



**KAISER PERMANENTE®**

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado

A Colorado Nonprofit Corporation

**2020**  
**LARGE GROUP**  
**GROUP AGREEMENT**

***City and County of Denver***  
***Denver Fire Department***  
***Denver Police Department***

## GROUP AGREEMENT

**THIS AGREEMENT** to purchase the attached insurance policies is made between the CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER, a municipal corporation of the State of Colorado (the “City” or “Group”) and Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (the “Health Plan” or “Insurance Company” and together the “parties”).

The parties agree as follows:

### **INTRODUCTION**

For each Group, this Group Agreement (“*Agreement*”), including the Rate Sheet(s), the Evidence of Coverage brochure(s) (“EOC”), and the Summary of Benefits and Coverage (“SBC”) (attached hereto and collectively incorporated herein as **Exhibit A**), and any amendments thereto, constitute the entire contract between the group named on the Rate Sheet (“Group”) and Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (“Health Plan”).

In this *Agreement*, some capitalized terms have special meaning; please see the “Definitions” section in the *Evidence of Coverage* document for terms you should know. Pursuant to this *Agreement*, Health Plan will provide covered Services to Members in accord with the attached *Evidence of Coverage* documents.

### **WELLNESS PROGRAMS AND GROUP WELLNESS INVESTMENT FUNDS OR CREDITS**

The Health Plan shall make available certain wellness programs (“**Wellness Programs**”) for the Group to select from during the contract year. The Group’s selection will be at the discretion of the Executive Director of the Office of Human Resources or the Executive Director’s designee (“**Executive Director**”).

To facilitate efficient management and operation of the programs, the Health Plan will designate wellness investment “funds” or “credits” to be used in administering the selected Wellness Programs. Any reference to cash, payments or funds to be spent, charged or credited in each of the Wellness Program detail, shall be a reference to the credits or funds described in this paragraph. The City shall not be liable for any other payment of funds to the Health Plan for the Wellness Programs selected.

At the discretion of the Executive Director, the Group can charge against the wellness investment funds or credits as directed by the City after disclosure of the program descriptions. Documents related to the Health Plan Wellness Programs to be disclosed to the City and associated with this agreement in the public record are:

1. Workforce Health Package Letter,
2. Workforce Health Programs Document,

3. "Weigh and Win" program (not attached).

#### WELLNESS PLATFORM SOFTWARE PAYMENT

The parties agree that the City needs to implement a wellness platform software to support the City employee wellness effort and successfully administer the City's wellness program through the use of centralized wellness data. For that reason, Insurance Company agrees to pay \$200,000 to the workplace wellness software provider identified by the Executive Director for the purchase and implementation of a wellness platform software that the City will maintain. Such payment will be paid in full no more than 30 days after invoicing. Insurance Company agrees that the wellness platform software payment will not reduce the "funds" or "credits" used toward Wellness Programs, as defined herein, and further, the wellness platform software payment will not be funded through increased Group insurance premiums.

#### **COORDINATION OF POLICY PURCHASE AND LIMITED SIGNATURE AUTHORIZATION**

The Insurance Company shall fully coordinate the purchase of agreed policies with the Executive Director. The Executive Director shall be authorized to sign any documents reasonably related to, and any other policy or wellness-related documents necessary for implementation or administration of the City's insurance program as intended herein. The Executive Director's signature cannot expand the City's liability in any way, or limit the benefits contemplated herein.

#### **TERM OF AGREEMENT and RENEWAL**

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

This *Agreement* is effective for the term beginning January 1, 2020, and shall terminate at 11:59 p.m. on December 31, 2020, unless terminated as set forth in the "Termination of *Agreement*" section.

##### **Renewal**

This *Agreement* does not automatically renew. If Group complies with all of the terms of this *Agreement*, Health Plan will offer to renew this *Agreement*.

Group must provide Health Plan with at least 60 days' prior written notice if Group does not want to enter into a new agreement with Health Plan, as described under "Termination on Notice" in the "Termination of Agreement" section.

#### **AMENDMENT OF AGREEMENT**

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

Upon 60 days prior written notice to Group with respect to proposed benefit or contract changes, or upon 30 days prior written notice to Group with respect to proposed rate changes, or as otherwise agreed to by Health Plan and Group, Health Plan may offer to extend the term of this *Agreement* and propose amendments to this *Agreement* to be effective on any year's Anniversary Date (the Anniversary Date is shown on the Rate Sheet). Except as otherwise expressly stated in this *Agreement*, all amendments, including but not limited to benefit, contract and rate changes, must be mutually agreed upon in advance and in writing by Health Plan and Group.

### **Amendments Related to Government Approval or Mandated by Law**

If Health Plan notified Group that Health Plan had not received all necessary government approvals related to this *Agreement*, Health Plan may propose to amend this *Agreement* by giving written notice to Group after receiving all necessary government approvals. Any such government-approved provisions go into effect on the Anniversary Date that next follows the Health Plan's original notice to Group of the provisions for which it had sought government approval (unless the government requires a later effective date), if the *Agreement* is renewed.

### **Amendment Due to Medicare Changes**

Health Plan contracts on a calendar-year basis with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to offer Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage. Health Plan may amend this *Agreement* to change any Senior Advantage EOCs and Premiums effective January 1, 2020 (unless the federal government requires a different effective date). The amendment may include an increase or decrease in Premiums and Benefits including Member Cost Sharing and the Medicare Part D initial and catastrophic coverage levels; however, premium increases and Member Cost Sharing increases may not be made retroactive to a prior month. Health Plan will give Group at least 30 days advance written notice of any such amendment, so long as Health Plan is given 30-days' notice of such changes by CMS or other governmental entity.

### **Service Area**

Health Plan may amend this *Agreement* at any time by giving written notice to Group, via certified mail, in order to expand the Health Plan Service Area.

### **TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT**

This *Agreement* will terminate under any of the conditions listed below. All rights to benefits under this *Agreement* end at 11:59 p.m. on the termination date, except as expressly provided in the *Evidence of Coverage*, and except as otherwise required by applicable law.

Health Plan will give Group written notice to the Executive Director and City Attorney's office at the addresses shown in the Notices section, via certified mail, if this *Agreement* terminates. Within five business days of receipt, Group will mail to each Subscriber a legible copy of the notice and will give Health Plan proof of that mailing and of the date thereof.

### **Termination on Notice**

#### ***If Group has Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Members***

If Group has Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Members enrolled under this *Agreement* at the time Health Plan receives written notice from Group that it is terminating this *Agreement*, Group may terminate this *Agreement* effective the anniversary date, if the anniversary date is the first of the month or the first of the month following the anniversary date if the anniversary date is not the first of the month, by giving at least 30 days prior written notice to Health Plan and remitting all amounts payable relating to this *Agreement*, including Premiums, for the period prior to the termination date.



***If Group does not have Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Members***

If Group does not have Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Members enrolled under this *Agreement* at the time Health Plan receives written notice from Group that it is terminating this *Agreement*, Group may terminate this *Agreement* effective the anniversary date, if the anniversary date is the first of the month or the first of the month following the anniversary date if the anniversary date is not the first of the month, by giving at least 60 days prior written notice to Health Plan and remitting all amounts payable relating to this *Agreement*, including Premiums, for the period prior to the termination date.

**Termination for Nonpayment**

Health Plan may terminate this *Agreement* by giving advance written notice to Group, via certified mail, if Group fails to make any past-due Premiums payment during Health Plan's grace period. The advance written notice will indicate the termination date. A grace period of 31 days is observed by Health Plan, during which time the amounts specified in the Rate Sheet may be paid by the Group without loss of benefits. The grace period shall apply to all payments except the first payment and coverage shall remain in effect if payment is made during the grace period. Group is liable for all unpaid Premiums through the termination date. In the event that any Premiums payment is not timely received by Health Plan, Health Plan will send the Group a notice of Premiums owed. Such notice shall specify the delinquent Premiums payment and the date upon which the 31 day grace period ends. Health Plan will give written notice to Group of final termination of this *Agreement* via certified mail.

If Group has Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Members enrolled under this *Agreement* at the time Health Plan gives written notice to Group, Health Plan may terminate this *Agreement* effective on one date with respect to Members other than Senior Advantage Members and effective on a later date with respect to Senior Advantage Members in order to comply with CMS termination notice requirements.

**Termination for Fraud or for Intentionally Furnishing Materially Misleading or Fraudulent Information**

If Group commits fraud or intentionally furnishes materially misleading or fraudulent information to Health Plan, Health Plan may terminate this *Agreement* by giving advance notice to the Group, and Group is liable for all unpaid Premiums up to the termination date.

If Group has Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Members enrolled under this *Agreement* at the time Health Plan gives written notice to Group, Health Plan may terminate this *Agreement* effective on one date with respect to Members other than Senior Advantage Members and effective on a later date with respect to Senior Advantage Members, in order to comply with CMS termination notice requirements.

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

If Group fails to comply with Health Plan's contribution or participation requirements as set forth in the "Contribution and Participation Requirements" section of this *Agreement*, Health Plan may terminate this *Agreement* by giving sixty (60) days advance written notice to Group, and Group is liable for all unpaid Premiums up to the termination date.

If Group has Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Members enrolled under this *Agreement* at the time Health Plan gives written notice to Group, Health Plan may terminate this *Agreement* effective on one date with respect to Members other than Senior Advantage Members and effective on a later date with respect to Senior Advantage Members, in order to comply with CMS termination notice requirements.

### **Termination for Movement outside the Service Area**

Health Plan may terminate this *Agreement* upon 30 days prior written notice, via certified mail, to Group if no eligible person lives, resides, or works in Health Plan's Service Area as described in the *Evidence of Coverage*.

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

Health Plan may terminate a particular product or all products offered in the group market as permitted by law. If Health Plan discontinues offering a particular product in the group market, Health Plan may terminate this *Agreement* with respect to that product upon 90 days prior written notice, via certified mail, to Group. Health Plan will offer Group another product that it makes available in the group market. If Health Plan discontinues offering all products in the group market, Health Plan may terminate this *Agreement* upon 180 days written notice, via certified mail, to Group and Health Plan will not offer any other product to Group. A "product" is a combination of benefits and services that is defined by a distinct evidence of coverage.

### **PREMIUMS**

Only Members for whom Health Plan has received the appropriate Premiums payment listed on the Rate Sheet are entitled to coverage under this *Agreement*, and then only for the period for which Health Plan has received appropriate payment.

If Group does not prepay the Full Premiums by the first of the coverage month or by the date otherwise agreed to by Health Plan and Group, the Premiums may include an additional administrative charge upon renewal. "Full Premiums" means 100 percent of monthly Premiums for each enrolled Member, as set forth in this "Premiums" section.

### **Premiums Rebates**

If state or federal law requires Health Plan to rebate Premiums from this or any earlier contract year and Health Plan rebates Premiums to Group, Group represents that Group will use that rebate 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).

### **New Members**

Premiums are payable for the entire month for new Members unless otherwise agreed to by Health Plan.

### **Terminating Members**

Pursuant to C.R.S. 10-16-103.5, Premiums are payable for each Member:

- Through the date that Health Plan receives written notice from Group that a Member is no longer eligible or covered;
- Through the date that Health Plan receives written notice from Group that it no longer intends to maintain coverage for its Members through Health Plan; or
- Through the date that the Member covered under the policy is no longer eligible or covered if the policyholder notifies the Health Plan within ten (10) business days after the date that the Member is no longer eligible or covered because the Member left employment without notice to the Group or the Member is an employee whose employment was terminated for gross misconduct.

### **Involuntary Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Membership Terminations**

Group must give Health Plan 30 days prior written notice of Senior Advantage involuntary membership terminations. An involuntary membership termination is a termination that is not in response to a disenrollment notice issued by CMS to Health Plan or received by Health Plan directly from a Member (these events are usually in response to a Member's request for disenrollment to CMS because the Member has enrolled in another Medicare health plan or want Original Medicare coverage or has lost Medicare eligibility). The membership termination date is the first of the month following 30 days after the date when Health Plan receives a Senior Advantage membership termination notice unless Group specifies a later termination date. For example, if Health Plan receives a termination notice on March 5, for a Senior Advantage Member, the earliest termination date is May 1 and Group is required to pay applicable Premiums for the months of March and April.

### **Voluntary Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Membership Termination**

If Health Plan receives a disenrollment notice from CMS or a membership termination request from the Member, the membership termination date will be in accord with CMS requirements.

## **SUBSCRIBER CONTRIBUTIONS FOR MEDICARE PART C AND PART D COVERAGE**

### **Medicare Part C Coverage**

This "Subscriber Contributions for Medicare Part C Coverage" section applies to Group's Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage coverage. Group's Senior Advantage Premiums include the Medicare Part C premium for coverage of items and services covered under Parts A and B of Medicare, and supplemental benefits. Group may determine how much it will require Subscribers to contribute

toward the Medicare Part C premium for each Senior Advantage Member in the Subscriber's Family, subject to the following restrictions:

- If Group requires different contribution amounts for different classes of Senior Advantage Members for the Medicare Part C premium, then Group agrees to the following:
  - any such differences in classes of Members are reasonable and based on objective business criteria, such as years of service, business location, and job category
  - Group will not require different Subscriber contributions toward the Medicare Part C premium for Members within the same class
- Group will not require Subscribers to pay a contribution for Medicare Part C coverage for a Senior Advantage Member that exceeds the Medicare Part C Premium for items and services covered under Parts A and B of Medicare, and supplemental benefits. Health Plan will pass through monthly payments received from CMS (the monthly payments described in 42 C.F.R. 422.304(a)) to reduce the amount the Member contributes toward the Medicare Part C premium.

#### **Medicare Part D Coverage**

This "Subscriber Contributions for Medicare Part D Coverage" section, applies only to Group's Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage coverage that includes Medicare Part D coverage. Group's Senior Advantage Premiums include the Medicare Part D premium. Group may determine how much it will require Subscribers to contribute toward the Medicare Part D premium for each Senior Advantage Member in the Subscriber's Family Unit, subject to the following restrictions:

- If Group requires different contribution amounts for different classes of Senior Advantage Members for the Medicare Part D premium, then Group agrees to the following:
  - any such differences in classes of Members are reasonable and based on objective business criteria, such as years of service, business location, and job. Group will not require different Subscriber contributions toward the Medicare Part D category, and are not based on eligibility for the Part D "Low Income Subsidy" (a subsidy described in 42 C.F.R. 423 Subpart P, which is offered by the Medicare Program to certain low-income Medicare beneficiaries enrolled in Medicare Part D, and which reduces the Medicare beneficiaries' Medicare Part D premiums or Medicare Part D cost-sharing amounts).
  - Group will not require different Subscriber contributions toward the Medicare Part D premium for Members within the same class.
- Group will not require Subscribers to pay a contribution for prescription drug coverage for a Senior Advantage Member who exceeds the Premiums for prescription drug coverage (including the Medicare Part D premium). The Group will pass through direct subsidy payments received from CMS to reduce the amount the Member contributes toward the Medicare Part D premiums.
- Health Plan will credit Group with any Low Income Subsidy amounts that Health Plan receives from CMS for Group's Members and Health Plan will identify those Members for Group as required by CMS. For those Members, Group will first credit the Low Income Subsidy amount toward the Subscriber's contribution for that Member's Senior Advantage premium for the same

month, and will then apply any remaining portion of the Member's Low Income Subsidy toward the portion of the Senior Advantage premium that Group pays on behalf of that Member for that month. If Group is unable to reduce the Subscriber's contribution before the Subscriber makes the contribution, Group shall, consistent with CMS guidance, refund the Low Income Subsidy amount to the Subscriber (up to the amount of the Subscriber Premium contribution for the Member for that month) within 45 days after the date Health Plan receives the Low Income Subsidy amount from CMS. Health Plan reserves the right to periodically require Group to certify that Group is either reducing Subscribers' monthly Premium contributions or refunding the Low Income Subsidy amounts to Subscribers in accord with CMS guidance.

