeral home employees and other persons serving in a dual capacity, one of which meets this definition, are considered Emergency Medical Services Providers.

**Emergency Medical Services Transport.** An Emergency Medical Service Provider’s evaluation and stabilization of an individual experiencing an Emergency Medical Condition and the transportation of the individual to the nearest medical facility capable of meeting the needs of the individual.

**Emergency Services.** All of the following with respect to an Emergency Medical Condition:

- An Emergency Medical Services Transport.
- A medical screening examination (as required under the federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act, “EMTALA”), or Behavioral Health Assessment, that is within the capability of the emergency department of a hospital, or of an Independent Freestanding Emergency Department, including Ancillary Services and patient observation, routinely available to the emergency department to evaluate the Emergency Medical Condition.
- Within the capabilities of the staff and facilities available at the hospital, or Independent Freestanding Emergency Department, the further examination and treatment required under EMTALA (or would be required under EMTALA if it applied to an Independent Freestanding Emergency Department) to Stabilize the patient, regardless of the department of the hospital in which such further examination or treatment is furnished.
- Post-Stabilization Care Services provided by a Non-Participating Provider or Non-Participating Facility are considered Emergency Services when federal law applies, and:

- Your Non-Participating Provider determines that you are not able to travel using non-medical transportation or non-emergency medical transportation to an available Select Provider within a reasonable travel distance, taking into account your medical or behavioral health condition; or,
- You or your authorized representative are not in a condition to provide consent to receiving Post-Stabilization Services or other covered Services from a Non-Participating Provider.

**ERISA.** The Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended.

**Evidence of Coverage (EOC).** This *Evidence of Coverage* document provided to the Subscriber that specifies and describes benefits and conditions of coverage. This document, on its own, is not designed to meet the requirements of a summary plan description (SPD) under ERISA. After you enroll, you will receive a postcard that explains how you may either download an electronic copy of this *EOC* or request that this *EOC* be mailed to you.

**External Prosthetic Devices.** External prosthetic devices are rigid or semi-rigid external devices required to replace all or any part of a body organ or extremity.

**Family.** A Subscriber and all of their Dependents.

**Gender Affirming Treatment.** Medical treatment or surgical procedures, including hormone replacement therapy, necessary to change the physical attributes of one's outward appearance to accord with the person's actual gender identity.

**Group.** The employer, union trust, or association with which we have an *Agreement* that includes this *EOC*.

**Home Health Agency.** A "home health agency" is an agency that: (i) meets any legal licensing required by the state or other locality in which it is located; (ii) qualifies as a participating home health agency under Medicare; and (iii) specializes in giving skilled nursing facility care Services and other therapeutic Services, such as physical therapy, in the patient's home (or to a place of temporary or permanent residence used as your home).

**Homemaker Services.** Assistance in personal care, maintenance of a safe and healthy environment, and Services to enable the individual to carry out the plan of care.

**Independent Freestanding Emergency Department.** A health care facility that is geographically separate and distinct and licensed separately from a hospital under applicable State law and that provides Emergency Services.

**Kaiser Permanente.** Kaiser Foundation Hospitals (a California nonprofit corporation), Medical Group, and Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest (Company).

**Medical Group.** Northwest Permanente, P.C., Physicians and Surgeons, a professional corporation of physicians organized under the laws of the state of Oregon. Medical Group contracts with Company to provide professional medical Services to Members and others primarily on a capitated, prepaid basis in Select Facilities.

**Medically Necessary.** Our determination that the Service is all of the following: (i) medically required to prevent, diagnose or treat your condition or clinical symptoms; (ii) in accordance with generally accepted standards of medical practice; (iii) not solely for the convenience of you, your family and/or your provider; and, (iv) the most appropriate level of Service which can safely be provided to you. For purposes of this definition, "generally accepted standards of medical practice" means (a) standards that are based on credible scientific evidence published in peer-reviewed medical literature generally recognized by the relevant medical community; (b) physician specialty society recommendations; (c) the view of physicians practicing in the relevant clinical area or areas within Kaiser Permanente locally or nationally; and/or (d) any other relevant factors reasonably determined by us. Unless otherwise required by law, we decide if a Service is Medically Necessary. You may appeal our decision as set forth in the "Grievances, Claims, Appeals, and External

Review” section. The fact that a provider has prescribed, recommended, or approved a Service does not, in itself, make such Service Medically Necessary and, therefore, a covered Service.

**Medicare.** A federal health insurance program for people aged 65 and older, certain people with disabilities, and those with end-stage renal disease (ESRD).

**MedImpact Pharmacy.** A pharmacy that participates in the MedImpact National Retail and Choice90® Pharmacy Network and is listed in the directory at [kp.org/addedchoice/nw](http://kp.org/addedchoice/nw).

**Member.** A person who is eligible and enrolled under this *EOC*, and for whom we have received applicable Premium. This *EOC* sometimes refers to a Member as “you.” The term Member may include the Subscriber, their Dependent, or other individual who is eligible for and has enrolled under this *EOC*.

**Non-Participating Facility.** Any of the following licensed institutions that provide Services, but do not have a written agreement with Kaiser Permanente to participate as a health care provider for this Plan: hospitals and other inpatient centers; ambulatory surgical or treatment centers; birthing centers; medical offices and clinics; skilled nursing facilities; residential treatment centers; diagnostic, laboratory, and imaging centers; and rehabilitation settings. This includes any of these facilities that are owned and operated by a political subdivision or instrumentality of the state and other facilities as required by federal law and implementing regulations.

**Non-Participating Provider.** A physician or other health care provider, facility, business or vendor regulated under state law to provide health or health-related services or otherwise providing health care services within the scope of licensure or certification consistent with state law that does not have a written agreement with Kaiser Permanente to participate as a health care provider for this Plan.

**Orthotic Devices.** Orthotic devices are rigid or semi-rigid external devices (other than casts) required to support or correct a defective form or function of an inoperative or malfunctioning body part or to restrict motion in a diseased or injured part of the body.

**Out-of-Pocket Maximum.** The total amount of Deductibles, Copayments, and Coinsurance you will be responsible to pay in a Year, as described in the “What You Pay” section of this *EOC*.

**Plan.** Any hospital expense, medical expense, or hospital and/or medical expense policy or certificate, health care service contractor or health maintenance organization subscriber contract, any plan provided by a multiple employer welfare arrangement or by another benefit arrangement defined in the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as amended.

**Post-Stabilization Care.** The Services you receive after your treating physician determines that your Emergency Medical Condition is clinically stable.

**PPO Facility.** Any of the following licensed institutions that have entered into a written agreement with Kaiser Permanente to provide Services to Members enrolled in this Plan: hospitals and other inpatient centers; ambulatory surgical or treatment centers; birthing centers; medical offices and clinics; skilled nursing facilities; residential treatment centers; diagnostic, laboratory, and imaging centers; and rehabilitation settings. This includes any of these facilities that are owned and operated by a political subdivision or instrumentality of the state and other facilities as required by federal law and implementing regulations. PPO Facilities are subject to change.

**PPO Provider.** A physician or other health care provider, facility, business, or vendor regulated under state law to provide health or health-related services or otherwise providing health care services within the scope of licensure or certification consistent with state law and which has entered into a written agreement with Kaiser Permanente to provide Services to Members enrolled in this Plan. PPO Providers are subject to change.

**Premium.** Monthly membership charges paid by Group.



**Select Facility.** A facility that is owned or operated by Kaiser Permanente, or that contracts directly with Kaiser Permanente, and that is listed as a Select Facility in the *Added Choice Medical Facilities Directory*. Select Facilities are subject to change.

**Select Pharmacy.** A pharmacy owned and operated by Kaiser Permanente or another pharmacy that we designate, that is listed as a Select Pharmacy in the *Added Choice Medical Facilities Directory*. Select Pharmacies are subject to change.

**Select Physician.** Any licensed physician who is an employee of Medical Group, or contracts directly or indirectly with Medical Group. Select Physicians are subject to change.

**Select Provider.** Any person who is a Select Physician; or a physician or other health care provider, facility, business, or vendor regulated under state law to provide health or health-related services or otherwise providing health care services within the scope of licensure or certification consistent with state law and which contracts directly or indirectly with Kaiser Permanente to provide Services to Members enrolled in this Plan. Select Providers are subject to change.

**Service Area.** Our Service Area consists of certain geographic areas in the Northwest which we designate by ZIP code. Our Service Area may change. Contact Member Services for a complete listing of our Service Area ZIP codes.

**Services.** Health care services, supplies, or items.

**Specialist.** Any licensed physician, who practices in a specialty care area of medicine (not family medicine, pediatrics, gynecology, obstetrics, general practice, or internal medicine).

**Spouse.** The person to whom you are legally married under applicable law. For the purposes of this *EOC*, the term “Spouse” includes a person who is legally recognized as your domestic partner in a valid Certificate of Registered Domestic Partnership issued by the state of Oregon, validly registered as your domestic partner under the laws of another state, or otherwise recognized as your domestic partner under criteria agreed upon, in writing, by Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest and your Group.

**Stabilize.** With respect to an Emergency Medical Condition, to provide the medical treatment of the condition that is necessary to assure, within reasonable medical probability, that no material deterioration of the condition is likely to result from or occur during the transfer of the person from the facility. With respect to a pregnant woman who is having contractions, when there is inadequate time to safely transfer her to another hospital before delivery (or the transfer may pose a threat to the health or safety of the woman or unborn child), “Stabilize” means to deliver the infant (including the placenta).

**Subscriber.** A Member who is eligible for membership on their own behalf and not by virtue of Dependent status and who meets the eligibility requirements as a Subscriber.

**Substance Use Disorder.** A substance-related or addictive disorder listed in the most current version of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM)* published by the American Psychiatric Association.

**Urgent Care.** Treatment for an unforeseen condition that requires prompt medical attention to keep it from becoming more serious, but that is not an Emergency Medical Condition.

**Utilization Review.** The formal application of clinical criteria and clinical guidance, screening procedures, decision rules, and medical protocols designed to ensure that each Member is receiving Services at the appropriate level. Utilization Review is used to monitor or evaluate:

- Medical necessity, appropriateness, effectiveness, or efficiency of a specific Service, procedure, or setting.
- Appropriateness of a Service for which prior authorization is requested or for which an exception to step therapy has been requested.
- Any other coverage that we indicate is subject to Utilization Review.

When Utilization Review is required to approve certain Services in advance, this is called prior authorization. Utilization Review to approve an ongoing course of treatment to be provided over a period of time or number of treatments is called concurrent review.

**Year.** A period of time that is either a) a calendar year beginning on January 1 of any year and ending at midnight December 31 of the same year, or b) a plan year beginning on an effective date and ending at midnight prior to the anniversary date agreed to by Company and Group. The “Benefit Summary” shows which period is applicable to this Plan.

## **PREMIUM, ELIGIBILITY, AND ENROLLMENT**

### **Premium**

Your Group is responsible for paying the Premium. If you are responsible for any contribution to the Premium, your Group will tell you the amount and how to pay your Group.

### **Who Is Eligible**

#### ***General***

To be eligible to enroll and to remain enrolled under this employer’s *Agreement*, you must meet all of the following requirements:

- You must meet your Group’s eligibility requirements that we have approved. (Your Group is required to inform Subscribers of its eligibility requirements.)
- You must meet the Subscriber or Dependent eligibility requirements described below unless your Group has different eligibility requirements that we have approved.

#### ***Subscribers***

To be eligible to enroll and to remain enrolled as a Subscriber, you must meet the following requirements:

- You are an employee of your Group; or
- You are otherwise entitled to coverage through your Group under a trust agreement, retirement benefit program, employment contract, or the rules of a professional, trade, or bona fide association.

#### ***Dependents***

If you are a Subscriber (or if you are a subscriber under our Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage (HMO) plan offered by your Group), the following persons are eligible to enroll as your Dependents under this *EOC*. (Note: if you are a subscriber under a Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage plan offered by your Group, all of your Dependents who are enrolled under this or any other non-Medicare evidence of coverage offered by your Group must be enrolled under the same non-Medicare evidence of coverage. A “non-Medicare” evidence of coverage is one that does not require members to be entitled to Medicare.)

- Your Spouse.
- A person who is under the general Dependent Limiting Age shown in the “Benefit Summary” and who is any of the following:
  - Your or your Spouse’s child.
  - A child adopted by you or your Spouse, or for whom you or your Spouse have assumed a legal obligation in anticipation of adoption.
  - Any other person for whom you or your Spouse is a court-appointed guardian.
  - A child placed with you or your Spouse for foster care.

- A person who is over the general Dependent Limiting Age but under the student Dependent Limiting Age shown in the “Benefit Summary,” who is a full-time registered student at an accredited college or accredited vocational school, and is any of the following:
  - Your or your Spouse’s child.
  - A child adopted by you or your Spouse, or for whom you or your Spouse have assumed a legal obligation in anticipation of adoption.
  - Any other person for whom you or your Spouse is a court-appointed guardian.

Students who suffer a severe illness or injury that causes them to lose full-time student status will continue to be considered full-time students for eligibility purposes, provided that within 31 days after the loss of full-time student status, we receive written certification from the child’s treating physician that the child is suffering from a serious illness or injury and that the leave of absence or other change of enrollment is Medically Necessary. Eligibility as a full-time student under this provision may then continue for up to 12 months from the date that your child’s medical leave of absence began, or until your child reaches the student Dependent Limiting Age shown in the “Benefit Summary,” whichever comes first.

- A person of any age who is primarily dependent upon you or your Spouse for support and maintenance if the person is incapable of self-sustaining employment by reason of a developmental disability, mental illness, or a physical disability that occurred prior to the person reaching the general Dependent Limiting Age shown in the “Benefit Summary,” if the person is any of the following:
  - Your or your Spouse’s child.
  - A child adopted by you or your Spouse, or for whom you or your Spouse have assumed legal obligation in anticipation of adoption.
  - Any other person for whom you or your Spouse is a court-appointed guardian and was a court-appointed guardian prior to the person reaching the Dependent Limiting Age shown in the “Benefit Summary.”

We may request proof of incapacity and dependency annually.

Children born to a Dependent other than your Spouse (for example, your grandchildren) are not eligible for coverage beyond the first 31 days of life, including the date of birth, unless: (a) you or your Spouse adopts them or assumes a legal obligation in anticipation of adoption; (b) they are primarily supported by you or your Spouse and you or your Spouse is their court-appointed guardian; or, (c) your Group has different eligibility requirements that we have approved.

Company will not deny enrollment of a newborn child, newly adopted child, child for whom legal obligation is assumed in anticipation of adoption, child newly placed for adoption, or newly placed foster child solely on the basis that: (a) the child was born out of wedlock; (b) the child is not claimed as a dependent on the parent’s federal tax return; (c) the child does not reside with the child’s parent or in our Service Area; or (d) the mother of the child used drugs containing diethylstilbestrol prior to the child’s birth. Also, Company does not discriminate between married and unmarried persons, or between children of married or unmarried persons.

## **When You Can Enroll and When Coverage Begins**

A Group is required to inform employees about when they are eligible to enroll and their effective date of coverage. The effective date of coverage for employees and their eligible Dependents is determined by the Group in accord with waiting period requirements in state and federal law. The Group is required to inform the Subscriber of the date membership becomes effective.

If an individual is eligible to be a Dependent under this *EOC* but the subscriber in their family is enrolled under our Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage evidence of coverage offered by the Group, the subscriber

must follow the rules for adding Dependents as described in this “When You Can Enroll and When Coverage Begins” section.

### ***New Employees and Their Dependents***

When a Group informs an employee that they are eligible to enroll as a Subscriber, they may enroll themselves and any eligible Dependents by submitting a Company-approved enrollment application to the Group within 30 days of eligibility for enrollment.

### ***Open Enrollment***

The Group will inform an employee of their open enrollment period and effective date of coverage. An eligible employee may enroll as a Subscriber along with any eligible Dependents if they or their Dependents were not previously enrolled. If you are an existing Subscriber, you may add eligible Dependents not previously enrolled following your Group’s enrollment process during the open enrollment period.

### ***Special Enrollment***

If an eligible employee or their eligible Dependents do not enroll when they are first eligible, and later want to enroll, they can enroll only during open enrollment unless they experience a qualifying event as defined in applicable state and federal law. Your Group will administer special enrollment rights under applicable state and federal law.

Examples of qualifying events include, but are not limited to:

- Loss of minimum essential coverage for any reason other than nonpayment of Premium, rescission of coverage, misrepresentation, fraud or voluntary termination of coverage.
- Gaining a Dependent through marriage or entering into a domestic partnership, birth, adoption, placement for adoption, placement for foster care, or through a child support order or other court order.
- Loss of a Dependent through divorce or legal separation, or if the enrollee, or their Dependent dies.

Note: If the individual is enrolling as a Subscriber along with at least one eligible Dependent, only one enrollee must meet one of the requirements for a qualifying event.

The individual must notify the Group within 30 days of a qualifying event, 60 days if they are requesting enrollment due to a change in eligibility for Medicaid or Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage. The Group will determine if the individual is eligible to select or change coverage. Contact the Group for further instructions on how to enroll.

A Group may require an employee declining coverage to provide a written statement indicating whether the coverage is being declined due to other health coverage. If this statement is not provided, or if coverage is not declined due to other health coverage, the employee may not be eligible for special enrollment due to loss of other health coverage. Contact the Group for further information.

### ***Adding New Dependents to an Existing Account***

To enroll a Dependent who becomes eligible to enroll after you became a Subscriber, you must submit a Company-approved enrollment application to your Group as described in this “Adding New Dependents to an Existing Account” section.

Newborns, newly adopted children, children newly placed for adoption, or newly placed foster children are covered for 31 days after birth, adoption, placement for adoption, or placement for foster care. In order for coverage to continue beyond this 31-day period, you must submit an enrollment application to your Group within 31 days after the date of birth, adoption, placement for adoption, or placement for foster care if additional Premium is required to add the Dependent. If additional Premium is not required, the application requirement is waived; however, please notify your Group and Member Services, to add the child to your Plan.

To add all other newly eligible Dependents (such as a new Spouse), you must submit an enrollment application to your Group within 30 days after the qualifying event.

Contact your Group for further instructions on how to enroll your newly eligible Dependent.

### ***When Coverage Begins***

Your Group will notify you of the date your coverage will begin. Membership begins at 12 a.m. PT of the effective date specified.

If an individual enrolls in, adds a Dependent, or changes health plan coverage during a special enrollment period, the membership effective date will be determined by your Group under applicable state and federal law.

## **HOW TO OBTAIN SERVICES**

### **General Information**

This Added Choice® Plan lets you choose to receive covered Services from Select Providers, PPO Providers, or Non-Participating Providers. You may also choose different providers for different covered Services. The Services we cover, and the amounts you pay for covered Services, will differ depending on the provider you choose. Your out-of-pocket costs will typically be less when you receive covered Services from Select Providers or PPO Providers. Also, Select Providers and PPO Providers will obtain any necessary prior authorization on your behalf and will submit claim forms to us.

### ***Select Providers and PPO Providers***

The provider network for this Added Choice® Plan is the Added Choice network.

Select Providers include Kaiser Permanente providers and facilities and other health care providers who are either employed by us or contract with us to provide covered Services for Members enrolled in this Added Choice® Plan. You pay the Select Provider Cost Share amount shown on your “Benefit Summary” when you receive covered Services from Select Providers. To locate a Select Provider, visit [kp.org/addedchoice/nw](http://kp.org/addedchoice/nw) for a directory.

PPO Providers include First Choice Health providers, First Health Network providers, and other providers who contract with us to provide covered Services for Members enrolled in this Added Choice® Plan. You pay the PPO Provider Cost Share amount shown on your “Benefit Summary” when you receive covered Services from PPO Providers. To locate a PPO Provider, visit [kp.org/addedchoice/nw](http://kp.org/addedchoice/nw) for a directory.

### ***Non-Participating Providers***

When you receive covered Services from Non-Participating Providers, your Cost Share will typically be higher than when you receive covered Services from Select Providers or PPO Providers. See your “Benefit Summary” for your Cost Share when you receive covered Services from a Non-Participating Provider.

We pay for covered Services from Non-Participating Providers up to the Allowed Amount. If a Non-Participating Provider charges more than the Allowed Amount, that provider may bill you directly for the additional amount that is not covered by us. This is called balance billing.

You are responsible for assuring your Non-Participating Provider has obtained necessary prior authorization.

You may be required to pay the full amount for the Services you receive and submit a claim form to us for reimbursement.

If you choose to receive covered Services from a Non-Participating Provider, those Services are still subject to the provisions of this *EOC*. Except for Emergency Services and Urgent Care, we do not cover Services you receive from Non-Participating Providers outside the United States.

We will not directly or indirectly prohibit you from freely contracting at any time to obtain non-covered Services. However, if you choose to receive non-covered Services, you will be responsible for the full price of the Services. Company is not responsible for any amounts you are billed for non-covered Services. Any amounts you pay for non-covered Services will not count toward your Deductible or Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

## Using Your Identification Card

We provide each Member with a Company identification (ID) card that contains the Member health record number. Have your health record number available when you call for advice, make an appointment, or seek Services. We use your health record number to identify your medical records, for billing purposes, and for membership information. You should always have the same health record number. If we ever inadvertently issue you more than one health record number, please let us know by calling Member Services. If you need to replace your ID card, please call Member Services.

Your ID card is for identification only, and it does not entitle you to Services. To receive covered Services, you must be a current Member. Anyone who is not a Member will be billed as a non-member for any Services they receive. If you allow someone else to use your ID card, we may keep your card and terminate your membership (see the “Termination for Cause” section). We may request photo identification in conjunction with your ID card to verify your identity.

To verify your eligibility or benefits, your PPO Provider or Non-Participating Provider may call the Member Services number listed on the ID card. The claims billing address and prior authorization numbers are also on the ID card.

## Advice Nurses

If you are unsure whether you need to be seen by a physician or where to go for Services, or if you would like to discuss a medical concern, call Member Services during normal business hours, evenings, weekends, and holidays to be directed to one of our advice nurses.

You may also use the Member section of our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org), to send *nonurgent* questions to an advice nurse or pharmacist.

Your PPO Provider’s or Non-Participating Provider’s office may have advice personnel to assist you. To learn more, check with their office.

## Your Primary Care Provider

We recommend each Member choose a Select Provider or a PPO Provider as their primary care provider. A primary care provider is a provider specializing in family practice, general practice, internal medicine, or pediatrics. Members may choose a Select Provider or a PPO Provider specializing in obstetrics or gynecology; or a nurse practitioner, a certified nurse midwife, or a physician assistant specializing in women’s health care as their primary care provider. One primary care provider may be selected for an entire family, or a different primary care provider may be selected for each family member. This decision is important since the primary care provider can provide most of your health care and, when necessary, arrange for your health care with other providers. You have a right to designate any primary care provider who participates in this Plan and who is available to accept you. For children, you may select a pediatrician as the primary care provider.

Not all Select Providers or PPO Providers with the specialties listed above are designated primary care providers. For information on how to select or change your primary care provider, contact Member Services.

## Women’s Health Care Services

Female Members may receive certain women’s health care Services directly, without a referral, including at least one annual preventive women’s health examination, Medically Necessary follow-up visits resulting from

a preventive women's health examination, and pregnancy care (including labor and delivery). In order to be covered without a referral, these Services must be provided by an obstetrician or gynecologist, physician assistant specializing in women's health, advanced registered nurse practitioner specialist in women's health, naturopathic physician specializing in women's health, or a certified nurse midwife, practicing within the lawful scope of their practice.

We cover annual mammograms for women 40 years of age or older, with or without a referral from your Select Provider, and more frequently if your Select Provider recommends it because you are at high risk for breast cancer or disease. We also cover breast examinations, pelvic examinations, and cervical cancer screenings annually for women 18 or older, and any time with a referral from your Select Provider.

## Appointments for Routine Services

Routine appointments are for medical needs that are not urgent such as checkups and follow-up visits that can wait more than a few days.

If you need to make an appointment for routine Services with a Select Provider, go to **kp.org** to schedule an appointment online or call Member Services.

You can learn more about locating PPO Providers by contacting Member Services or going to **kp.org/addedchoice/nw**. Please contact the PPO Provider's or the Non-Participating Provider's office directly to make your appointment.

## Healthy Resources

You have access to these value-added programs and resources at no cost, unless otherwise noted below. You can register online at **kp.org/register** or on the Kaiser Permanente mobile app. You'll need your health/medical record number, which you can find on your Kaiser Permanente ID card.

- **Sign up for healthy lifestyle programs.** With our online wellness programs, you'll get advice, encouragement, and tools to help you create positive changes in your life. Our programs can help you lose weight, eat healthier, quit smoking, reduce stress, manage ongoing conditions like diabetes or depression. Start with a Total Health Assessment, a simple online survey to give you a complete look at your health. You can also share and discuss the results with your doctor. Visit **kp.org/healthylifestyles**.
- **Get a wellness coach.** If you need a little extra support, we offer Wellness Coaching by Phone. You'll work one-on-one with your personal coach to make a plan to help you reach your health goals. Visit **kp.org/wellnesscoach**.
- **Join health classes.** You can sign up for health classes and support groups. Classes vary at each location and some may require a fee. Visit **kp.org/classes**.
- **Enjoy reduced rates.** Get reduced rates on a variety of health-related products and services through The ChooseHealthy® program. These include:
  - Active&Fit Direct – You pay \$25 per month (plus a one-time \$25 enrollment fee) for access to a national network of more than 10,000 fitness centers.
  - Up to 25% off a contracted provider's regular rates for acupuncture, chiropractic care, and massage therapy.\*

Visit **kp.org/choosehealthy**. \*Please note that the ChooseHealthy program is not insurance. You should check your benefits before using this discount program, as those benefits may result in lower costs to you than using this discount program.

- **Self-care.** Manage stress, improve your mood, sleep better, and more with the help of wellness apps, available to adult members. Visit **kp.org/selfcareapps**.

- **Health guides.** Stay informed on popular health subjects or discover something new through our healthy living guides. Visit [kp.org/livehealthy](http://kp.org/livehealthy).

The programs and resources described above are not covered under your health plan benefits and are not subject to the terms set forth in this *EOC* or other plan documents. Programs and resources are provided by third-party entities and may be discontinued at any time. If you would like additional information about these programs and resources, call Member Services.

## Getting Assistance

We want you to be satisfied with your health care Services. If you have any questions or concerns about Services you received from Select Providers or Select Facilities, please discuss them with your primary care Select Provider or with other Select Providers who are treating you. If you have any questions or concerns about Services you received from a PPO Provider or a Non-Participating Provider, please discuss them with that provider or the provider’s office.

Most Select Facilities have an administrative office staffed with representatives who can provide assistance if you need help obtaining Services. Member Services representatives are also available to assist you Monday through Friday (except holidays), from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. PT.

Portland area .....	1-866-616-0047
All other areas .....	1-866-616-0047
TTY for the hearing and speech impaired .....	711
Language interpretation services.....	1-800-324-8010

You may also e-mail us by registering on our website at [kp.org](http://kp.org).

Member Services representatives can answer questions you have about your benefits, available Services, and the facilities where you can receive Services. For example, they can explain your benefits, how to make your first medical appointment, what to do if you move, what to do if you need Services while you are traveling, and how to replace your ID card. These representatives can also help you if you need to file a claim, complaint, grievance, or appeal as described in the “Grievances, Claims, Appeals, and External Review” section. Upon request, Member Services can also provide you with written materials about your coverage.