- For any Members who are eligible for the Low Income Subsidy, if the amount of that Low Income Subsidy is less than the Member's contribution for the Medicare Part D premium, then Group should inform the Member of the financial consequences of the Member's enrolling in the Member's current coverage, as compared to enrolling in another Medicare Part D plan with a monthly premium equal to or less than the Low Income Subsidy amount.

#### **Late Enrollment Penalty**

If any Members are subject to the Medicare Part D late enrollment penalty, Premiums for those Members will increase to include the amount of that penalty.

#### **CONTRIBUTION AND PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS**

No change in Group's contribution or participation requirements is effective for purposes of this *Agreement* unless Health Plan is timely notified in writing. If Group fails to satisfy the Contribution and Participation Requirements of this section, the Health Plan may terminate this *Agreement* as set forth in the **Termination for Violation of Contribution or Participation Requirements** in this *Agreement*. The Group must:

- Contribute to all health care plans available through Group on a basis that does not financially discriminate against Health Plan or against people who choose to enroll in Health Plan.
- Ensure that:
  - All eligible employees enrolled in Health Plan meet the eligibility requirements of the Group.
  - All eligible employees enrolled in Health Plan are covered by Workers' Compensation, unless not required by law to be covered.
  - All Health Plan Subscribers live or work inside Health Plan's Service Area when they enroll.
  - The number of active, eligible employee Subscribers enrolled under this *Agreement* does not fall below 10.

- There is a bona fide employer/employee relationship to those offered our plan, except eligible Taft-Hartley trusts and partnerships, and except as otherwise set forth in the agreed upon eligibility requirements.
- Hold an annual open enrollment period during which all eligible people may enroll in Health Plan or in any other health care plan available through Group.
- Meet all applicable legal and contractual requirements, such as:
  - Group must adhere to all requirements set forth in the applicable *Evidence of Coverage*, as amended.
  - Group must obtain Health Plan's prior written approval of any Group eligibility or participation or contribution requirements that are not stated in the applicable *Evidence of Coverage*, as amended.
  - Group must use Member enrollment application forms that are provided or approved by Health Plan.
  - Comply with Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS requirements governing enrollment in, and disenrollment from Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage (KPSA)).
- Offer enrollment in Health Plan to all eligible people on conditions no less favorable than those for any other health care plan available through Group.
- Permit Health Plan to examine Group's records with respect to contribution and participation requirements, eligibility, and payments under this *Agreement*, except as restricted by the laws of the City, State of Colorado law, or federal law.

**LIABILITY INSURANCE**

Health Plan shall, at its own cost and expense, maintain in full force and effect, during the term of this *Agreement*, professional (malpractice) and general liability insurance with minimum limits of at least \$10,000,000 per occurrence. All such policies shall provide for the Group to receive at least thirty (30) days written notice from the insurance carrier or carriers prior to any cancellation or material change in any such policy. Health Plan shall provide to the Group, upon execution of this *Agreement*, and upon renewal of such insurance programs certificates of insurance for all such insurance carried. All insurance coverage must be written by companies authorized to do business in the State of Colorado. All such insurance shall cover claims occurring during the term of this *Agreement*, including claims which may be asserted after the termination of this *Agreement*. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Health Plan may utilize a combination of insurance and alternative risk management programs, including self-insurance to provide for its contractual obligations under this *Agreement*. Evidence of such financial responsibility will be provided upon execution of this *Agreement*. Insurance Company shall maintain Business Automobile Liability with limits of \$1,000,000 combined single limit applicable to all owned, hired and non-owned vehicles used in performing services under this Agreement.

Each of the Health Plan's agreements with providers in its provider network does, and during the initial term and any renewal term of this *Agreement*, will require maintenance of levels of professional liability insurance consistent with industry standards and applicable law.

Health Plan covenants and agrees that at all times it will maintain and carry statutory workers' compensation insurance with an authorized insurance company or through an authorized self-insurance plan approved by the State of Colorado. Such insurance shall insure payment for such workers' compensation claims to all of Health Plan's employees, including specifically but not by way of limitation, all of its employees who in any manner perform work or provide services to fulfill Health Plan's obligations under this *Agreement*. Health Plan agrees to provide the Administrator with certificates, in number as required, satisfactorily evidencing the existence of the Workers' Compensation insurance. There shall be a waiver of subrogation in favor of the City for Workers' Compensation and professional errors and omission coverage.

Insurance coverage specified herein constitutes the minimum requirements, and said requirements shall in no way lessen or limit the liability of Health Plan under the terms of the *Agreement*. Health Plan shall procure and maintain, at its own expense and cost, any additional kinds and amounts of insurance that, in its judgment, may be necessary for its proper protection in the prosecution of the services hereunder.

**DEFENSE AND INDEMNIFICATION:**

**a.** Health Plan hereby agrees to defend, indemnify, reimburse and hold harmless City, its appointed and elected officials, agents and employees for, from and against all liabilities, claims, judgments, suits or demands for damages to persons or property arising out of, resulting from, or relating to the work performed under this Agreement ("Claims"), unless such Claims have been specifically determined by the trier of fact to be the sole negligence or willful misconduct of the City. This indemnity shall be interpreted in the broadest possible manner to indemnify City for any acts or omissions of Health Plan or its subcontractors either passive or active, irrespective of fault, including City's concurrent negligence whether active or passive, except for the sole negligence or willful misconduct of City.

**b.** Health Plan's duty to defend and indemnify City shall arise at the time written notice of the Claim is first provided to City regardless of whether Claimant has filed suit on the Claim. Health Plan's duty to defend and indemnify City shall arise even if City is the only party sued by claimant and/or claimant alleges that City's negligence or willful misconduct was the sole cause of claimant's damages.

**c.** Health Plan will defend any and all Claims which may be brought or threatened against City and will pay on behalf of City any expenses incurred by reason of such Claims including, but not limited to, court costs and attorney fees incurred in defending and investigating such Claims or seeking to enforce this indemnity obligation. Such payments on behalf of City shall be in addition to any other legal remedies available to City and shall not be considered City's exclusive remedy.

**d.** Insurance coverage requirements specified in this Agreement shall in no way lessen or limit the liability of the Health Plan under the terms of this indemnification obligation. The Health Plan shall obtain, at its own expense, any additional insurance that it deems necessary for the City's protection.

**e.** This defense and indemnification obligation shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

## **MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

### **Acceptance of Agreement**

Group acknowledges acceptance of this *Agreement* by signing one original Rate Sheet, with all signatures required by the Group, and returning it to Health Plan.

Group and Health Plan may not change this *Agreement* unilaterally 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 Health Plan account manager, and Health Plan must contact the Group as set forth in the Amendments section of this *Agreement*. Health Plan will issue a new agreement or amendment if Health Plan and Group agree on any changes.

### **Assignment**

Health Plan may not assign, transfer, pledge, or hypothecate in any way this *Agreement*. Group may not assign this *Agreement* or any of the rights, interests, claims for money due, benefits, or obligations hereunder without Health Plan's prior written consent. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if Health Plan assigns, sells or otherwise transfers substantially all of its assets and business to another corporation, firm, or person, with or without recourse, this *Agreement* will continue in full force and effect as if such corporation, firm or person were a party to this *Agreement*, provided that such corporation, firm or person continues to provide prepaid health services. No duties imposed by this *Agreement* may be delegated without the approval of the other party, except that Health Plan may delegate certain functions, including but not limited to medical management, utilization review, credentialing and/or claims payment, to provider groups or other certified organizations which contract with Health Plan and that Health Plan may contract with its corporate affiliates to perform certain management and administrative services for Health Plan.

### **Inurement**

The rights and obligations of the parties to the Agreement inure to the benefit of and shall be binding upon the parties and their respective successors and assigns, provided assignments are consented to in accordance with the terms of the Agreement.

### **No Third-Party Beneficiary**

Enforcement of the terms of the Agreement and all rights of action relating to enforcement are strictly reserved to the parties. Nothing contained in the Agreement gives or allows any claim or right of action to any third person or entity. Any person or entity other than the Group or the Health Plan receiving services or benefits pursuant to the Agreement is an incidental beneficiary only.

### **Certificates of Creditable Coverage**

This "HIPAA Certificates of Creditable Coverage" section does not apply if Group has a written agreement with Health Plan that Group will mail certificates of creditable coverage. If Group has a waiting period or affiliation period, when Group reports an enrollment of a new hire and any eligible Dependents who enroll at the same time (other than a Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage



enrollment) with a membership effective date that occurs during the term of this *Agreement*, Group must provide the following information in a format Health Plan approves:

- Enrollment reason. (If Group does not provide an enrollment reason, Health Plan will assume that Subscriber is not a new hire, and certificate for the Subscriber and any Dependents who enrolled at the same time will indicate that there was no waiting period or affiliation period).
- Hire date of the Subscriber. (If the enrollment reason is “new hire” and Group does not provide a hire date, Health Plan will assume that the hire date is the effective date of coverage for the Subscriber and any Dependents who enrolled at the same time, and certificate for those Members will indicate there was no waiting period or affiliation period).
- Effective date of coverage.

Group has a waiting period or affiliation period if the membership effective date for a new hire and any eligible Dependents who enroll at the same time is not the hire date (for example, if the membership effective date is the first of the month following the hire date). Upon Health Plan request (whether or not Group has a waiting period or affiliation period), Group must provide any other information that Health Plan needs in order to complete certificates of creditable coverage.

When Health Plan mails a certificate of creditable coverage, the number of months of creditable coverage that Health Plan reports will be based on the information Health Plan has at the time the certificate is mailed.

#### **Delegation of Claims Review Authority**

Group delegates to Health Plan the discretion to determine whether a Member is entitled to benefits under this *Agreement*. In making these determinations, Health Plan has authority to review claims in accord with the procedures contained in this *Agreement* and to construe this *Agreement* to determine whether the Member is entitled to benefits, subject to the claims review process available to the Member or other actions permitted by law and this *Agreement*. For health benefit plans that are subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), Health Plan is a “named claims fiduciary” with respect to review of claims under this *Agreement*.

#### **Governing Law**

Except as preempted by federal law, this *Agreement* will be governed in accord with the laws of the State of Colorado and with the Charter and Revised Municipal Code of the City and County of Denver, and the ordinances, regulations, and Executive Orders enacted and/or promulgated pursuant thereto. The Charter and Revised Municipal Code of the City and County of Denver, as the same may be amended from time to time, are hereby expressly incorporated into this *Agreement* as if fully set out herein by this reference. Venue for any action brought as a result of this *Agreement* shall be in the District Court in and for the City and County of Denver. Any provision required to be in this *Agreement* by State of Colorado law or federal law shall bind Group and Health Plan whether or not

set forth herein, and Health Plan will promptly notify Group if Health Plan discovers or has notice of any such provision.

### **Disputes**

All disputes between the City and Health Plan arising out of or regarding this Agreement will be resolved by administrative hearing pursuant to the procedure established by D.R.M.C. § 56-106(b)-(f). For the purposes of that administrative procedure, the City official rendering a final determination shall be the Executive Director as defined in this Agreement. This term shall not apply to claims disputes.

### **Member Information**

Group will inform Subscribers of eligibility requirements for Members and when coverage becomes effective and terminates.

When Health Plan notifies Group about proposed changes to this *Agreement*, or changes mandated by Governing Law above, or provides Group other information that affects Members, Group will disseminate the information to Subscribers by the next regular communication to them, but in no event later than 30 days after Group receives the information. Group will provide electronic or paper summaries of benefits and coverage (SBCs) to participants and beneficiaries to the extent required by law, except that Health Plan will provide SBCs to Members who make a request to Health Plan.

### **Relationship of Parties**

Group is not the agent or representative of Health Plan, and shall not be liable for any acts or omissions of Health Plan, its agents or its employees, or Plan Providers. Member is not the agent or representative of Health Plan, and shall not be liable for any acts or omissions of Health Plan, its agents or its employees. Plan Providers are independent contractors and are not the agents, employees or servants of Health Plan. It is understood and agreed by and between the parties that the status of Health Plan shall be that of an independent contractor and of a corporation retained on a contractual basis to perform professional or technical services for limited periods of time as described in Section 9.1.1 (E)(x) of the Charter of the City and it is not intended, nor shall it be construed, that Health Plan's personnel are employees or officers of the City under Chapter 18 of the Denver Revised Municipal Code or for any purpose whatsoever. Health Plan shall pay when due all required employment taxes and income tax withholding, shall provide and keep in force Workers' Compensation and unemployment compensation insurance in the amounts required by law.

### **Taxes, Charges, and Penalties**

The City is not liable for the payment of taxes, late charges or penalties of any nature, except for any additional amounts that the City may be required to pay under the City's prompt payment ordinance D.R.M.C. § 20-107, et seq. Health Plan shall promptly pay when due, all taxes, bills, debts and obligations it incurs performing the services under the Agreement and shall not allow any lien, mortgage, judgment or execution to be filed against City property.

**Access to Books and Records**

Health Plan and the Group shall have the right to access and examine the others' books and records for audit of compliance with the terms and conditions of this *Agreement*. Any such access shall not include the right to access any of Health Plan's books and records that would include protected health information about any of the Members in the Health Plan. However, Health Plan can provide the Group with those books and records to the extent personally identifiable information has been eliminated.

Health Plan agrees that it will keep and preserve for at least six (6) years after the final payment under this *Agreement* all directly pertinent books, documents, papers and records of Health Plan involving transactions related to this *Agreement*.

**Examination of Records**

In accordance with the terms of the previous section, any authorized agent of the City, including the City Auditor or his or her representative, has the right to access, and the right to examine, copy and retain copies, at City's election in paper or electronic form, any pertinent books, documents, papers and records related to Health Plan's performance pursuant to this Agreement, provision of any goods or services to the City, and any other transactions related to this Agreement. Health Plan shall cooperate with City representatives and City representatives shall be granted access to the forgoing documents and information during reasonable business hours and until the latter of six (6) years after the final payment under the Agreement or expiration of the applicable statute of limitations. When conducting an audit of this Agreement, the City Auditor shall be subject to government auditing standards issued by the United States Government Accountability Office by the Comptroller General of the United States, including with respect to disclosure of information acquired during the course of an audit. No examination of records and audits pursuant to this paragraph shall require Health Plan to make disclosures in violation of state or federal privacy laws. Health Plan shall at all times comply with D.R.M.C. 20-276 entitled "Internal Audit".