## Receiving Care in Another Kaiser Foundation Health Plan Service Area

You may receive covered Services from another Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, if the Services are provided, prescribed, or directed by that other plan, and if the Services would have been covered under this *EOC*. Covered Services are subject to the terms and conditions of this *EOC*, including prior authorization requirements, the applicable Cost Share shown in the “Benefit Summary” and the exclusions, limitations and reductions described in this *EOC*.

For more information about receiving care in other Kaiser Foundation Health Plan service areas, including availability of Services, and provider and facility locations, please call our Away from Home Travel Line at 951-268-3900. Information is also available online at [kp.org/travel](http://kp.org/travel).

## When Referrals are Required

### Referrals to Select Providers

In most cases, you will need a referral from a Select Provider to see a Specialist the first time. In some cases, a standing referral is allowed to a Specialist for a time period that is in accord with your individual medical needs as determined by the Select Provider and Company.



Some outpatient specialty care is available from Select Providers without a referral. You do not need a referral for outpatient Services provided in the following departments at medical offices owned and operated by Kaiser Permanente. Please call Member Services to schedule routine appointments in these departments:

- Audiology (routine hearing exams).
- Cancer Counseling.
- Mental Health Services.
- Obstetrics/Gynecology.
- Occupational Health.
- Optometry (routine eye exams).
- Social Services.
- Substance Use Disorder Services.

### ***Referrals to PPO Providers and Non-Participating Providers***

You do not need a referral to obtain Services from PPO Providers or Non-Participating Providers. However, you should contact the provider's office to see if they have any requirements before you make your appointment. For example, some specialist providers may want you to see your primary care provider first, or the specialist provider may ask you to obtain a referral, order, or plan of care from your primary care provider before the specialist provider's office will make your appointment.

Even if you need a referral, it is important to remember that when you obtain covered Services from a PPO Provider or a Non-Participating Provider, your benefit and Cost Share is based on who provides the Services, not on who makes the referral. If a PPO Provider provides the Services, your PPO Provider benefit applies. If a Non-Participating Provider provides the Services, your Non-Participating Provider benefit applies.

Some Services require prior authorization in order to be covered, as described in the "Prior Authorization Review Requirements" section below.

### **Prior Authorization Review Requirements**

Some covered Services require prior authorization by Company at least 72 hours in advance. The Services that require prior authorization are described under "Services Subject to Prior Authorization Review" in this "How to Obtain Services" section. Select Providers and PPO Providers are responsible for requesting prior authorization from Company. If a Non-Participating Provider recommends Services that require prior authorization, you need to ask them to request prior authorization by calling us at 1-855-281-1840.

Except in the case of misrepresentation, prior authorization determinations that relate to your membership eligibility are binding on us if obtained no more than five business days before you receive the Service. Prior authorization determinations that relate to whether the Service is Medically Necessary or are covered under this Plan are binding on us if obtained no more than 60 days before you receive the Service. We may revoke or amend a prior authorization for Services you have not yet received if your membership terminates, if your coverage changes, or you lose your eligibility.

After you or your Select Provider, PPO Provider, or Non-Participating Provider requests prior authorization, we will review your proposed course of treatment to verify that it is medically appropriate, and will either:

- Give prior authorization for treatment, and send a confirmation of prior authorization and approved length of stay to your provider, and the hospital, surgical center, or other facility, or
- Contact your provider to discuss alternative forms of treatment. We will send you and your provider a denial letter, within two business days, if we do not agree that the proposed treatment or setting is

appropriate. The decision letter will explain the reason for the determination along with instructions for filing an appeal.

If more information is needed to make a decision, we will notify you and the requesting provider in writing, of the specific additional information needed to make the determination, before the initial decision period ends.

We will make a decision and send notification within two business days after we receive the first piece of information (including documents) we requested.

If we do not receive any of the requested information, we will make a decision based on the information we have, 15 days after the date of the request for additional information.

Following a prior authorization by Company, your treatment may begin. If your hospital stay is longer than the approved length of stay, we will consult with you, your provider, and the hospital about a possible extension of your stay.

Approved requests for prior authorization of a treatment, other than a prescription drug, are binding on us for a period ending on the later of the following:

- The reasonable duration of the treatment based on clinical standards; or
- Sixty (60) days after the date that the treatment begins following our approval of the prior authorization request.

You may request a copy of the complete Utilization Review criteria used to make the determination. Please contact Member Services at 1-800-813-2000.

If you disagree with our prior authorization review decision, you may appeal the decision. Follow the instructions for appeals as outlined in the “Grievances, Claims, Appeals, and External Review” section.

You may also choose to submit a request for Services that you have not yet received, as described under “Pre-service Claims and Appeals” in the “Grievances, Claims, Appeals, and External Review” section.

### ***Services Subject to Prior Authorization Review***

All covered Services require prior authorization by Company, except for the following:

- Ambulance Services.
- Emergency Services.
- Health education Services.
- Limited outpatient drugs and supplies as described in the “Limited Outpatient Prescription Drugs and Supplies” section.
- Maternity Services.
- Naturopathic medicine Services.
- Outpatient habilitative therapy Services and outpatient rehabilitative therapy Services you receive from PPO Providers or Non-Participating Providers.
- Outpatient laboratory Services, except genetic testing. (For genetic testing prior authorization requirements, see the “Outpatient Laboratory, X-ray, Imaging, and Special Diagnostic Procedures” section.)
- Outpatient radiology Services, except MRI, CT scans, PET scans, and bone density/DXA scans. (For MRI, CT scan, PET scan, and bone density/DXA scan prior authorization requirements, see the “Outpatient Laboratory, X-ray, Imaging, and Special Diagnostic Procedures” section.)
- Select Provider, PPO Provider, and Non-Participating Provider office visits.

- Services that are billed as preventive care Services.
- Urgent Care.

For more information about Utilization Review, a copy of the complete Utilization Review criteria developed by Medical Group and approved by Company for a specific condition, or to talk to a Utilization Review staff person, please contact Member Services.

## **Failure to Satisfy Prior Authorization Review Requirements**

If you do not obtain prior authorization for Services received from a Non-Participating Provider or at a Non-Participating Facility, and those Services require prior authorization, we will deny the claim and you will be responsible for paying the full amount for those Services.

## **Provider Whose Contract Terminates**

You may be eligible to continue receiving covered Services from a Select Provider or a PPO Provider for a limited period of time after our contract with the Select Provider or PPO Provider terminates.

This continuity of Services provision applies when our contract with a Select Provider or PPO Provider terminates, or when a physician's employment with Medical Group terminates, except when the termination is because of quality of care issues or because the Select Provider or PPO Provider:

- Has retired.
- Has died.
- No longer holds an active license.
- Has moved outside our Service Area.
- Has gone on sabbatical.
- Is prevented from continuing to care for patients because of other circumstances.

If you satisfy all of the following requirements, you may qualify for this continuity of care:

- You are a Member on the date you receive the Services.
- You are undergoing an active course of treatment that is Medically Necessary and you and the Select Provider or PPO Provider agree that it is desirable to maintain continuity of care.
- We would have covered the Services if you had received them from a Select Provider or PPO Provider.
- The provider agrees to adhere to the conditions of the terminated contract between the provider and Company or its designee.

Except for the pregnancy situation described below, this extension will continue until the earlier of the following:

- The day following the completion of the active course of treatment giving rise to your exercising your continuity of care right; or
- The 120th day from the date we notify you about the contract termination.

If you are in the second trimester of pregnancy this extension will continue until the later of the following dates:

- The 45th day after the birth; or
- As long as you continue under an active course of treatment, but no later than the 120th day from the date we notify you about the contract termination.

## **POST-SERVICE CLAIMS – SERVICES ALREADY RECEIVED**

In general, if you have a medical bill from a Select Provider or Select Facility, our Claims Administration Department will handle the claim. Member Services can assist you with questions about specific claims or about the claim procedures in general.

If you receive Services from a PPO Provider or Non-Participating Provider following an authorized referral from a Select Provider, the PPO Provider or Non-Participating Provider will send the bill to Claims Administration directly. You are not required to file a claim.

However, if you receive Services from a PPO Provider or PPO Facility or Non-Participating Provider or Non-Participating Facility without an authorized referral and you believe Company should cover the Services, you need to send a completed medical claim form and the itemized bill to:

Kaiser Permanente  
National Claims Administration - Northwest  
PO Box 370050  
Denver, CO 80237-9998

You can request a claim form from Member Services or download it from [kp.org/addedchoice/nw](http://kp.org/addedchoice/nw). When you submit the claim, please include a copy of your medical records from the PPO Provider or PPO Facility or Non-Participating Provider or Non-Participating Facility if you have them.

Company accepts CMS 1500 claim forms for professional Services and UB-04 forms for hospital claims. Even if the provider bills Company directly, you still need to submit the claim form.

You must submit a claim for a Service within 12 months after receiving that Service. If it is not reasonably possible to submit a claim within 12 months, then you must submit a claim as soon as reasonably possible, but in no case more than 15 months after receiving the Service, except in the absence of legal capacity.

We will reach a decision on the claim and pay those covered Charges within 30 calendar days from receipt unless additional information, not related to coordination of benefits, is required to make a decision. If the 30-day period must be extended, you will be notified in writing with an explanation about why. This written notice will explain how long the time period may be extended depending on the requirements of applicable state and federal laws, including ERISA.

You will receive written notification about the claim determination. This notification will provide an explanation for any unpaid amounts. It will also tell you how to appeal the determination if you are not satisfied with the outcome, along with other important disclosures required by state and federal laws.

If you have questions or concerns about a bill from Company, you may contact Member Services for an explanation. If you believe the Charges are not appropriate, Member Services will advise you on how to proceed.

## **EMERGENCY, POST-STABILIZATION, AND URGENT CARE**

### **Emergency Services**

If you have an Emergency Medical Condition, call 911 (where available) or go to the nearest hospital emergency department or Independent Freestanding Emergency Department. You do not need prior authorization for Emergency Services. When you have an Emergency Medical Condition, we cover Emergency Services you receive anywhere in the world, as long as the Services would have been covered under the “Benefits” section (subject to the “Exclusions and Limitations” section) if you had received them from Select Providers or Select Facilities.

You pay the emergency department visit Cost Share shown in the “Benefit Summary” under “Outpatient Services” for all Services received in the emergency department.

If you receive covered inpatient hospital Services, you pay the Cost Share shown in the “Benefit Summary” under “Inpatient Hospital Services,” regardless of whether the Services also constitute Emergency Services or Post-Stabilization Care. If you visit an emergency department and are not admitted directly as an inpatient or to Kaiser Permanente at Home™, you pay the emergency department visit Cost Share shown in the “Benefit Summary” under “Outpatient Services” for all Services received in the emergency department.

If you have an Emergency Medical Condition, we cover the Services of an Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Provider and transportation to the nearest medical facility that meets your needs. Emergency transportation may be by air, ground, or water.

## **Post-Stabilization Care**

We cover Post-Stabilization Care if one of the following is true:

- A Select Provider or Select Facility provides the Services.
- We authorize your receiving the Services from the PPO Provider, PPO Facility, Non-Participating Provider, or Non-Participating Facility.
- Services are provided after you are Stabilized and as part of outpatient observation or an inpatient or outpatient stay with respect to the visit during which screening and Stabilization Services have been furnished.

Coverage for Post-Stabilization Care from a Non-Participating Provider or Non-Participating Facility is limited to the Allowed Amount. In addition to the applicable Cost Share, you are responsible for paying any amount over the Allowed Amount, and any such payments do not count toward the Deductible or the Out-of-Pocket Maximum. You are not responsible for paying any amount over the Allowed Amount for Post-Stabilization Care received from a Non-Participating Provider at a Select Facility or a PPO Facility.

To request prior authorization for your receiving Post-Stabilization Care from a PPO Facility, PPO Provider, Non-Participating Provider, or Non-Participating Facility, you or someone on your behalf must call us at 503-735-2596, or toll free at 1-877-813-5993, before you receive the Services if it is reasonably possible to do so, but no later than 24 hours after any admission.

We understand that extraordinary circumstances can delay your ability to call us, for example if you are unconscious, or if there is no parent or guardian with a young child. In these cases, you or someone on your behalf must call us as soon as reasonably possible.

After we are notified, we will discuss your condition with the PPO Provider or Non-Participating Provider. If we decide that the Post-Stabilization Care is Medically Necessary and would be covered if you received it from a Select Provider or Select Facility, we will either authorize your receiving the Services from the PPO Provider, PPO Facility, Non-Participating Provider, or Non-Participating Facility, or arrange to have a Select Provider or Select Facility provide the Services.

If we decide to arrange to have a Select Provider or Select Facility (or other designated provider or facility) provide the Services, we may authorize special transportation Services that are medically required to get you to the provider or facility. This may include transportation that is otherwise not covered. If your PPO Provider or Non-Participating Provider determines you are clinically stable and you decline special transportation to a Select Provider or Select Facility (or other designated provider or facility that we authorize), Post-Stabilization Care will be covered at the PPO Provider Cost Share for Services provided by a PPO Provider or a PPO Facility or at the Non-Participating Provider Cost Share for Services provided by a Non-Participating Provider or a Non-Participating Facility.

When you receive Emergency Services from Non-Participating Providers, Post Stabilization Care may qualify as Emergency Services pursuant to federal law. We will not require prior authorization for such Post-Stabilization Care when your attending Non-Participating Provider determines that, after you are Stabilized, and taking into account your medical or behavioral health condition, you are not able to travel to an available

Select Provider located within a reasonable travel distance, using non-medical transportation or non-emergency transportation.

Non-Participating Providers may provide notice and seek your consent to provide Post-Stabilization Care Services or other covered Services. Such Services will not be covered if you provide consent and do not obtain prior authorization as described in this section. You will be responsible for paying for the Services.

## Urgent Care

You may receive covered Urgent Care Services from Select Providers, including Kaiser Permanente Urgent Care, or from any PPO Provider or Non-Participating Provider that provides Urgent Care. You are responsible for the applicable Cost Share shown on your “Benefit Summary,” including for any ancillary Services you receive, such as lab tests and X-rays billed by the provider.

Visit [kp.org/getcare](http://kp.org/getcare) to find the Kaiser Permanente Urgent Care locations nearest you. For a complete list of Select Provider and PPO Provider urgent care locations, visit [kp.org/addedchoice/nw](http://kp.org/addedchoice/nw), or call Member Services.

## WHAT YOU PAY

This section contains information to help you understand your health care costs. We also provide a cost estimator tool to assist you in planning for the estimated costs of Services. To access the secure cost estimator tool, log in to your [kp.org](http://kp.org) member account and navigate to the cost estimates link on the “Coverage & Costs” tab. If you would like additional information about cost estimates, call Member Services.

## Deductible

For each Year, most covered Services are subject to the Deductible amounts shown in the “Benefit Summary.” The “Benefit Summary” indicates which Services are subject to the Deductible.

For Services that are subject to the Deductible, you must pay Charges for the Services when you receive them, until you meet your Deductible.

If you are the only Member in your Family, then you must meet the self-only Deductible. If there is at least one other Member in your Family, then you must each meet the individual Family Member Deductible, or your Family must meet the Family Deductible, whichever occurs first. Each individual Family Member Deductible amount counts toward the Family Deductible amount. Once the Family Deductible is satisfied, no further individual Family Member Deductible will be due for the remainder of the Year. The Deductible amounts are shown in the “Benefit Summary.”

After you meet the Deductible, you pay the applicable Copayments and Coinsurance for these covered Services for the remainder of the Year, until you meet your Out-of-Pocket Maximum (see “Out-of-Pocket Maximum” in this “What You Pay” section). For Non-Participating Provider Services, you will also be responsible for paying any amounts in excess of the Allowed Amount.

For each Year, the following amounts count toward your Deductible:

- Charges you pay for covered Services you receive in that Year and that are subject to the Deductible. However, payments you make for amounts in excess of the Allowed Amount do not count toward the Deductible.
- **Deductible take-over.** Payments that were counted toward your deductible under your prior group health coverage if all of the following requirements are met:
  - This group health coverage with Company replaces the Group’s prior group health coverage.
  - Your prior group health coverage was not with Company or with any Kaiser Foundation Health Plan.

- You were covered under Group’s prior group health coverage on the day before the effective date of this *EOC*.
- The payments were for Services you received during the period of 12 months or less that occurred between the plan year effective date under Group’s prior group health coverage and your effective date of coverage under this *EOC*.
- The payments were for Services that we would have covered under this *EOC* if you had received them as a Member during the term of this *EOC*.
- We would have counted the payments toward your Deductible under this *EOC* if you had received the Services as a Member during the term of this *EOC*.

Note: if your Group has purchased benefits with a specific benefit Deductible, such as a prescription drug benefit, payments made for these benefits will be counted only to that specific benefit Deductible and will accumulate separately from the Deductible for covered Services shown in the “Benefit Summary.”

## **Copayments and Coinsurance**

When you receive covered Services, you will be required to pay Copayments and Coinsurance, as shown in the “Benefit Summary.” Any applicable Copayments or Coinsurance are due when you receive the Service. If we must bill you, an accounting fee will be added to offset handling costs.

For covered Services you receive from Select Providers, Select Facilities, PPO Providers and PPO Facilities, we have financial arrangements for rates that we pay to these providers and facilities. Coinsurance is based on those rates. Select Providers, Select Facilities, PPO Providers, and PPO Facilities are not permitted to bill you for covered Services, except for your Deductible, Coinsurance, and Copayments.

For covered Services you receive from Non-Participating Providers, Coinsurance is based on the Allowed Amount. Non-Participating Providers and Non-Participating Facilities may bill you for amounts in excess of the Allowed Amount, and those amounts are not Copayments or Coinsurance.

## **Out-of-Pocket Maximum**

There is a maximum to the total dollar amount of Deductible, Copayments, and Coinsurance that you must pay for covered Services that you receive within the same Year.

If you are the only Member in your Family, then you must meet the self-only Out-of-Pocket Maximum. If there is at least one other Member in your Family, then you must each meet the individual Family Member Out-of-Pocket Maximum, or your Family must meet the Family Out-of-Pocket Maximum, whichever occurs first. Each individual Family Member Out-of-Pocket Maximum amount counts toward the Family Out-of-Pocket Maximum amount. The Out-of-Pocket Maximum amounts are shown in the “Benefit Summary.”

All Deductible, Copayment, and Coinsurance amounts count toward the Out-of-Pocket Maximum, unless otherwise indicated. After you reach the Out-of-Pocket Maximum, you are not required to pay Copayments and Coinsurance for these Services for the remainder of the Year. Member Services can provide you with the amount you have paid toward your Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

Note: For Services that count toward the Out-of-Pocket Maximum, the amounts you pay for covered Services from Select Providers also count toward the Out-of-Pocket Maximum for Services from PPO Providers, and vice versa, and do not count toward the Out-of-Pocket Maximum for Services from Non-Participating Providers. The amounts you pay for Services from Non-Participating Providers only count toward the Out-of-Pocket Maximum for Services from Non-Participating Providers.

The following amounts do not count toward the Out-of-Pocket Maximum, and you will continue to be responsible for these amounts even after the Out-of-Pocket Maximum is satisfied:

- Payments for Services that are not covered under this *EOC*.

- Payments that you make because you exhausted (used up) your benefit allowance, or because we already covered the benefit maximum amount or the maximum number of days or visits for a Service.
- Payments for Services under the “Adult Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider,” if purchased by your Group.
- Payments for Services under the “Hearing Aid Rider,” if purchased by your Group.
- Amounts you pay for Non-Participating Provider or Non-Participating Facility Services that are in excess of the Allowed Amount.
- Amounts recovered from a liability claim against another party subject to reimbursement under the “Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties or Covered by No-Fault Insurance” section.

## **BENEFITS**

The Services described in this “Benefits” section are covered only if all the following conditions are satisfied, and will not be retrospectively denied:

- You are a Member on the date you receive the Services.
- The Services are Medically Necessary.
- You receive prior authorization for the Services, if required under the “How to Obtain Services” section.

All Services are subject to the coverage requirements described in this “Benefits” section. Some Services are subject to benefit-specific exclusions and/or limitations, which are listed, when applicable, in each benefit section. A broader list of exclusions and limitations that apply to all benefits is provided under the “Exclusions and Limitations” section.

Covered Services are subject to any applicable Cost Share as described in the “What You Pay” section and in the “Benefit Summary.”

The benefits under this Plan are not subject to a pre-existing condition waiting period.

## **Preventive Care Services**

We cover a variety of preventive care Services, which are Services to keep you healthy or to prevent illness, and are not intended to diagnose or treat a current or ongoing illness, injury, sign or symptom of a disease, or condition.

Preventive care Services include:

- Services recommended by, and rated A or B by, the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF). You can access the list of preventive care Services at [www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Name/uspstf-a-and-b-recommendations/](http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Name/uspstf-a-and-b-recommendations/).
- Immunizations recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the CDC.
- Preventive care and screenings for infants, children, and adolescents supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).
- Preventive care and screenings for women supported by HRSA. You can access the list of women’s preventive care Services at [www.hrsa.gov/womens-guidelines/](http://www.hrsa.gov/womens-guidelines/).
- Any additional reproductive health preventive Services for all Members as required by applicable state law.

Services received for a current or ongoing illness, injury, sign or symptom of a disease, or condition during a preventive care examination or procedure may be subject to the applicable Cost Share.

Covered preventive care Services include, but are not limited to:



- Bone densitometry.
- Cervical cancer screening.
- Chlamydia test.
- Cholesterol tests (all types).
- Colorectal cancer screening for Members age 45 or older, or for younger Members who are at high risk, including:
  - Fecal occult blood test yearly plus one flexible sigmoidoscopy every four years, or more frequently as recommended by your Select, PPO, or Non-Participating Provider.
  - Colonoscopy every ten years, or double contrast barium enema every five years, or more frequently as recommended by your Select, PPO, or Non-Participating Provider.
  - Follow-up colonoscopy for screening to be achieved following abnormal findings identified by flexible sigmoidoscopy or CT colonography screening.
  - Required specialist consultation prior to the screening procedure.
  - Bowel preparation medications prescribed for the screening procedure.
  - Anesthesia Services performed in connection with the screening procedure.
  - Polyp removal performed during the screening procedure.
  - Any pathology exam on a polyp biopsy performed as part of the screening procedure.
- Contraceptive Services and supplies, including insertion/removal of IUD or implanted birth control drugs and devices.
- Diabetic retinopathy screening.
- Fasting glucose test.
- Healthy diet counseling and counseling for obesity and weight management.
- Immunizations.
- Mammography.
- Prostate screening examinations once every two years for men 50 years of age or older or for younger Members who are at high risk, and more frequently if your Select, PPO, or Non-Participating Provider recommends it because you are at high risk for prostate cancer or disease.
- Routine preventive physical exam (adult, well-child, and well-baby).
- Screening prostate-specific antigen (PSA) test (not including monitoring or ultrasensitive tests).
- Transabdominal and transcervical sterilization procedures.

When a Select Provider, a PPO Provider, or a Non-Participating Provider determines that a recommended Service is medically appropriate for an individual and the individual satisfies the criteria for the Service or treatment, we will provide coverage for the recommended Service regardless of sex assigned at birth, gender identity, or gender of the individual otherwise recorded by us.

If you would like additional information about covered preventive care Services, call Member Services. Information is also available online at [kp.org/prevention](http://kp.org/prevention).

## **Benefits for Outpatient Services**

We cover the following outpatient Services for diagnosis, treatment, and preventive medicine upon payment of any applicable Cost Share shown in the “Benefit Summary” in the “Outpatient Services” section.

Additional types of outpatient Services are covered as described under other headings in this “Benefits” section.

- Allergy testing and treatment materials.
- Cardiac rehabilitative therapy visits.
- Chemotherapy and radiation therapy Services.
- Child abuse medical assessment including Services provided by an Oregon children’s advocacy center that reports to the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Program. Services may include, but are not limited to, a physical exam, forensic interview and mental health treatment.
- Diagnostic Services and scope insertion procedures, such as colonoscopy, endoscopy, and laparoscopy.
- Drugs, injectables, and radioactive materials used for therapeutic or diagnostic purposes, if they are administered to you at a Select Facility, PPO Facility, Non-Participating Facility, or during home visits, subject to the drug formulary and exclusions described under the “Limited Outpatient Prescription Drugs and Supplies” section.
- Emergency department visits.
- Gender Affirming Treatment.
- Internally implanted devices, including bilateral cochlear implants and bone-anchored hearing aids, except for internally implanted insulin pumps, artificial hearts, and artificial larynx.
- Interrupted pregnancy surgery performed in an outpatient setting.
- Nurse treatment room visits to receive injections, including allergy injections.
- Outpatient surgery and other outpatient procedures.
- Primary care visits for internal medicine, gynecology, family medicine, and pediatrics.
- Rehabilitative therapy Services such as physical, occupational, and speech therapy Services, subject to the benefit limitations described under the “Rehabilitative Therapy Services” section.
- Respiratory therapy.
- Routine eye exams.
- Routine hearing exams.
- Specialty care visits.
- Treatment for temporomandibular joint (TMJ) disorder, including splint therapy for TMJ.
- Urgent Care visits.
- Vasectomy.

## **Benefits for Inpatient Hospital Services**

We cover the following inpatient hospital Services to the extent that they are generally and customarily provided by acute care general hospitals. Additional types of inpatient Services are covered as described under other headings in this “Benefits” section.

- Anesthesia.
- Blood, blood products, blood storage, and their administration, including the Services and supplies of a blood bank.
- Chemotherapy and radiation therapy Services.
- Dialysis Services.

- Drugs and radioactive materials used for therapeutic purposes, except for the types of drugs excluded under the “Limited Outpatient Prescription Drugs and Supplies” section.
- Durable Medical Equipment and medical supplies.
- Emergency detoxification.
- Gender Affirming Treatment.
- General and special nursing Services.
- Internally implanted devices, including bilateral cochlear implants and bone-anchored hearing aids, except for internally implanted insulin pumps, artificial hearts, and artificial larynx.
- Interrupted pregnancy surgery when performed in an inpatient setting.
- Laboratory, X-ray and other imaging, and special diagnostic procedures.
- Medical foods and formulas if Medically Necessary.
- Medical social Services and discharge planning.
- Operating and recovery rooms.
- Orthognathic surgery and supplies for treatment of temporomandibular joint (TMJ) disorder or injury, sleep apnea or congenital anomaly.
- Palliative care.
- Rehabilitative therapy Services such as physical, occupational, and speech therapy Services.
- Respiratory therapy.
- Select Provider’s, PPO Provider’s, or Non-Participating Provider’s Services, including consultation and treatment by Specialists.
- Room and board, including a private room if Medically Necessary.
- Specialized care and critical care units.
- Temporomandibular joint (TMJ) disorder surgery for the treatment of TMJ disorders, subject to Utilization Review by Company using criteria developed by Medical Group and approved by Company.
- Vasectomy.

### ***Additional Information about Certain Inpatient Services***

When you are receiving covered inpatient Services in a Select Facility or a PPO Facility, certain providers there may be Non-Participating Providers. We will cover inpatient Services you receive from Non-Participating Providers at the same benefit level under which we are covering the facility Services.

For example, if you are receiving covered inpatient Services from a hospital that is a Select Facility, we will cover the Non-Participating Provider’s inpatient Services at the Select Provider benefit level and Cost Share.

### **Kaiser Permanente at Home™**

Kaiser Permanente at Home is a personalized, patient-centered program that provides care in your home (or a place of temporary or permanent residence used as your home) as an alternative to receiving acute care in a hospital.