**Confidentiality**

Health Plan agrees to maintain and preserve the confidentiality of any and all medical records of Member in accordance with all applicable Colorado State and federal laws, including HIPAA. However, Health Plan has access to any and all of Member's medical records for purposes of utilization review, quality review, processing of any claim, financial audit, coordination of benefits, or for any other purpose reasonably related to the provision of benefits under this *Agreement* to Health Plan, its agents and employees, Plan Providers, and appropriate governmental agencies, to the extent permitted by HIPAA. Health Plan will not release any information to Group which would directly or indirectly indicate to the Group that a Member is receiving or has received Covered Services, unless authorized to do so by the Member. Except as necessary to effectuate this *Agreement*, but only to the extent permitted by HIPAA and applicable Colorado law, Health Plan shall not at any time or in any manner, either directly or indirectly, divulge, disclose or communicate to any person, firm or corporation in any manner whatsoever any information which is not subject to public disclosure, including without limitation the trade secrets of business or entities doing business with the Group, the data contained in any of the data bases of the Group, and other privileged or confidential information. This obligation shall survive the termination of this *Agreement*. Health Plan

shall advise its employees, agents and subcontractors, if any, that they are subject to these confidentiality requirements. Further Health Plan shall provide its employees, agents and subcontractors, if any, with a copy or written explanation of these confidentiality requirements before access to confidential data is permitted.

#### **When Rights and Remedies Not Waived**

In no event will any payment or other action by the City or Health Plan constitute or be construed to be a waiver by the Parties of any breach of covenant or default that may then exist on the part of the other. No payment, other action, or inaction by the City or Health Plan when any breach or default exists will impair or prejudice any right or remedy available to the Parties with respect to any breach or default. No assent, expressed or implied, to any breach of any term of the Agreement constitutes a waiver of any other breach.

#### **Electronic Signatures and Electronic Records**

Health Plan consents to the use of electronic signatures by the City. The Agreement, and any other documents requiring a signature under the Agreement, may be signed electronically by the City in the manner specified by the City. The Parties agree not to deny the legal effect or enforceability of the Agreement solely because it is in electronic form or because an electronic record was used in its formation. The Parties agree not to object to the admissibility of the Agreement in the form of an electronic record, or a paper copy of an electronic document, or a paper copy of a document bearing an electronic signature, on the ground that it is an electronic record or electronic signature or that it is not in its original form or is not an original.

#### **Notices**

Notices must be delivered in writing to the addresses listed below, except that

- Health Plan and Group may each change its notice address by giving written notice, via certified mail, to the other.

Notices are to be sent via certified mail and are deemed given when delivered in person or deposited in a U.S. Postal Service receptacle for the collection of U.S. mail.

#### **Notices from Health Plan to *Group*:**

**Executive Director  
Office Human Resources  
201 West Colfax Avenue, Dept. 412  
Denver, Colorado 80202**

With a copy of any such notice to:

**Denver City Attorney's Office  
1437 Bannock St., Room 353  
Denver, Colorado 80202**

**Notices from Group to Health Plan:**

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado  
2500 South Havana Street  
Aurora, CO 80014-1622

**Representation Regarding Waiting Periods**

By entering into this Agreement, Group hereby represents that Group does not impose a waiting period exceeding 90 days on employees who meet Group's eligibility requirements. For purposes of this requirement, 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, in accord with the waiting period requirements in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and regulations.

In addition, Group represents that eligibility data provided by the Group to Health Plan will include coverage effective dates for Group's employees that correctly account for eligibility in compliance with the waiting period requirements in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and regulations.

**Social Security and Tax Identification Numbers**

Within 30 – 60 days after Health Plan sends Group a written request, Group will send Health Plan 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 Unit
- Any other information that Health Plan is required by law to collect

**Time Limit on Reporting Membership Changes**

Group must report membership changes (including sending appropriate 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 additions is the calendar month when Health Plan receives Group's notification of the change plus the previous two months, unless Health Plan agrees otherwise in writing.

**Involuntary Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Membership Termination**

Group must give Health Plan 30 days prior written notice of Senior Advantage Medicare Plus involuntary membership terminations. An involuntary membership termination that is not in response to a disenrollment notice issued by CMS to Health Plan or received by Health Plan directly from a Member (these events are usually in response to a Member's request for disenrollment to CMS because the Member has enrolled in another Medicare health plan or wants Original Medicare coverage or has lost Medicare eligibility). The membership termination date is the first of the month

following 30 days after the date when Health Plan receives a Senior Advantage Medicare Plus membership termination notice unless Group specifies a later termination date. For example, if Health Plan receives a termination notice on March 5 for a Senior Advantage Medicare Plus Member, the earliest termination date is May 1 and Group is required to pay applicable Premiums for the months of March and April.

#### **Voluntary Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Membership Termination**

If Health Plan receives a disenrollment notice from CMS or membership termination request from the Member, the membership termination date will be in accord with CMS requirements.

The administration of COBRA and State Continuation of Coverage participants will be in accord with applicable Federal and State laws.

#### **Colorado Governmental Immunity Act**

The parties hereto understand and agree that the Group is relying upon, and has not waived, the monetary limitations and all other rights, immunities and protection provided by the Colorado Governmental Immunity Act, C.R.S. §24-10-101 et seq.

#### **Conflict of Interest**

The parties agree that no employee of the Group shall have any personal or beneficial interest whatsoever in the services or property described herein and Health Plan further agrees not to hire or contract for the services of any employee or officer of the Group which would be in violation of the Denver Revised Municipal Code Chapter 2, Article IV, Code of Ethics, or Denver City Charter Sections 1.2.9 and 1.2.12.

#### **Severability**

It is understood and agreed by the parties hereto that if any part, term, or provision of this *Agreement*, except for the provisions of this *Agreement* requiring prior appropriation of funds and limiting the total amount payable by the Group, is held to be unenforceable for any reason, or in conflict with any law of the State of Colorado, the validity of the remaining portions or provisions shall not be affected, and the rights and obligations of the parties shall be construed and enforced as if this *Agreement* did not contain the particular part, term, or provision held to be invalid.

#### **Survival of Certain Agreement Provisions**

The parties understand and agree that all terms and conditions of this *Agreement*, together with the exhibits and attachments hereto, if any, any or all of which, by reasonable implication, contemplate continued performance or compliance beyond the expiration or termination of this *Agreement* (by expiration of the term or otherwise), shall survive such expiration or termination and shall continue to be enforceable as provided herein.

#### **Appropriation Required and Contract Maximum**

Notwithstanding any other term, condition, or covenant hereof, it is understood and agreed that any payment obligation of the Group hereunder, whether direct or contingent, shall extend only to funds

appropriated by the Denver City Council for the purpose of this *Agreement*, encumbered for the purpose of this *Agreement* and paid into the Treasury of the City and County of Denver. Health Plan acknowledges that (i) the Group does not by this *Agreement* irrevocably pledge present cash reserves for payments in future fiscal years, and (ii) this *Agreement* is not intended to create a multiple-fiscal year direct or indirect debt or financial obligation of the Group. The maximum contract amount for the Group's obligations under this *Agreement* and for payment of Premiums, collectively, shall not exceed **NINETY FOUR MILLION AND 00/100 DOLLARS \$94,000,000.00** unless additional appropriation is made by Group and this *Agreement* is amended by the parties pursuant to the **Amendment of Agreement** section of this *Agreement*. If Group fails to pay Premiums within the grace period, Health Plan may exercise its rights under the **Termination for Nonpayment** section of this *Agreement* or other applicable rights of Health Plan under this *Agreement*. Only Enrollees for whom Premiums are received by Health Plan are entitled to health care benefits as described in this *Agreement*, and then only for the period for which such payment is received, except as otherwise required by law.

**No Employment of Illegal Aliens to Perform Work under the Agreement.**

This Agreement is subject to Division 5 of Article IV of Chapter 20 of the Denver Revised Municipal Code, and any amendments (the "Certification Ordinance"). The Health Plan certifies that: at the time of its execution of this *Agreement*, it does not knowingly employ or contract with an illegal alien who will perform work under this *Agreement*, and that Health Plan will participate in the E-Verify Program, as defined in § 8-17.5-101(3.7), C.R.S., to confirm the employment eligibility of all employees who are newly hired for employment to perform work under this *Agreement*. Health Plan also agrees and represents that Health Plan:

- (1) shall not knowingly employ or contract with an illegal alien to perform work under the *Agreement*;
- (2) shall not enter into a contract with a subconsultant or subcontractor that fails to certify to the Consultant that it shall not knowingly employ or contract with an illegal alien to perform work under the *Agreement*;
- (3) has confirmed the employment eligibility of all employees who are newly hired for employment to perform work under this *Agreement*, through participation in the E-Verify Program;
- (4) is prohibited from using either the E-Verify Program procedures to undertake pre-employment screening of job applicants while performing its obligations under the *Agreement*, and it is required to comply with any and all federal requirements related to use of the E-Verify Program including, by way of example, all program requirements related to employee notification and preservation of employee rights;
- (5) will, if it obtains actual knowledge that a subconsultant or subcontractor performing work under the *Agreement* knowingly employs or contracts with an illegal alien, notify such subconsultant or subcontractor and the City within three (3) days. The Health Plan shall also terminate such subconsultant or subcontractor if within three (3) days after such notice the subconsultant or subcontractor does not stop employing or contracting with the illegal alien, unless

during such three-day period the subconsultant or subcontractor provides information to establish that the subconsultant or subcontractor has not knowingly employed or contracted with an illegal alien, and;

(6) will comply with any reasonable request made in the course of an investigation by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment under authority of § 8-17.5-102(5), C.R.S., or the City Auditor, under authority of D.R.M.C. 20-90.3.

Health Plan is liable for any violations as provided in the Certification Ordinance. If Health Plan violates any provision of this section or the Certification Ordinance, the City may terminate this *Agreement* for a breach of the *Agreement*. If the *Agreement* is so terminated, the Health plan shall be liable for actual and consequential damages to the City. Any such termination of a contract due to a violation of this section or the Certification Ordinance may also, at the discretion of the City, constitute grounds for disqualifying Consultant from submitting bids or proposals for future contracts with the City.

#### ***Agreement as Complete Integration-Amendments***

The *Agreement* is the complete integration of all understandings between the Parties as to the subject matter of the *Agreement*. No prior, contemporaneous or subsequent addition, deletion, or other modification has any force or effect, unless embodied in the *Agreement* in writing. No oral representation by any officer or employee of the City at variance with the terms of the *Agreement* or any written amendment to the *Agreement* will have any force or effect or bind the City.

#### ***Use, Possession or Sale of Alcohol or Drugs***

Health Plan shall cooperate and comply with the provisions of Executive Order 94 and its Attachment A concerning the use, possession or sale of alcohol or drugs. Violation of these provisions or refusal to cooperate with implementation of the policy can result in contract personnel being barred from City facilities and from participating in City operations.

#### ***Grant of Limited License to Use Logo.***

The City hereby grants to Health Plan, subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein, a non-exclusive, nontransferable limited license, to use the “Denver D” logo (“**Denver Logo**”) during the Term of this *Agreement*. Health Plan shall fully coordinate all logo use under this *Agreement* with the Denver Marketing Office ([www.denvergov.org/brandcenter](http://www.denvergov.org/brandcenter), (720) 865-2300, [marketing@denvergov.org](mailto:marketing@denvergov.org)), or otherwise as directed by the City. The use of the Denver Logo is limited to display on the website to be created by Health Plan pursuant to this *Agreement* and for the purpose of identification only.

#### ***Exhibit List:***

Exhibit A – Certificates of Coverage, Rate Sheets, Amendments, and Performance Guarantees.



Exhibit B – Wellness Program Descriptions

Exhibit C – Letter of Agreement Form

**[REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]**

**[SIGNATURE BLOCKS ON NEXT PAGE]**

**Contract Control Number:**  
**Contractor Name:**

CSAHR-202053318-00  
KAISER PERMANENTE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have set their hands and affixed their seals at Denver, Colorado as of:

**SEAL**

**CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:**

**ATTEST:**

By:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

**REGISTERED AND COUNTERSIGNED:**

Attorney for the City and County of Denver

By:

By:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

By:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Contract Control Number:**  
**Contractor Name:**

CSAHR-202053318-00  
KAISER PERMANENTE



By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Michael S. Ramseier  
(please print)

Title: Region President - Colorado  
(please print)

ATTEST: [if required]

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)

Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)

## **EXHIBIT A**

### **Certificates:**

- EOC - City and County of Denver Group 75 DHMO 500
- EOC – City and County of Denver Group 75 Senior Advantage
- EOC – City and County of Denver Group 75 HDHP 1450
- EOC – Denver Fire Group 74 Senior Advantage
- EOC – Denver Fire Group 74 HDHP 1500
- COI – Denver Fire Group 74 HMO POS
- EOC – Denver Fire Group 74 HMO POS
- COI – Denver Fire Group 74 PPO
- EOC – Denver Fire Group 74 RT HMO
- EOC – Denver Police Group 68 DHMO 500
- EOC – Denver Police Group 68 Senior Advantage
- EOC – Denver Police Group 68 HDHP 1450

### **Rate Sheets:**

- 2020 City and County of Denver Group 75
- 2020 Denver Police Group 68
- 2020 Denver Fire Group 74

### **Amendments:**

- Self-verifying for C and C of Denver and Denver Police
- Self-verifying for Denver Fire

### **2020 Performance Guarantees**

**TITLE PAGE (Cover Page)**

# **Important Benefit Information Enclosed Evidence of Coverage**

**About this Evidence of Coverage (EOC)**

This Evidence of Coverage (EOC) describes the health care coverage provided under the Agreement between Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (Health Plan) and your Group. In this EOC, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado is sometimes referred to as “Kaiser Permanente,” “Kaiser,” “Health Plan,” “we,” or “us.” Members are sometimes referred to as “you.” Out-of-Health Plan is sometimes referred to as “out-of-Plan.” Some capitalized terms have special meaning in this EOC; please see the “Definitions” section for terms you should know.

This EOC is for your Group's 2020 contract year.



## NONDISCRIMINATION NOTICE

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (Kaiser Health Plan) complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Kaiser Health Plan does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. 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 **1-800-632-9700** (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, or sex, you can file a grievance by mail at: Customer Experience Department, Attn: Kaiser Permanente Civil Rights Coordinator, 2500 South Havana, Aurora, CO 80014, or by phone at Member Services: 1-800-632-9700.

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, 1-800-368-1019, 1-800-537-7697 (TDD). Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.

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## HELP IN YOUR LANGUAGE

**ATTENTION:** If you speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**አማርኛ (Amharic) ማስታወሻ:** የሚናገሩት ቋንቋ አማርኛ ከሆነ የትርጉም እርዳታ ድርጅቶች፣ በነጻ ሊያገዝዎት ተዘጋጅተዋል። ወደ ሚከተለው ቁጥር ይደውሉ **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**)።

**العربية (Arabic) ملحوظة:** إذا كنت تتحدث العربية، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) .

**Bàsòò Wùdù (Bassa) Dè dɛ nià kɛ dyédé gbo:** ɔ jũ ké ñ Bàsòò-wùdù-po-nyò jũ ní, nií, à wuɖu kà kò dò po-poò béin ñ gbo kpáa. Đá **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) 。

**فارسی (Farsi) توجه:** اگر به زبان فارسی گفتگو می کنید، تسهیلات زبانی بصورت رایگان برای شما فراهم می باشد. با **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) تماس بگیرید.

**Français (French) ATTENTION:** Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**Deutsch (German) ACHTUNG:** Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung.  
Rufnummer: **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**Igbo (Igbo) NRUBAMA:** O bụrụ na ị na asụ Igbo, ọrụ enyemaka asụsụ, n'efu, dijiri gi. Kpọọ **1-800-632-9700** (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。 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

**한국어 (Korean) 주의:** 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) 번으로 전화해 주십시오.

**Naabeehó (Navajo) Díí baa akó nínízin:** Díí saad bee yáníłti'go Diné Bizaad, saad bee áká'ánída'áwo'déé', t'áá jiik'eh, éí ná hóló, kóji' hódíílnih **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**नेपाली (Nepali) ध्यान दिनुहोस्:** तपाईंले नेपाली बोल्नुहुन्छ भने तपाईंको निम्ति भाषा सहायता सेवाहरू निःशुल्क रूपमा उपलब्ध छ । **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) फोन गर्नुहोस् ।

**Afaan Oromoo (Oromo) XIYYEEFFANNAA:** Afaan dubbattu Oroomiffa, tajaajila gargaarsa afaanii, kanfaltiidhaan ala, ni argama. Bilbilaa **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**Русский (Russian) ВНИМАНИЕ:** если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**Español (Spanish) ATENCIÓN:** si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**Yorùbá (Yoruba) AKIYESI:** Ti o ba nso ede Yoruba ofe ni iranlowo lori ede wa fun yin o. E pe ero ibanisoro yi **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).



**CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER**  
**EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE AMENDMENT - 2020**

**I. The following definitions are *in addition* to those detailed in this Evidence of Coverage (EOC).**

- 1) "Child" shall mean a primary insured's natural child, adopted child, or the natural child or adopted child of either a primary insured's spouse, or primary insured's partner in a civil union.
- 2) "Eligible dependent" shall mean the primary insured's child or spouse
  - a) An eligible dependent may not also be a primary insured on the same insurance plan.
  - b) If spouses are each eligible employees, each may enroll in medical or dental coverage as either a primary insured or eligible dependent, but not both.
  - c) An eligible dependent shall not include any form of grandchild of a primary insured or spouse, unless the primary insured or spouse has a court order of adoption.
  - d) An eligible dependent may be covered by one (1) primary insured only for each insurance plan.
- 3) "Eligible employee" shall mean both: career service employees as defined in section 9.1.1(e) of the charter, and appointed charter officers as defined in section 9.2.1(B) of the charter. The definition of eligible employee shall not include:
  - a) Part-time employees who are regularly scheduled to work less than twenty (20) hours per week;
  - b) Members of the classified service of the police and fire departments; and,
  - c) Persons occupying or employed in on-call (Eligible if employed for 12 months and averaging at least 30 hours per week in accordance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act), temporary, seasonal, or contract positions, or positions in which the incumbent is paid according to the community rate schedule.
- 4) "Employee only" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee only.
- 5) "Employee plus children" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and one (1) or more eligible dependents other than a spouse.
- 6) "Employee plus spouse" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and a spouse.
- 7) "Employer contribution" shall mean funds paid by the city for insurance programs approved by the employee health insurance committee.
- 8) "Family" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and a spouse or spousal equivalent and one (1) or more other eligible dependent.
- 9) "Primary insured" shall mean an eligible employee who enrolls for insurance coverage.
  - a) A primary insured may not also be an eligible dependent on the same insurance.
- 10) "Spouse" shall mean an eligible employee's lawful spouse, a lawful partner in a civil union in accordance with the Colorado Civil Union Act or spousal equivalent.
- 11) "Spousal equivalent" shall mean an adult of the same gender with whom the employee is in an exclusive committed relationship, who is not related to the employee and who shares basic living expenses with the intent for the relationship to last indefinitely. A spousal equivalent cannot be related by blood to a degree which would prevent marriage in Colorado and cannot be married to another person. An employee claiming a spousal equivalent as an eligible dependent shall file with the Office of Human Resources employee benefits section, an affidavit of spousal equivalency or may register as a committed partnership with the clerk's office.

**II. The following definition is removed from those detailed in this Evidence of Coverage (EOC).**

- c. Other dependent persons (but not including foster children) who meet all of the following requirements:
  - i. They are under the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)"; and
  - ii. You or your Spouse is the court-appointed permanent legal guardian (or was before the person reached age 18).

(Ord. No. 959-05, § 1, 12-19-05; Ord. No. 661-12, § 3, 12-26-12; Ord. No. 489-14, § 1, 9-8-14; Ord. No. 763-17, § 1, 8-7-17)

## SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (WHO PAYS WHAT)

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This Schedule of Benefits discusses:

- I. DEDUCTIBLES (if applicable)
- II. ANNUAL OUT-OF-POCKET MAXIMUMS (OPM)
- III. COPAYMENTS AND COINSURANCE
- IV. DEPENDENT LIMITING AGE

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION: PLEASE READ

This Schedule of Benefits does not fully describe the Services covered under this EOC. ***For a complete understanding of the benefits, limitations and exclusions that apply to your coverage under this plan, it is important to read this EOC in conjunction with this Schedule of Benefits.*** Please refer to the heading in the "Benefits/Coverage (What Is Covered)" section and to the "Limitations/Exclusions (What Is Not Covered)" section of this EOC.

Services received may be described in multiple sections of this Schedule of Benefits (for example, Office Services, Durable Medical Equipment, X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures may all apply to a broken arm). See the appropriate sections for applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and Deductible information.

You are responsible for any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for Services performed as part of or in conjunction with other outpatient Services, including but not limited to: office visits, Emergency Services, urgent care, and outpatient surgery.

Here is some important information to keep in mind as you read this Schedule of Benefits:

1. For a Service to be a covered Service:
  - a. The Service must be Medically Necessary (refer to the "Definitions" section in this EOC); **and**
  - b. The Service must be provided, prescribed, recommended, or directed by a Plan Provider; **and**
  - c. The Service must be described in this EOC as covered. Refer to the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.
2. The Charges for your Services are not always known at the time you receive the Service. You **will get a bill** for any Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance that are not known at the time you receive the Service.
3. The Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance listed here apply to covered Services provided to Members enrolled in this plan. Only covered Services apply to the Deductible and OPM. Non-covered Services will not apply to the Deductible and OPM.
4. Copayments for Services are due at the time you receive the Service. Deductibles or Coinsurance for Services may also be due at the time you receive the Service.
5. Except for #6 below, you may be responsible for any amounts over eligible Charges in addition to any Copayment or Coinsurance.
6. With respect to Emergency Services received in a non-Plan Facility, or Services rendered by a non-Plan Provider in a Plan Facility, you will not be balance billed by either the non-Plan Provider or non-Plan Facility. You are responsible for the same Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance amounts that you would pay if the care was provided in a Plan Facility or provided by a Plan Provider.
7. You may be charged separate Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance for additional Services you receive during your visit or if you receive Services from more than one provider during your visit.
8. We reserve the right to reschedule non-emergency, non-routine care if you do not pay all amounts due at the time you receive the Service.
9. For items ordered in advance, you pay the Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance in effect on the order date.
10. You, as the Subscriber, are responsible for any Deductibles, Copayments, and/or Coinsurance incurred by your Dependents enrolled in the Plan.

11. If you are the only person on your plan, your plan will become a family plan upon the addition of any eligible Dependent to your plan. This includes, but is not limited to, any temporary additions to your plan, such as the coverage of a newborn for 31 days as required by state law.

## **I. DEDUCTIBLES**

- A. The medical Deductible represents the full amount you must pay for certain covered Services during the Accumulation Period before any Copayment or Coinsurance applies. Covered Services may or may not be subject to the medical Deductible. It depends on the plan your Group has purchased.

For covered Services that are subject to the medical Deductible, any amounts you pay over eligible Charges will not apply toward the medical Deductible.

1. For covered Services that **ARE** subject to the medical Deductible:
  - a. You must pay full charges for covered Services until your medical Deductible is satisfied. Please see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance” to find out which covered Services are subject to the medical Deductible.
  - b. Once you have met your medical Deductible for the Accumulation Period, you will then pay, for the rest of the Accumulation Period, your applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for those covered Services subject to the medical Deductible (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”).
  - c. Your applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and medical Deductible may apply to your annual OPM (see “II. Annual Out-of-Pocket Maximums”).
2. For covered Services that **ARE NOT** subject to the medical Deductible: Your Copayment or Coinsurance will apply, as listed in “III. Copayments and Coinsurance.”

- B. If your Group has purchased a supplemental prescription drug benefit with a pharmacy Deductible, payments made for prescription drugs apply only to the pharmacy Deductible.

The pharmacy Deductible represents the full amount you must pay for prescription drugs before any Copayment or Coinsurance applies. Prescription drugs may or may not be subject to the pharmacy Deductible. It depends on the plan your Group has purchased.

1. For prescription drugs that **ARE** subject to the pharmacy Deductible:
  - a. You must pay full charges for prescription drugs until your pharmacy Deductible is satisfied. Please see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”, “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements” to find out which prescription drugs are subject to the pharmacy Deductible.
  - b. Once you have met your pharmacy Deductible for the Accumulation Period, you will then pay, for the rest of the Accumulation Period, your applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for those prescriptions drugs subject to the pharmacy Deductible (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”, “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements”).
  - c. If your Group purchased a plan with a pharmacy Deductible, payments made for prescription drugs will be applied only to the pharmacy Deductible. Your pharmacy Deductible does not apply to the medical Deductible and accumulates separately from the medical Deductible.
  - d. Your applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or pharmacy Deductible may not apply to your annual OPM (see “II. Annual Out-of-Pocket Maximums”).
2. For prescription drugs that **ARE NOT** subject to the pharmacy Deductible: Your Copayment or Coinsurance will apply, as listed in “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”, “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements.”

## **II. ANNUAL OUT-OF-POCKET MAXIMUMS**

The OPM limits the total amount you must pay during the Accumulation Period for certain covered Services. Covered Services may or may not apply to the OPM (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”). It depends on the plan your Group has purchased.

For covered Services that apply to the OPM, any amounts you pay over eligible Charges will not apply toward the OPM.

- A. Your Deductible(s) may apply to the OPM (see “I. Deductibles”).
- B. For covered Services that **APPLY** to the OPM.

1. The only Copayments or Coinsurance **that apply** toward the OPM are those made for covered Services listed as **applying** to the OPM (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”).
  2. Once your OPM is met, you will no longer pay for covered Services **that apply** to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period.
- C. For covered Services that do **NOT APPLY** to the OPM.
1. The only Copayments or Coinsurance that **do not apply** toward the OPM are those made for covered Services listed as **not** applying to the OPM (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”).
  2. Once your OPM is met, you will continue to pay for covered Services that **do not apply** to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period.

### **Tracking Deductible(s) and Out-of-Pocket Amounts**

Once you have received Services and we have processed the claim for Services rendered, we will provide an Explanation of Benefits (EOB). The EOB will list the Services you received, the cost of those Services, and the payments made for the Services. It will also include information regarding what portion of the payments were applied to your Deductible(s) and/or OPM amounts.

For more information about your Deductible or OPM amounts, please call **Member Services** or go to **kp.org**.

# Benefits for CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

75 - 050

## III. COPAYMENTS AND COINSURANCE

**Note:** Day, visit, and dollar limits, Deductibles, and Out-of-Pocket Maximums are based on a calendar year Accumulation Period.

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### **Medical Deductible**

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EMBEDDED Medical Deductible

*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

\$500/Individual per Accumulation Period

\$1,000/Family per Accumulation Period

An Embedded Medical Deductible means:

- Each individual family Member has his or her own medical Deductible.
  - If a family Member reaches his or her individual medical Deductible before the family medical Deductible is met, he or she will begin paying Copayments or Coinsurance for most covered Services for the rest of the Accumulation Period.
  - After the family medical Deductible is met, all covered family Members will begin paying Copayments or Coinsurance for most covered Services for the rest of the Accumulation Period. This is true even for family Members who have not met their individual medical Deductible.
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### **Out-of-Pocket Maximum**

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EMBEDDED OPM

\$4,500/Individual per Accumulation Period

\$9,000/Family per Accumulation Period

An Embedded OPM means:

- Each individual family Member has his or her own OPM.
  - If a family Member reaches his or her individual OPM before the family OPM is met, he or she will no longer pay Copayments or Coinsurance for those covered Services that apply to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period.
  - After the family OPM is met, all covered family Members will no longer pay Copayments or Coinsurance for those covered Services that apply to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period. This is true even for family Members who have not met their individual OPM.
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Office Services	You Pay
Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.	
Primary care visits <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Other covered Services: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: No Charge Covered Services received during a visit: 20% Coinsurance
Specialty care visits <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Other covered Services: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: \$75 Copayment each visit Covered Services received during a visit: 20% Coinsurance
Consultations with clinical pharmacists <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Other covered Services: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: No Charge Covered Services received during a visit: 20% Coinsurance
Allergy evaluation and testing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>• Specialty care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: No Charge  Visit: \$75 Copayment each visit
Allergy injections <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Other covered Services: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: \$30 Copayment each visit Covered Services received during a visit: 20% Coinsurance Copayment may apply for allergy serum.
Gynecology care visits <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Other covered Services: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: \$50 Copayment each visit Covered Services received during a visit: 20% Coinsurance
Routine prenatal and postpartum visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Office-administered drugs <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel immunizations <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<b>Virtual Care Services</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Email               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Primary care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>○ Specialty care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Chat with a doctor online via kp.org               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Primary care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>○ Specialty care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Telephone visits               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Primary care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>○ Specialty care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Video visits               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Primary care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>○ Specialty care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	No Charge No Charge  No Charge No Charge  No Charge No Charge  No Charge No Charge

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Covered Services not otherwise listed in this Schedule of Benefits received during an office visit, a scheduled procedure visit, video visit, or provided by a Plan Medical Office <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
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<b>Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
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Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.