Kaiser Permanente at Home Services must be associated with an acute medical condition and are subject to prior authorization from Company in accordance with Utilization Review criteria developed by Medical Group and approved by Company.

To receive Kaiser Permanente at Home Services:

- You must be referred into the program by a Select Provider.
- Your condition must meet criteria for Medically Necessary hospitalization.
- A Medical Group physician determines that it is feasible to maintain effective supervision and control of your care in the home, and that based on your health status, treatment plan, and home setting, you can be treated safely and effectively in the home.
- You must consent to receiving Kaiser Permanente at Home Services because you prefer to receive the care described in your treatment plan in your home.
- The care location must be within 30 minutes of a 911 response.
- The care location must have cell service.

Services are provided or arranged by Kaiser Permanente and Medically Home. Medically Home is the Select Provider we contract with to provide Services under this program, including:

- Telemedical visits and in-person home visits by a care team of specialized health care providers including physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, RNs, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, respiratory therapists, nutritionists, home health aides, and other healthcare professionals providing Services in accord with your Kaiser Permanente at Home treatment plan and the provider's scope of practice and license.
- A medical command center staffed by physicians and nurses who monitor your care and coordinate your care team. The medical command center provides 24/7 telemedical monitoring and access to your care team.
- Equipment temporarily installed in your home to monitor your vital signs, such as temperature, pulse, blood pressure, oxygen levels, and weight. This information is sent automatically to the medical command center and is available to any member of your care team.
- Communication devices such as a tablet computer for video visits, a "pick up the handset" phone with direct connection to the medical command center, and a wearable personal emergency response system (PERS) call button to allow you to contact the medical command center 24 hours a day, 7 days a week if you are unable to get to a phone. This includes communication technology to support reliable communication, backup power supply, and backup internet.

Additional Services covered under this Kaiser Permanente at Home program include:

- The following equipment necessary to ensure that you are monitored appropriately in your home: blood pressure cuff/monitor, pulse oximeter, scale, and thermometer.
- Laboratory tests, mobile imaging (X-rays, ultrasounds), and EKGs.
- Safety items when Medically Necessary, such as shower stools, raised toilet seats, grabbers, long handled shoehorns, and sock aids.
- Meals when Medically Necessary while you are receiving acute care in the home.

The Cost Share for the following covered Services, described elsewhere in this *EOC*, will not apply when the Services are prescribed as part of your Kaiser Permanente at Home treatment plan:

- Durable Medical Equipment.
- Medical supplies.
- Ambulance transportation to and from Select Facilities when ambulance transport is Medically Necessary.
- Physician assistant and nurse practitioner house calls.
- Emergency Department visits associated with this program.

The Cost Share for covered Services described elsewhere in this *EOC* will apply to any Services that are not part of your Kaiser Permanente at Home treatment plan (for example, DME not specified in your Kaiser Permanente at Home treatment plan).

For outpatient prescription drug coverage and Cost Share information, please refer to the “Limited Outpatient Prescription Drugs and Supplies” section in the *EOC* and Benefit Summary, and the “Outpatient Prescription Drug Rider” if purchased by your Group.

### ***Kaiser Permanente at Home Exclusions***

- Housekeeping or meal services that are not part of your Kaiser Permanente at Home treatment plan.
- Any care provided by or for a family member.
- Any other Services rendered in the home which are not specified in your Kaiser Permanente at Home treatment plan.

### **Ambulance Services**

We cover licensed ambulance Services:

- For Emergency Medical Services Transport, or
- If we give prior authorization for an ambulance to transport you to or from a location where you receive covered Services.

Covered Emergency Medical Services Transport includes air, ground and water transportation.

Refer to “Emergency Services” in the “Emergency, Post-Stabilization, and Urgent Care” section for additional information about ambulance Services for an Emergency Medical Condition.

### ***Ambulance Services Limitations***

We cover Non-Participating Provider non-emergency ambulance Services up to the benefit maximum shown in the “Benefit Summary” per Year.

### ***Ambulance Services Exclusions***

- Ambulance Services for personal comfort or convenience.

### **Bariatric Surgery Services**

We cover bariatric surgery procedures and related pre-surgery and post-surgery Services for clinically severe obesity in adults, subject to Utilization Review by Company using criteria developed by Medical Group and approved by Company. These Services are covered only when received from Select Providers and Select Facilities.

You may request Utilization Review criteria, and a list of the approved surgical procedures we cover when criteria is met, by calling Member Services.

In addition to Utilization Review, you must meet one of the following requirements:

- You fully comply with the Kaiser Permanente Severe Obesity Evaluation and Management Program’s contract for participation approved by Company; or,
- You receive the Service at a facility accredited by the Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Accreditation and Quality Improvement Program (MBSAQIP).

## Dialysis Services

We cover two types of dialysis: hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis. You pay the Cost Share shown in the “Benefit Summary” under “Dialysis Services.” We cover dialysis Services for acute renal failure and end-stage renal disease, subject to Utilization Review criteria developed by Medical Group and approved by Company.

We cover treatment at outpatient dialysis facilities.

We also cover home dialysis. Coverage includes necessary equipment, training, and medical supplies.

If you receive dialysis Services as part of an inpatient hospital stay or at a skilled nursing facility that is a Select Facility, the Services will be covered according to your inpatient hospital or skilled nursing facility benefit.

## External Prosthetic Devices and Orthotic Devices

We cover External Prosthetic Devices and Orthotic Devices, subject to Utilization Review by Company using criteria developed by Medical Group and approved by Company, when the following are true:

- The device is Medically Necessary to 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.
- The device is required to replace all or part of an organ or extremity designated by CMS in the “L codes” of the Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System.

This coverage includes all Services and supplies that are Medically Necessary for the effective use of an External Prosthetic Device or Orthotic Device, including formulating its design, fabrication, material and component selection, measurements, fittings, static and dynamic alignments, and instructing the patient in the use of the device.

Internally implanted prosthetic and Orthotic Devices, such as pacemakers, intraocular lenses, cochlear implants, osseointegrated hearing devices, and hip joints, are not covered under this “External Prosthetic Devices and Orthotic Devices” benefit, but may be covered if they are implanted during a surgery that we are covering under another section of this “Benefits” section.

Covered External Prosthetic Devices and Orthotic Devices include but are not limited to:

- Compression garments for burns.
- Diabetic foot care appliances and therapeutic shoes and inserts to prevent and treat diabetes-related complications.
- External prostheses after a Medically Necessary mastectomy, including prostheses when Medically Necessary, and up to four brassieres required to hold a prosthesis every 12 months.
- Fitting and adjustments.
- Halo vests.
- Lymphedema wraps and garments.
- Maxillofacial prosthetic devices: coverage is limited to the least costly clinically appropriate treatment as determined by a Select Provider, a PPO Provider, or a Non-Participating Provider. We cover maxillofacial prosthetic devices if they are necessary for restoration and management of head and facial structures that cannot be replaced with living tissue and are defective because of disease, trauma, or birth and developmental deformities when this restoration and management are performed for the purpose of:
  - Controlling or eliminating infection;
  - Controlling or eliminating pain; or
  - Restoring facial configuration or functions such as speech, swallowing, or chewing, but not including cosmetic procedures rendered to improve the normal range of conditions.

- Ocular prosthesis.
- Prosthetic devices for treatment of temporomandibular joint (TMJ) conditions.
- Prosthetic devices required to replace all or part of an organ or extremity, but only if they also replace the function of the organ or extremity. This includes but is not limited to ostomy and urological supplies.
- Repair or replacement (unless due to loss or misuse).
- Rigid and semi-rigid Orthotic Devices required to support or correct a defective body part.
- Tracheotomy equipment.

We periodically update the list of approved External Prosthetic Devices and Orthotic Devices to keep pace with changes in medical technology and clinical practice. To find out if a particular prosthetic or orthotic device is on our approved list for your condition, please call Member Services.

Coverage is limited to the standard External Prosthetic Device or Orthotic Device that adequately meets your medical needs. Our guidelines allow you to obtain non-standard devices (those not on our approved list for your condition) if we determine that the device meets all other coverage requirements, and Medical Group or a designated physician determines that the device is Medically Necessary and that there is no standard alternative that will meet your medical needs.

### ***External Prosthetic Devices and Orthotic Devices Exclusions***

- Artificial hearts.
- Artificial larynx.
- Comfort, convenience, or luxury equipment or features.
- Corrective Orthotic Devices such as items for podiatric use (such as shoes and arch supports, even if custom-made, except footwear described above for diabetes-related complications).
- Dental appliances and dentures.
- Internally implanted insulin pumps.
- Repair or replacement of External Prosthetic Devices and Orthotic Devices due to loss or misuse.

### **Habilitative Services**

We cover inpatient and outpatient habilitative Services subject to Utilization Review by Company using criteria developed by Medical Group and approved by Company. You may request Utilization Review criteria by calling Member Services. See the “Prior Authorization Review Requirements” section.

Coverage includes the range of Medically Necessary Services or health care devices designed to 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 may include physical, occupational, and speech therapy, and other Services for people with disabilities, and that:

- Takes into account the unique needs of the individual.
- Targets measurable, specific treatment goals appropriate for the person’s age, and physical and mental condition.

We cover these habilitative Services at the Cost Share shown in the “Benefit Summary.” The “Benefit Summary” also shows a visit maximum for habilitative Services. That visit maximum will be exhausted (used up) for a Year when the number of visits that we covered during the Year under this *EOC*, plus any visits we covered during the Year under any other evidence of coverage with the same group number printed on this *EOC*, add up to the visit maximum. After you reach the visit maximum, we will not cover any more visits for

the remainder of the Year. Visit maximums do not apply to habilitative Services to treat mental health conditions covered under this *EOC*.

### **Habilitative Services Exclusions**

- Daycare.
- Exercise programs for healthy individuals (unless Medically Necessary within an applied behavior analysis (ABA) treatment plan).
- Housing.
- Recreational activities (unless Medically Necessary within an applied behavior analysis (ABA) treatment plan).
- Respite care.
- Services and devices delivered pursuant to federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA) requirements.
- Services solely for palliative purposes.
- Social services.
- Specialized job testing.

### **Health Education Services**

We cover a variety of health education Services to help you take an active role in improving and maintaining your health. These Services include:

- Diabetic counseling.
- Diabetic and other outpatient self-management training and education.
- Medical nutritional therapy for diabetes.
- Post coronary counseling and nutritional counseling.
- Tobacco use cessation. For the purposes of this *EOC*, tobacco use is defined as the use of tobacco on average four or more times per week within no longer than the past six months. This includes all tobacco products, except that tobacco use does not include religious or ceremonial use of tobacco.

If you receive health education Services during a primary care visit, you pay the primary care Cost Share shown in the “Benefit Summary.” If you receive health education Services during a specialty care visit, you pay the specialty care Cost Share shown in the “Benefit Summary.”

Some Health Education Services may also be covered under the “Preventive Care Services” section.

There are fees for some health education classes. For more information about in-person and online health education programs, see our *Healthy Living* catalog, call Member Services, or visit [kp.org](http://kp.org) and select Health & Wellness. To register by phone, call 503-286-6816 or 1-866-301-3866 (toll free) and select option 1.

### **Hearing Aid Services for Dependents**

We cover Medically Necessary Services for the treatment of hearing loss as described in this “Hearing Aid Services for Dependents” section when prescribed by a licensed provider and obtained from a licensed hearing aid vendor. You pay the Cost Share shown in the “Benefit Summary.” These Services are limited to Dependent children who are under the Dependent Limiting Age shown in the “Benefit Summary.” You may have additional coverage if your Group has purchased a “Hearing Aid Rider.”



## **Hearing Exam**

We cover exams to determine the need for hearing correction, diagnostic hearing tests appropriate to the Member's age or developmental need, and aided testing. Medically Necessary diagnostic and treatment exams are covered at least twice per Year for Members who are younger than four years of age, and at least once per Year for Members who are four years of age or older. In addition, we cover visits to determine the appropriate hearing aid model, visits to verify that the hearing aid conforms to the prescription, and visits for fitting, counseling, adjustment, cleaning, and inspection.

## **Hearing Aids**

We cover one hearing aid per impaired ear, hearing assistive technology systems, and bone conduction sound processors for the treatment of hearing loss, as shown in the "Benefit Summary" or, for hearing aids, more frequently if modifications to an existing hearing aid will not meet the needs of the Member.

A hearing aid is any non-disposable, wearable electronic instrument or device designed to aid or compensate for impaired human hearing and any necessary ear mold, part, attachments, batteries, or accessory necessary to the function of the hearing aid, except cords.

Hearing assistive technology systems are devices used with or without hearing aids or cochlear implants to improve the ability of a user with a 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.

The date we cover a hearing aid or hearing assistive technology system is the date on which you are fitted for the device. Therefore, if you are fitted for a device while you are covered under this *EOC*, and if we would otherwise cover the device, we will provide the device even if you do not receive it until after you are no longer covered under this *EOC*.

We cover cochlear implants for one or both ears if Medically Necessary for the treatment of hearing loss, including programming, reprogramming, and repair and replacement parts necessary for the device to function correctly for the Member. Devices such as bone-anchored hearing systems, cochlear implants, and osseointegrated hearing devices that are internally implanted during a surgical procedure are subject to Utilization Review by Company using criteria developed by Medical Group and approved by Company, and are not covered under this "Hearing Aid Services for Dependents" benefit. Please refer to internally implanted devices in the "Benefits for Outpatient Services" and "Benefits for Inpatient Hospital Services" sections.

## **Hearing Aid Services for Dependents Limitations**

- Hearing aids are limited to one of the following digital models from a specified collection of hearing aids: (i) in the ear; (ii) behind the ear; (iii) on the body (Body Aid Model); or (iv) canal/CIC aids.
- Ear molds and replacement ear molds are limited to four times per Year for Members seven years of age or younger and limited to once per Year for Members eight years of age or older.
- Replacement batteries are limited to one box per Year for each hearing aid.

## **Hearing Aid Services for Dependents Exclusions**

- Internally implanted hearing devices.
- Replacement of lost hearing devices.

## **Home Health Services**

Home health Services are Services provided in the home by nurses, medical social workers, home health aides, and physical, occupational, speech, and respiratory therapists. We cover home health Services, only if all of the following are true:

- You are substantially confined to your home (or to a place of temporary or permanent residence used as your home), or the Services are provided in lieu of Medically Necessary hospitalization.
- A physician determines that it is feasible to maintain effective supervision and control of your care in your home and that the Services can be safely and effectively provided in your home.
- You receive prior authorization from Company as described under “Prior Authorization Review Requirements” in the “How to Obtain Services” section.
- Services are provided through a licensed Home Health Agency.

The “Benefit Summary” shows a visit maximum for home health Services. That visit maximum will be exhausted (used up) for a Year when the total combined visits that we have covered during the Year under this *EOC*, plus any visits we covered during the Year under any other evidence of coverage with the same group number printed on this *EOC*, add up to the visit maximum. After you reach the visit maximum, we will not cover any more visits for the remainder of the Year.

The following types of Services are covered in the home only as described under these headings in this “Benefits” section:

- “Dialysis Services.”
- “Outpatient Durable Medical Equipment (DME).”
- “Outpatient Laboratory, X-ray, Imaging, and Special Diagnostic Procedures.”

### **Home Health Services Exclusions**

- “Meals on Wheels” or similar food Services.
- Nonmedical, custodial, housekeeping, or Homemaker Services except by home health aides as ordered in the approved plan of treatment.
- Nutritional guidance.
- Private duty or continuous nursing Services.
- Services designed to maintain optimal health in the absence of symptoms.
- Services not included in an approved plan of treatment.
- Services of a person who normally lives in the home or who is a member of the family.
- Services that an unlicensed family member or other layperson could provide safely and effectively in the home setting after receiving appropriate training. These Services are excluded even if we would cover the Services if they were provided by a qualified medical professional in a hospital or skilled nursing facility.
- Supportive environmental materials such as handrails, ramps, telephones, air conditioners, and similar appliances and devices.

### **Hospice Services**

Hospice is a specialized form of interdisciplinary care designed to provide palliative care to help alleviate your physical, emotional, and spiritual discomfort through the last phases of life due to a terminal illness. It also provides support to your primary caregiver and your family. When you choose hospice, you are choosing to receive palliative (comfort) care for pain and other symptoms associated with the terminal illness, but not to receive care to try to cure the terminal illness. You may change your decision to receive hospice Services at any time. You pay the Cost Share shown in the “Benefit Summary” under “Hospice Services.”

We cover hospice Services if all of the following requirements are met:

- A physician has diagnosed you with a terminal illness and determines that your life expectancy is six months or less.

- The Services are provided in your home (or a place of temporary or permanent residence used as your home).
- The Services are provided by a licensed and/or certified hospice agency.
- The Services are necessary for the palliation and management of your terminal illness and related conditions.

We cover the following hospice Services:

- Counseling and bereavement Services for up to one year.
- Outpatient Durable Medical Equipment provided at the same level as DME in an inpatient hospitalization setting.
- Home health aide Services.
- Medical social Services.
- Medication and medical supplies and appliances.
- Physician Services.
- Rehabilitative therapy Services for purposes of symptom control or to enable you to maintain activities of daily living.
- Services of volunteers.
- Short-term inpatient Services including respite care and care for pain control and acute and chronic symptom management.
- Skilled nursing Services, including assessment, evaluation, and case management of nursing needs, treatment for pain and symptom control, provision of emotional support to you and your family, and instruction to caregivers.

Hospice Services must be provided by a state licensed and/or certified hospice agency, but there is no requirement that Company approve the agency that provides the Services.

You must receive prior authorization by Company for hospice Services. (See “Prior Authorization Review Requirements” section in the “How to Obtain Services” section.)

## **Infertility Diagnosis Services**

We cover the diagnosis of involuntary infertility. Covered infertility diagnosis Services include diagnostic imaging and laboratory tests, limited to tests to rule out sexually transmitted diseases, hormone level tests, semen analysis, and diagnostic laparoscopy or hysteroscopy. This benefit includes diagnosis of both male and female infertility; however Services are covered only for the person who is the Member. You may have additional coverage if your Group has purchased an “Infertility Treatment Services Rider.”

### ***Infertility Diagnosis Services Exclusions***

- Inpatient and outpatient Services for the treatment of infertility.
- Oral and injectable drugs used in the treatment of infertility.
- Services related to conception by artificial means, such as intrauterine insemination (IUI), in vitro fertilization (IVF), ovum transplants, gamete intrafallopian transfer (GIFT), zygote intrafallopian transfer (ZIFT), and artificial insemination.
- Services to reverse voluntary, surgically induced infertility.

## Limited Dental Services

We do not cover dental Services except as described below. Services are subject to Utilization Review by Company using criteria developed by Medical Group and approved by Company. You may request these criteria by calling Member Services.

### **Covered Dental Services**

We cover dental Services only as described below:

- Dental and orthodontic Services for the treatment of craniofacial anomalies if the Services are Medically Necessary to improve or restore function.
- Dental Services necessary for or resulting from medical treatment such as surgery on the jawbone and radiation treatment, limited to (a) emergency dental Services, or (b) extraction of teeth to prepare the jaw for radiation treatments of neoplastic disease.
- Dental Services for Members who are potential transplant recipients and require Medically Necessary pre-transplant dental evaluation and clearance before being placed on the waiting list for a covered transplant. Covered Services are routine dental Services necessary to ensure the oral cavity is clear of infection, and may include oral examination, dental x-rays, prophylaxis (dental cleaning), fluoride treatment, fillings, and dental extractions. In the case of urgent transplantation, we will cover these Services when performed post-transplant.
- General anesthesia and associated hospital or ambulatory surgical facility Services in conjunction with non-covered dental Services when Medically Necessary if:
  - You have a medical condition that your Select Provider, PPO Provider, or Non-Participating Provider determines would place you at undue risk if the dental procedure were performed in a dental office; or
  - You are physically or developmentally disabled, with a dental condition that cannot be safely and effectively treated in a dental office.

Covered Services may be provided by a licensed dentist or other person who is regulated under state law to practice dental or dental-related Services or otherwise practicing dental care Services consistent with state law, including an expanded practice dental hygienist, denturist, dental therapist, or pediatric dental assistant. You pay the Cost Share you would pay if the Services were not related to a covered dental Service.

### **Limited Dental Services Exclusions**

The following dental Services are not covered, except where specifically noted to the contrary in this *EOC*:

- Dental appliances and dentures.
- Dental implants.
- Extraction of teeth, except as described above in the “Covered Dental Services” section.
- Hospital Services for dental care, except as described above in the “Covered Dental Services” section.
- Orthodontics, except as described above in the “Covered Dental Services” section.
- Routine or preventive dental Services.
- Services to correct malocclusion.

## Limited Outpatient Prescription Drugs and Supplies

We cover limited outpatient prescription drugs and supplies as described in this “Limited Outpatient Prescription Drugs and Supplies” section. You may fill your prescriptions at a Select Pharmacy or a MedImpact Pharmacy. If you use a MedImpact Pharmacy, you may have a higher Cost Share.

You may have additional coverage if your Group has purchased an “Outpatient Prescription Drug Rider.”

### **At Select Pharmacies**

Covered drugs and supplies must be prescribed by a Select Provider or any other licensed provider (including a dentist) in accordance with our drug formulary guidelines and prior authorization and step therapy prescribing criteria.

You must obtain drugs and supplies at a Select Pharmacy (including our Mail-Order Pharmacy). See your *Added Choice Medical Facilities Directory*, visit [kp.org/addedchoice/nw](http://kp.org/addedchoice/nw), or contact Member Services.

### **At MedImpact Pharmacies**

Covered drugs and supplies must be prescribed by a Select Provider or any other licensed provider (including a dentist), in accordance with our prior authorization and step therapy prescribing criteria.

You must obtain drugs and supplies at a MedImpact Pharmacy (including MedImpact Mail-Order). For a directory of MedImpact Pharmacies, visit [kp.org/addedchoice/nw](http://kp.org/addedchoice/nw), or contact Member Services.

### **Covered Drugs and Supplies**

Items covered under this “Limited Outpatient Prescription Drugs and Supplies” benefit include:

- Certain preventive medications (including, but not limited to, aspirin, fluoride, folic acid supplements, liquid iron for infants, and tobacco use cessation drugs) according to, and as recommended by, the USPSTF, when obtained with a prescription order.
- Certain self-administered IV drugs, fluids, additives, and nutrients that require specific types of parenteral-infusion (such as IV or intraspinal-infusion) for up to a 30-day supply, including the supplies and equipment required for their administration.
- Contraceptive drugs and devices approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), including injectable contraceptives and internally implanted time-release contraceptive drugs, emergency contraceptives, and contraceptive devices such as intrauterine devices, diaphragms, and cervical caps. Over-the-counter contraceptive drugs, devices, and products approved by the FDA do not require a prescription in order to be covered. You may receive a three-month supply for a first dispensing of a contraceptive drug and a 12-month supply of a subsequent dispensing of the same contraceptive drug, unless you request a smaller supply.
- Drugs, injectables, and radioactive materials used for therapeutic or diagnostic purposes, if they are administered to you in a Select Facility, a PPO Facility, or a Non-Participating Facility, or by a Select Provider, a PPO Provider, or a Non-Participating Provider during home visits. We cover these items upon payment of the administered medications Cost Share shown under “Outpatient Services” in the “Benefit Summary.”
- Glucagon emergency kits, insulin, ketone test strips for urine-testing, blood glucose test strips, and disposable needles and syringes when prescribed for the treatment of diabetes. We cover additional diabetic equipment and supplies, including lancets and injection aids, under the “Outpatient Durable Medical Equipment (DME)” section and the “External Prosthetic Devices and Orthotic Devices” section.
- Self-administered chemotherapy medications used for the treatment of cancer.

If you receive these drugs or supplies during the course of receiving covered medical Services at a Select Facility, PPO Facility or Non-Participating Facility, your provider’s claim for professional Services will include these drugs or supplies. If you purchase these drugs or supplies from a Select Pharmacy or a MedImpact Pharmacy, you will pay the applicable Cost Share shown under “Limited Outpatient Prescription Drugs and Supplies” in the “Benefit Summary.”

These limited drugs and supplies are available to you even if your Group has not purchased additional drug coverage. If your Group has purchased additional drug coverage, the limited drugs and supplies listed in this “Limited Outpatient Prescription Drugs and Supplies” section are not covered under it.

### **Day Supply Limit**

The prescribing provider determines how much of a drug or supply to prescribe. For purposes of day supply coverage limits, the prescribing provider determines the amount of a drug or supply that constitutes a Medically Necessary 30-day (or any other number of days) supply for you. When you pay the Cost Share shown in the “Benefit Summary,” you will receive the prescribed supply up to the day supply limit. If you wish to receive more than the covered day supply limit, then you must pay Charges (at a Select Pharmacy) or full price (at a MedImpact Pharmacy) for any prescribed quantity that exceeds the day supply limit.

You may receive a three-month supply for a first dispensing of a contraceptive drug and a 12-month supply of a subsequent dispensing of the same contraceptive drug, unless you request a smaller supply.

### **How to Get Covered Drugs or Supplies**

You may fill your prescriptions at a Select Pharmacy or a MedImpact Pharmacy, though our coverage (including limitations, exclusions, and Cost Shares) will differ depending on which type of pharmacy you choose. A MedImpact Pharmacy is a pharmacy that contracts directly with MedImpact. You may contact Member Services for information on finding a MedImpact Pharmacy.

### **At Select Pharmacies**

Select Pharmacies are located in many Select Facilities. To find a Select Pharmacy, please see your *Added Choice Medical Facilities Directory*, visit [kp.org/addedchoice/nw](http://kp.org/addedchoice/nw), or contact Member Services.

Select Pharmacies include our Mail-Order Pharmacy. This pharmacy offers postage-paid delivery to residents of Oregon and Washington. Some drugs and supplies are not available through our Mail-Order Pharmacy, for example drugs that require special handling or refrigeration, or are high cost. Drugs and supplies available through our Mail-Order Pharmacy are subject to change at any time without notice.

If you would like to use our Mail-Order Pharmacy, call 1-800-548-9809 or order online at [kp.org/refill](http://kp.org/refill).

### **At MedImpact Pharmacies**

MedImpact Pharmacies are located across the United States. To find a location, or for information on the MedImpact Mail-Order, please contact Member Services. Please note: The pharmacies that are owned and operated by Kaiser Permanente are not part of MedImpact Pharmacy network.

### **About Our Drug Formulary (Select Pharmacies only)**

Our drug formulary is a list of drugs that the Kaiser Permanente Regional Formulary and Therapeutics Committee has reviewed and approved for our Members and includes drugs covered under this *EOC*. Drugs on the formulary have been approved by the FDA.

The Kaiser Permanente Regional Formulary and Therapeutics Committee is made up of Select Physicians, other Select Providers, and administrative staff. The committee chooses drugs for the formulary based on several factors, including safety and effectiveness as determined from a review of the scientific literature. They may not approve a drug if there is not enough scientific evidence that it is clinically effective. They may also exclude a drug if it does not have a clinical or cost advantage over comparable formulary drugs.

The Regional Formulary and Therapeutics Committee meets to review new drugs and reconsider drugs currently on the market. After this review, they may add drugs to the formulary or remove drugs from it. If a drug is removed from the formulary, you will need to switch to another comparable drug that is on the drug formulary, unless your old drug meets exception criteria. Refer to the “Drug Formulary Exception Process” in this “Limited Outpatient Prescription Drugs and Supplies” section for more information.