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Outpatient surgery at Plan Facilities <i>(Copayment not subject to medical Deductible; Coinsurance subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Ambulatory surgical center: \$500 Copayment each surgery Outpatient hospital: 20% Coinsurance
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Outpatient hospital Services <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
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<b>Hospital Inpatient Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
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<i>(See Hospital Inpatient Care in "Benefits/Coverage (What Is Covered)" in this EOC for the list of covered Services.)</i> <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
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Inpatient professional Services <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
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<b>Alternative Medicine</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
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Chiropractic care	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Evaluation and/or manipulation <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li><li>Laboratory Services or x-rays required for chiropractic care <i>(See "X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information)</i></li></ul>	\$30 Copayment each visit Limited to 20 visits per Accumulation Period See Additional Provisions See "X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.

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Acupuncture Services <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
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<b>Ambulance Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
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<i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance Up to \$500 per trip
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<b>Bariatric Surgery</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
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<i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	50% Coinsurance
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<b>Dental Services following Accidental Injury</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
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<i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
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<b>Dialysis Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
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<i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
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**Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Prosthetics and Orthotics**

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**You Pay****Durable Medical Equipment**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

- **Breast pumps**

*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

See Additional Provisions

No Charge

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**Prosthetic devices**

- **Internally implanted prosthetic devices**

*(See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" and "Hospital Inpatient Care" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)*

See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" and "Hospital Inpatient Care" for applicable Copayment(s) and/or Coinsurance.

- **Prosthetic arm or leg**

*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

- **All other prosthetic devices**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

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**Orthotic devices**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

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**Oxygen**

*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

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Maximum limit paid by Health Plan for Durable Medical Equipment, certain prosthetic devices, and orthotic devices

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Not Applicable

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**Emergency Services**

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**You Pay**

Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this

Schedule of Benefits.

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Plan and non-Plan emergency room visits and related covered Services unless otherwise noted (covered 24 hours a day)

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Copayment waived if directly admitted as an inpatient. If the above amount is a Coinsurance, the Coinsurance amount is not waived if directly admitted as an inpatient.

If X-ray special procedures are excluded, see "X-ray, Laboratory and X-ray Special Procedures" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.

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**Urgent Care**

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**You Pay**

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Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.

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**Plan Facility within Service Area**

*Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

*Other covered Services: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

No Charge

Urgent care may require additional Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits (for example: Office Services, Durable Medical Equipment, X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures). See the appropriate section for applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and Deductible information.

Covered Services received during a visit: 20% Coinsurance

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**Urgent care outside Service Area**

*Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

*Other covered Services: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

No Charge

Urgent care may require additional Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits (for example: Office Services, Durable Medical Equipment, X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures). See the appropriate section for applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and Deductible information.

Covered Services received during a visit: 20% Coinsurance

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Covered only if all the following requirements are met:

- The care is required to prevent serious decline of health
  - The need for care results from an unforeseen illness or injury when temporarily away from our Service Area
  - The care cannot be delayed until you return to our Service Area
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**Family Planning and Sterilization Services**

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**You Pay**

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**Family planning counseling**

*(See "Office Services" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)*

See "Office Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.

**Associated outpatient surgery procedures**

*(See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)*

See "Office Services" or "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.

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**Health Education Services**

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**You Pay**

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**Training in self-care and preventive care**

*(See "Office Services" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)*

See "Office Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.

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<b>Hearing Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction when performed by an audiologist <i>Exam: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Other covered Services: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Exam: No Charge Covered Services received during a visit: No additional charge
Hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction when performed by a specialist other than an audiologist <i>Exam: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Other covered Services: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Exam: \$75 Copayment each visit Covered Services received during a visit: 20% Coinsurance
Hearing aids for Members up to age 18 <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fitting and Recheck visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	No Charge
Hearing aids for Members age 18 and over <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fitting and Recheck visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<b>Home Health Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Home health Services provided in your home and prescribed by a Plan Physician <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<b>Hospice Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Special Services program for hospice-eligible Members who have not yet elected hospice care <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
Hospice care for terminally ill patients <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<b>Mental Health Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Inpatient psychiatric hospitalization <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inpatient day limit</li> </ul>	Not Applicable
Inpatient professional Services for psychiatric hospitalization <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Outpatient individual therapy or intensive outpatient therapy <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Other covered Services: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: No Charge including partial hospitalization Covered services received during a Visit: 20% Coinsurance
Outpatient group therapy <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Other covered Services: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: No Charge Covered Services received during a visit: 20% Coinsurance

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**Out-of-Area Benefit****You Pay**

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The following Services are limited to Dependents up to the age of 26 outside the Service Area.

**Outpatient office visits**

*(Combined office visit limit between primary care, specialty care, outpatient mental health and substance use disorder services, gynecology care, hearing exam, prevention immunizations, preventive care, and the administration of allergy injections. Office visits do not include: allergy evaluation, routine prenatal and postpartum visits, chiropractic care, acupuncture services, hearing aids, hearing tests, home health visits, hospice services, and applied behavioral analysis (ABA).)*

*Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

*Other Services: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

*Preventive immunizations: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

Visit limit: Limited to 5 visits per Accumulation Period

Visit: \$20 Copayment

Other Services received during an office visit: Not Covered

Preventive Immunizations:  
No Charge

**Diagnostic X-ray Services**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

Diagnostic X-ray services limit:

Limited to 5 diagnostic X-rays per Accumulation Period

20% Coinsurance

**Outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits**

*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

Therapy visit limit: Limited to 5 therapy visits (any combination) per Accumulation Period

Visit: \$20 Copayment

**Outpatient prescription drugs**

*(Not subject to pharmacy Deductible)*

Prescription drug fills: Limited to 5 prescription drug fills (any combination) per Accumulation Period

- Copayment/Coinsurance (except as listed below)  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

50% Coinsurance Generic/50%  
Coinsurance Brand name/50%  
Coinsurance Non-preferred/50%  
Coinsurance Specialty

- Prescribed diabetic supplies  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

- Preventive drugs
  - Contraceptive drugs  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
  - Over the counter (OTC) items:  
*(Federally mandated over the counter items)*  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
  - Tobacco cessation drugs  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

No Charge

No Charge

No Charge

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**Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy and Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services**

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**You Pay**

Inpatient treatment in a multidisciplinary rehabilitation program provided in a designated rehabilitation facility

20% Coinsurance; Up to 60 days per condition per Accumulation Period

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

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Short-term outpatient physical, occupational and speech therapy visits

- **Habilitative Services**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Limited to 20 visits per therapy per Accumulation Period

- **Rehabilitative Services**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Limited to 20 visits per therapy per Accumulation Period

Outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits to treat Autism Spectrum Disorder

20% Coinsurance

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

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Applied Behavioral Services

- **Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)**

*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

\$30 Copayment each visit

Pulmonary rehabilitation

20% Coinsurance

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

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**Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements****You Pay**

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**Outpatient prescription drugs**

*(Prescriptions are not subject to the medical Deductible. Prescriptions are subject to the pharmacy Deductible except as otherwise listed in this "Prescription Drugs, Supplies and Supplements" section. Prescription copayment or coinsurance: Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

- Pharmacy Deductible  
*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)* Not Applicable
- Copayment/Coinsurance (except as listed below) \$10 Generic/\$35 Brand name/\$60 Non-Preferred
- Infertility drugs  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)* Not Covered
- Insulin  
Applicable Copayment/Coinsurance not to exceed \$100 up to a 30-day supply  
20% Coinsurance
  - o Prescribed supplies  
*(When obtained from sources designated by Kaiser Permanente)*  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
- Over the counter (OTC) items:  
*(Federally mandated over the counter (OTC) items. OTCs require a prescription and must be filled at a Kaiser Permanente pharmacy.)*  
*(Not subject to medical or pharmacy Deductible)* No Charge
- Prescription contraceptives  
*(Supply limit according to applicable law)*  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)* No Charge
- Preventive tier drugs  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)* See applicable Outpatient prescription drug Copayment/Coinsurance
- Sexual dysfunction drugs  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)* Not Covered
- Specialty drugs  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)* Up to \$100 per drug dispensed
- Tobacco cessation drugs  
*(Not subject to medical or pharmacy Deductible)* No Charge

**Supply Limit**

- Day supply limit 30 days
  - Mail-order supply limit \$20 Generic/\$70 Brand name/\$120 Non-Preferred  
Up to 90 days  
See Additional Provisions
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<b>Preventive Care Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Preventive care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult preventive care exams and screenings</li> <li>• Behavioral health screening</li> <li>• Well-woman care exams and screenings</li> <li>• Well-child care exams</li> <li>• Immunizations</li> </ul>	
Colorectal cancer screenings <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colonoscopies</li> <li>• Flexible sigmoidoscopies</li> </ul>	No Charge
Preventive Virtual Care Services <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Email</li> <li>• Chat with a doctor online via kp.org</li> <li>• Telephone</li> <li>• Video visits</li> </ul>	
Non-preventive covered Services received in conjunction with preventive care exam <i>(See "Office Services" or "Laboratory Services" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Office Services" or "Laboratory Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
<b>Reconstructive Surgery</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
<b>Reproductive Support Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Covered Services for diagnosis and treatment of infertility (including lab and X-ray) <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	50% Coinsurance See Additional Provisions
Intrauterine insemination (IUI) <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	50% Coinsurance See Additional Provisions
In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
Gamete Intrafallopian Transfer (GIFT) <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
Zygote Intrafallopian Transfer (ZIFT) <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<b>Skilled Nursing Facility Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance Limited to 100 days per Accumulation Period

<b>Substance Use Disorder Services (formerly Chemical Dependency Services)</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Inpatient medical detoxification <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Inpatient professional Services for medical detoxification <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Outpatient individual therapy or intensive outpatient therapy <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Other covered Services: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: 20% Coinsurance including partial hospitalization Covered Services received during a visit: No additional charge
Outpatient group therapy <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Other covered Services: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: No Charge Covered Services received during a visit: No additional charge
Residential rehabilitation <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance per inpatient admission
<b>Transplant Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(See "Office Services", "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services", or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Office Services", "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services", or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
<b>Vision Services and Optical</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Eye exams for treatment of injuries and/or diseases	See "Office Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
Routine eye exam when performed by an Optometrist	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members up to the end of the calendar year he/she turns age 19 <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>Members age 19 and over <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: No Charge Test: No Charge Visit: No Charge Test: No Charge
Routine eye exam when performed by an Ophthalmologist	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members up to the end of the calendar year he/she turns age 19 <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>Members age 19 and over <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: \$75 Copayment each visit Test: 20% Coinsurance Visit: \$75 Copayment each visit Test: 20% Coinsurance
Covered Services not otherwise listed in this Schedule of Benefits received during an office visit, a scheduled procedure visit, or provided by a Plan Medical Office <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Optical hardware	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members up to the end of the calendar year he/she turns age 19 <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>Members age 19 and over <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered Not Covered

<b>X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Diagnostic laboratory Services received during an office visit, in a Plan Medical Office, or in a contracted free-standing facility (excluding Plan Hospitals) <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$25 Copayment each visit
Diagnostic laboratory Services received in the outpatient department of a Plan Hospital <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$25 Copayment each visit
Diagnostic X-ray Services received during an office visit, in a Plan Medical Office, or in a contracted free-standing facility (excluding Plan Hospitals) <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
Diagnostic X-ray Services received in the outpatient department of a Plan Hospital <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
Therapeutic X-ray Services received during an office visit, in a Plan Medical Office, in a contracted free-standing facility, or a Plan Hospital <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$25 Copayment each visit
X-ray special procedures including but not limited to CT, PET, MRI, nuclear medicine <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diagnostic procedures include administered drugs</li> <li>• Therapeutic procedures may incur an additional charge for administered drugs.</li> </ul> <i>(See "Office Services" for "Office-administered Drugs")</i>	\$250 Copayment per procedure Copayment waived if X-ray special procedure is performed during an Emergency Room visit and you are directly admitted as an inpatient. If the above amount is a Coinsurance, the Coinsurance amount is not waived if directly admitted as an inpatient.



<b>Plus Benefit</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Maximum limit per Accumulation Period	Not Applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preventive care visits with a non-Plan Provider <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary care and allergy injection visits, hearing exams, outpatient mental health and substance use disorder individual therapy visits, and short-term outpatient physical, occupational, or speech therapy visits with a non-Plan Provider. <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Specialty and gynecology care visits, hearing exams, and allergy testing and evaluations with a non-Plan Provider. Visits include phone or email virtual care Services. <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Covered Services received during an office visit with a non-Plan Provider, allergy injections, durable medical equipment, diagnostic X-ray and laboratory Services, and implantable or injectable contraceptives. <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
Prescription Drug fill maximum per Accumulation Period	Not Applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outpatient prescription drugs filled at a non-Plan Pharmacy <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
Outpatient prescription drugs prescribed by a non-Plan Provider and filled at a Plan Pharmacy <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered

#### **IV. DEPENDENT LIMITING AGE**

The Dependent limiting age as described under Dependents in the "Eligibility" section of the EOC is the end of the month in which age 26 is reached. A Dependent child will continue to be eligible until the Dependent child reaches this age, if he or she continues to meet all other eligibility requirements. For additional information regarding eligible Dependents, including certain Dependents over the limiting age, please refer to the "Eligibility" section in the EOC.

#### **Additional Provisions**

Please see "Additional Provisions" for any supplemental information that applies to your coverage.



**CONTACT US**

**Appointments and Medical Advice (Advice Nurses) – Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week**

**CALL** *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-338-4545** or toll-free **1-800-218-1059**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-800-218-1059**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **970-207-7171** or toll-free **1-800-218-1059**

**TTY** **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**Behavioral Health**

**CALL** *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-471-7700**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-866-702-9026**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-866-359-8299**

**TTY** **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**Member Services**

**CALL** *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-338-3800** or toll-free **1-800-632-9700**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-888-681-7878**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-844-201-5824**

**TTY** **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**FAX** **303-338-3444**

**WRITE** **Member Services**  
**Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado**  
**2500 South Havana Street**  
**Aurora, CO 80014-1622**

**WEBSITE** [kp.org](http://kp.org)

**Appeals Program**

<b>CALL</b>	<b>303-344-7933</b> or toll free <b>1-888-370-9858</b>
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
<b>FAX</b>	<b>1-866-466-4042</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	<b>Appeals Program</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 378066</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-8066</b>

**Claims Department**

<b>CALL</b>	<i>Denver/Boulder</i> Members: <b>303-338-3600</b> or toll-free <b>1-800-382-4661</b> <i>Southern Colorado</i> Members: <b>1-888-681-7878</b> <i>Northern Colorado</i> Members: <b>1-800-382-4661</b>
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
<b>WRITE</b>	<i>Denver/Boulder</i> Members: <b>Claims Department</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 373150</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-3150</b>  <i>Southern Colorado</i> Members: <b>Claims Department</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 372910</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-6910</b>  <i>Northern Colorado</i> Members: <b>Claims Department</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 373150</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-3150</b>

**Membership Administration**

<b>WRITE</b>	<b>Membership Administration</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 203004</b> <b>Denver, CO 80220-9004</b>
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**Patient Financial Services**

**CALL**      *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-743-5900**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-888-681-7878**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-844-201-5824**

**TTY**      **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**WRITE**      **Patient Financial Services**  
**Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado**  
**2500 South Havana Street, Suite 500**  
**Aurora, CO 80014-1622**

**Personal Physician Selection Services**

**CALL**      *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-338-4477**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-855-208-7221**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-855-208-7221**

**TTY**      **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**WEBSITE**      [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations) for a list of providers and facilities

**Transplant Administrative Offices**

**CALL**      **303-636-3131**

**TTY**      **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.



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## I. ELIGIBILITY

### A. Who Is Eligible

#### 1. General

To be eligible to enroll and to remain enrolled in this health benefit plan, you must meet the following requirements:

- a. You must meet your Group's eligibility requirements that we have approved. Your Group is required to inform Subscribers of the Group's eligibility requirements; and
- b. You must also meet the Subscriber or Dependent eligibility requirements as described below; and
- c. The Subscriber must live or reside in our Service Area. Our Service Area is described in the "Definitions" section.

#### 2. Subscribers

You may be eligible to enroll as a Subscriber if you are entitled to Subscriber coverage under your Group's eligibility requirements. An example would be an employee of your Group who works at least the number of hours stated in those requirements.

#### 3. Dependents

If you are a Subscriber, the following persons may be eligible to enroll as your Dependents under this plan:

- a. Your Spouse. (Spouse includes a partner in a valid civil union under state law.)
- b. Your or your Spouse's children (including adopted children and children placed with you for adoption) who are under the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)."
- c. Other dependent persons (but not including foster children) who meet all of the following requirements:
  - i. They are under the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)"; and
  - ii. You or your Spouse is the court-appointed permanent legal guardian (or was before the person reached age 18).
- d. Your or your Spouse's unmarried children over the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" who are medically certified as disabled and dependent upon you or your Spouse are eligible to enroll or continue coverage as your Dependents if the following requirements are met:
  - i. They are dependent on you or your Spouse; and
  - ii. You give us proof of the Dependent's disability and dependency annually if we request it.
- e. Subscriber's designated beneficiary prescribed by Colorado law, if your employer elects to cover designated beneficiaries as dependents.

**Students on Medical Leave of Absence.** Dependent children who lose dependent student status at a postsecondary educational institution due to a Medically Necessary leave of absence may remain eligible for coverage until the earlier of: (i) one year after the first day of the Medically Necessary leave of absence; or (ii) the date dependent coverage would otherwise terminate under this EOC. We must receive written certification by a treating physician of the dependent child which states 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.

If your plan has different eligibility requirements, please see "Additional Provisions."

### B. Enrollment and Effective Date of Coverage

Eligible people may enroll as follows, and membership begins at 12:00 a.m. on the membership effective date:

#### 1. New Employees and their Dependents

If you are a new employee, you may enroll yourself and any eligible Dependents by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application to your Group within 31 days after you become eligible. You should check with your Group to see when new employees become eligible. Your membership will become effective on the date specified by your Group.

#### 2. Members Who are Inpatient on Effective Date of Coverage

If you are an inpatient in a hospital or institution when your coverage with us becomes effective and you had other coverage when you were admitted, state law will determine whether we or your prior carrier will be responsible for payment for your care until your date of discharge.

#### 3. Special Enrollment Due to Newly Acquired Dependents

You may enroll as a Subscriber (along with any eligible Dependents), and existing Subscribers may add eligible Dependents, by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application to your Group within 31 days after a Dependent becomes newly eligible.

The membership effective date for the Dependents (and, if applicable, the new Subscriber) will be:

- a. For newborn children, the moment of birth. Your newborn child is covered for the first 31 days following birth. This coverage is required by state law, whether or not you intend to add the newborn to this plan.

For existing Subscribers:

- i. If the addition of the newborn child to the Subscriber's coverage will change the amount the Subscriber is required to pay for that coverage, then the Subscriber, in order for the newborn to keep coverage beyond the first 31-day period of coverage, is required to: (A) pay the new amount due for coverage after the first 31-day period of coverage; and (B) notify Health Plan within 31 days of the newborn's birth.
- ii. If the addition of the newborn child to the Subscriber's coverage will not change the amount the Subscriber pays for coverage, the Subscriber must still notify Health Plan after the birth of the newborn to get the newborn enrolled onto the Subscriber's Health Plan coverage.

- b. For newly adopted children (including children newly placed for adoption), the date of the adoption or placement for adoption. An eligible adopted child must be enrolled within 31 days from the date the child is placed in your custody or the date of the final decree of adoption.

For existing Subscribers:

- i. If the addition of the newly adopted child to the Subscriber's coverage will change the amount the Subscriber is required to pay for that coverage, then the Subscriber, in order for the newly adopted child to continue coverage beyond the initial 31-day period of coverage, is required to: (A) pay the new amount due for coverage after the initial 31-day period of coverage; and (B) notify Health Plan within 31 days of the child's adoption or placement for adoption.
- ii. If the addition of the newly adopted child to the Subscriber's coverage will not change the amount the Subscriber pays for coverage, the Subscriber must still notify Health Plan after the adoption or placement for adoption of the child to get the child enrolled onto the Subscriber's Health Plan coverage.

- c. For all other Dependents, if enrolled within 31 days of becoming eligible, no later than the first day of the month following the date your Group receives the enrollment application. Your Group will let you know the membership effective date. Employees and Dependents who are not enrolled when newly eligible must wait until the next open enrollment period to become Members of Health Plan, unless: (i) they enroll under special circumstances, as agreed to by your Group and Health Plan; or (ii) they enroll under the provisions described in "Special Enrollment".

#### 4. Special Enrollment

You or your Dependent may experience a triggering event that allows a change in your enrollment. Examples of triggering events are the loss of coverage, a Dependent's aging off this plan, marriage, and birth of a child. The triggering event results in a special enrollment period that usually (but not always) starts on the date of the triggering event and lasts for 30 days. During the special enrollment period, you may enroll your Dependent(s) in this plan or, in certain circumstances, you may change plans (your plan choice may be limited). There are requirements that you must meet to take advantage of a special enrollment period including showing proof of your own or your Dependent's triggering event. To learn more about triggering events, special enrollment periods, how to enroll or change your plan (if permitted), timeframes for submitting information to Health Plan and other requirements, call **Member Services** to obtain a copy of Health Plan's *Special Enrollment Guide*.

#### 5. Open Enrollment

You may enroll as a Subscriber (along with any eligible Dependents), and existing Subscribers may add eligible Dependents, by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application to your Group during the open enrollment period. Your Group will let you know when the open enrollment period begins and ends and the membership effective date.

#### 6. Persons Barred from Enrolling

You cannot enroll if you have had your entitlement to receive Services through Health Plan terminated for cause.

## II. HOW TO ACCESS YOUR SERVICES AND OBTAIN APPROVAL OF BENEFITS

As a Member, you are selecting our medical care program to provide your health care. You must receive all covered Services from Plan Providers inside your home Service Area, except as described under the following headings:

- "Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)" in "Emergency Services and Urgent Care" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.
- "Urgent Care Outside the Service Area" in "Emergency Services and Urgent Care" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.
- "Out-of-Area Benefit" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.
- "Access to Other Providers" in this section.
- "Cross Market Access" in this section.
- "Visiting Other Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Areas" in this section.

- “Plus Benefit” if purchased by your Group. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if your Group has purchased this coverage.

Your home Service Area is printed on your Health Plan Identification (ID) card. For more information about your ID card, please refer to the “Using Your Health Plan Identification Card” section.

In some circumstances, you might receive emergency or non-emergency Services from a non-Plan Provider or non-Plan Facility. **Non-emergency Services from non-Plan Providers are not covered unless they are authorized by us.** If Services from a non-Plan Provider are authorized, the Deductible, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance for these authorized Services are the same as for covered Services received from a Plan Provider. You have the right and responsibility to request a Plan Provider to provide Services.

**Note:** *Denver/Boulder* Members do not have access to Affiliated Providers within the *Denver/Boulder* Service Area unless authorized by Health Plan. *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Members do have access to Affiliated Providers within their home Service Area.

## A. Your Primary Care Provider

Your primary care provider (PCP) plays an important role in coordinating your health care needs. This includes hospital stays and referrals to specialists. Every member of your family should have his or her own PCP.

### 1. Choosing Your Primary Care Provider

You may select a PCP from family medicine, pediatrics, or internal medicine within your home Service Area. You may also receive a second medical opinion from a Plan Physician upon request. Please refer to the “Second Opinions” section.

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

You may choose your PCP from our provider directory. To review a list of Plan Providers and their biographies, visit our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). You can also get a copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. To choose a PCP, sign in to your account online or call **Personal Physician Selection Services**. This team will help you choose a primary care provider, accepting new patients, based on your health care needs.

#### b. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

You must choose a PCP when you enroll. If you do not select a PCP upon enrollment, we will assign you one near your home.

Medical Group contracts with a panel of Affiliated Physicians, specialists, and other health care professionals to provide medical Services in the *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Service Areas. You may choose your PCP from our panel of *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* providers.

You can find these physicians, along with a list of affiliated specialists and ancillary providers, in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your specific home Service Area. You can review a list of *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Plan Providers by visiting our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). You can also get a copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. To choose a PCP, call **Personal Physician Selection Services**. This team will help you choose a primary care provider, accepting new patients, based on your health care needs.

If you are seeking routine or specialty care in *Denver/Boulder*, you must have a referral from your local PCP with an Authorization from Health Plan. If you do not have an Authorization, you will be billed for the full amount of the office visit Charges. If you are visiting in the *Denver/Boulder* Service Area and need urgent or emergency care, you can visit a *Denver/Boulder* Plan Facility without a referral. For a referral from a specialist, see the “Access to Other Providers” section. For care in *Denver/Boulder* Plan Medical Offices, see “Cross Market Access”.

### 2. Changing Your Primary Care Provider

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

Please call **Personal Physician Selection Services** to change your PCP. You may also change your PCP online or when visiting a Plan Facility. You may change your PCP at any time.

#### b. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

Please call **Personal Physician Selection Services** to change your PCP. Notify us of your new PCP choice by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month. Your selection will be effective on the first day of the following month.

## B. Access to Other Providers

### 1. Referrals and Authorizations

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

If your Medical Group physician decides that you need covered Services not available from us, he or she will request a referral for you to see a non-Medical Group physician inside or outside our Service Area. This referral request will result in an Authorization or a denial. However, there may be circumstances where Health Plan will partially authorize your provider’s referral request.

An Authorization is a referral request that has received approval from Health Plan. An Authorization is limited to a specific Service, treatment or series of treatments, and period of time. The provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid. Copayments or Coinsurance for authorized Services are the same as those required for Services provided by a Medical Group physician.

An Authorization is required for Services provided by non-Plan Providers, non-Medical Group physicians, or non-Plan Facilities. If your provider refers you to a non-Medical Group physician, non-Plan Provider, or non-Plan Facility, inside or outside our Service Area, you must have a written Authorization in order for us to cover the Services.

All referral Services must be requested and authorized in advance. We will not pay for any care rendered by a provider unless the care is specifically authorized by Health Plan and approved in advance. A written or verbal recommendation by a provider that you get non-covered Services (whether Medically Necessary or not) is not considered an Authorization, and is **not** covered.

b. **Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas**

If your Medical Group physician decides that you need covered Services not available from us, he or she will request a referral for you to see a non-Medical Group physician inside or outside our Service Area. This referral request will result in an Authorization or a denial. However, there may be circumstances where Health Plan will partially authorize your provider's referral request.

An Authorization is a referral request that has received approval from Health Plan. An Authorization is limited to a specific Service, treatment or series of treatments, and period of time. The provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid. Copayments or Coinsurance for authorized Services are the same as those required for Services provided by a Medical Group physician.

An Authorization is required for Services provided by non-Plan Providers, non-Medical Group physicians, or non-Plan Facilities. If your provider refers you to a non-Medical Group physician, non-Plan Provider, or non-Plan Facility, inside or outside our Service Area, you must have a written Authorization in order for us to cover the Services.

All referral Services must be requested and authorized in advance. We will not pay for any care rendered by a provider unless the care is specifically authorized by Health Plan and approved in advance. A written or verbal recommendation by a provider that you get non-covered Services (whether Medically Necessary or not) is not considered an Authorization, and is **not** covered.

2. **Specialty Self-Referrals**

a. **Denver/Boulder Service Area**

In some cases you can refer yourself for consultation (routine office) visits to specialty-care departments within Kaiser Permanente, with the exception of certain specialty-care departments such as the anesthesia clinical pain department. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to eye care services from a Plan Provider. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a Plan Provider who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology.

You will find specialty-care providers in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your home Service Area. The Provider Directory is available on our website, [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). If you need a printed copy of the Provider Directory, please call **Member Services**.

A self-referral provides coverage for routine office visits only. Certain Services other than those provided as part of a routine office visit will not be covered unless authorized by Kaiser Permanente before Services are rendered.

Authorization from Kaiser Permanente is required for: (i) Services in addition to those provided as part of the visit, such as surgery; and (ii) visits to specialty-care Plan Providers not eligible for self-referrals; and (iii) non-Plan Providers. The request for these Services can be generated by either your PCP or by a specialty-care provider. If the request is approved, the provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid.

A Plan Provider can directly refer you for some laboratory or radiology Services and for specialty procedures such as a CT scan or MRI. However, certain laboratory or radiology Services and specialty procedures will still require an Authorization.

b. **Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas**

In some cases you can refer yourself for consultation (routine office) visits to specialty-care departments within Kaiser Permanente, with the exception of certain specialty-care departments such as the anesthesia clinical pain department.

You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to eye care services from a Plan Provider. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a Plan Provider who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology.

You will find specialty-care providers in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your home Service Area. The Provider Directory is available on our website, [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). If you need a printed copy of the Provider Directory, please call **Member Services**.

A self-referral provides coverage for routine office visits only. Certain Services other than those provided as part of a routine office visit will not be covered unless authorized by Kaiser Permanente before Services are rendered.

Authorization from Kaiser Permanente is required for: (i) Services in addition to those provided as part of the visit, such as surgery; and (ii) visits to specialty-care Plan Providers not eligible for self-referrals; and (iii) non-Plan Providers. The request for these Services can be generated by either your PCP or by a specialty-care provider. If the request is approved, the provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid.

A Plan Provider can directly refer you for some laboratory or radiology Services and for specialty procedures such as a CT scan or MRI. However, certain laboratory or radiology Services and specialty procedures will still require an Authorization.

*Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Members may be able to self-refer to Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices in the *Denver/Boulder* Service Area (see "Cross Market Access" in this section).

### 3. Second Opinions

Upon request and subject to payment of any applicable Deductible, Copayments, and/or Coinsurance, you may get a second opinion from a Plan Physician about any proposed covered Services.