If a formulary change affects a prescription drug you are taking, we encourage you to discuss any questions or concerns with your prescribing provider or another member of your health care team.

To see if a drug or supply is on our drug formulary, go online to [kp.org/formulary](http://kp.org/formulary). You may also call our Formulary Application Services Team (FAST) at 503-261-7900. If you would like a copy of our drug formulary or additional information about the formulary process, please call Member Services. The presence of a drug on our drug formulary does not necessarily mean that your provider will prescribe it for a particular medical condition.

If a provider other than a Select Provider prescribes a drug or supply that our drug formulary does not list for your condition, your options include:

- Asking a Select Pharmacy to contact your prescribing provider to see if your prescription can be changed to a drug or supply that our drug formulary lists for your condition.
- Making an appointment for a Select Provider to evaluate your medical condition. The Select Provider may prescribe a drug or supply that our drug formulary lists for your condition. If the Select Provider prescribes a drug or supply that our drug formulary does not list for your condition, they may request a formulary exception (see the “Drug Formulary Exception Process” section).
- Getting the drug or supply from a MedImpact Pharmacy.

### **Drug Formulary Exception Process**

Our drug formulary guidelines include an exception process that is available when a Select Provider or any licensed dentist prescribes a drug or supply that our drug formulary does not list for your condition, if the law requires the item to bear the legend “Rx only.” The exception process is not available for drugs and supplies that the law does not require to bear this legend.

A Select Provider, PPO Provider, Non-Participating Provider, or any licensed dentist may request an exception if they determine that the non-formulary drug or supply is Medically Necessary. We will make a coverage determination within 72 hours of receipt for standard requests and within 24 hours of receipt for expedited requests. We will approve the exception if all of the following requirements are met:

- We determine that the drug or supply meets all other coverage requirements except for the fact that our drug formulary does not list it for your condition.
- Medical Group or a designated physician makes the following determinations:
  - The drug or supply is Medically Necessary because you are allergic to, or intolerant of, or have experienced treatment failure with, any alternative drugs or supplies that our formulary lists for your condition.
  - Your condition meets any additional requirements that the Regional Formulary and Therapeutics Committee has approved for the drug or supply. For these drugs or supplies, the pharmacy can provide a copy of the additional criteria upon request. In some cases, there may be a short delay in filling your prescription while your information is being reviewed.

If we approve an exception through this exception process, then we will cover the drug or supply at the applicable Cost Share shown in the “Benefit Summary.”

If we do not approve the formulary exception request, we will send you a letter informing you of that decision. You may request a review by an independent review organization. The process is explained in our denial letter and under “External Review” in the “Grievances, Claims, Appeals, and External Review” section.

### **Limited Outpatient Prescription Drugs and Supplies Exclusions**

- Any packaging, such as blister or bubble repackaging, other than the dispensing pharmacy’s standard packaging.

- Drugs and supplies from the Mail-Order Pharmacy to addresses outside of Oregon or Washington.
- Drugs prescribed for an indication if the FDA has determined that use of that drug for that indication is contraindicated.
- Drugs prescribed for an indication if the FDA has not approved the drug for that indication, except that this exclusion does not apply if the Oregon Health Evidence Review Commission or our Regional Formulary and Therapeutics Committee determines that the drug is recognized as effective for that use (i) in one of the standard reference compendia, or (ii) in the majority of relevant peer-reviewed medical literature, or (iii) by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- Drugs and supplies that are available without a prescription, even if the non-prescription item is in a different form or different strength (or both), except that this exclusion does not apply to non-prescription drugs or supplies described in the “Covered Drugs and Supplies” section.
- Drugs, biological products, and devices that the FDA has not approved.
- Drugs used to enhance athletic performance.
- Extemporaneously compounded drugs, unless the formulation is approved by our Regional Formulary and Therapeutics Committee.
- Injectable drugs that are self-administered (except insulin).
- Nutritional supplements.
- Replacement of drugs and supplies due to loss, damage, or carelessness.
- The following are excluded, but you may have coverage for them if your Group purchased an “Outpatient Prescription Drug Rider”:
  - Prescription drugs and supplies that are dispensed on an outpatient basis, except those listed under “Covered Drugs and Supplies” of this “Limited Outpatient Prescription Drugs and Supplies” section.
  - Drugs for treatment of infertility.
  - Drugs and supplies to treat sexual dysfunction are excluded except for drugs that are FDA-approved to treat mental health symptoms of sexual dysfunction.
  - Drugs used in weight management.

## **Maternity and Newborn Care**

We cover the following maternity and newborn care Services:

- Prenatal care visits and postpartum visits.
- Maternal diabetes management, including medication and supplies (Medically Necessary Services beginning with conception and ending through six weeks postpartum).
- Maternity hospital care for mother and baby, including Services for complications of pregnancy.
- Obstetrical care and delivery (including cesarean section).
- Newborn medical Services following birth and initial physical exam.
- Newborn nurse home visiting Services for Dependent children up to six months of age, if available in your area.
- Newborn PKU test.

We will not limit the length of a maternity hospital stay for a mother and baby to less than 48 hours for vaginal delivery and 96 hours for a cesarean section delivery. The length of inpatient stay is determined by an



attending Select Provider, PPO Provider, or Non-Participating Provider, in consultation with the mother. Our policy complies with the federal Newborns' and Mothers' Health Protection Act of 1996 (NMHPA).

Newborns are covered from the moment of birth for the first 31 days of life and are subject to their own Cost Share. In order for coverage to continue beyond this 31-day period, you must follow the rules for adding Dependents as described under "Adding New Dependents to an Existing Account" in the "When You Can Enroll and When Coverage Begins" section.

Certain maternity Services, such as screening for gestational diabetes and breastfeeding equipment, supplies, counseling, and support, are covered under the "Preventive Care Services" section. Outpatient Services for laboratory, X-ray, imaging, and special diagnostic procedures are covered under the "Outpatient Laboratory, X-ray, Imaging, and Special Diagnostic Procedures" section.

### **Maternity and Newborn Care Exclusions**

- Birthing center Services.
- Home birth Services.

### **Medical Foods and Formula**

We cover the following Medically Necessary medical foods and formula subject to Utilization Review by Company using criteria developed by Medical Group and approved by Company:

- Elemental formula for the treatment of eosinophilic gastrointestinal associated disorder.
- Enteral formula for home treatment of severe intestinal malabsorption when the formula comprises the sole or essential source of nutrition.
- Medical foods and formula necessary for the treatment of phenylketonuria (PKU), specified inborn errors of metabolism, or other metabolic disorders.

### **Mental Health Services**

We cover mental health Services as found in the current edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM)*, published by the American Psychiatric Association, including Medically Necessary applied behavior analysis (ABA) for autism spectrum disorder, and Medically Necessary treatment for pervasive developmental disorder (PDD).

Services are subject to Utilization Review by Company using criteria developed by Medical Group and approved by Company. You may request the criteria by calling Member Services. Some mental health Services require prior authorization by Company. See the "Prior Authorization Review Requirements" section.

The benefits described in this "Mental Health Services" section comply with the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act.

### **Outpatient Services**

We cover individual office visits, group therapy visits, intensive outpatient visits, partial hospitalization, and Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Services for mental health. ACT Services are designed to provide comprehensive outpatient treatment and support to Members who are diagnosed with a severe mental illness and whose symptoms of mental illness lead to serious dysfunction in daily living. ACT Services are covered only when you receive the Services from a Select Provider.

### **Inpatient Hospital Services**

We cover inpatient hospital Services for mental health, including drugs that are prescribed as part of your plan of care and administered to you by medical personnel in the inpatient facility. Prior authorization is not required for Members who are involuntarily committed and subsequently treated in a state hospital.

## **Residential Services**

We cover residential Services in a residential facility, including drugs that are prescribed as part of your plan of care and administered to you by medical personnel in the residential facility.

## **Psychological Testing**

If, in the professional judgment of a Select Provider, a PPO Provider, or a Non-Participating Provider, you require psychological testing as part of diagnostic evaluation, prescribed tests are covered in accord with this “Mental Health Services” section. We do not cover court-ordered testing or testing for ability, aptitude, intelligence, or interest unless Medically Necessary.

## **Naturopathic Medicine**

Naturopathic medicine is a natural approach to health and healing which emphasizes a holistic approach to the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of illness. Naturopathic physicians diagnose and treat patients by using natural modalities such as clinical nutrition, herbal medicine, and homeopathy. Covered Services include:

- Evaluation and management.
- Health condition related treatments.
- Physical therapy modalities such as hot and cold packs.

To locate a Select Provider, visit [www.chpgroup.com](http://www.chpgroup.com). To locate a PPO Provider, visit [kp.org/addedchoice/nw](http://kp.org/addedchoice/nw). If you need assistance searching for a Select Provider or a PPO Provider, or to verify the current participation status of a provider, or if you do not have access to the online directories, please contact Member Services.

When prescribed, certain laboratory procedures are covered as described in the “Outpatient Laboratory, X-ray, Imaging, and Special Diagnostic Procedures” section in the “Benefits” section.

## **Outpatient Durable Medical Equipment (DME)**

We cover outpatient Durable Medical Equipment (DME) subject to Utilization Review by Company using criteria developed by Medical Group and approved by Company.

DME must be for use in your home (or a place of temporary or permanent residence used as your home).

When you receive DME in a home health setting in lieu of hospitalization, DME is covered at the same level as if it were received in an inpatient hospital care setting.

We decide whether to rent or purchase the DME, and we select the vendor. We also decide whether to repair, adjust, or replace the DME item when necessary.

Covered DME includes but is not limited to:

- Bilirubin lights.
- CADD (continuous ambulatory drug delivery) pumps.
- Diabetic equipment and supplies including external insulin pumps, infusion devices, blood glucose monitors, continuous glucose monitors, lancets, and injection aids.
- Enteral pump and supplies.
- Home ultraviolet light therapy equipment for treatment of certain skin conditions such as cutaneous lymphoma, eczema, psoriasis, and scleroderma.
- Osteogenic bone stimulators.
- Osteogenic spine stimulators.

- Oxygen and oxygen supplies.
- Peak flow meters.
- Ventilators.
- Wheelchairs.
- Wigs following chemotherapy or radiation therapy, limited to one synthetic wig per Year.

We periodically update the list of approved DME items to keep pace with changes in medical technology and clinical practice. To find out if a particular DME item is on our approved list for your condition, please call Member Services.

Coverage is limited to the standard DME item that adequately meets your medical needs. Our guidelines allow you to obtain non-standard DME items (those not on our approved list for your condition) if we determine that the item meets all other coverage requirements, and Medical Group or a designated physician determines that the item is Medically Necessary and that there is no standard alternative that will meet your medical needs.

### ***Outpatient Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Exclusions***

- Comfort, convenience, or luxury equipment or features.
- Devices for testing blood or other body substances unless specifically listed as covered in this “Outpatient Durable Medical Equipment (DME)” section.
- Exercise or hygiene equipment.
- Modifications to your home or car.
- More than one corrective appliance or artificial aid or item of DME, serving the same function or the same part of the body, except for necessary repairs, adjustments, and replacements as specified in this “Outpatient Durable Medical Equipment (DME)” section.
- Non-medical items, such as sauna baths or elevators.
- Repair or replacement of DME items due to loss or misuse.
- Spare or duplicate use DME.

### **Outpatient Laboratory, X-ray, Imaging, and Special Diagnostic Procedures**

We cover outpatient Services for laboratory, X-ray, imaging, and special diagnostic procedures. Some Services, such as preventive screenings and routine mammograms, are not covered under this “Outpatient Laboratory, X-ray, Imaging, and Special Diagnostic Procedures” benefit but may be covered under the “Preventive Care Services” section.

#### ***Laboratory, X-ray, and Imaging***

We cover outpatient laboratory, X-ray, and imaging Services. Covered outpatient laboratory, X-ray, and imaging Services include, but are not limited to:

- Bone densitometry.
- Cardiovascular testing.
- Cultures.
- Glucose tolerance.
- X-ray.
- Ultrasound imaging.

- Urinalysis.

### **Special Diagnostic Procedures**

Special diagnostic procedures may or may not involve radiology or imaging technology. Some special diagnostic Services may be subject to a higher Cost Share, as shown in the “Benefit Summary.” Covered special diagnostic procedures include, but are not limited to:

- CT scans.
- Mammograms.
- MRI.
- Nerve conduction studies.
- PET scans.
- Pulmonary function studies.
- Sleep studies.

You must receive prior authorization by Company for MRI, CT scans, PET scans, and bone density/DXA scans. (See “Prior Authorization Review Requirements” in the “How to Obtain Services” section.)

### **Outpatient Laboratory, X-ray, Imaging, and Special Diagnostic Procedures Limitations**

Covered genetic testing Services are limited to preconception and prenatal testing for detection of congenital and heritable disorders, and testing for the prediction of high-risk occurrence or reoccurrence of disease when Medically Necessary. These Services are subject to Utilization Review by Company using criteria developed by Medical Group and approved by Company.

### **Reconstructive Surgery Services**

We cover inpatient and outpatient reconstructive surgery Services as indicated below, subject to Utilization Review by Company using criteria developed by Medical Group and approved by Company.

- To correct disfigurement resulting from an injury or from Medically Necessary surgery.
- To correct a congenital defect, disease, or anomaly in order to produce improvement in physical function.
- To treat congenital hemangioma known as port wine stains on the face.

With respect to maxillofacial prosthetic services, coverage is limited to the least costly clinically appropriate treatment as determined by a Select Provider, a PPO Provider, or a Non-Participating Provider . We cover maxillofacial prosthetic Services if they are necessary for restoration and management of head and facial structures that cannot be replaced with living tissue and are defective because of disease, trauma, or birth and developmental deformities when this restoration and management are performed for the purpose of any of the following:

- Controlling or eliminating infection.
- Controlling or eliminating pain.
- Restoring facial configuration or functions such as speech, swallowing, or chewing, but not including cosmetic procedures rendered to improve the normal range of conditions.

Members who have undergone mastectomy are entitled to certain benefits under the Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 (WHCRA). “Mastectomy” means the surgical removal of breast tissue and breast lumps due to malignancy or suspected malignancy. We cover:

- All stages of reconstruction of the breast on which a mastectomy was performed, including but not limited to nipple reconstruction, skin grafts, and stippling of the nipple and areola.

- Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance.
- Mastectomy-related prostheses.
- Treatment of physical complications of the mastectomy, including lymphedemas.
- Inpatient care related to the mastectomy and post-mastectomy Services.

Mastectomy-related prosthetics and Orthotic Devices are covered under and subject to the “External Prosthetic Devices and Orthotic Devices” section.

## **Rehabilitative Therapy Services**

We cover inpatient and outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy Services when prescribed by a Select Provider, a PPO Provider, or a Non-Participating Provider, subject to the benefit descriptions and limitations contained in this “Rehabilitative Therapy Services” section. These Services are subject to Utilization Review by Company using criteria developed by Medical Group and approved by Company.

### ***Outpatient Rehabilitative Therapy Services***

We cover outpatient rehabilitative therapy Services for the treatment of conditions which, in the judgment of a Select Provider, a PPO Provider, or a Non-Participating Provider, will show sustainable, objective, measurable improvement as a result of the prescribed therapy. Prescribed outpatient therapy Services must receive prior authorization as described in the “Prior Authorization Review Requirements” section.

The “Benefit Summary” shows a visit maximum for outpatient rehabilitative therapy Services. That visit maximum will be exhausted (used up) for the Year when the number of visits that we covered during the Year under this *EOC*, plus any visits we covered during the Year under any other evidence of coverage with the same group number printed on this *EOC*, add up to the visit maximum. After you reach the visit maximum, we will not cover any more visits for the remainder of the Year. This limitation does not apply to inpatient hospital Services, or to outpatient rehabilitative therapy Services to treat mental health conditions covered under this *EOC*.

### ***Outpatient Rehabilitative Therapy Services Limitations***

- Physical therapy Services and occupational therapy Services are covered as Medically Necessary to restore or improve functional abilities when physical and/or sensory perceptual impairment exists due to injury, illness, stroke, or surgery.
- Speech therapy Services are covered as Medically Necessary for speech impairments of specific organic origin such as cleft palate, or when speech, language, or the swallowing function is lost due to injury, illness, stroke, or surgery.

### ***Inpatient Rehabilitative Therapy Services***

We cover inpatient rehabilitative therapy Services in an inpatient setting.

Inpatient rehabilitative therapy Services are covered for the treatment of conditions which, in the judgment of a Select Provider, a PPO Provider, or a Non-Participating Provider will show sustainable, objective, measurable improvement as a result of the prescribed therapy, and must receive prior authorization as described in the “Prior Authorization Review Requirements” section.

### ***Rehabilitative Therapy Services Exclusions***

- Services designed to maintain optimal health in the absence of symptoms.

## **Services Provided in Connection with Clinical Trials**

We cover routine costs of Medically Necessary conventional Services you receive in connection with a clinical trial if all of the following conditions are met:

- We would have covered the Services if they were not related to a clinical trial.
- You are eligible to participate in the clinical trial according to the trial protocol, as determined in one of the following ways:
  - A Select Provider, PPO Provider, or Non-Participating Provider makes this determination.
  - You provide us with medical and scientific information establishing this determination.
  - If any Select Providers, PPO Providers, or Non-Participating Providers participate in the clinical trial and will accept you as a participant in the clinical trial, you must participate in the clinical trial through a Select Provider, PPO Provider, or Non-Participating Provider unless the clinical trial is outside the state where you live.
- The clinical trial is a phase I, phase II, phase III, or phase IV clinical trial, and it meets one of the following requirements:
  - The study or investigation is conducted under an investigational new drug application reviewed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).
  - The study or investigation is a drug trial that is exempt from having an investigational new drug application.
  - The study or investigation is approved or funded by at least one of the following:
    - The National Institutes of Health.
    - The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
    - The Agency for Health Care Research and Quality.
    - The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.
    - A cooperative group or center of any of the above entities or of the Department of Defense or the Department of Veterans Affairs.
    - A qualified non-governmental research entity identified in the guidelines issued by the National Institutes of Health for center support grants.
    - The Department of Veterans Affairs or the Department of Defense or the Department of Energy, but only if the study or investigation has been reviewed and approved through a system of peer review that the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services determines meets all of the following requirements:
      - It is comparable to the National Institutes of Health system of peer review of studies and investigations.
      - It assures unbiased review of the highest scientific standards by qualified people who have no interest in the outcome of the review.

For covered Services related to a clinical trial, you will pay the Cost Share you would pay if the Services were not related to a clinical trial. For example, see “Inpatient Hospital Services” in the “Benefit Summary” for the Cost Share that applies to hospital inpatient care.

### ***Services Provided in Connection with Clinical Trials Exclusions***

- The investigational Service.
- Services provided solely for data collection and analysis and that are not used in your direct clinical management.
- Services required solely for the clinically appropriate monitoring of the Service being tested in the clinical trial.

- Services customarily provided by a clinical trial sponsor free of charge to any participant in the clinical trial.
- Services that would not be covered outside of the clinical trial.

## **Skilled Nursing Facility Services**

We cover skilled inpatient Services in a licensed skilled nursing facility, including drugs that are prescribed as part of your plan of care and administered to you by medical personnel in the facility. The skilled inpatient Services must be those customarily provided by skilled nursing facilities.

We cover the following:

- Blood, blood products, blood storage, and their administration, including the Services and supplies of a blood bank.
- Dialysis Services.
- DME Services. (This benefit is subject to the benefit limitations described under “Outpatient Durable Medical Equipment (DME)” in this section.)
- Habilitative Services.
- Medical and biological supplies.
- Medical social Services.
- Nursing Services.
- Rehabilitative therapy Services.
- Room and board.

### **Skilled Nursing Facility Services Limitations**

The “Benefit Summary” shows a day maximum for skilled nursing facility Services. That day maximum will be exhausted (used up) for a Year when the number of days that we covered during the Year under this *EOC*, plus any days we covered during the Year under any other evidence of coverage with the same group number printed on this *EOC*, add up to the day maximum. After you reach the day maximum, we will not cover any more days for the remainder of the Year.

## **Substance Use Disorder Services**

We cover Substance Use Disorder Services as found in the current edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM)*, published by the American Psychiatric Association, including medical treatment for withdrawal symptoms. Emergency detoxification for medical conditions associated with acute alcohol, drug, or other substance abuse is covered without prior authorization.

Services are subject to Utilization Review by Company using criteria developed by Medical Group and approved by Company. You may request the criteria by calling Member Services. Inpatient and residential Services require prior authorization by Company. See the “Prior Authorization Review Requirements” section.

The benefits described in this “Substance Use Disorder Services” section comply with the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act.

### **Outpatient Services for Substance Use Disorder**

Covered Services include:

- Individual office visits.
- Group therapy visits.

- Court-ordered screening interviews or treatment programs for a Member convicted of driving under the influence of intoxicants (DUII).

### ***Inpatient Hospital Services for Substance Use Disorder***

We cover inpatient hospital Services for Substance Use Disorder, including drugs that are prescribed as part of your plan of care and administered to you by medical personnel in the inpatient facility.

### ***Residential Services***

We cover residential Services in a residential program, including drugs that are prescribed as part of your plan of care and administered to you by medical personnel in the residential facility.

### ***Day Treatment Services***

We cover day treatment Services in a day treatment program.

## **Telemedicine Services**

Telemedicine is a means of delivering health care Services using information and telecommunication technologies to provide consultation and education, or to facilitate diagnosis, treatment, care management or self-management of your health care.

We cover telemedicine Services at the applicable “Telemedicine Services” Cost Share shown in your “Benefit Summary” if:

- The Service is otherwise covered under this EOC if received in person;
- The Service is Medically Necessary;
- The Service is determined to be safely and effectively provided using telemedicine, according to generally accepted health care practices and standards; and
- The application and technology used to provide the Service meets all standards required by state and federal laws governing the privacy and security of protected health information.

During a state of emergency, we will cover telemedicine provided to Members residing in the geographic area specified in the declaration of the state of emergency, if the telemedicine Service is delivered using any commonly available technology, regardless of whether the technology meets all standards required by state and federal laws governing the privacy and security of protected health information.

Covered telemedicine applications and technologies may include:

- Landlines, wireless communications, internet and telephone networks; and
- Synchronous or asynchronous transmission using audio only, video only, audio and video and transmission of data from remote monitoring devices.

You may choose to receive a covered health Service in person or via telemedicine. You are not required to have an established patient-provider relationship with a Select Provider or PPO Provider to receive telemedicine Services from the provider.

### ***Telephone and Video Visits***

We cover scheduled telephone visits and video visits.

If you have a minor condition that does not require an in-person medical exam, you have the option to schedule a telephone visit. If you prefer to meet face-to-face with a provider online by computer, smartphone or tablet, you may set up a video visit just as you would with an in-person appointment.

Telephone visits and video visits are appropriate for routine care such as medication management and test results; and urgent care such as cough, cold, flu, bug bite, fever, earache, minor sprain, urinary tract infection,



wounds or burns. Video visits are also appropriate for specialty care such as post-op follow-up, mental health appointments, dermatology and speech therapy.

To schedule a telephone visit or video visit with a Select Provider, sign on to **kp.org** or the Kaiser Permanente app, then select “Appointments” or call Member Services. To schedule a telephone visit or video visit with a PPO Provider or Non-Participating Provider, contact that provider’s office.

### **E-Visits**

We cover e-visits for common conditions such as cough/cold, nausea/vomiting, pink eye, urinary tract infection, sore throat, sinus problems, constipation or diarrhea. To access an e-visit with a Select Provider, log in to your **kp.org** member account on your desktop, laptop, or tablet and fill out a questionnaire about your symptoms. A nurse will get back to you with a care plan, usually within six hours. If needed, a prescription may be sent to your pharmacy. E-visits may include secure chat instant messaging. To request an e-visit with a PPO Provider or a Non-Participating Provider, contact that provider’s office.

To learn more about telephone, video and e-visits, including a short instructional video and troubleshooting tips, visit **kp.org/telehealth/northwest**.

### **Transplant Services**

We cover inpatient and outpatient Services for the transplants listed in this “Transplant Services” section. These Services are covered only when received from Select Providers and Select Facilities, and only at National Transplant Network facilities we designate. Services are subject to Utilization Review criteria developed by Medical Group and approved by Company.

You pay the applicable Cost Share you would pay if the Services were not related to a transplant. Inpatient Services associated with a covered transplant are covered at the “Inpatient Hospital Services” Cost Share shown on your “Benefit Summary.” Outpatient Services associated with a covered transplant are covered at the applicable Cost Share shown on your “Benefit Summary” for the corresponding benefit, for example, “Outpatient Services,” “Outpatient Durable Medical Equipment,” and “Outpatient Laboratory, X-ray, Imaging, and Special Diagnostic Procedures.”

A National Transplant Network facility is a transplant facility that meets all of the following requirements:

- It is licensed in the state where it operates.
- It is certified by Medicare as a transplant facility for the specific transplant.
- It is designated by Company as a transplant facility for the specific transplant.
- It is able to meet reasonable access standards for organ transplants based on Regional Organ Procurement Agency statistics for the facility location (a Regional Organ Procurement Agency is the geographic area designated by a state-licensed organ procurement organization for transplants in the state of Oregon).

We cover only the following transplants at National Transplant Network facilities:

- Bone marrow.
- Cornea.
- Heart.
- Heart-lung.
- Kidney.
- Liver.
- Lung.

- Pancreas.
- Pancreas after kidney.
- Simultaneous kidney-pancreas.
- Small bowel.
- Small bowel/liver.
- Stem cell.

### ***Transplant Services Limitations***

After the referral to a transplant facility, the following apply:

- If either Medical Group or the referral facility determines that you do not satisfy its respective criteria for a transplant, we will only cover Services you receive before that determination is made.
- Company, Select Facilities, Medical Group, and Select Providers are not responsible for finding, furnishing, or ensuring the availability of an organ, tissue, or bone marrow donor.
- We provide or pay for certain donation-related Services for a donor, or an individual identified by Medical Group as a potential donor, even if the donor is not a Member. These Services must be directly related to a covered transplant for you. Our criteria for coverage of Services for living transplant donors are available by calling Member Services.
- If we refer you for or preauthorize transplant Services at a distant location (farther away than the normal community patterns of care) and you choose to obtain your transplant at this distant location, we cover appropriate travel and lodging expenses for you and a caregiver. Your transplant coordinator can provide information about covered expenses.

### ***Transplant Services Exclusions***

- Non-human and artificial organs and tissues, and their implantation.
- We do not cover transplant Services received from PPO Providers, PPO Facilities, Non-Participating Providers or Non-Participating Facilities.

## **EXCLUSIONS AND LIMITATIONS**

### **Exclusions and Limitations**

The Services listed below are either completely excluded from coverage or limited under this *EOC*. These exclusions and limitations apply to all Services that would otherwise be covered under this *EOC*. Additional exclusions and limitations that apply only to Services provided by PPO Providers and Non-Participating Providers are listed in the next section “Exclusions and Limitations (PPO Providers and Non-Participating Providers Only).” Additional exclusions and limitations that apply only to a particular Service are listed in the description of that Service in this *EOC*.

**Acupuncture.** Services for acupuncture are excluded unless your employer Group has purchased an “Alternative Care Services Rider” that includes coverage for self-referred acupuncture Services.

**Certain Exams and Services.** Physical examinations and other Services are excluded when: (a) required for obtaining or maintaining employment or participation in employee programs, (b) required for insurance or governmental licensing, or (c) on a court order or required for parole or probation. This exclusion does not apply to Medically Necessary court-ordered Services that are covered under “Substance Use Disorder Services” or “Mental Health Services” in the “Benefits” section.

**Chiropractic Services.** Chiropractic and related Services are excluded, unless your employer Group has purchased an “Alternative Care Services Rider” that includes coverage for self-referred chiropractic Services.

**Cosmetic Services.** Services that are intended primarily to change or maintain your appearance and will not result in significant improvement of the condition being treated. This exclusion does not apply to Medically Necessary Services that are covered under “Reconstructive Surgery Services” in the “Benefits” section, Medically Necessary Gender Affirming Treatment, or any other Services that are Medically Necessary.

**Custodial Care.** Assistance with activities of daily living (such as walking, getting in and out of a bed or chair, bathing, dressing, eating, using the toilet, and taking medicine) or personal care that can be performed safely and effectively by persons who, in order to provide the care, do not require licensure, certification, or the presence of a supervising licensed nurse.

**Dental Services.** This exclusion does not apply to Services that are covered under “Limited Dental Services” in the “Benefits” section.

**Designated Blood Donations.** Collection, processing, and storage of blood donated by donors whom you designate, and procurement and storage of cord blood, unless Medically Necessary for the imminent use at the time of collection for a designated recipient.

**Employer Responsibility.** For any Services that the law requires an employer to provide, we will not pay the employer, and when we cover any of these Services we may recover the Charges for the Services from the employer.

**Experimental or Investigational Services.** Services are experimental or investigational if any of the following is true:

- They cannot be legally marketed in the United States without the approval of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the FDA has not granted this approval.
- They are the subject of a current new drug or new device application on file with the FDA.
- They are provided as part of a Phase I, Phase II, or Phase IV clinical trial, as the experimental or research arm of a Phase III clinical trial, or in any other manner that is intended to evaluate the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of the Services.
- They are provided pursuant to a written protocol or other document that lists an evaluation of the Services’ safety, toxicity, or efficacy as among its objectives.
- They are subject to the approval or review of an Institutional Review Board (IRB) or other body that approves or reviews research concerning the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of Services.
- They are provided pursuant to informed consent documents that describe the Services as experimental or investigational, or in other terms that indicate that the Services are being evaluated for their safety, toxicity, or efficacy.
- The prevailing opinion among experts as expressed in the published authoritative medical or scientific literature is that:
  - Use of the Services should be substantially confined to research settings, or
  - Further research is necessary to determine the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of the Services.

In making determinations whether a Service is experimental or investigational, the following sources of information will be relied upon exclusively:

- Your medical records.
- The written protocols and other documents pursuant to which the Service has been or will be provided.

- Any consent documents you or your representative have executed or will be asked to execute, to receive the Service.
- The files and records of the IRB or similar body that approves or reviews research at the institution where the Service has been or will be provided, and other information concerning the authority or actions of the IRB or similar body.
- The published authoritative medical or scientific literature about the Service, as applied to your illness or injury.
- Regulations, records, applications, and any other documents or actions issued by, filed with, or taken by, the FDA or other agencies within the United States Department of Health and Human Services, or any state agency performing similar functions.

We consult Medical Group and then use the criteria described above to decide if a particular Service is experimental or investigational.

This exclusion does not apply to Services that we cover under “Services Provided in Connection with Clinical Trials” in the “Benefits” section of this *EOC*.

**Eye Surgery.** Radial keratotomy, photorefractive keratectomy, and refractive surgery, including evaluations for the procedures.

**Family Services.** Services provided by a member of your immediate family.

**Genetic Testing.** Genetic testing and related Services are excluded except as described under “Outpatient Laboratory, X-ray, Imaging, and Special Diagnostic Procedures” in the “Benefits” section.

**Government Agency Responsibility.** For any Services that the law requires be provided only by or received only from a government agency, we will not pay the government agency, and when we cover any of these Services we may recover the Charges for the Services from the government agency. This exclusion does not apply to Medicaid.

**Hearing Aids.** Hearing aids, tests to determine their efficacy, and hearing tests to determine an appropriate hearing aid are excluded, unless your Group has purchased the “Hearing Aid Rider.” This exclusion does not apply to Services that are covered under “Hearing Aid Services for Dependents” in the “Benefits” section.

**Hypnotherapy.** All Services related to hypnotherapy.

**Intermediate Services.** Services in an intermediate care facility are excluded.

**Low-Vision Aids.** Low-vision aids are excluded, unless your employer Group has purchased the “Pediatric Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider.”

**Massage Therapy Services.** Massage therapy and related Services are excluded, unless your employer Group has purchased an “Alternative Care Services Rider” that includes coverage for self-referred massage therapy Services.

**Non-Medically Necessary Services.** Services that are not Medically Necessary.

**Nonreusable Medical Supplies.** Nonreusable medical supplies, such as splints, slings, and wound dressings, including bandages and ace wrap bandages, are limited to those supplied and applied by a licensed health care provider, while providing a covered Service. Nonreusable medical supplies that a Member purchases or obtains from another source are excluded.

**Optometric Vision Therapy and Orthoptics (Eye Exercises).** Services related to optometric vision therapy and orthoptics (eye exercises) are excluded.

**Professional Services for Evaluation, Fitting, and Follow-Up Care for Contact Lenses.** This exclusion does not apply to Services that are covered under the “Pediatric Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider” or “Adult Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider” if purchased by Group.

**Services Related to a Non-Covered Service.** When a Service is not covered, all Services related to the non-covered Service are excluded, except that this exclusion does not apply to Services we would otherwise cover to treat complications arising after the non-covered Service and to Medically Necessary Services for a Member enrolled in and participating in a qualifying clinical trial if we would typically cover those Services absent a clinical trial.

**Services That are Not Health Care Services, Supplies, or Items.** This exclusion does not apply to Medically Necessary applied behavior analysis (ABA) Services. For example, we do not cover:

- Academic coaching or tutoring for skills such as grammar, math, and time management.
- Aquatic therapy and other water therapy.
- Educational testing.
- Items and services that increase academic knowledge or skills.
- Professional growth courses.
- Teaching and support services to develop planning skills such as daily activity planning and project or task planning.
- Teaching and support services to increase intelligence.
- Teaching art, dance, horse riding, music, play or swimming.
- Teaching manners and etiquette.
- Teaching skills for employment or vocational purposes.
- Teaching you how to read, whether or not you have dyslexia.
- Training for a specific job or employment counseling.
- Vocational training or teaching vocational skills.

**Surrogacy.** Services for anyone in connection with a Surrogacy Arrangement, whether traditional or gestational, except for otherwise-covered Services provided to a Member who is a surrogate. A “Surrogacy Arrangement” is one in which a woman (the surrogate) agrees to become pregnant and to surrender the baby (or babies) to another person or persons who intend to raise the child (or children), whether or not the woman receives payment for being a surrogate. See “Surrogacy Arrangements – Traditional and Gestational Carriers” in the “Reductions” section for information about your obligations to us in connection with a Surrogacy Arrangement, including your obligations to reimburse us for any Services we cover and to provide information about anyone who may be financially responsible for Services the baby (or babies) receive.

**Travel and Lodging.** Transportation or living expenses for any person, including the patient, are limited to travel and lodging expenses needed for Member to receive covered Services, subject to Utilization Review by Company using criteria developed by Medical Group and approved by Company.

**Travel Immunizations.** Travel-related immunizations for yellow fever, typhoid, and Japanese encephalitis, unless your Group has purchased a “Travel Immunizations Rider.”

**Vision Hardware and Optical Services.** Corrective lenses, eyeglasses, and contact lenses, unless your Group has purchased an “Adult Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider” and/or “Pediatric Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider.”

## **Exclusions and Limitations (PPO Providers and Non-Participating Providers Only)**

These Services are covered only when received from Select Providers and Select Facilities. We do not cover these Services when received from PPO Providers, PPO Facilities, Non-Participating Providers, or Non-Participating Facilities.

**Transplants and transplant Services.** (See “Transplant Services” in the “Benefits” section.)

**Weight Control or Obesity Services.** Bariatric surgery, gastric stapling, gastric bypass, gastric bands, switch duodenal, biliopancreatic diversion, weight loss programs, and any other Service for obesity or weight control, even if one of the purposes of the Services are to treat other medical conditions related to, caused by, or complicated by obesity are excluded (see “Bariatric Surgery Services” in the “Benefits” section). This exclusion does not apply to Services that are covered under “Preventive Care Services” in the “Benefits” section.

## **REDUCTIONS**

### **Coordination of Benefits**

The Coordination of Benefits (COB) provision applies when a person has health care coverage under more than one Plan. Plan is defined below.

The order of benefit determination rules governs the order in which each Plan will pay a claim for benefits. The Plan that pays first is called the Primary Plan. The Primary Plan must pay benefits in accordance with its policy terms without regard to the possibility that another Plan may cover some expenses. The Plan that pays after the Primary Plan is the Secondary Plan. The Secondary Plan may reduce the benefits it pays so that payments from all Plans do not exceed 100 percent of the total Allowable expense.

### **Definitions**

- A. A Plan is any of the following that provides benefits or services for medical or dental care or treatment. If separate contracts are used to provide coordinated coverage for members of a group, the separate contracts are considered parts of the same Plan and there is no COB among those separate contracts.
- (1) Plan includes: group and individual health insurance contracts, health maintenance organization (HMO) contracts, group or individual closed panel Plans, other forms of group or group-type coverage (whether insured or uninsured); medical care components of group long-term care contracts, such as skilled nursing care; Medicare or any other federal governmental Plan, as permitted by law; and group and individual insurance contracts and subscriber contracts that pay or reimburse for the cost of dental care.
  - (2) Plan does not include: independent, non-coordinated hospital indemnity coverage or other fixed indemnity coverage; accident only coverage; specified disease or specified accident coverage; school accident type coverage; benefits for non-medical components of group long-term care policies; Medicare supplement policies; Medicaid policies; or coverage under other federal governmental Plans, unless permitted by law.

Each contract for coverage under (1) or (2) is a separate Plan. If a Plan has two parts and COB rules apply only to one of the two, each of the parts is treated as a separate Plan.

- B. This Plan means, in a COB provision, the part of the contract providing the health care benefits to which the COB provision applies and which may be reduced because of the benefits of other Plans. Any other part of the contract providing health care benefits is separate from This Plan. A contract may apply one COB provision to certain benefits, such as dental benefits, coordinating only with similar benefits, and may apply another COB provision to coordinate other benefits.

- C. The order of benefit determination rules determines whether This Plan is a Primary Plan or Secondary Plan when the person has health care coverage under more than one Plan.

When This Plan is primary, it determines payment for its benefits first before those of any other Plan without considering any other Plan's benefits. When This Plan is secondary, it determines its benefits after those of another Plan and may reduce the benefits it pays so that all Plan benefits do not exceed 100 percent of the total Allowable expense.

- D. Allowable expense is a health care expense, including deductibles, coinsurance and copayments, that is covered at least in part by any Plan covering the person. When a Plan provides benefits in the form of Services, the reasonable cash value of each service will be considered an Allowable expense and a benefit paid. An expense that is not covered by any Plan covering the person is not an Allowable expense. In addition, any expense that a provider by law or in accordance with a contractual agreement is prohibited from charging a covered person is not an Allowable expense.

The following are examples of expenses that are not Allowable expenses:

- (1) The difference between the cost of a semi-private hospital room and a private hospital room is not an Allowable expense, unless one of the Plans provides coverage for private hospital room expenses.
  - (2) If a person is covered by two or more Plans that compute their benefit payments on the basis of usual and customary fees or relative value schedule reimbursement methodology or other similar reimbursement methodology, any amount in excess of the highest reimbursement amount for a specific benefit is not an Allowable expense.
  - (3) If a person is covered by two or more Plans that provide benefits or services on the basis of negotiated fees, an amount in excess of the highest of the negotiated fees is not an Allowable expense.
  - (4) If a person is covered by one Plan that calculates its benefits or services on the basis of usual and customary fees or relative value schedule reimbursement methodology or other similar reimbursement methodology and another Plan that provides its benefits or services on the basis of negotiated fees, the Primary Plan's payment arrangement shall be the Allowable expense for all Plans. However, if the provider has contracted with the Secondary Plan to provide the benefit or service for a specific negotiated fee or payment amount that is different than the Primary Plan's payment arrangement and if the provider's contract permits, the negotiated fee or payment shall be the Allowable expense used by the Secondary Plan to determine its benefits.
  - (5) The amount of any benefit reduction by the Primary Plan because a covered person has failed to comply with the Plan provisions is not an Allowable expense. Examples of these types of Plan provisions include second surgical opinions, precertification of admissions, and preferred provider arrangements.
- E. Closed panel Plan is a Plan that provides health care benefits to covered persons primarily in the form of services through a panel of providers that have contracted with or are employed by the Plan, and that excludes coverage for services provided by other providers, except in cases of emergency or referral by a panel member.
- F. Custodial parent is the parent awarded custody by a court decree or, in the absence of a court decree, is the parent with whom the child resides more than one half of the calendar year excluding any temporary visitation.

### **Order of Benefit Determination Rules**

When a person is covered by two or more Plans, the rules for determining the order of benefit payments are as follows:

- A. The Primary Plan pays or provides its benefits according to its terms of coverage and without regard to the benefits of under any other Plan.

- B. (1) Except as provided in Paragraph (2), a Plan that does not contain a coordination of benefits provision that is consistent with this regulation is always primary unless the provisions of both Plans state that the complying Plan is primary.
- (2) Coverage that is obtained by virtue of membership in a group that is designed to supplement a part of a basic package of benefits and provides that this supplementary coverage shall be excess to any other parts of the Plan provided by the contract holder. Examples of these types of situations are major medical coverages that are superimposed over base plan hospital and surgical benefits, and insurance type coverages that are written in connection with a Closed panel Plan to provide out-of-network benefits.
- C. A Plan may consider the benefits paid or provided by another Plan in calculating payment of its benefits only when it is secondary to that other Plan.
- D. Each Plan determines its order of benefits using the first of the following rules that apply:
- (1) Non-Dependent or Dependent. The Plan that covers the person other than as a dependent, for example as an employee, member, subscriber or retiree is the Primary Plan and the Plan that covers the person as a dependent is the Secondary Plan. However, if the person is a Medicare beneficiary and, as a result of federal law, Medicare is secondary to the Plan covering the person as a dependent; and primary to the Plan covering the person as other than a dependent (e.g. a retired employee); then the order of benefits between the two Plans is reversed so that the Plan covering the person as an employee, member, subscriber or retiree is the Secondary Plan and the other Plan is the Primary plan.
- (2) Dependent child covered under more than one Plan. Unless there is a court decree stating otherwise, when a dependent child is covered by more than one Plan the order of benefits is determined as follows:
- (a) For a dependent child whose parents are married or are living together, whether or not they have ever been married:
- (i) The Plan of the parent whose birthday falls earlier in the calendar year is the Primary Plan; or
- (ii) If both parents have the same birthday, the Plan that has covered the parent the longest is the Primary Plan.
- (b) For a dependent child whose parents are divorced or separated or not living together, whether or not they have ever been married:
- (i) If a court decree states that one of the parents is responsible for the dependent child's health care expenses or health care coverage and the Plan of that parent has actual knowledge of those terms, that Plan is primary. This rule applies to plan years commencing after the Plan is given notice of the court decree;
- (ii) If a court decree states that both parents are responsible for the dependent child's health care expenses or health care coverage, the provisions of subparagraph (a) above shall determine the order of benefits;
- (iii) If a court decree states that the parents have joint custody without specifying that one parent has responsibility for the health care expenses or health care coverage of the dependent child, the provisions of subparagraph (a) above shall determine the order of benefits; or
- (iv) If there is no court decree allocating responsibility for the dependent child's health care expenses or health care coverage, the order of benefits for the child are as follows:
1. The Plan covering the Custodial parent;
  2. The Plan covering the spouse of the Custodial parent;



3. The Plan covering the non-custodial parent; and then
  4. The Plan covering the spouse of the non-custodial parent.
- (c) For a dependent child covered under more than one Plan of individuals who are not the parents of the child, the provisions of subparagraph (a) or (b) above shall determine the order of benefits as if those individuals were the parents of the child.
- (d) For a dependent child:
- (i) Who has coverage under either or both parents' plans and also has coverage as a dependent under a spouse's plan, the rule in paragraph (5) applies.
  - (ii) In the event the dependent child's coverage under the spouse's plan began on the same date as the dependent child's coverage under either or both parents' plans, the order of benefits shall be determined by applying the birthday rule in subparagraph (a) to the dependent child's parent and the dependent's spouse.
- (3) Active employee or retired or laid-off employee. The Plan that covers a person as an active employee, that is, an employee who is neither laid-off nor retired, is the Primary Plan. The Plan covering that same person as a retired or laid-off employee is the Secondary Plan. The same would hold true if a person is a dependent of an active employee and that same person is a dependent of a retired or laid-off employee. If the other Plan does not have this rule, and as a result, the Plans do not agree on the order of benefits, this rule is ignored. This rule does not apply if the rule labeled D(1) can determine the order of benefits.
- (4) COBRA or state continuation coverage. If a person whose coverage is provided pursuant to COBRA or under a right of continuation provided by state or other federal law is covered under another Plan, the Plan covering the person as an employee, member, subscriber or retiree or covering the person as a dependent of an employee, member, subscriber or retiree is the Primary Plan and the COBRA or state or other federal continuation coverage is the Secondary Plan. If the other Plan does not have this rule, and as a result, the Plans do not agree on the order of benefits, this rule is ignored. This rule does not apply if the rule labeled D(1) can determine the order of benefits.
- (5) Longer or shorter length of coverage. The Plan that covered the person as an employee, member, subscriber or retiree longer is the Primary Plan and the Plan that covered the person the shorter period of time is the Secondary Plan.
- (6) If the preceding rules do not determine the order of benefits, the Allowable expenses shall be shared equally between the Plans meeting the definition of Plan. In addition, This Plan will not pay more than it would have paid had it been the Primary Plan.

### ***Effect on the Benefits of This Plan***

- A. When This Plan is secondary, it may reduce its benefits so that the total benefits paid or provided by all Plans during a plan year are not more than the total Allowable expenses. In determining the amount to be paid for any claim, the Secondary Plan will calculate the benefits it would have paid in the absence of other health care coverage and apply that calculated amount to any Allowable expense under its Plan that is unpaid by the Primary Plan. The Secondary Plan may then reduce its payment by the amount so that, when combined with the amount paid by the Primary Plan, the total benefits paid or provided by all Plans for the claim do not exceed the total Allowable expense for that claim. In addition, the Secondary Plan shall credit to its Plan deductible any amounts it would have credited to its deductible in the absence of other health care coverage.
- B. If a covered person is enrolled in two or more Closed panel Plans and if, for any reason, including the provision of service by a non-panel provider, benefits are not payable by one Closed panel Plan, COB shall not apply between that Plan and other Closed panel Plans.

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

Certain facts about health care coverage and services are needed to apply these COB rules and to determine benefits payable under This Plan and other Plans. We may get the facts we need from or give them to other organizations or persons for the purpose of applying these rules and determining benefits payable under This Plan and other Plans covering the person claiming benefits. We need not tell, or get the consent of, any person to do this. Each person claiming benefits under This Plan must give us any facts we need to apply those rules and determine benefits payable.

### ***Facility of Payment***

A payment made under another Plan may include an amount that should have been paid under This Plan. If it does, we may pay that amount to the organization that made that payment. That amount will then be treated as though it were a benefit paid under This Plan. This Plan 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 the reasonable cash value of the benefits provided in the form of services.

### ***Right of Recovery***

If the amount of the payments made by This Plan is more than it should have paid under this COB provision, This Plan may recover the excess from one or more of the persons it has paid or for whom it has paid; or any other person or organization that may be responsible for the benefits or services provided for the covered person. The “amount of the payments made” includes the reasonable cash value of any benefits provided in the form of services.

### **Questions About Coordination of Benefits?**

### **Contact Your State Insurance Department**

### **Hospitalization on Your Effective Date**

If you are an inpatient in a hospital on your membership effective date but had other Group coverage on the day before your membership effective date, your other Group coverage will be responsible for covering the Services you receive until you are released from the hospital, or until you have exhausted your benefit with the other Group coverage and the benefits available under this Plan will be reduced accordingly.

### **Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties or Covered by No-Fault Insurance**

This “Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties or Covered by No-Fault Insurance” section applies if you receive covered Services for an injury or illness alleged to be any of the following:

- Caused by another party’s act or omission.
- Received on the premises of another party.
- Covered by a no-fault insurance provision.

For purposes of this section, “no-fault insurance” means a type of insurance policy that covers your medical expenses for injury or illness due to an accident, regardless of who caused the accident.

Subject to applicable law, if you obtain a settlement, award, or judgment from or on behalf of another party or insurer, or a payment under a no-fault insurance provision, you must ensure we are reimbursed for covered Services that you receive for the injury or illness. This “Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties or Covered by No-Fault Insurance” section does not affect your obligation to pay any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for these covered Services. The amount of reimbursement due to the Plan is not limited by or subject to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum provision.

If you do not recover anything from or on behalf of the other party, or no-fault insurance, then you are responsible only for any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance payments.

To the extent permitted by law, we have the option of becoming subrogated to all claims, causes of action, and other rights you may have against another party or an insurer, government program, or other source of coverage for monetary damages, compensation, or indemnification on account of the injury or illness allegedly caused by another party. We will be so subrogated as of the time we mail or deliver a written notice of our exercise of this option to you or your attorney, but we will be subrogated only to the extent of the total Charges for the relevant covered Services.

To secure our rights, we will have a lien on the proceeds of any judgment, award, or settlement you or we (when we subrogate) obtain against another party, regardless of how those proceeds may be characterized or designated. Subject to applicable law, the proceeds of any judgment, award, or settlement that you or we obtain shall first be applied to satisfy our lien, regardless of whether the total amount of the proceeds is less than the actual losses and damages you incurred.

Within 30 days after submitting or filing a claim or legal action against another party, or any insurer, you must send written notice of the claim or legal action to us at:

Equian, LLC  
Attn: Subrogation Operations  
P.O. Box 36380  
Louisville, KY 40233  
Fax: 502-214-1291

In order for us to determine the existence of any rights we may have and to satisfy those rights, you must complete and send to us all consents, releases, trust agreements, authorizations, assignments, and other documents, including lien forms directing your attorney, the responsible party, and the responsible party's insurer to pay us directly. You must not take any action prejudicial to our rights.

You must provide us written notice before you settle a claim or obtain a judgment or award, or if it appears you will make a recovery of any kind. Subject to applicable law, if you recover any amounts from another party or any insurer based on your injury or illness, you must pay us or place the funds in a specifically identifiable account and retain control over the recovered amounts to which we may assert a right.

In addition to the rights set forth above, we shall also be entitled to all of the remedies, benefits, and other rights of sections 742.520 – 742.544, Oregon Revised Statutes.

If your estate, parent, guardian, or conservator asserts a claim against another party or any insurer based on your injury or illness, any settlement or judgment recovered shall be subject to our liens and other rights to the same extent as if you had asserted the claim against the other party. We may assign our rights to enforce our liens and other rights.

## **Surrogacy Arrangements – Traditional and Gestational Carriers**

If you enter into a Surrogacy Arrangement, whether traditional or gestational, you must ensure we are reimbursed for covered Services you receive related to conception, pregnancy, delivery, or postpartum care in connection with that arrangement (“Surrogacy Health Services”), except that the amount we collect will not exceed the payments or other compensation you and any other payee are entitled to receive under the Surrogacy Arrangement. A “Surrogacy Arrangement” is one in which a woman agrees to become pregnant and to surrender the baby (or babies) to another person or persons who intend to raise the child (or children), whether or not the woman receives payment for being a surrogate.

This section applies to any person who is impregnated by artificial insemination, intrauterine insemination, in vitro fertilization or through the surgical implantation of a fertilized egg of another person and includes both traditional surrogacy and gestational carriers. Note: This “Surrogacy Arrangements – Traditional and

Gestational Carriers” section does not affect your obligation to pay any applicable Copayments and Coinsurance, or other amounts you are required to pay for these Services. After you surrender a baby to the legal parents, you are not obligated to pay Charges for any Services that the baby receives (the legal parents are financially responsible for any Services that the baby receives).

By accepting Surrogacy Health Services, you automatically assign to us your right to receive payments that are payable to you or any other payee under the Surrogacy Arrangement, regardless of whether those payments are characterized as being for medical expenses. To secure our rights, we will also have a lien on those payments and on any escrow account, trust, or any other account that holds those payments. Those payments (and amounts in any escrow account, trust, or other account that holds those payments) shall first be applied to satisfy our lien. The assignment and our lien will not exceed the total amount of your obligation to us under the preceding paragraph.

Within 30 days after entering into a Surrogacy Arrangement, you must send written notice of the arrangement, including all of the following information:

- Names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the other parties to the arrangement
- Names, addresses, and telephone numbers of any escrow agent or trustee
- Names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the intended parents and any other parties who are financially responsible for Services the baby (or babies) receive, including names, addresses, and telephone numbers for any health insurance that will cover Services that the baby (or babies) receive
- A signed copy of any contracts and other documents explaining the arrangement
- Any other information we request in order to satisfy our rights

You must send this information to:

Surrogacy Other Party Liability Supervisor  
Equian  
P.O. Box 36380  
Louisville, KY 40233-6380  
Fax: 1-502-214-1137  
Phone: 1-800-552-8314

You must complete and send us all consents, releases, authorizations, lien forms, and other documents that are reasonably necessary for us to determine the existence of any rights we may have under this “Surrogacy Arrangements – Traditional and Gestational Carriers” section and to satisfy those rights. You may not agree to waive, release, or reduce our rights under this “Surrogacy Arrangements – Traditional and Gestational Carriers” section without our prior, written consent.

If your estate, parent, guardian, or conservator asserts a claim against another party based on the surrogacy arrangement, your estate, parent, guardian, or conservator and any settlement, award, or judgment recovered by the estate, parent, guardian, or conservator shall be subject to our liens and other rights to the same extent as if you had asserted the claim against that party. We may assign our rights to enforce our liens and other rights.

## **Workers’ Compensation or Employer’s Liability**

If you suffer from an injury or illness that is compensable under a workers’ compensation or employer’s liability law, we will provide Services even if it is unclear whether you are entitled to a payment or settlement under the law. You have an obligation to reimburse us to the extent of a payment or any other benefit, including any amount you receive as a settlement under the law.

In addition, we or Select Providers or PPO Providers will be permitted to seek reimbursement for these Services directly from the responsible employer or the government agency that administers the law.

# GRIEVANCES, CLAIMS, APPEALS, AND EXTERNAL REVIEW

## Important Information for Members Whose Benefit Plans are Subject to ERISA.

The Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) is a federal law that regulates employee benefits, including the claim and appeal procedures for benefit Plans offered by certain employers. If an employer's benefit Plan is subject to ERISA, each time you request Services that must be approved before the Service is provided, you are filing a "pre-service claim" for benefits. You are filing a "post-service claim" when you ask us to pay for or cover Services that have already been received. You must follow our procedure for filing claims, and we must follow certain rules established by ERISA for responding to claims.