If the recommendations of the first and second physician differ regarding the need for surgery (or other major procedure), a third opinion may be covered if authorized by Health Plan. Third medical opinions are not covered unless authorized by Health Plan before Services are rendered.

## C. Plan Facilities

Plan Facilities are Plan Medical Offices or Plan Hospitals in our Service Area that we contract with to provide covered Services to our Members.

### 1. Denver/Boulder Service Area

We offer health care at Plan Medical Offices conveniently located throughout the *Denver/Boulder* Service Area. At most of our Plan Facilities, you can usually receive all the covered Services you need. This includes specialized care. You are not restricted to a certain Plan Facility. We encourage you to use the Plan Facility in your home Service Area that will be most convenient for you.

Plan Facilities are listed in our provider directory, which we update regularly. You can get a current copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. You can also get a list of Plan Facilities on our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations).

### 2. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

When you select your PCP, you will receive your Services at that provider's office. You can find *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Plan Physicians and their facilities, along with a list of affiliated specialists and ancillary providers, in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your specific home Service Area. You can get a copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. You can also get a list from our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations).

## D. Getting the Care You Need

Emergency care is covered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week anywhere in the world. **If you think you have a Life or Limb Threatening Emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room.** For coverage information about emergency care, including out-of-Plan Emergency Services, and emergency benefits away from home, please refer to "Emergency Services" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.

If you need urgent care, you may use one of the designated urgent care Plan Facilities. The Copayment or Coinsurance for urgent care received in Plan Facilities listed in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)," will apply. For additional information about urgent care, please refer to "Urgent Care" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.

Urgent care received at a non-Plan Facility inside your Service Area is **not covered**. If you receive care for minor medical problems at non-Plan Facilities inside your Service Area, you will be responsible for payment for any treatment received.

There may be instances when you need to receive unauthorized urgent care outside your Service Area. Please see "Urgent Care" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section for coverage information about urgent care Services outside the Service Area.

**E. Visiting Other Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Areas**

You may receive visiting member services from another Kaiser regional health plan as directed by that other plan so long as such services would be covered under this EOC. Kaiser regional health plan service areas may change at any time. Currently they are: the District of Columbia and parts of California, Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Maryland, Oregon, Virginia, and Washington. For more information, please call **Member Services**. Visiting member services shall be subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this EOC including but not limited to those pertaining to prior Authorization, Deductible, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance, as further described in the Visiting Member Brochure available online at [kp.org/travel](http://kp.org/travel). Certain services are not covered as visiting member services.

For more information about receiving visiting member services in other Kaiser regional health plan service areas, including 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).

**F. Moving Outside of our Service Area**

If you move to an area not within any Kaiser regional health plan service area, your membership may be terminated. We will provide you with thirty (30) days' notice of termination which will include the reason for termination.

**G. Using Your Health Plan Identification Card**

Each Member is issued a Health Plan Identification (ID) card with a Health Record Number on it. This is useful when you call for advice, make an appointment, or go to a Plan Provider for care. The Health Record Number is used to identify your medical records and membership information. You should always have the same Health Record Number. Please call **Member Services** if: (1) we ever inadvertently issue you more than one Health Record Number; or (2) you need to replace your Health Plan ID card.

Your Health Plan ID card is for identification only. To receive covered Services, you must be a current Health Plan Member. Anyone who is not a Member will be billed as a non-Member for any Services we provide. In addition, claims for Emergency or non-emergency care Services from non-Plan Providers will be denied. If you let someone else use your Health Plan ID card, we may keep your card and terminate your membership upon 30 days written notice that will include the reason for termination.

When you receive Services, you will need to show photo identification along with your Health Plan ID card. This allows us to ensure proper identification and to better protect your coverage and medical information from fraud. If you suspect you or your membership is a victim of fraud, please call **Member Services** to report your concern.

**H. Cross Market Access**

Members may access certain Services at Kaiser Permanente Colorado Plan Medical Offices outside of their home Service Area.

**1. Denver/Boulder Members**

**Denver/Boulder** Members have access for certain Services at designated Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices in the **Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Service Areas. **Denver/Boulder** Members do not have access to Affiliated Providers in **Southern** and **Northern Colorado** unless authorized by Health Plan.

**2. Southern and Northern Colorado Members**

**Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Members have access for certain Services at any Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Office in the **Denver/Boulder**, **Southern**, and **Northern Colorado** Service Areas. **Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Members do not have access to Affiliated Providers outside their home Service Area unless authorized by Health Plan.

Services available to Members at Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices outside of their home Service Area include: primary care; specialty care; urgent care; pharmacy; laboratory; X-ray; vision; and hearing Services. These Services may not be available at all Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices and are subject to change. For more information on what Services you may access outside your designated home Service Area and at which Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices you may receive Services please call **Member Services**.

**III. BENEFITS/COVERAGE (WHAT IS COVERED)**

The Services described in this "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section are covered only if all the following conditions are satisfied:

- The Services are Medically Necessary; and
- The Services are provided, prescribed, recommended, or directed by a Plan Provider. This does not apply where specifically noted to the contrary in the following sections of this EOC: (a) "Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)" and "Urgent Care Outside the Service Area" in "Emergency Services and Urgent Care"; and (b) "Out-of-Area Benefit"; and (c) "Plus Benefit" if purchased by your Group (see the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" to determine if your Group has purchased this coverage); and



- You receive the Services from Plan Providers inside our Service Area. This does not apply where noted to the contrary in the following sections of this EOC: (a) “Referrals and Authorizations” and “Specialty Self-Referrals”; and (b) “Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)” and “Urgent Care Outside the Service Area” in “Emergency Services and Urgent Care”; and (c) “Out-of-Area Benefit”; and (d) “Visiting Other Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Areas”; and (e) “Plus Benefit” if purchased by your Group (see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if your Group has purchased this coverage); and
- Your provider has received prior Authorization for your Services, as appropriate; and
- You have met any Deductible requirements described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

Exclusions and limitations that apply only to a certain benefit are described in this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section. Exclusions, limitations, and reductions that apply to all benefits are described in the “Limitations/Exclusions (What is Not Covered)” section.

**Note:** Deductibles, Copayments, and/or Coinsurance may apply to the benefits and are described below. For a complete list of Deductible, Copayment, and Coinsurance requirements, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” You are responsible for any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for Services performed as part of or in conjunction with other outpatient Services, including but not limited to: office visits, Emergency Services, urgent care, and outpatient surgery.

## A. Office Services

### Office Services for Preventive Care, Diagnosis, and Treatment

We cover, under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section and subject to any specific limitations, exclusions, or exceptions as noted throughout this EOC, the following office Services for preventive care, diagnosis, and treatment, including professional medical Services of physicians and other health care professionals in the physician’s office, during medical office consultations, in a Skilled Nursing Facility, or at home:

1. Primary care visits: Services from family medicine, internal medicine, and pediatrics.
2. Specialty care visits: Services from providers that are not primary care, as defined above.
3. Routine prenatal and postpartum visits: The routine prenatal benefit covers office exams, routine chemical urinalysis and fetal stress tests performed during the office visit. See the applicable section of your “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for the Copayment and/or Coinsurance for all other Services received during a prenatal visit.
4. Consultations with clinical pharmacists (*Denver/Boulder* Members only).
5. Other covered Services received during an office visit or a scheduled procedure visit.
6. Outpatient hospital clinic visits with an Authorization from Health Plan.
7. Blood, blood products, and their administration.
8. Second opinion.
9. House calls when care can best be provided in your home as determined by a Plan Physician.
10. Medical social Services.
11. Preventive care Services (see “Preventive Care Services” in this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section for more details).
12. Professional review and interpretation of patient data from a remote monitoring device.
13. Virtual care Services.
14. Office-administered drugs.

**Note:** If the following are administered in a Plan Medical Office or during home visits, and administration or observation by medical personnel is required, they are covered at the applicable office-administered drug Copayment or Coinsurance shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” This Copayment or Coinsurance may be in addition to your Office Services Copayment or Coinsurance.

Drugs and injectables; radioactive materials used for therapeutic purposes; vaccines and immunizations approved for use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA); and allergy test and treatment materials.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” If your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, you must meet Medical Group’s criteria to be eligible for coverage.

## B. Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services

### Outpatient Services at Designated Facilities

We cover, only as described under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section and subject to any specific limitations, exclusions, or exceptions as noted throughout this EOC, the following outpatient Services for diagnosis and treatment, including professional medical Services of physicians:

1. Outpatient surgery at designated Plan Facilities, including an ambulatory surgical center, surgical suite, or outpatient hospital facility. Kaiser Permanente applies Medicare global surgery guidelines in accordance with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

2. Outpatient hospital Services at designated facilities, including but not limited to: electroencephalogram, sleep study, stress test, pulmonary function test, any treatment room, or any observation room. You may be charged an additional Copayment or Coinsurance for any Service which is listed as a separate benefit under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” If your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, you must meet Medical Group’s criteria to be eligible for coverage.

### C. Hospital Inpatient Care

#### 1. Inpatient Services in a Plan Hospital

We cover, only as described under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section and subject to any specific limitations, exclusions, or exceptions as noted throughout this EOC, the following inpatient Services in a Plan Hospital, when the Services are generally and customarily provided by acute care general hospitals in our Service Areas:

- a. Room and board, such as semiprivate accommodations or, when it is Medically Necessary, private accommodations or private duty nursing care.
- b. Intensive care and related hospital Services.
- c. Professional Services of physicians and other health care professionals during a hospital stay.
- d. General nursing care.
- e. Obstetrical care and delivery. This includes Cesarean section. If the covered stay for child birth ends after 8 p.m., coverage will be continued until 8 a.m. the following morning. **Note:** If you are discharged within 48 hours after delivery (or 96 hours if delivery is by Cesarean section), your Plan Physician may order a follow-up visit for you and your newborn to take place within 48 hours after discharge. If your newborn remains in the hospital following your discharge, Charges incurred by the newborn are subject to all Health Plan provisions. This includes the newborn’s own Deductible, Out-of-Pocket Maximum, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance requirements. This applies even if the newborn is covered only for the first 31 days that is required by state law.
- f. Meals and special diets.
- g. Other hospital Services and supplies, such as:
  - i. Operating, recovery, maternity, and other treatment rooms.
  - ii. Prescribed drugs and medicines.
  - iii. Diagnostic laboratory tests and X-rays.
  - iv. Blood, blood products and their administration.
  - v. Dressings, splints, casts, and sterile tray Services.
  - vi. Anesthetics, including nurse anesthetist Services.
  - vii. Medical supplies, appliances, medical equipment, including oxygen, and any covered items billed by a hospital for use at home.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” If your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, you must meet Medical Group’s criteria to be eligible for coverage.

#### 2. Hospital Inpatient Care Exclusions

- a. Dental Services are excluded, except that we cover hospitalization and general anesthesia for dental Services provided to Members as required by state law.
- b. Cosmetic surgery related to bariatric surgery.

### D. Ambulance Services and Other Transportation

#### 1. Coverage

We cover ambulance Services only if your condition requires the use of medical Services that only a licensed ambulance can provide. Kaiser Permanente applies Medicare guidelines for ambulance Services in accordance with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

#### 2. Ambulance Services Exclusions

- a. Non-emergency routine ambulance services to home or other non-acute health care setting are not covered.
- b. Transportation by other than a licensed ambulance is not covered. Transportation by car, taxi, bus, gurney van, minivan, or any other type of transportation is not covered, even if it is the only way to travel to a Plan Provider.

**Note:** Health Plan will cover certain non-emergent, non-ambulance transportation when there is prior Authorization by Health Plan.

### E. Clinical Trials

**Note:** We cover the initial evaluation for eligibility and acceptance into a clinical trial only if authorized by Health Plan.

#### 1. Coverage (applies to non-grandfathered health plans only)

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

- a. We would have covered the Services if they were not related to a clinical trial.
- b. You are eligible to participate in the clinical trial according to the trial protocol with respect to treatment of cancer or other life-threatening condition (a condition from which the likelihood of death is probable unless the course of the condition is interrupted), as determined in one of the following ways:
  - i. A Plan Provider makes this determination.
  - ii. You provide us with medical and scientific information establishing this determination.
- c. If any Plan 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 Plan Provider unless the clinical trial is outside the state where you live.
- d. The clinical trial is a phase I, phase II, phase III, or phase IV clinical trial related to the prevention, detection, or treatment of cancer or other life-threatening condition and it meets one of the following requirements:
  - i. The study or investigation is conducted under an investigational new drug application reviewed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
  - ii. The study or investigation is a drug trial that is exempt from having an investigational new drug application.
  - iii. The study or investigation is approved or funded by at least one of the following:
    - (a) The National Institutes of Health.
    - (b) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
    - (c) The Agency for Health Care Research and Quality.
    - (d) The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.
    - (e) A cooperative group or center of any of the above entities or of the Department of Defense or the Department of Veterans Affairs.
    - (f) A qualified non-governmental research entity identified in the guidelines issued by the National Institutes of Health for center support grants.
    - (g) 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:
      - (i) It is comparable to the National Institutes of Health system of peer review of studies and investigations.
      - (ii) 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 applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” that you would pay if the Services were not related to a clinical trial. For example, see “Hospital Inpatient Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for the Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible that apply to hospital inpatient care.

**2. Clinical Trials Exclusions**

- a. The investigational Service.
- b. Services provided solely for data collection and analysis and that are not used in your direct clinical management.

**F. Dialysis Care**

We cover dialysis Services related to acute renal failure and end-stage renal disease if the following criteria are met:

1. The Services are provided inside our Service Area; and
2. You meet all medical criteria developed by Medical Group and by the facility providing the dialysis; and
3. The facility is certified by Medicare and contracts with Health Plan; and
4. A Plan Physician provides a written referral for care at the facility.

After the referral to a dialysis facility, we cover: equipment; training; and medical supplies required for home dialysis. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**G. Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Prosthetics and Orthotics**

We cover DME and prosthetics and orthotics, when prescribed by a Plan Physician as described below; when prescribed by a Plan Physician during a covered stay in a Skilled Nursing Facility, but only if Skilled Nursing Facilities ordinarily furnish the DME or prosthetics and orthotics.

Health Plan uses Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) and National Coverage Determinations (NCD) (hereinafter referred to as Medicare Guidelines) for our DME, prosthetic, and orthotic formulary guidelines. These are guidelines only. Health Plan reserves the right to exclude items listed in the Medicare Guidelines. Please note that this EOC may contain some, but not all, of these exclusions.

**Limitations:** Coverage is limited to the standard item of DME, prosthetic device, or orthotic device that adequately meets your medical needs.

1. Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

a. Coverage

DME, with the exception of the following, is **not** covered unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for DME, including prosthetic and orthotic devices. See “Additional Provisions.”