## Terms We Use in this Section

The following terms have the following meanings when used in this "Grievances, Claims, Appeals, and External Review" section:

- A claim is a request for us to:
  - Provide or pay for a Service that you have not received (pre-service claim);
  - Continue to provide or pay for a Service that you are currently receiving (concurrent care claim); or
  - Pay for a Service that you have already received (post-service claim).
- An adverse benefit determination is our denial, reduction, or termination of a Service, or our failure or refusal to provide or to make a payment in whole or in part for a Service that is based on a:
  - Denial or termination of enrollment of an individual in a health benefit plan;
  - 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 Services;
  - Determination that a Service is experimental or investigational or not Medically Necessary or appropriate;
  - Determination that a course or plan of treatment that a Member is undergoing is an active course of treatment for purposes of continuity of care; or
  - Denial, in whole or in part, of a request for prior authorization, a request for an exception to step therapy or a request for coverage of a treatment, drug, device or diagnostic or laboratory test that is subject to Utilization Review requirements.
- A grievance is communication expressing dissatisfaction with an adverse benefit determination, without specifically declining any right to appeal or review, that is:
  - In writing, for an internal appeal or an external review;
  - In writing or orally for an expedited response or an expedited external review; or
  - A complaint regarding the:
    - Availability, delivery, or quality of a Service;
    - Claims payment, handling or reimbursement for Services and, unless a request for an internal appeal has not been submitted, the complaint is not disputing an adverse benefit determination; or
    - Matters pertaining to the contractual relationship between the Member and Company.
- An internal appeal is a request for us to review our initial adverse benefit determination.

## **Member Satisfaction Procedure**

We want you to be satisfied with the Services you receive from Kaiser Permanente. We encourage you to discuss any questions or concerns about your care with your provider or another member of your health care team. If you are not satisfied with your provider, you may request another. Contact Member Services for assistance. You always have the right to a second opinion from a qualified provider at the applicable Cost Share.

If you are not satisfied with the Services received at a particular medical office, or if you have a concern about the personnel or some other matter relating to Services and wish to file a complaint, you may do so by following one of the procedures listed below.

- Contact the administrative office in the facility where you are having the problem.
- Call Member Services at 503-813-2000; or
- Send your written complaint to Member Relations at:

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest  
Member Relations Department  
500 NE Multnomah St., Suite 100  
Portland, OR 97232-2099  
Fax: 1-855-347-7239

All complaints are handled in a confidential manner.

After you notify us of a complaint, this is what happens:

- A representative reviews the complaint and conducts an investigation, verifying all the relevant facts.
- The representative or a physician evaluates the facts and makes a recommendation for corrective action, if any.
- When you file a complaint, we will respond within 30 calendar days.

We want you to be satisfied with our facilities, Services, and providers. Using this Member satisfaction procedure gives us the opportunity to correct any problems that keep us from meeting your expectations and your health care needs. If you are dissatisfied for any reason, please let us know.

## **Language and Translation Assistance**

If we send you grievance or adverse benefit determination correspondence, we will include a notice of language assistance (oral translation). You may request language assistance with your claim and/or appeal by calling 1-800-813-2000. The notice of language assistance “Help in your Language” is also included in this *EOC*.

## **Appointing a Representative**

If you would like someone to act on your behalf regarding your claim, you may appoint an authorized representative, an individual who by law or by your consent may act on your behalf. You must make this appointment in writing. Contact Member Services for information about how to appoint a representative. You must pay the cost of anyone you hire to represent or help you.

## **Help with Your Claim and/or Appeal**

While you are encouraged to use our appeal procedures, you have the right to file a complaint or seek other assistance from the Consumer Advocacy Section of the Division of Financial Regulation. Contact them by mail, e-mail, telephone, fax, or online at:

Department of Consumer and Business Services  
Division of Financial Regulation  
Consumer Advocacy Section  
P.O. Box 14480  
Salem, OR 97309-0405  
E-mail: [DFR.InsuranceHelp@oregon.gov](mailto:DFR.InsuranceHelp@oregon.gov)  
Phone: 503-947-7984  
Toll Free: 1-888-877-4894  
Fax: 503-378-4351  
<https://dfr.oregon.gov/help/complaints-licenses/Pages/file-complaint.aspx>

## Reviewing Information Regarding Your Claim

If you want to review the information that we have collected regarding your claim, you may request, and we will provide without charge, copies of all relevant documents, records, and other information (including complete medical necessity criteria, benefit provisions, guidelines, or protocols) used to make a denial determination. You also have the right to request any diagnosis and treatment codes and their meanings that are the subject of your claim. To make a request, you should contact Member Services.

## Providing Additional Information Regarding Your Claim

When you appeal, you may send us additional information including comments, documents, and additional medical records that you believe support your claim. If we asked for additional information and you did not provide it before we made our initial decision about your claim, then you may still send us the additional information so that we may include it as part of our review of your appeal. Please send or fax all additional information to:

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest  
Member Relations Department  
500 NE Multnomah St., Suite 100  
Portland, OR 97232-2099  
Fax: 1-855-347-7239

When you appeal, you may give testimony in writing or by telephone. Please send your written testimony to:

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest  
Member Relations Department  
500 NE Multnomah St., Suite 100  
Portland, OR 97232-2099  
Fax: 1-855-347-7239

To arrange to give testimony by telephone, you should contact Member Relations at 503-813-4480.

We will add the information that you provide through testimony or other means to your claim file and we will review it without regard to whether this information was submitted and/or considered in our initial decision regarding your claim.

## Sharing Additional Information That We Collect

If we believe that your appeal of our initial adverse benefit determination will be denied, then before we issue another adverse benefit determination, we will also share with you any new or additional reasons for that decision. We will send you a letter explaining the new or additional information and/or reasons and inform you how you can respond to the information in the letter if you choose to do so. If you do not respond before we must make our final decision, that decision will be based on the information already in your claim file.

## Internal Claims and Appeals Procedures

Company will review claims and appeals, and we may use medical experts to help us review them.

There are several types of claims, and each has a different procedure described below for sending your claim and appeal to us as described in this “Internal Claims and Appeals Procedures” section:

- Pre-service claims (urgent and non-urgent)
- Concurrent care claims (urgent and non-urgent)
- Post-service claims

When you file an appeal, we will review your claim without regard to our previous adverse benefit determination. The individual who reviews your appeal will not have participated in our original decision regarding your claim nor will they be the subordinate of someone who did participate in our original decision.

If you miss a deadline for making a claim or appeal, we may decline to review it.

Except when simultaneous external review can occur (urgent pre-service appeal and urgent concurrent appeal), you must exhaust the internal claims and appeals procedures described below before initiating an external review.

### Pre-service Claims and Appeals

Pre-service claims are requests that we provide or pay for a Service that you have not yet received. Failure to receive authorization before receiving a Service that must be authorized in order to be a covered benefit may be the basis for our denial of your pre-service claim or a post-service claim for payment. If you receive any of the Services you are requesting before we make our decision, your pre-service claim or appeal will become a post-service claim or appeal with respect to those Services. If you have any general questions about pre-service claims or appeals, please call Member Services.

Here are the procedures for filing a non-urgent pre-service claim, an urgent pre-service claim, a non-urgent pre-service appeal, and an urgent pre-service appeal.

#### Non-Urgent Pre-service Claim

- You may request a pre-service benefit determination on your own behalf. Tell us in writing that you want to make a claim for us to provide or pay for a Service you have not yet received. Your request and any related documents you give us constitute your claim. You may email your request to us at <https://healthy.kaiserpermanente.org/oregon-washington/support>, call us, or mail your claim to us at:

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest  
Member Services  
500 NE Multnomah St., Suite 100  
Portland, OR 97232-2099  
Phone: 1-800-813-2000

- If you want us to consider your pre-service claim on an urgent basis, your request should tell us that. We will decide whether your claim is urgent or non-urgent. If we determine that your claim is not urgent, we will treat your claim as non-urgent. Generally, a claim is urgent only if using the procedure for non-urgent claims (a) could seriously jeopardize your life or health, the life or health of a fetus, or your ability to regain maximum function; (b) would, in the opinion of a physician with knowledge of your medical condition, subject you to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the Services you are requesting; (c) your attending provider requests that your claim be treated as urgent; or (d) involves a request concerning admissions, continued stay, or other health care Services if you have received Emergency Services but have not been discharged from a facility.



- We will review your claim and, if we have all the information we need, we will make a decision within a reasonable period of time, but no later than two business days after we receive your claim.

We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 calendar days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, if we notify you prior to the expiration of the initial decision period.

If more information is needed to make a decision, we will ask you for the information in writing within two business days after we receive your claim, and we will give you 15 calendar days to send the information.

We will make a decision and send notification within two business days after we receive the first piece of information (including documents) we requested.

We encourage you to send all the requested information at one time, so that we will be able to consider it all when we make our decision.

If we do not receive any of the requested information (including documents) within 15 calendar days after we send our request, we will make a decision based on the information we have no later than 15 calendar days following the date the additional information was requested.

If we notify you of our decision orally, we will send you written confirmation no later than two business days after the oral notification.

- We will send written notice of our decision to you and, if applicable, to your provider.

### **Urgent Pre-service Claim**

- If your pre-service claim was considered on an urgent basis, we will notify you of our decision orally or in writing within a timeframe appropriate to your clinical condition, but no later than two business days after we receive your claim.

- We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 calendar days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, if we notify you prior to the expiration of the initial decision period.

- If more information is needed to make a decision, we will ask you for the information in writing within 2 business days after we receive your claim, and we will give you 15 calendar days to send the information.

- We will make a decision and send notification within two business days after we receive the first piece of information (including documents) we requested.

- We encourage you to send all the requested information at one time, so that we will be able to consider it all when we make our decision.

- If we do not receive any of the requested information (including documents) within 15 calendar days after we send our request, we will make a decision based on the information we have no later than 15 calendar days following the date the additional information was requested.

If we notify you of our decision orally, we will send you written confirmation no later than two business days after the oral notification.

- If we deny your claim (if we do not agree to provide or pay for all the Services you requested), our adverse benefit determination notice will tell you why we denied your claim and how you can appeal.

### **Non-Urgent Pre-service Appeal**

- Within 180 calendar days after you receive our adverse benefit determination notice, you must tell us in writing that you want to appeal our denial of your pre-service claim. Please include the following:
  - (1) Your name and health record number;
  - (2) Your medical condition or relevant symptoms;
  - (3) The specific Service that you are requesting;
  - (4) All of the reasons why you disagree with our adverse benefit determination; and
  - (5) All supporting documents.

Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must mail or fax your appeal to us at:

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest  
Member Relations Department  
500 NE Multnomah St., Suite 100  
Portland, OR 97232-2099  
Fax: 1-855-347-7239

- We will acknowledge your appeal in writing within five calendar days after we receive it.
- We will fully and fairly review all available information relevant to your appeal without deferring to prior decisions.
- We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within 30 calendar days after we receive your appeal.
- If we deny your appeal, our adverse benefit determination notice will tell you why we denied your appeal and will include information regarding any further process, including external review, which may be available to you.

### **Urgent Pre-service Appeal**

- Tell us that you want to urgently appeal our adverse benefit determination regarding your pre-service claim. Please include the following:
  - (1) Your name and health record number;
  - (2) Your medical condition or relevant symptoms;
  - (3) The specific Service that you are requesting;
  - (4) All of the reasons why you disagree with our adverse benefit determination; and
  - (5) All supporting documents.

Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must mail, call, or fax your appeal to us at:

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest  
Member Relations Department  
500 NE Multnomah St., Suite 100  
Portland, OR 97232-2099  
Phone: 503-813-4480  
Fax: 1-855-347-7239

- When you send your appeal, you may also request simultaneous external review of our initial adverse benefit determination. If you want simultaneous external review, your appeal must tell us this. You will be eligible for the simultaneous external review only if your pre-service appeal qualifies as urgent. If you do not request simultaneous external review in your appeal, then you may be able to request external review after we make our decision regarding your appeal (see “External Review” in this “Grievances, Claims, Appeals, and External Review” section), if our internal appeal decision is not in your favor.
- We will decide whether your appeal is urgent or non-urgent. If we determine that your appeal is not urgent, we will treat your appeal as non-urgent. Generally, an appeal is urgent only if using the procedure for non-urgent appeals (a) could seriously jeopardize your life or health, the life or health of a fetus, or your ability to regain maximum function; (b) would, in the opinion of a physician with knowledge of your medical condition, subject you to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the Services you are requesting; (c) your attending provider requests that your claim be treated as urgent; or (d) involves a request concerning admissions, continued stay, or other health care Services if you have received Emergency Services but have not been discharged from a facility.
- We will fully and fairly review all available information relevant to your appeal without deferring to prior decisions.
- We will review your appeal and give you oral or written notice of our decision as soon as your clinical condition requires, but no later than 72 hours after we received your appeal. If we notify you of our decision orally, we will send you a written confirmation within three calendar days after the oral notification.
- If we deny your appeal, our adverse benefit determination notice will tell you why we denied your appeal and will include information regarding any further process, including external review, which may be available to you.

### **Concurrent Care Claims and Appeals**

Concurrent care claims are requests that Company continues to provide, or pay for, an ongoing course of covered treatment to be provided over a period of time or number of treatments, when the course of treatment already being received is scheduled to end. If you have any general questions about concurrent care claims or appeals, please call Member Services.

Unless you are appealing an urgent care claim, if we either (a) deny your request to extend your current authorized ongoing care (your concurrent care claim) or (b) inform you that authorized care that you are currently receiving is going to end early and you appeal our adverse benefit determination at least 24 hours before your ongoing course of covered treatment will end, then during the time that we are considering your appeal, you may continue to receive the authorized Services. If you continue to receive these Services while we consider your appeal and your appeal does not result in our approval of your concurrent care claim, then you may have to pay for the Services that we decide are not covered.

Here are the procedures for filing a non-urgent concurrent care claim, an urgent concurrent care claim, a non-urgent concurrent care appeal, and an urgent concurrent care appeal:

#### **Non-Urgent Concurrent Care Claim**

- Tell us that you want to make a concurrent care claim for an ongoing course of covered treatment. Inform us in detail of the reasons that your authorized ongoing care should be continued or extended. Your request and any related documents you give us constitute your claim. You must mail, call, or fax your claim to us at:

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest  
Member Relations Department  
500 NE Multnomah St., Suite 100  
Portland, OR 97232-2099  
Phone: 1-800-813-2000  
Fax: 1-855-347-7239

- If you want us to consider your claim on an urgent basis and you contact us at least 24 hours before your authorized care ends, you may request that we review your concurrent claim on an urgent basis. We will decide whether your claim is urgent or non-urgent. If we determine that your claim is not urgent, we will treat your claim as non-urgent. Generally, a claim is urgent only if using the procedure for non-urgent claims (a) could seriously jeopardize your life or health, the life or health of a fetus, or your ability to regain maximum function; (b) would, in the opinion of a physician with knowledge of your medical condition, subject you to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the Services you are requesting; (c) your attending provider requests that your claim be treated as urgent; or (d) involves a request concerning admissions, continued stay, or other health care Services if you have received Emergency Services but have not been discharged from a facility.
- We will review your claim, and if we have all the information we need, we will make a decision within a reasonable period of time.

If you submitted your claim 24 hours or more before your authorized care is ending, we will make our decision before your authorized care actually ends.

If your authorized care ended before you submitted your claim, we will make our decision, but no later than 15 calendar days after we receive your claim.

We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 calendar days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, if we send you notice before the initial decision period ends.

If more information is needed to make a decision, we will ask you for the information in writing before the initial decision period ends, and we will give you until your care is ending or, if your care has ended, 45 calendar days to send us the information.

We will make our decision as soon as possible, if your care has not ended, or within 15 calendar days after we first receive any information (including documents) we requested.

We encourage you to send all the requested information at one time, so that we will be able to consider it all when we make our decision.

If we do not receive any of the requested information (including documents) within the stated timeframe after we send our request, we will make a decision based on the information we have within the appropriate timeframe, not to exceed 15 calendar days following the end of the timeframe we gave you for sending the additional information.

- We will send written notice of our decision to you and, if applicable, to your provider.

### **Urgent Concurrent Care Claim**

- If we consider your concurrent care claim on an urgent basis, we will notify you of our decision orally or in writing as soon as your clinical condition requires, but no later than 24 hours after we received your claim.
- If we notify you of our decision orally, we will send you written confirmation within three calendar days after the oral notification.
- If more information is needed to make a decision, we will give you seven calendar days to send the information.

- We encourage you to send all the requested information at one time, so that we will be able to consider it all when we make our decision.

We will notify you of our decision within 48 hours of receiving the first piece of requested information or by the deadline for receiving the information, whichever is sooner.

- If we deny your claim (if we do not agree to provide or pay for extending the ongoing course of treatment), our adverse benefit determination notice will tell you why we denied your claim and how you can appeal.

### **Non-Urgent Concurrent Care Appeal**

- Within 180 calendar days after you receive our adverse benefit determination notice, you must tell us in writing that you want to appeal our adverse benefit determination. Please include the following:
  - (1) Your name and health record number;
  - (2) Your medical condition or relevant symptoms;
  - (3) The ongoing course of covered treatment that you want to continue or extend;
  - (4) All of the reasons why you disagree with our adverse benefit determination; and
  - (5) All supporting documents.

Your request and all supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must either mail or fax your appeal to us at:

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest  
 Member Relations Department  
 500 NE Multnomah St., Suite 100  
 Portland, OR 97232-2099  
 Fax: 1-855-347-7239

- We will fully and fairly review all available information relevant to your appeal without deferring to prior decisions.
- We will review your appeal and send you a written decision as soon as possible if your care has not ended but no later than 30 calendar days after we receive your appeal.
- If we deny your appeal, our adverse benefit determination decision will tell you why we denied your appeal and will include information about any further process, including external review, which may be available to you.

### **Urgent Concurrent Care Appeal**

- Tell us that you want to urgently appeal our adverse benefit determination regarding your urgent concurrent claim. Please include the following:
  - (1) Your name and health record number;
  - (2) Your medical condition or relevant symptoms;
  - (3) The ongoing course of covered treatment that you want to continue or extend;
  - (4) All of the reasons why you disagree with our adverse benefit determination; and
  - (5) All supporting documents.

Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must mail, call, or fax your appeal to us at:

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest  
Member Relations Department  
500 NE Multnomah St., Suite 100  
Portland, OR 97232-2099  
Phone: 503-813-4480  
Fax: 1-855-347-7239

- When you send your appeal, you may also request simultaneous external review of our adverse benefit determination. If you want simultaneous external review, your appeal must tell us this. You will be eligible for the simultaneous external review only if your concurrent care claim qualifies as urgent. If you do not request simultaneous external review in your appeal, then you may be able to request external review after we make our decision regarding your appeal (see “External Review” in this “Grievances, Claims, Appeals, and External Review” section).
- We will decide whether your appeal is urgent or non-urgent. If we determine that your appeal is not urgent, we will treat your appeal as non-urgent. Generally, an appeal is urgent only if using the procedure for non-urgent appeals (a) could seriously jeopardize your life or health, the life or health of a fetus, or your ability to regain maximum function; (b) would, in the opinion of a physician with knowledge of your medical condition, subject you to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the Services you are requesting; (c) your attending provider requests that your claim be treated as urgent; or (d) involves a request concerning admissions, continued stay, or other health care Services if you have received Emergency Services but have not been discharged from a facility.
- We will fully and fairly review all available information relevant to your appeal without deferring to prior decisions.
- We will review your appeal and notify you of our decision orally or in writing as soon as your clinical condition requires, but no later than 72 hours after we receive your appeal. If we notify you of our decision orally, we will send you a written confirmation within three calendar days after the oral notification.
- If we deny your appeal, our adverse benefit determination notice will tell you why we denied your appeal and will include information about any further process, including external review, that may be available to you.

### **Post-service Claims and Appeals**

Post-service claims are requests that we pay for Services you already received, including claims for out-of-plan Emergency Services. If you have any general questions about post-service claims or appeals, please call Member Services.

Here are the procedures for filing a post-service claim and a post-service appeal:

#### **Post-service Claim**

- Within 12 months from the date you received the Services, mail us a letter explaining the Services for which you are requesting payment. Provide us with the following:
  - (1) The date you received the Services;
  - (2) Where you received them;
  - (3) Who provided them;
  - (4) Why you think we should pay for the Services; and

(5) A copy of the bill and any supporting documents, including medical records.

Your letter and the related documents constitute your claim. You may contact Member Services to obtain a claim form. You must mail your claim to the Claims Department at:

Kaiser Permanente  
National Claims Administration - Northwest  
PO Box 370050  
Denver, CO 80237-9998

We will not accept or pay for claims received from you after 12 months from the date of Services, except in the absence of legal capacity.

- We will review your claim, and if we have all the information we need, we will send you a written decision within 30 calendar days after we receive your claim.

We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 calendar days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, if we notify you within 30 calendar days after we receive your claim.

If more information is needed to make a decision, we will ask you for the information in writing before the initial decision period ends, and we will give you 45 calendar days to send us the information.

We will make a decision within 15 calendar days after we receive the first piece of information (including documents) we requested.

We encourage you to send all the requested information at one time, so that we will be able to consider it all when we make our decision.

If we do not receive any of the requested information (including documents) within 45 calendar days after we send our request, we will make a decision based on the information we have within 15 calendar days following the end of the 45 calendar day period.

- If we deny your claim (if we do not pay for all the Services you requested), our adverse benefit determination notice will tell you why we denied your claim and how you can appeal.

### **Post-service Appeal**

- Within 180 calendar days after you receive our adverse benefit determination, tell us in writing that you want to appeal our denial of your post-service claim. Please include the following:

- (1) Your name and health record number;
- (2) Your medical condition or relevant symptoms;
- (3) The specific Services that you want us to pay for;
- (4) All of the reasons why you disagree with our adverse benefit determination; and
- (5) All supporting documents.

Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must either mail or fax your appeal to us at:

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest  
Member Relations Department  
500 NE Multnomah St., Suite 100  
Portland, OR 97232-2099  
Fax: 1-855-347-7239

- We will acknowledge your appeal in writing within five calendar days after we receive it.

- We will fully and fairly review all available information relevant to your appeal without deferring to prior decisions.
- We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within 30 calendar days after we receive your appeal.
- If we deny your appeal, our adverse benefit determination will tell you why we denied your appeal and will include information regarding any further process, including external review, that may be available to you.

## External Review

**If you are dissatisfied with our final adverse benefit determination, you have a right to request an external review.** For example, you have the right to request external review of an adverse decision that is based on any of the following:

- Relies on medical judgment, including but not limited to, medical necessity, appropriateness, health care setting, level of care, or that the requested Service is not efficacious or otherwise unjustified under evidence-based medical criteria.
- Whether a course or plan of treatment is an active course of treatment for purposes of continuity of care when a Select Provider's or PPO Provider's contract with us is terminated.
- Whether an exception to the prescription drug formulary or step therapy prescribing criteria should be granted.
- Concludes that parity exists in the non-quantitative treatment limitations applied to behavioral health care (mental health and/or Substance Use Disorder) benefits.
- Involves consideration of whether we are complying with federal law requirements regarding balance (surprise) billing and/or cost sharing protections pursuant to the No Surprises Act (Public Health Service Act sections 2799A-1 and 2799A-2 and 45 C.F.R. §§149.110 --149.130).
- Involves a decision related to rescission of your coverage.

You must exhaust our internal claims and appeals procedure for your claim before you may request external review unless one of the following is true:

- External review is permitted to occur simultaneously with your urgent pre-service appeal or urgent concurrent care appeal;
- Your request qualifies for expedited external review;
- We have failed to comply with federal requirements regarding our claims and appeals procedures.

**You are not responsible for the costs of the external review, and you may name someone else to file the request for external review for you if you give permission in writing and include that with your request for external review. Company will be bound by and act in accordance with the decision of the independent review organization (IRO) notwithstanding the definition of Medically Necessary care. If we do not follow a decision of an IRO, you have the right to sue us.**

Within 180 calendar days after the date of our appeal denial letter you must send your request for external review to Member Relations in writing (via mail, fax, or online through our website at **kp.org**). If you wish to mail or fax your request, you may send it to us at:

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest  
 Member Relations Department  
 500 NE Multnomah St., Suite 100  
 Portland, OR 97232-2099  
 Fax: 1-855-347-7239



**You must provide us with a signed waiver form that enables us to disclose your protected health information, including pertinent medical records, to the IRO that will evaluate your request.** The “Authorization for Kaiser Permanente to Use/Disclose Protected Health Information” form is also available at [info.kaiserpermanente.org/northwest/roi/forms.html](http://info.kaiserpermanente.org/northwest/roi/forms.html).

The appeal denial letter that we send to you explains the external review process and how you may obtain the waiver form. Member Relations will forward your request to the director of the Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS), Division of Financial Regulation (DFR), within two business days after receiving your request. Your request for external review will be assigned to one of the nationally accredited IROs contracted by DCBS no later than the next business day after the director receives your request for external review from us.

Within two business days of receiving notice of your request, DCBS will send you a written description of the IRO they selected along with more information about the process. They will also notify us of the IRO they selected, and within five business days after receiving notification from DCBS, we will send the IRO any documents and information we considered in making our adverse benefit determination.

If we do not have the required signed waiver form upon receipt of your request for external review, we will send you a waiver form and a letter within two business days of receiving your request for external review, describing the need for the waiver and instructions on where to send it. Unless your external review is expedited, we will also call you within five business days of receiving your request for external review to remind you that we need the signed waiver. If your external review is expedited, we will call you to request that you immediately fax us the completed waiver form.

You will have five business days to submit to the IRO, in writing, additional information that the IRO must consider when conducting the external review. The IRO will forward to us any additional information you submit within one business day of receipt. We may also forward additional information directly to the IRO. The IRO will have one business day after receiving the additional information to forward that information to you.

Unless your external review is expedited, the IRO will issue a decision within 30 calendar days after the date when we receive your request for external review. The IRO will notify you and us of its decision no later than five calendar days after the decision is issued.

You may also contact DCBS directly to request an external review. If DCBS receives a request for external review directly from you, they will notify us of your request no later than the next business day. Upon receipt of your request from DCBS, we will follow the process described above. You may contact the Oregon DCBS by mail, e-mail, telephone, or online at:

Department of Consumer and Business Services  
Division of Financial Regulation  
Consumer Advocacy Section  
P.O. Box 14480  
Salem, OR 97309-0405  
E-mail: [DFR.InsuranceHelp@oregon.gov](mailto:DFR.InsuranceHelp@oregon.gov)  
Phone: 503-947-7984  
Toll Free: 1-888-877-4894  
<https://dfr.oregon.gov/help/Pages/index.aspx>

### **Expedited External Review**

We shall expedite the external review:

- 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 the enrollee received Emergency Services and has not been discharged from a health care facility; or

- If a provider you have an established relationship with certifies in writing and provides supporting documentation that the ordinary time period for external review would (a) seriously jeopardize your life or health, the life or health of a fetus, or your ability to regain maximum function; (b) in the opinion of a physician with knowledge of your medical condition, subject you to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the Services you are requesting; (c) your attending provider requests that your claim be treated as urgent; or (d) involves a request concerning admissions, continued stay, or other health care Services if you have received Emergency Services but have not been discharged from a facility.

## **Additional Review**

You may have certain additional rights if you remain dissatisfied after you have exhausted our internal claims and appeals procedures, and if applicable, external review. If you are enrolled through a plan that is subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), you may file a civil action under section 502(a) of the federal ERISA statute. To understand these rights, you should check with your benefits office or contact the Employee Benefits Security Administration (part of the U.S. Department of Labor) at 1-866-444-EBSA (3272). Alternatively, if your plan is not subject to ERISA (for example, most state or local government plans and church plans or all individual plans), you may have a right to request review in state court.

## **TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT**

If the *Agreement* terminates and Group does not replace this coverage with another Plan, Company will give Group written notice of termination no later than 10 working days after the termination date and will explain the rights of Members regarding continuation of coverage as provided by federal and state law.

## **TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

If your membership terminates, all rights to benefits end at 11:59 p.m. PT on the termination date. In addition, Dependents' memberships end at the same time the Subscribers' membership ends.

You will be billed as a non-Member for any Services you receive after your membership terminates. Company, Select Providers, Select Facilities, PPO Providers, and PPO Facilities have no further liability or responsibility under this *EOC* after your membership terminates except as provided under "Termination during Confinement in a Hospital" in this "Termination of Membership" section.

### **Termination During Confinement in a Hospital**

If you are hospitalized on the date when your membership terminates, we will continue to cover otherwise covered Services in that hospital if all of the following conditions are met:

- The coverage under this *EOC* is being immediately replaced by another insured group health insurance policy.
- You are an inpatient receiving covered Services on the date your membership ends.
- You must continue to pay any applicable Cost Share.

Your coverage under this provision continues until the earlier of:

- Your discharge from the hospital or
- Your exhaustion of hospital benefits under this *EOC*.

### **Termination Due to Loss of Eligibility**

You and your Dependents must remain eligible to maintain your Group coverage. You must immediately report to your Group any changes in eligibility status, such as a Spouse's loss of eligibility due to divorce or a Dependent child who has reached the Dependent Limiting Age. If you no longer meet the eligibility

requirements described in this *EOC*, please confirm with your Group's benefits administrator when your membership will end.

## **Termination for Cause**

If you or any other Member in your Family knowingly commits fraud in connection with membership, Company, or a Select Provider, we may terminate your membership under this employer's *Agreement* by sending written notice, including the specific reason for termination with supporting evidence to the Subscriber at least 31 days before the membership termination date. Some examples of fraud include:

- Misrepresenting eligibility information about yourself or a Dependent.
- Presenting an invalid prescription or physician order for Services.
- Intentionally misusing a Company ID card (or letting someone else use your ID card to obtain Services pretending to be you).
- Giving us incorrect or incomplete material information.
- Failing to notify us of changes in Family status or Medicare coverage that may affect your eligibility or benefits.

We may report fraud and other illegal acts to the authorities for prosecution.

If we terminate your membership for cause, we will:

- Refund any amounts we owe your Group for Premium paid for the period after the termination date.
- Pay you any amounts we have determined that we owe you for claims during your membership.
- We may deduct any amounts you owe Company, Select Providers, or Select Facilities from any payment we make to you.

If your coverage is terminated for any of the above reasons, you have the right to file an appeal. For more information, please contact Member Services.

## **Termination of Your Group's *Agreement* with Us**

If your Group's *Agreement* with us terminates for any reason, your membership ends on the same date. We require the Group to notify Subscribers in writing if the *Agreement* with us terminates.

## **Termination of Certain Types of Health Benefit Plans by Us**

We may terminate a particular Plan or all Plans offered in the group market as permitted by law. If we discontinue offering a particular Plan in the group market, we will terminate the particular Plan upon 90 days prior written notice to you. If we discontinue offering all Plans to groups in the group market, we may terminate your Group's *Agreement* upon 180 days prior written notice to you.

## **CONTINUATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

### **Strike, Lock-Out, or Other Labor Disputes**

If your compensation is suspended directly or indirectly as a result of a strike, lock-out, or other labor dispute, you may continue membership under this *EOC* by paying Premium for yourself and eligible Dependents directly to the Group for up to six months. If the Group's coverage is terminated by Company, reinstatement with Company is subject to all terms and conditions of your Group's *Agreement* with Company. When your Group continuation coverage under this *EOC* stops, you and your Dependents may be eligible to purchase an individual plan offered by Company.

## **Illness, Temporary Plant Shut Down, or Leave of Absence**

If you are off work due to illness, temporary plant shutdown, or other leave of absence authorized by your Group, you may make arrangements to make monthly payments through your Group for up to 12 weeks. The 12-week period may be extended by advance arrangements confirmed in writing by Company. Once the 12-week period is exhausted, you may also be eligible to convert to an individual plan. (See the “Conversion to an Individual Plan” section.)

## **Continuation of Group Coverage under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA)**

You may be able to continue your coverage under this *EOC* for a limited time after you would otherwise lose eligibility, if required by the federal COBRA law. COBRA applies to most employees (and most of their covered dependents) of most employers with 20 or more employees (however, it does not apply to church plans as defined by federal law). Please contact your Group for details about COBRA continuation coverage, such as how to elect coverage and how much you must pay your Group for the coverage.

## **Federal or State-Mandated Continuation of Coverage**

Termination of coverage will be postponed if the Member is on a leave of absence and continuation of coverage is required by the federal or state-mandated family or medical leave act or law, as amended.

## **State Continuation Coverage for Surviving, Divorced, or Separated Spouses 55 or Older**

If your Group has 20 or more employees, you and your Dependents may be able to continue your coverage under this *EOC* through your Group if you meet all of the following criteria:

- You are the Subscriber’s Spouse.
- You are age 55 or older.
- The Subscriber died, or you divorced or are legally separated from the Subscriber.
- You are not eligible for Medicare.

To continue coverage, you must notify Member Services in writing within 60 days after legal separation or divorce, or the Group must notify us in writing within 30 days after the death of the Subscriber. Within 14 days after we receive the notice, we will send you an election form, payment information, and instructions for electing continuation coverage. You must return the completed election form no later than 60 days after the date we mailed it to you.

The first Premium payment must be paid within 45 days of your coverage election date. Your right to continue coverage as a surviving, separated, or divorced Spouse will end upon the earliest of the following events:

- You fail to pay your Premium.
- The Group’s *Agreement* with us terminates.
- You become covered under another group health coverage.
- You, as a separated or divorced Spouse, remarry.
- You become eligible for Medicare.

## **State Continuation Coverage for Non-COBRA Groups**

You may be able to continue coverage under this *EOC* for up to nine months if all of the following requirements are met:

- Your Group is not subject to COBRA law.
- The Subscriber in your Family was covered continuously under this *EOC* during the three-month period ending on the date of the qualifying event.
- You were covered under this *EOC* on the day before the qualifying event, or you are a child born to or adopted by the Subscriber while the Subscriber has continuation coverage under this “State Continuation Coverage for Non-COBRA Groups” section and you would have been covered under this *EOC* if you had been born or adopted on the day before the qualifying event. For the purposes of this “State Continuation Coverage for Non-COBRA Groups” section, “qualifying event” means the loss of membership under this *EOC* caused by one of the following:
  - Voluntary or involuntary termination of the employment of the Subscriber.
  - A reduction in hours worked by the Subscriber.
  - The Subscriber’s becoming eligible for Medicare.
  - A Dependent’s losing Dependent child status under this *EOC*.
  - Termination of membership in your Group resulting in loss of eligibility under the Group’s evidence of coverage.
  - The death of the Subscriber.
- You are not eligible for Medicare, and you are not eligible for coverage under any other hospital or medical coverage or program that was not covering you on the day before the qualifying event.
- To request continuation coverage under this “State Continuation Coverage for Non-COBRA Groups” section, you must send us a written request for this continuation coverage no later than 15 days after the later of the following:
  - The date of your qualifying event.
  - The date on which we sent you notice of your right to continue coverage under this *EOC*.

You must mail or fax your written request to us at:

Consolidated Service Center (CSC)  
 PO Box 23127  
 San Diego, CA 92193  
 Fax: 866-311-5974

Your Premium will be 100 percent of the applicable Premium. You must pay your first Premium payment to your Group within 31 days after the date of your qualifying event. Subsequent Premium payments are due on the last day of the month preceding the month of membership.

Continuation coverage under this “State Continuation Coverage for Non-COBRA Groups” section ends on the earliest of the following dates:

- The date that is nine months after your qualifying event.
- The end of the period for which we received your last timely Premium payment.
- The Premium due date coinciding with or next following the date that you become eligible for Medicare or for coverage under any other hospital or medical coverage or program that was not covering you on the day before the qualifying event.
- The date on which your Group’s *Agreement* with us terminates.

If you are a surviving, divorced, or separated Spouse and are not eligible for continuation coverage under the “State Continuation Coverage for Surviving, Divorced, or Separated Spouses 55 or Older” section you may

continue coverage for yourself and your Dependents under this “State Continuation Coverage for Non-COBRA Groups” section under the same terms as the Subscriber.

If you are a Subscriber who is laid off and then rehired by the same employer within nine months and you were eligible for coverage at the time of the layoff, you may not be subjected to any waiting period even if you chose not to continue coverage under this “State Continuation Coverage for Non-COBRA Groups” section.

If your Group coverage was under another evidence of coverage on the date of your qualifying event and you later became covered under this *EOC*, you may be able to continue coverage under this *EOC* if you otherwise meet the eligibility requirements in this “State Continuation Coverage for Non-COBRA Groups” section. The period of state continuation coverage includes the number of months you were covered under the previous evidence of coverage plus the number of months of coverage under this *EOC*, not to exceed nine months.

## **State Continuation Coverage after Workers’ Compensation Claim**

If you are a Subscriber and you file a workers’ compensation claim for an injury or illness, you may be able to continue coverage under this *EOC* for up to six months after you would otherwise lose eligibility. Please contact your Group for details such as how to elect coverage and how much you must pay your Group for the coverage.

## **Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA)**

If you are called to active duty in the uniformed services, you may be able to continue your coverage under this *EOC* for a limited time after you would otherwise lose eligibility, if required by federal law (USERRA).

You must submit an USERRA election form to your Group within 60 days after your call to active duty. Please contact your Group if you want to know how to elect USERRA coverage and how much you must pay your Group for the coverage.

## **Conversion to an Individual Plan**

After your Group notifies us to terminate your membership, we will send a termination letter to the Subscriber’s address of record. The letter will include information about options that may be available to you to remain a Member. You may contact Member Services if you have questions.

## **Moving to Another Kaiser Foundation Health Plan Service Area**

If you move to another Kaiser Foundation Health Plan service area, you should contact your Group’s benefits administrator to learn about your Group health care options. You may be eligible to enroll in a plan in the other Kaiser Foundation Health Plan service area. Eligibility requirements, benefits, premium, deductible, copayments, and coinsurance may not be the same in the other service area.

## **MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

### **Administration of Plan**

We may adopt reasonable policies, procedures, and interpretations to promote orderly and efficient administration of this *EOC*.

### **Plan Binding on Members**

By electing coverage or accepting benefits under this *EOC*, all Members legally capable of contracting, and the legal representatives of all Members incapable of contracting, agree to all provisions of this *EOC*.

## **Amendment of Plan**

Your Group's *Agreement* with us will change periodically. If these changes affect this *EOC*, your Group is required to make revised materials available to you.

## **Annual Summaries and Additional Information**

Additional information that we have filed with the Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) is available to you upon request. You may contact the Oregon DCBS to request the following:

- Our annual summary of grievances and appeals.
- Our annual summary of the utilization management program.
- Our annual summary of quality assurance activities.
- The results of publicly available accreditation surveys of our health plan.
- Our annual summary of health-promotion and disease-prevention activities.
- An annual summary of scope of network and accessibility of Services.

Contact the Oregon DCBS by mail, e-mail, telephone, or online at:

Department of Consumer and Business Services  
Division of Financial Regulation  
Consumer Advocacy Section  
P.O. Box 14480  
Salem, OR 97309-0405  
E-mail: [DFR.InsuranceHelp@oregon.gov](mailto:DFR.InsuranceHelp@oregon.gov)  
Phone: 503-947-7984  
Toll Free: 1-888-877-4894  
<https://dfr.oregon.gov/help/Pages/index.aspx>

## **Applications and Statements**

You must complete any applications, forms, or statements that we request in our normal course of business or as specified in this *EOC*. In the absence of fraud, all statements made by an applicant, Group, or Subscriber shall be deemed representations and not warranties. No statement made for the purpose of effecting coverage shall void coverage or reduce benefits unless contained in a written instrument signed by the Group or Subscriber, a copy of which has been furnished to the Group or Subscriber.

## **Assignment**

You may not assign this *EOC* or any of the rights, interests, claims for money due, benefits, or obligations hereunder without our prior written consent.

## **Attorney Fees and Expenses**

In any dispute between a Member and Company or Medical Group or Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, each party will bear its own attorney fees and other expenses, except as otherwise required by law.

## **Compensation of Providers and Facilities**

Select Providers, Select Facilities, PPO Providers, and PPO Facilities may be paid in various ways, including salary, per diem rates, case rates, fee-for-service, incentive payments, and capitation payments. Capitation payments are based on a total number of Members (on a per-Member, per-month basis), regardless of the amount of Services provided. Company may directly or indirectly make capitation payments to Select Providers, Select Facilities, PPO Providers, and PPO Facilities only for the professional Services they deliver,

and not for Services provided by other physicians, hospitals, or facilities. We pay Non-Participating Providers and Non-Participating Facilities the Allowed Amount for their Services. Please call Member Services if you would like to learn more about the ways providers and facilities are paid to provide or arrange medical and hospital Services for Members.

Our contracts with Select Providers, Select Facilities, PPO Providers, and PPO Facilities provide that you are not liable for any amounts we owe. However, you may be liable for the cost of non-covered Services that you receive from a Select Provider, Select Facility, PPO Provider, PPO Facility, Non-Participating Provider, or Non-Participating Facility. You will also be liable for the cost of Services that you receive without required authorization.

## **Exercise of Conscience**

We recognize the rights to exercise religious beliefs and conscience. If a provider or facility declines to provide a covered Service for reasons of conscience or religion, contact Member Services and we will direct you to another provider or facility.

## **Governing Law**

Except as preempted by federal law, this *EOC* will be governed in accord with Oregon law and any provision that is required to be in this *EOC* by state or federal law shall bind Members and Company whether or not set forth in this *EOC*.

## **Group and Members not Company Agents**

Neither your Group nor any Member is the agent or representative of Company.

## **Information about New Technology**

When a new medical technology or procedure needs review, our Inter-regional New Technology Committee examines and evaluates data from government agencies, medical experts, medical journals, and medical specialty societies. Recommendations from this inter-regional committee then are passed onto the local committee. The committee reviews the national recommendations to see how they apply to local medical practices. Once this review takes place, the committee makes recommendations for the new technology or procedure to become a covered benefit. In addition, the committee communicates practice guidelines to network providers and related health care providers. If the committee's recommendation is accepted, the new technology is added to the covered benefits, either immediately or when this contract renews.

## **No Waiver**

Our failure to enforce any provision of this *EOC* will not constitute a waiver of that or any other provision, or impair our right thereafter to require your strict performance of any provision.

## **Nondiscrimination**

We do not discriminate in our employment practices or in the delivery of Services on the basis of race, ethnicity, nationality, actual or perceived gender, age, physical or mental disability, marital status, sexual orientation, genetic information, or religion.

## **Notices**

We will send our notices to you to the most recent address we have for the Subscriber. The Subscriber is responsible for notifying us of any change in address. Subscribers who move should call Member Services as soon as possible to give us their new address.



## Overpayment Recovery

We may recover any overpayment we make for Services from anyone who receives an overpayment, or from any person or organization obligated to pay for the Services.

## Privacy Practices

Kaiser Permanente will protect the privacy of your protected health information (PHI). We also require contracting providers to protect your PHI. Your PHI is individually identifiable information about your health, health care Services you receive, or payment for your health care. You may generally see and receive copies of your PHI, correct or update your PHI, and ask us for an accounting of certain disclosures of your PHI.

We may use or disclose your PHI for treatment, payment, health research, and health care operations purposes, such as measuring the quality of Services. We are sometimes required by law to give PHI to others, such as government agencies or in judicial actions. In addition, Member-identifiable health information is shared with your Group only with your authorization or as otherwise permitted by law. We will not use or disclose your PHI for any other purpose without your (or your representative's) written authorization, except as described in our *Notice of Privacy Practices*. Giving us this authorization is at your discretion.

You have the right to request that Kaiser Permanente send your PHI directly to you, and not to the Subscriber of your plan. You have the right to tell us where you want us to redirect communications containing your PHI, including a different mailing address, email address or telephone number. To make a request for confidential communication, please call Member Services and ask for a "Confidential Communication Request" form. It may take up to 30 days from the date of receipt of the form for us to process your request.

This is only a brief summary of some of our key privacy practices. Our *Notice of Privacy Practices*, which provides additional information about our privacy practices and your rights regarding your PHI, is available and will be furnished to you upon request. To request a copy, please call Member Services. You can also find the notice on our website at [kp.org](http://kp.org).

## Unusual Circumstances

In the event of unusual circumstances that delay or render impractical the provision of Services, such as major disaster, epidemic, war, riot, civil insurrection, labor disputes, disability of a large share of personnel at Select Facilities or PPO Facilities, and complete or partial destruction of facilities, we will make a good faith effort to provide or arrange for covered Services within the limitations of available personnel and facilities. Kaiser Permanente shall have no other liability or obligation if covered Services are delayed or unavailable due to unusual circumstances.

## NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT AND NOTICE OF LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE

### Nondiscrimination Notice

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest (Kaiser Health Plan) complies with applicable federal and state civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation. Kaiser Health Plan does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation. We also:

- Provide no cost aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as:
  - Qualified sign language interpreters
  - Written information in other formats, such as large print, audio, and accessible electronic formats

- Provide no cost language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as:
  - Qualified interpreters
  - Information written in other languages

If you need these services, call Member Services at **1-800-813-2000** (TTY: 711).

If you believe that Kaiser Health Plan has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation, you can file a grievance with our Civil Rights Coordinator, by mail, phone, or fax. If you need help filing a grievance, our Civil Rights Coordinator is available to help you. You may contact our Civil Rights Coordinator at:

Member Relations Department  
 Attention: Kaiser Civil Rights Coordinator  
 500 NE Multnomah St., Suite 100  
 Portland, OR 97232-2099  
 Phone: **1-800-813-2000** (TTY: 711)  
 Fax: **1-855-347-7239**

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, DC 20201  
 Phone: **1-800-368-1019**  
 TDD: **1-800-537-7697**

Complaint forms are available at [www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html](http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html).

## Help in Your Language

**ATTENTION:** If you speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call **1-800-813-2000** (TTY: 711).

**አማርኛ (Amharic) ማስታወሻ:** የሚናገሩት ቋንቋ አማርኛ ከሆነ የትርጉም እርዳታ ድርጅቶች፣ በነጻ ሊያግዝዎት ተዘጋጅተዋል። ወደ ሚክተለው ቁጥር ይደውሉ **1-800-813-2000** (TTY: 711)።

**العربية (Arabic) ملحوظة:** إذا كنت تتحدث العربية، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم **1-800-813-2000** (TTY: 711).

**中文 (Chinese) 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**1-800-813-2000** (TTY: 711)。

**فارسی (Farsi) توجه:** اگر به زبان فارسی گفتگو می کنید، تسهیلات زبانی بصورت رایگان برای شما فراهم می باشد. با **1-800-813-2000** (TTY: 711) تماس بگیرید.

**Français (French) ATTENTION:** Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le **1-800-813-2000** (TTY: 711).

**Deutsch (German) ACHTUNG:** Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung.  
 Rufnummer: **1-800-813-2000** (TTY: 711).

**日本語 (Japanese) 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。**1-800-813-2000** (TTY: 711) まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

**ខ្មែរ (Khmer) ប្រយ័ត្ន:** បើសិនជាអ្នកនិយាយភាសាខ្មែរ, សេវាជំនួយផ្នែកភាសា ដោយមិនគិតថ្លៃ គឺអាចមានសំរាប់អ្នក។ ចូរ ទូរស័ព្ទ **1-800-813-2000 (TTY: 711)**។

**한국어 (Korean) 주의:** 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. **1-800-813-2000 (TTY: 711)** 번으로 전화해 주십시오.

**ລາວ (Laotian) ໂປດລາບ:** ຖ້າວ່າ ທ່ານເວົ້າພາສາ ລາວ, ການບໍລິການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອດ້ານພາສາ, ໂດຍບໍ່ເສັຽຄ່າ, ແມ່ນມີພ້ອມໃຫ້ທ່ານ. ໂທສ **1-800-813-2000 (TTY: 711)**.

**Afaan Oromoo (Oromo) XIYYEEFFANNAA:** Afaan dubbattu Oroomiffa, tajaajila gargaarsa afaanii, kanfaltiidhaan ala, ni argama. Bilbilaa **1-800-813-2000 (TTY: 711)**.

**ਪੰਜਾਬੀ (Punjabi) ਧਿਆਨ ਦਿਓ:** ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਬੋਲਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਸੇਵਾ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਲਈ ਮੁਫਤ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ। **1-800-813-2000 (TTY: 711)** 'ਤੇ ਕਾਲ ਕਰੋ।

**Română (Romanian) ATENȚIE:** Dacă vorbiți limba română, vă stau la dispoziție servicii de asistență lingvistică, gratuit. Sunați la **1-800-813-2000 (TTY: 711)**.

**Русский (Russian) ВНИМАНИЕ:** если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните **1-800-813-2000 (TTY: 711)**.

**Español (Spanish) ATENCIÓN:** si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al **1-800-813-2000 (TTY: 711)**.

**Tagalog (Tagalog) PAUNAWA:** Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, maaari kang gumamit ng mga serbisyo ng tulong sa wika nang walang bayad. Tumawag sa **1-800-813-2000 (TTY: 711)**.

**ไทย (Thai) เรียน:** ถ้าคุณพูดภาษาไทย คุณสามารถใช้บริการช่วยเหลือทางภาษาได้ฟรี โทร **1-800-813-2000 (TTY: 711)**.

**Українська (Ukrainian) УВАГА!** Якщо ви розмовляєте українською мовою, ви можете звернутися до безкоштовної служби мовної підтримки. Телефонуйте за номером **1-800-813-2000 (TTY: 711)**.

**Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese) CHÚ Ý:** Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số **1-800-813-2000 (TTY: 711)**.



# KAISER FOUNDATION HEALTH PLAN OF THE NORTHWEST ALTERNATIVE CARE SERVICES RIDER

This rider is part of the *Evidence of Coverage (EOC)* to which it is attached. All provisions of this rider become part of the *EOC* “Benefits” section, except for the “Alternative Care Services Rider Benefit Summary,” which becomes part of the *EOC* “Benefit Summary.” This entire benefit rider is therefore subject to all the terms and provisions of the *EOC*, unless otherwise indicated.

## Alternative Care Services

We cover the self-referred alternative care Services described in this “Alternative Care Services Rider” when Services are received from a Select Provider, PPO Provider, or Non-Participating Provider and provided as outpatient Services in the provider’s office.

For purposes of this “Alternative Care Services Rider,” a Select Provider means a person licensed under state law to provide alternative care Services, and who is an employee of Medical Group, or contracts directly or indirectly with Medical Group; or participates in The CHP Group.

To locate a Select Provider, visit [www.chpgroup.com](http://www.chpgroup.com). To locate a PPO Provider, visit [kp.org/addedchoice/nw](http://kp.org/addedchoice/nw). If you need assistance searching for a Select Provider or a PPO Provider, or to verify the current participation status of a provider, or if you do not have access to the online directories, please contact Member Services.

These benefits are subject to visit limits and applicable Cost Shares shown in the “Alternative Care Services Rider Benefit Summary.” Visit limits are combined for all providers who may provide covered Services under this rider.

## Acupuncture Services

Acupuncturists influence the health of the body by the insertion of very fine needles. Acupuncture treatment is primarily used to relieve pain, reduce inflammation, and promote healing. Covered Services include:

- Evaluation and management.
- Acupuncture.
- Electro acupuncture.

## Chiropractic Services

Chiropractic and manual manipulation of the spine, joints or soft tissue focuses on reducing pain and improving the function and structure of the body. It is a system of therapy that involves non-invasive care promoting science-based approaches to a variety of ailments. Covered Services include:

- Evaluation and management.
- Musculoskeletal treatments.
- Physical therapy modalities such as hot and cold packs.

When prescribed, X-ray procedures are covered as described in the “Outpatient Laboratory, X-ray, Imaging, and Special Diagnostic Procedures” section in the “Benefits” section of the *EOC*.

## Massage Therapy

Therapeutic massage involves the manipulation of soft tissue structures of the body to help alleviate pain, muscle discomfort, and stress by helping to promote health and wellness. Covered Services include therapeutic massage procedures.

## Alternative Care Services Rider Exclusions

- Dermal friction technique.
- East Asian massage and tui na.
- Laserpuncture.
- Nambudripad allergy elimination technique (NAET).
- Point injection therapy.
- Qi gong
- Services designed to maintain optimal health in the absence of symptoms.
- Sonopuncture.

## Alternative Care Services Rider Benefit Summary

	Select Providers	PPO Providers	Non-Participating Providers
	You Pay		
Acupuncture Services (up to 12 visits per Year)	\$25 per visit	20% Coinsurance	40% Coinsurance
Chiropractic Services (up to 20 visits per Year)	\$25 per visit	20% Coinsurance	40% Coinsurance
Massage Therapy (up to 12 visits per Year)	\$25 per visit	20% Coinsurance	40% Coinsurance

# **KAISER FOUNDATION HEALTH PLAN OF THE NORTHWEST OUTPATIENT PRESCRIPTION DRUG RIDER (Including MedImpact Pharmacies)**

This rider is part of the *Evidence of Coverage (EOC)* to which it is attached. This rider becomes part of the *EOC* “Benefits” section, except for the “Outpatient Prescription Drug Rider Benefit Summary,” which becomes part of the *EOC* “Benefit Summary.” The provisions of the *EOC* apply to this entire rider.

*Note:* We also cover some outpatient drugs and supplies in the “Limited Outpatient Prescription Drugs and Supplies” section of the *EOC*.

## **Covered Drugs and Supplies**

We cover outpatient prescription drugs and supplies as described in this “Outpatient Prescription Drug Rider.” You may fill your prescriptions at a Select Pharmacy or a MedImpact Pharmacy.

### **At Select Pharmacies**

Covered drugs and supplies must be prescribed by a Select Provider or any other licensed provider (including a dentist) in accordance with our drug formulary guidelines and prior authorization and step therapy prescribing criteria.

You must obtain drugs and supplies at a Select Pharmacy (including our Mail-Order Pharmacy). See your *Added Choice Medical Facilities Directory*, visit [kp.org/addedchoice/nw](http://kp.org/addedchoice/nw), or contact Member Services.

### **At MedImpact Pharmacies**

Covered drugs and supplies must be prescribed by a Select Provider or any other licensed provider (including a dentist), in accordance with our prior authorization and step therapy prescribing criteria.

You must obtain drugs and supplies at a MedImpact Pharmacy (including MedImpact Mail-Order). For a directory of MedImpact Pharmacies, visit [kp.org/addedchoice/nw](http://kp.org/addedchoice/nw), or contact Member Services.

## **Cost Share for Covered Drugs and Supplies**

### **At Select Pharmacies**

When you get a prescription from a Select Pharmacy, or order a prescription from our Mail-Order Pharmacy, you pay the applicable Cost Share as shown in the “Outpatient Prescription Drug Rider Benefit Summary.” This applies for each prescription consisting of up to the day supply shown in the “Outpatient Prescription Drug Rider Benefit Summary.”

Outpatient prescription drugs and supplies are subject to the applicable Cost Share until the Select Provider medical Out-of-Pocket Maximum is met.

At a Select Pharmacy, if Charges for a covered drug or supply are less than your Copayment, you pay the lesser amount.

When you obtain your prescription through a pharmacy owned and operated by Kaiser Permanente (including our Mail-Order Pharmacy) you may be able to use an approved drug manufacturer coupon as payment for your prescription Cost Share. If the coupon does not cover the entire amount of your Cost Share, you are responsible for the additional amount up to the applicable Cost Share as shown in the “Benefit Summary.” When you use an approved coupon for payment of your Cost Share, the coupon amount will count toward the Out-of-Pocket Maximum. For more information about the Kaiser Permanente coupon program rules and limitations, please call Member Services, or go to [kp.org/rxcoupons](http://kp.org/rxcoupons).

## **At MedImpact Pharmacies**

When you get a prescription from a MedImpact Pharmacy or order a prescription from MedImpact Mail-Order, you pay the applicable Cost Share as shown in the “Outpatient Prescription Drug Rider Benefit Summary.” This applies for each prescription consisting of up to the day supply shown in the “Outpatient Prescription Drug Rider Benefit Summary.”

Outpatient prescription drugs and supplies are subject to the applicable Cost Share until the Select Provider medical Out-of-Pocket Maximum is met.

At a MedImpact Pharmacy, if the retail price or contracted price of a covered drug or supply is less than your Copayment, you pay the lesser amount.

## **Day Supply Limit**

The prescribing provider determines how much of a drug or supply to prescribe. For purposes of day supply coverage limits, the prescribing provider determines the amount of a drug or supply that constitutes a Medically Necessary 30-day (or any other number of days) supply for you. When you pay the applicable Cost Share shown in the “Outpatient Prescription Drug Rider Benefit Summary,” you will receive the prescribed supply up to the day supply limit. If you wish to receive more than the covered day supply limit, then you must pay Charges (at a Select Pharmacy) or full price (at a MedImpact Pharmacy) for any prescribed quantity that exceeds the day supply limit.

## **Medication Synchronization**

Medication synchronization is the coordination of medication refills, if you are taking two or more medications for a chronic condition, so that your medications are refilled on the same schedule. You may request medication synchronization for a new prescription from the prescribing provider or a Select Pharmacy or a MedImpact Pharmacy who will determine the appropriateness of medication synchronization for the drugs being dispensed and inform you of the decision.

## **How to Get Covered Drugs or Supplies**

You may fill your prescriptions at a Select Pharmacy or a MedImpact Pharmacy, though our coverage (including limitations, exclusions, and Cost Shares) will differ depending on which type of pharmacy you choose. A MedImpact Pharmacy is a pharmacy that contracts directly with MedImpact. You may contact Member Services for information on finding a MedImpact Pharmacy.

## **At Select Pharmacies**

Select Pharmacies are located in many Select Facilities. To find a Select Pharmacy, please see your *Added Choice Medical Facilities Directory*, visit [kp.org/addedchoice/nw](http://kp.org/addedchoice/nw), or contact Member Services.

Select Pharmacies include our Mail-Order Pharmacy. This pharmacy offers postage-paid delivery to addresses in Oregon and Washington. Some drugs and supplies are not available through our Mail-Order Pharmacy, for example drugs that require special handling or refrigeration, or are high cost. Drugs and supplies available through our Mail-Order Pharmacy are subject to change at any time without notice.

If you would like to use our Mail-Order Pharmacy, call 1-800-548-9809 or order online at [kp.org/refill](http://kp.org/refill).

## **At MedImpact Pharmacies**

MedImpact Pharmacies are located across the United States. To find a location, or for information on the MedImpact Mail-Order, please contact Member Services. Please note: The pharmacies that are owned and operated by Kaiser Permanente are not part of MedImpact Pharmacy network.



## Definitions

The following terms, when capitalized and used in this “Outpatient Prescription Drug Rider,” mean:

- **Brand-Name Drug.** The first approved version of a drug. Marketed and sold under a proprietary, trademark-protected name by the pharmaceutical company that holds the original patent.
- **Generic Drug.** A drug that contains the same active ingredient as a Brand-Name Drug and is approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as being therapeutically equivalent and having the same active ingredient(s) as the Brand-Name Drug. Generally, Generic Drugs cost less than Brand-Name Drugs, and must be identical in strength, safety, purity, and effectiveness.
- **Non-Preferred Brand-Name Drug.** A Brand-Name drug or supply that is not approved by Company’s Regional Formulary and Therapeutics Committee and requires prior authorization for coverage.
- **Preferred Brand-Name Drug.** A Brand-Name drug or supply that Company’s Regional Formulary and Therapeutics Committee has approved. Marketed and sold under a proprietary, trademark-protected name by the pharmaceutical company that holds the original patent.

## About Our Drug Formulary (Select Pharmacies only)

Our drug formulary is a list of drugs that the Kaiser Permanente Regional Formulary and Therapeutics Committee has reviewed and approved for our Members and includes drugs covered under this rider. Drugs on the formulary have been approved by the FDA.

The Kaiser Permanente Regional Formulary and Therapeutics Committee is made up of Select Physicians, other Select Providers, and administrative staff. The committee chooses drugs for the formulary based on several factors, including safety and effectiveness as determined from a review of the scientific literature. They may not approve a drug if there is not enough scientific evidence that it is clinically effective. They may also exclude a drug if it does not have a clinical or cost advantage over comparable formulary drugs.

The Regional Formulary and Therapeutics Committee meets to review new drugs and reconsider drugs currently on the market. After this review, they may add drugs to the formulary or remove drugs from it. If a drug is removed from the formulary, you will need to switch to another comparable drug that is on the drug formulary, unless your old drug meets exception criteria. Refer to the “Drug Formulary Exception Process” in this rider for more information.

If a formulary change affects a prescription drug you are taking, we encourage you to discuss any questions or concerns with your prescribing provider or another member of your health care team.

Drugs on our formulary may move to a different drug tier during the Year. For example, a drug could move from the Non-Preferred Brand-Name Drug list to the Preferred Brand-Name Drug list. If a drug you are taking is moved to a different drug tier, this could change the Cost Share you pay for that drug.

To see if a drug or supply is on our drug formulary, or to find out what drug tier the drug is in, go online to [kp.org/formulary](http://kp.org/formulary). You may also call our Formulary Application Services Team (FAST) at 503-261-7900 or toll free at 1-888-572-7231. If you would like a copy of our drug formulary or additional information about the formulary process, please call Member Services. The presence of a drug on our drug formulary does not necessarily mean that your provider will prescribe it for a particular medical condition.

If a provider other than a Select Provider prescribes a drug or supply that our drug formulary does not list for your condition, your options include:

- Asking a Select Pharmacy to contact your prescribing provider to see if your prescription can be changed to a drug or supply that our drug formulary lists for your condition.
- Making an appointment for a Select Provider to evaluate your medical condition. The Select Provider may prescribe a drug or supply that our drug formulary lists for your condition. If the Select Provider prescribes a drug or supply that our drug formulary does not list for your condition, they may request a

formulary exception (see the “Drug Formulary Exception Process” section).

- Getting the drug or supply from a MedImpact Pharmacy.

### **Drug Formulary Exception Process**

Our drug formulary guidelines include an exception process that is available when a Select Provider, PPO Provider, Non-Participating Provider, or any licensed dentist prescribes a drug or supply that our drug formulary does not list for your condition, if the law requires the item to bear the legend “Rx only.” The exception process is not available for drugs and supplies that the law does not require to bear this legend.

A Select Provider, PPO Provider, Non-Participating Provider, or any licensed dentist may request an exception if they determine that the non-formulary drug or supply is Medically Necessary. We will make a coverage determination within 72 hours of receipt for standard requests and within 24 hours of receipt for expedited requests.

We will approve the exception if all of the following requirements are met:

- We determine that the drug or supply meets all other coverage requirements except for the fact that our drug formulary does not list it for your condition.
- Medical Group or a designated physician makes the following determinations:
  - The drug or supply is Medically Necessary because you are allergic to, or intolerant of, or have experienced treatment failure with, any alternative drugs or supplies that our drug formulary lists for your condition.
  - Your condition meets any additional requirements that the Regional Formulary and Therapeutics Committee has approved for the drug or supply. For this drug or supply, the pharmacy can provide a copy of the additional criteria upon request. In some cases, there may be a short delay in filling your prescription while your information is being reviewed.

If we approve an exception through this exception process, then we will cover the drug or supply at the applicable Cost Share shown in the “Outpatient Prescription Drug Rider Benefit Summary.”

If we do not approve the formulary exception request, we will send you a letter informing you of that decision. You may request a review by an independent review organization. The process is explained in our denial letter and under “External Review” in the “Grievances, Claims, Appeals, and External Review” section.

### **Prior Authorization and Step Therapy Prescribing Criteria**

Prior authorization is required when you are prescribed certain drugs or supplies before they can be covered. A prescribing provider may request prior authorization if they determine that the drug or supply is Medically Necessary. Prescribing providers must supply to Company the medical information necessary for Company to make the prior authorization determination. Coverage for a prescribed drug or supply that is approved for prior authorization begins on the date Company approves the request.

Approved requests for prior authorization are binding on us for one year from the date that the treatment begins following our approval if the drug:

- Is prescribed as a maintenance therapy that is expected to last at least 12 months based on medical or scientific evidence;
- Continues to be prescribed throughout the 12-month period; and
- Is prescribed for a condition that is within the scope of use for the drug as approved by the FDA, or has been proven to be a safe and effective form of treatment for your medical condition based on clinical practice guidelines developed from peer-reviewed medical literature.

A list of those drugs and supplies that require prior authorization and the Utilization Review criteria we use are available online at [kp.org/formulary](http://kp.org/formulary) or you may contact Member Services.

We apply step therapy prescribing criteria, developed by Medical Group and approved by Company, to certain drugs and supplies. The step therapy prescribing criteria require that you try a therapeutically similar drug (step 1) for a specified length of time before we will cover another drug (step 2) prescribed for the same condition. A list of drugs and supplies subject to step therapy prescribing criteria, and the requirements for moving to the next step drug, are available online at [kp.org/formulary](http://kp.org/formulary) or you may contact Member Services.

### ***Prior Authorization Exception Process***

We have a process for you or your prescribing provider to request a review of a prior authorization determination that a drug or supply is not covered. This exception process is not available for drugs and supplies that the law does not require to bear the legend “Rx only.”

Your prescribing provider may request an exception if they determine that the drug or supply is Medically Necessary. Prescribing providers must supply to the Select Pharmacy or the MedImpact Pharmacy the medical information necessary to review the request for exception. A coverage determination will be made within 72 hours of receipt for standard requests and within 24 hours of receipt for expedited requests.

If the exception request is approved through this exception process, then we will cover the drug or supply at the applicable Cost Share shown in the “Outpatient Prescription Drug Rider Benefit Summary.”

If the exception request is not approved, we will send you a letter informing you of that decision. You may request a review by an independent review organization. The process is explained in our denial letter and under “External Review” in the “Grievances, Claims, Appeals, and External Review” section.

### ***Emergency Fill***

For purposes of this section, “emergency fill” means a limited dispensed amount of the prescribed drug that allows time for the processing of a prior authorization request. You may have the right to receive an emergency fill of a prescription drug that requires prior authorization under the following circumstances:

- the Select Pharmacy or MedImpact Pharmacy is unable to reach the Company’s prior authorization department by phone, as it is outside the department’s business hours; or
- the Select Pharmacy or MedImpact Pharmacy is unable to reach the prescribing provider for full consultation, and
- delay in treatment would result in imminent emergency care, hospital admission or might seriously jeopardize the life or health of the patient or others in contact with the patient.

An emergency fill must be received at a Select Pharmacy or a MedImpact Pharmacy and is subject to the applicable Cost Share shown in the “Outpatient Prescription Drug Rider Benefit Summary.” An emergency fill is limited to no more than a seven-day supply or the minimum packaging size available.

## Your Prescription Drug Rights

You have the right to safe and effective pharmacy Services. You also have the right to know what drugs are covered under this Plan and the limits that apply. If you have a question or a concern about your prescription drug benefits, please contact Member Services or visit us online at [kp.org](http://kp.org).

## Medication Management Program (Select Pharmacies only)

The Medication Management Program is available at no extra cost to Members who use Select Pharmacies. The program's primary focus is on reducing cardiovascular risk by controlling lipid levels and high blood pressure. Providers, including pharmacists, nurse care managers, and other staff, work with Members to educate, monitor, and adjust medication doses.

## Outpatient Prescription Drug Rider Limitations

- If your prescription allows refills, there are limits to how early you can receive a refill. In most cases, we will refill your prescription when you have used at least 70 percent of the quantity. Prescriptions for controlled substances cannot be refilled early. Please ask your pharmacy if you have questions about when you can get a covered refill.
- The pharmacy may reduce the day supply dispensed at the applicable Cost Share to a 30-day supply in any 30-day period if it determines that the drug or supply is in limited supply in the market or for certain other items. Your pharmacy can tell you if a drug or supply you use is one of these items.
- For certain drugs or supplies we may limit the amount of a drug or supply that is covered for a specified time frame. Quantity limits are in place to ensure safe and appropriate use of a drug or supply. Drugs and supplies subject to quantity limits are indicated on our drug formulary, available at [kp.org/formulary](http://kp.org/formulary). You may also contact Member Services for more information.
- Not all drugs are available through mail order. Examples of drugs that cannot be mailed include controlled substances as determined by state and/or federal regulations, drugs that require special handling, and drugs affected by temperature.

## Outpatient Prescription Drug Rider Exclusions

- Any packaging, such as blister or bubble repackaging, other than the dispensing pharmacy's standard packaging.
- Brand-Name Drugs for which a Generic Drug is available, unless approved. Refer to the "Prior Authorization and Step Therapy Prescribing Criteria" section.
- Drugs and supplies ordered from the Mail-Order Pharmacy to addresses outside of Oregon or Washington.
- Drugs prescribed for an indication if the FDA has determined that use of that drug for that indication is contraindicated.
- Drugs prescribed for an indication if the FDA has not approved the drug for that indication, except that this exclusion does not apply if the Oregon Health Evidence Review Commission or our Regional Formulary and Therapeutics Committee determines that the drug is recognized as effective for that use (i) in one of the standard reference compendia, or (ii) in the majority of relevant peer-reviewed medical literature, or (iii) by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- Drugs and supplies that are available without a prescription, even if the non-prescription item is in a different form or different strength (or both), except that this exclusion does not apply to non-prescription drugs or supplies described under "Covered Drugs and Supplies" in the "Limited Outpatient

Prescription Drugs and Supplies” section of the *EOC*, and you get them from a Select Pharmacy or a MedImpact Pharmacy.

- Drugs, biological products, and devices that the FDA has not approved.
- Drugs used for the treatment of infertility.
- Drugs and supplies to treat sexual dysfunction are excluded except for drugs that are FDA-approved to treat mental health symptoms of sexual dysfunction.
- Drugs used in weight management.
- Drugs used to enhance athletic performance.
- Extemporaneously compounded drugs, unless the formulation is approved by our Regional Formulary and Therapeutics Committee.
- Internally implanted time-release drugs, except that internally implanted time-release contraceptive drugs are covered.
- Nutritional supplements.
- Outpatient drugs that require professional administration by medical personnel or observation by medical personnel during self-administration (refer instead to the “Limited Outpatient Prescription Drugs and Supplies” section).
- Replacement of drugs and supplies due to loss, damage, or carelessness.

## Outpatient Prescription Drug Rider Benefit Summary

Outpatient Prescription Drugs and Supplies	Select Pharmacies You Pay
Generic Drugs	\$20 for up to a 30-day supply
Generic Drugs from our Mail-Order Pharmacy	\$20 for up to a 30-day supply
	\$40 for a 31- to 90-day supply
Preferred Brand-Name Drugs or supplies	\$40 for up to a 30-day supply
Preferred Brand-Name Drugs or supplies from our Mail-Order Pharmacy	\$40 for up to a 30-day supply
	\$80 for a 31- to 90-day supply
Non-Preferred Brand-Name Drugs or supplies	\$60 for up to a 30-day supply
Non-Preferred Brand-Name Drugs or supplies from our Mail-Order Pharmacy	\$60 for up to a 30-day supply
	\$120 for a 31- to 90-day supply
Blood glucose test strips	Subject to the applicable drug tier Copayment or Coinsurance
Self-administered chemotherapy medications used for the treatment of cancer	20% Coinsurance or subject to the applicable drug tier Cost Share, whichever is less
Outpatient Prescription Drugs and Supplies	MedImpact Pharmacies You Pay
Generic Drugs from a MedImpact Pharmacy	\$20 for up to a 30-day supply

Outpatient Prescription Drugs and Supplies	MedImpact Pharmacies You Pay
Generic Drugs from MedImpact Mail-Order	\$20 for up to a 30-day supply \$40 for a 31- to 60-day supply \$60 for a 61- to 90-day supply
Preferred Brand-Name Drugs or supplies from a MedImpact Pharmacy	\$40 for up to a 30-day supply
Preferred Brand-Name Drugs or supplies from MedImpact Mail-Order	\$40 for up to a 30-day supply \$80 for a 31- to 60-day supply \$120 for a 61- to 90-day supply
Non-Preferred Brand-Name Drugs or supplies from a MedImpact Pharmacy	\$60 for up to a 30-day supply
Non-Preferred Brand-Name Drugs or supplies from MedImpact Mail-Order	\$60 for up to a 30-day supply \$120 for a 31- to 60-day supply \$180 for a 61- to 90-day supply
Blood glucose test strips	Subject to the applicable drug tier Copayment or Coinsurance
Self-administered chemotherapy medications used for the treatment of cancer	20% Coinsurance or subject to the applicable drug tier Cost Share, whichever is less

# **KAISER FOUNDATION HEALTH PLAN OF THE NORTHWEST ADULT VISION HARDWARE AND OPTICAL SERVICES RIDER**

This rider is part of the *Evidence of Coverage (EOC)* to which it is attached. All provisions of this rider become part of the *EOC* “Benefits” section, except for the “Adult Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider Benefit Summary,” which becomes part of the *EOC* “Benefit Summary.” This entire benefit rider is therefore subject to all the terms and provisions of the *EOC*.

Vision Services covered under this “Adult Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider” are only for Members age 19 years and older. Vision Services for Members under age 19 are not covered under this rider but are covered if your Group has purchased the “Pediatric Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider.”

We cover the Services listed in this rider when prescribed by any licensed provider and obtained from a Select Provider, a PPO Provider, or a Non-Participating Provider. The “Vision Hardware and Optical Services” exclusion in the *EOC* “Exclusions and Limitations” section does not apply to Services we cover under this rider.

## **Eyeglasses and Contact Lenses**

We provide an allowance toward the price of prescription eyeglass lenses and a frame, or prescription contact lenses, including Medically Necessary contact lenses. The allowance is shown in the “Adult Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider Benefit Summary.” We will not provide the allowance if we have previously covered a lens, frame, or contact lens under this rider (but not counting any that we covered under “Eyeglasses and Contact Lenses after Cataract Surgery”) within the same benefit period shown in the “Adult Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider Benefit Summary.” The date we cover any of these items is the date on which you order the item.

## **Medically Necessary Contact Lenses**

Contact lenses may be determined to be Medically Necessary and appropriate in the treatment of the following conditions:

- Keratoconus.
- Pathological myopia.
- Aphakia.
- Anisometropia.
- Aniseikonia.
- Aniridia.
- Corneal disorders.
- Post-traumatic disorders.
- Irregular astigmatism.

The evaluation, fitting, and follow-up is covered for Medically Necessary contact lenses. Medically Necessary contact lenses are subject to Utilization Review by Company using criteria developed by Medical Group and approved by Company.

## **Eyeglasses and Contact Lenses after Cataract Surgery**

If you have cataract surgery and since that surgery we have never covered eyeglasses or contact lenses under any benefit for eyeglasses and contact lenses after cataract surgery (including any eyeglasses or contact lenses

we covered under any other coverage), we cover your choice of one of the following without charge if obtained from a Select Provider or a PPO Provider. We will cover both of the following if, in the judgment of a licensed provider, you must wear eyeglass lenses and contact lenses at the same time to provide a significant improvement in vision not obtainable with regular eyeglass lenses or contact lenses alone:

- One conventional contact lens, or up to a 6-month supply of disposable contact lenses, determined by your licensed provider for each eye on which you had cataract surgery, and fitting and follow-up care for the lens.
- One pair of regular eyeglass lenses determined by your licensed provider and a frame from a specified selection of frames.

If you obtain your eyeglasses or contact lenses under this benefit from a PPO Provider or Non-Participating Provider, we will cover the Services up to the amount we would have covered had you obtained the eyeglasses or contact lenses from a Select Provider. You will be responsible for any additional amount that is the difference between what we cover and the actual fee the PPO Provider or Non-Participating Provider charged for the Service.

**Note:** Refraction exams to determine the need for vision correction and to provide a prescription for eyeglass lenses are not covered under this “Adult Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider” (see the “Benefits” section).

### Adult Vision Hardware and Optical Services Exclusions

- Low vision aids.
- Non-prescription products (other than eyeglass frames), such as eyeglass holders, eyeglass cases, repair kits, contact lens cases, contact lens cleaning and wetting solution, and lens protection plans.
- Non-prescription sunglasses.
- Optometric vision therapy and orthoptics (eye exercises).
- Plano contact lenses or glasses (non-prescription).
- Professional services for evaluation, fitting and follow-up care for contact lenses, except that this exclusion does not apply to contact lenses we cover under “Medically Necessary Contact Lenses” or “Eyeglasses and Contact Lenses after Cataract Surgery” in this “Adult Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider.”
- Replacement of lost, broken, or damaged lenses or frames.

### Adult Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider Benefit Summary

	Select Providers	PPO Providers	Non-Participating Providers
<b>Vision Hardware</b>	<b>You Pay</b>		
Initial allowance of up to \$250 for prescription eyeglasses or conventional or disposable prescription contact lenses, including Medically Necessary contact lenses, not more than once every Year.	Any amount by which price exceeds allowance		



# **KAISER FOUNDATION HEALTH PLAN OF THE NORTHWEST PEDIATRIC VISION HARDWARE AND OPTICAL SERVICES RIDER**

This rider is part of the *Evidence of Coverage (EOC)* to which it is attached. All provisions of this rider become part of the *EOC* “Benefits” section, except for the “Pediatric Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider Benefit Summary,” which becomes part of the *EOC* “Benefit Summary.” This entire benefit rider is therefore subject to all the terms and provisions of the *EOC*.

Vision Services covered under this “Pediatric Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider” are covered until the end of the month in which the Member turns 19 years of age. Vision Services for Members age 19 years and older are not covered under this rider but are covered if your Group has purchased the “Adult Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider.”

We cover the Services listed in this rider when prescribed by any licensed provider and obtained from a Select Provider, a PPO Provider, or a Non-Participating Provider. The “Vision Hardware and Optical Services” exclusion in the *EOC* “Exclusions and Limitations” section does not apply to Services we cover under this rider.

Benefits are subject to the limits and applicable Cost Shares shown in the “Pediatric Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider Benefit Summary.” Benefit limits for a covered Service apply to Select Provider, PPO Provider and Non-Participating Provider benefits combined.

## **Examinations**

We cover a comprehensive eye examination with refraction, including dilation when determined to be Medically Necessary, as shown in the “Pediatric Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider Benefit Summary.”

## **Standard Eyeglasses and Contact Lenses**

We cover one pair of eyeglass lenses (single vision, bifocal, lenticular, or trifocal, including polycarbonate lenses and scratch-resistant coating) determined by your provider and a standard frame selected from a specified collection of frames, or contact lenses in lieu of eyeglasses. We will not provide benefits under this rider if we have already covered, in part or in full, a lens, frame, or contact lens (but not counting any that we covered under “Standard Eyeglasses and Contact Lenses after Cataract Surgery”) within the same Year under this or any other evidence of coverage (including riders) with the same group number printed on this *EOC*. The date we cover any of these items is the date on which you order the item.

## **Standard Eyeglasses and Contact Lenses after Cataract Surgery**

If you have cataract surgery and since that surgery we have never covered eyeglasses or contact lenses under any benefit for eyeglasses and contact lenses after cataract surgery (including any eyeglasses or contact lenses we covered under any other coverage), we cover your choice of one of the following, without charge, if obtained from a Select Provider or a PPO Provider. We will cover both of the following if, in the judgment of a licensed provider, you must wear eyeglass lenses and contact lenses at the same time to provide a significant improvement in vision not obtainable with regular eyeglass lenses or contact lenses alone:

- One conventional contact lens, or a 6-month supply of disposable contact lenses, determined by your licensed provider for each eye on which you had cataract surgery, and fitting and follow-up care for the lens.
- One pair of regular eyeglass lenses determined by your licensed provider and a frame from a specified selection of frames.

## Medically Necessary Contact Lenses

Contact lenses may be determined to be Medically Necessary and appropriate in the treatment of the following conditions:

- Keratoconus.
- Pathological myopia.
- Aphakia.
- Anisometropia.
- Aniseikonia.
- Aniridia.
- Corneal disorders.
- Post-traumatic disorders.
- Irregular astigmatism.

The evaluation, fitting, and follow-up is covered for Medically Necessary contact lenses. Medically Necessary contact lenses are subject to Utilization Review by Company using criteria developed by Medical Group and approved by Company.

## Low Vision Aids

We cover low vision evaluations and follow-up care visits, as well as low vision aids and devices (high-power spectacles, magnifiers, and telescopes) as shown under the “Pediatric Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider Benefit Summary.” These Services are subject to Utilization Review by Company using criteria developed by Medical Group and approved by Company.

## Pediatric Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider Exclusions

- Non-prescription products (other than eyeglass frames), such as eyeglass holders, eyeglass cases, repair kits, contact lens cases, contact lens cleaning and wetting solution, and lens protection plans; and lens add-on features such as lens coatings (other than scratch resistant coating or ultraviolet protection coating).
- No-line or progressive bifocal and trifocal lenses.
- Non-prescription sunglasses.
- Optometric vision therapy and orthoptics (eye exercises).
- Plano contact lenses or glasses (non-prescription).
- Replacement of lost, broken, or damaged lenses or frames.
- Two pairs of glasses in lieu of bifocals.

## Pediatric Vision Hardware and Optical Services Rider Benefit Summary

Pediatric Vision Hardware and Optical Services	You Pay		
	Select Providers	PPO Providers	Non-Participating Providers
Comprehensive eye exam (limited to one exam per Year)	\$0	\$0	40% Coinsurance after Deductible

Low vision evaluation and/or follow up exams (evaluations limited to once every five years; follow up exams limited to four exams every five years)	\$0	\$0	40% Coinsurance after Deductible
<b>Eyeglasses and Contact Lenses</b>	<b>Select Providers</b>	<b>PPO Providers</b>	<b>Non-Participating Providers</b>
Standard eyeglasses (limited to one pair per Year)	\$0		50% Coinsurance
Conventional or disposable contact lenses, in lieu of eyeglasses (limited to one pair per Year for conventional contact lenses or up to a 12-month supply of disposable contact lenses per Year)	\$0		50% Coinsurance
<b>Medically Necessary Contact Lenses</b>	<b>Select Providers</b>	<b>PPO Providers</b>	<b>Non-Participating Providers</b>
Medically Necessary contact lenses (limited to one pair per Year for conventional contact lenses or up to a 12-month supply of disposable contact lenses per Year, prior authorization required)	\$0		50% Coinsurance
<b>Low Vision Aids</b>	<b>Select Providers</b>	<b>PPO Providers</b>	<b>Non-Participating Providers</b>
Low vision aids (limited to one device per Year, prior authorization required)	\$0		50% Coinsurance





## NOTES

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