- i. Oxygen dispensing equipment and oxygen used in your home are covered. Oxygen refills are covered while you are temporarily outside the Service Area. To qualify for coverage, you must have a pre-existing oxygen order and must obtain your oxygen from the vendor designated by Health Plan.
- ii. Insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iii. Infant apnea monitors are provided.
- iv. Enteral nutrition, medical foods, and related feeding equipment and supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.

b. Durable Medical Equipment Exclusions

- i. All other DME not described above, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for DME. See “Additional Provisions.”
- ii. Replacement of lost or stolen equipment.
- iii. Repair, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.
- iv. Spare equipment or alternate use equipment.
- v. More than one piece of DME serving essentially the same function, except for replacements.

2. Prosthetic Devices

a. Coverage

We cover the following prosthetic devices, including repairs, adjustments, and replacements other than those necessitated by misuse, theft, or loss, when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan:

- i. Internally implanted devices for functional purposes, such as pacemakers and hip joints.
- ii. Prosthetic devices for Members who have had a mastectomy. Medical Group or Health Plan will designate the source from which external prostheses can be obtained. Replacement will be made when a prosthesis is no longer functional. Custom made prostheses will be provided when necessary.
- iii. Prosthetic devices, such as obturators and speech and feeding appliances, required for treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate are covered when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iv. Prosthetic devices intended to replace, in whole or in part, an arm or leg when prescribed by a Plan Physician, as Medically Necessary and provided in accordance with this EOC, including repairs and replacements of such prosthetic devices.

Your Group may have purchased additional coverage for prosthetic devices. See “Additional Provisions.”

b. Prosthetic Devices Exclusions

- i. All other prosthetic devices not described above, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for prosthetic devices. See “Additional Provisions.” Your Plan Physician can provide the Services necessary to determine your need for prosthetic devices and help you make arrangements to obtain such devices at a reasonable rate.
- ii. Internally implanted devices, equipment, and prosthetics related to treatment of sexual dysfunction, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for this benefit.

3. Orthotic Devices

Orthotic devices are **not** covered unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for DME, including prosthetic and orthotic devices. See “Additional Provisions.”

## H. Early Childhood Intervention Services

1. Coverage

Covered children, from birth up to age three (3), who have significant delays in development or have a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in significant delays in development as defined by state law, are covered for the number of Early Intervention Services (EIS) visits as required by state law. EIS are not subject to any Deductibles, Copayments or Coinsurance, or to any annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum or Lifetime Maximum.

**Note:** You may be billed for any EIS received after the number of visits required by state law is satisfied.

2. Limitations

The number of visits as required by state law does not apply to:

- a. Rehabilitation or therapeutic Services which are necessary as the result of an acute medical condition or post-surgical rehabilitation;

- b. Services provided to a child who is not an eligible child and whose services are not provided pursuant to an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP); and
  - c. Assistive technology covered by the durable medical equipment benefit provisions of this EOC.
3. Early Childhood Intervention Services Exclusions
- a. Respite care;
  - b. Non-emergency medical transportation;
  - c. Service coordination other than case management services; or
  - d. Assistive technology, not to include durable medical equipment that is otherwise covered under this EOC.

## I. Emergency Services and Urgent Care

### 1. Emergency Services

Emergency Services are available at all times - 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK. If you have an Emergency Medical Condition or mental health emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest hospital emergency department. You do not need prior Authorization for Emergency Services. When you have an Emergency Medical Condition, we cover Emergency Services you receive from Plan Providers and non-Plan Providers anywhere in the world, as long as the Services would have been covered under your plan if you had received them from Plan Providers. For information about emergency benefits away from home, please call **Member Services**.

You will pay your plan's Deductible, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance for covered Emergency Services, regardless of whether the Services are provided by a Plan Provider or a non-Plan Provider.

Please note that in addition to any Copayment or Coinsurance that applies under this section, you may incur additional Copayment or Coinsurance amounts for Services and procedures covered under other sections of this EOC.

#### a. Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)

"Out-of-Plan Emergency Services" are Emergency Services that are not provided by a Plan Physician. There may be times when you or a family member may receive Emergency Services from non-Plan Providers. The patient's medical condition may be so critical that you cannot call or come to one of our Plan Medical Offices or the emergency room of a Plan Hospital, or, the patient may need Emergency Services while traveling outside our Service Area.

**Please refer to "ii. Emergency Services Limitation for non-Plan Providers" if you are hospitalized for Emergency Services.**

#### i. We cover out-of-Plan Emergency Services as follows:

- A. Outside our Service Area. If you are injured or become unexpectedly ill while you are outside our Service Area, we will cover out-of-Plan Emergency Services that could not reasonably be delayed until you could get to a Plan Hospital, a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, or a Plan Facility, only if a prudent layperson having average knowledge of health services and medicine and acting reasonably would have believed that an Emergency Medical Condition or Life or Limb Threatening Emergency existed. Covered benefits include Medically Necessary out-of-Plan Emergency Services for conditions that arise unexpectedly, including but not limited to myocardial infarction, appendicitis, or premature delivery.
- B. Inside our Service Area. If you are inside our Service Area, we will cover out-of-Plan Emergency Services only if a prudent layperson would have reasonably believed that the delay in going to a Plan Hospital, a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, or a Plan Facility for treatment would result in death or serious impairment of health.

#### ii. Emergency Services Limitation for non-Plan Providers

If you are admitted to a non-Plan Hospital, non-Plan Facility, or a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, you or someone on your behalf must notify us within 24 hours, or as soon as reasonably possible. Please call the **Telephonic Medicine Center at 303-743-5763**.

We will decide whether to make arrangements for necessary continued care where you are, or to transfer you to a Plan Facility we designate once you are Stabilized. If you are admitted to a non-Plan Hospital, non-Plan Facility, or a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, we may transfer you to a Plan Hospital or Plan Facility. By notifying us of your hospitalization as soon as possible, you will protect yourself from potential liability for payment for Services you receive after transfer to one of our Plan Facilities would have been possible.

#### b. Emergency Services Limitations

Continuing or follow-up treatment: We cover only the Emergency Services that are required before you could have been moved to a Plan Facility we designate either inside or outside our Service Area. If you are admitted to a Plan Facility, we may transfer you to another Plan Facility. When approved by Health Plan, we will cover ambulance Services or other transportation Medically Necessary to move you to a designated Plan Facility for continuing or follow-up treatment.

#### c. Payment

Our payment is reduced by:

- i. any applicable Copayment and/or Coinsurance for Emergency Services and X-ray special procedures performed in the emergency room. The emergency room and X-ray special procedures Copayments, if applicable, are waived if you are admitted directly to the hospital as an inpatient; and
- ii. the Copayment or Coinsurance for ambulance Services, if any; and
- iii. coordination of benefits; and
- iv. all amounts paid or payable, or which in the absence of this EOC would be payable, for the Services in question, under any insurance policy or contract, or any other contract, or any government program except Medicaid; and
- v. amounts you or your legal representative recover from motor vehicle insurance or because of third-party liability.

**Note:** If you receive out-of-Plan Emergency Services, our payment is also reduced by any other payments you would have had to make if you received the same Services from our Plan Providers. The procedure for receiving reimbursement for out-of-Plan Emergency Services is described in the “Appeals and Complaints” section regarding “Post-Service Claims and Appeals.”

**Note:** As part of an emergent care episode, Medically Necessary DME and prosthetics and orthotics following Stabilization will be covered if authorized by Health Plan.

2. Urgent Care

a. Urgent Care Provided by Plan Providers

i. Denver/Boulder Service Area

Urgent care Services are Services that are not Emergency Services, are required to prevent serious deterioration of your health, and that are required as a result of an unforeseen illness, injury, or condition.

Urgent care that cannot wait for a scheduled visit with your PCP or specialist can be received at one of our designated urgent care Plan Facilities. In some circumstances, you may be able to receive care in your home. For Copayment and Coinsurance information, see “Urgent Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. For information regarding the designated urgent care Plan Facilities, please call **Member Services** during normal business hours. You can also go to our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org), for information on designated urgent care facilities.

You may call **Advice Nurses** at any time, and one of our advice nurses can speak with you. Our advice nurses are registered nurses (RNs) specially trained to help assess medical symptoms and provide advice over the phone, when medically appropriate. They can often answer questions about a minor concern or advise you about what to do next, including making an appointment for you if appropriate.

ii. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

Urgent care Services are Services that are not Emergency Services, are required to prevent serious deterioration of your health, and that are required as a result of an unforeseen illness, injury, or condition.

Urgent care that cannot wait for a scheduled visit with your PCP or specialist can be received at one of our designated urgent care Plan Facilities. In some circumstances, you may be able to receive care in your home. For Copayment and Coinsurance information, see “Urgent Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. For information regarding the designated urgent care Plan Facilities, please call **Member Services** during normal business hours. You can also go to our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org), for information on designated urgent care facilities.

You may call **Advice Nurses** at any time, and one of our advice nurses can speak with you. Our advice nurses are registered nurses (RNs) specially trained to help assess medical symptoms and provide advice over the phone, when medically appropriate. They can often answer questions about a minor concern or advise you about what to do next, including making an appointment for you if appropriate.

b. Urgent Care Outside the Service Area

There may be situations when it is necessary for you to receive unauthorized urgent care outside your Service Area. Urgent care received from non-Plan Providers outside your Service Area is covered only if all of the following requirements are met:

- i. The care is required to prevent serious deterioration of your health; and
- ii. The need for care results from an unforeseen illness or injury when you are temporarily away from our Service Area; and
- iii. The care cannot be delayed until you return to our Service Area.

**Note:** If you receive urgent care outside the Service Area, you may be responsible for any amounts over eligible Charges, in addition to any Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance. The procedure for receiving reimbursement for urgent care Services outside the Service Area is described in the “Appeals and Complaints” section regarding “Post-Service Claims and Appeals.”

**Note:** As part of an urgent care episode, Medically Necessary DME and prosthetics and orthotics following Stabilization will be covered if authorized by Health Plan.

## J. Family Planning and Sterilization Services

### 1. Coverage

- a. Family planning counseling. This includes counseling and information on birth control.
- b. Tubal ligations.
- c. Vasectomies.

**Note:** The following are covered, but not under this section: diagnostic procedures, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”; contraceptive drugs and devices, see the “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements” section.

### 2. Family Planning and Sterilization Services Exclusions

- a. Any and all Services to reverse voluntary, surgically induced sterilization.
- b. Acupuncture for the treatment of infertility.
- c. Donor semen or eggs.
- d. Any and all Services, supplies, office administered drugs and prescription drugs related to the procurement and/or storage of semen and/or eggs.
- e. Any and all Services, supplies, office administered drugs and prescription drugs received from the pharmacy that are related to intrauterine insemination or conception by artificial means. This includes, but is not limited to: in vitro fertilization, ovum transplants, gamete intra fallopian transfer, and zygote intra fallopian transfer.

**Note:** See “Additional Provisions” for additional coverage or exclusions, if applicable to your Group.

## K. Health Education Services

We provide health education appointments to support understanding of chronic diseases such as diabetes and hypertension. We also teach self-care on topics such as stress management and nutrition.

## L. Hearing Services

### 1. Members up to Age 18

We cover hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction. For minor children with a verified hearing loss, coverage shall also include:

- a. Initial hearing aids and replacement hearing aids not more frequently than every five (5) years;
- b. A new hearing aid when alterations to the existing hearing aid cannot adequately meet the needs of the child; and
- c. Services and supplies including, but not limited to, the initial assessment, fitting, adjustments, and auditory training that is provided according to accepted professional standards.

### 2. Members Age 18 Years and Older

#### a. Coverage

We cover hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction. Your Group may have purchased additional coverage for hearing aids. See “Additional Provisions.”

#### b. Hearing Services Exclusions

- i. Tests to determine an appropriate hearing aid model, unless your Group has purchased that coverage.
- ii. Hearing aids and tests to determine their usefulness, unless your Group has purchased that coverage.

## M. Home Health Care

### 1. Coverage

We cover skilled nursing care, home health aide Services, home infusion therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, and medical social Services:

- a. only on a Part-Time or Intermittent Care basis; and
- b. only within our Service Area; and
- c. only to an eligible Member when ordered by a Plan Physician and either self-administered or administered by a Plan Provider. Care must be provided under a home health care plan established by the Plan Physician and the approved Plan Provider; and
- d. only if a Plan Physician determines that it is feasible to maintain effective supervision and control of your care in your home.

Part-Time Care or Intermittent Care means part-time or intermittent skilled nursing and home health aide Services.

**Note:** Services that are performed in the home, but that do not meet the Home Health Care requirements above, will be covered at the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance and limits for the Services performed (e.g. urgent care, physical, occupational, and/or speech therapy). See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”.

**Note:** X-ray, laboratory, and X-ray special procedures are not covered under this section. See “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”.

### 2. Home Health Care Exclusions

- a. Custodial care.

- b. Homemaker Services.
- c. Care that Medical Group determines may be appropriately provided in a Plan Facility or Skilled Nursing Facility, if we offer to provide that care in one of these facilities.

## **N. Hospice Special Services and Hospice Care**

### **1. Hospice Special Services**

If you have been diagnosed with a life limiting illness with a life expectancy of 24 months or less, but are not yet ready to elect hospice care, you are eligible for Hospice Special Services. Coverage of hospice care is described below.

Hospice Special Services give you and your family time to become more familiar with hospice-type Services and to decide what is best for you. It helps you bridge the gap between your diagnosis and preparing for the end of life.

The difference between Hospice Special Services and regular Home Health Care visiting nurse visits is that: you may or may not be homebound or have skilled nursing care needs; or you may only require spiritual or emotional care. Services available through this program are provided by professionals with specific training in end-of-life issues.

### **2. Hospice Care**

We cover hospice care for terminally ill Members inside our Service Area. If a Plan Physician diagnoses you with a terminal illness and determines that your life expectancy is six (6) months or less, you can choose hospice care instead of traditional Services otherwise provided for your illness.

If you elect to receive hospice care, you will not receive **additional** benefits for the terminal illness. However, you can continue to receive Health Plan benefits for conditions other than the terminal illness.

We cover the following Services and other benefits when: (1) prescribed by a Plan Physician and the hospice care team; and (2) received from a licensed hospice approved, in writing, by Kaiser Permanente:

- a. Physician care.
- b. Nursing care.
- c. Physical, occupational, speech, and respiratory therapy.
- d. Medical social Services.
- e. Home health aide and homemaker Services.
- f. Medical supplies, drugs, biologicals, and appliances.
- g. Palliative drugs in accordance with our drug formulary guidelines.
- h. Short-term inpatient care including respite care, care for pain control, and acute and chronic pain management.
- i. Counseling and bereavement Services.
- j. Services of volunteers.

## **O. Mental Health Services**

### **1. Coverage**

We cover mental health Services as shown below. Coverage includes evaluation and Services for conditions which, in the judgment of a Plan Physician, would respond to therapeutic management. Mental health includes but is not limited to biologically based illnesses or disorders.

#### **a. Outpatient Therapy**

We cover: diagnostic evaluation; individual therapy; intensive outpatient therapy; psychiatric treatment; crisis intervention and stabilization for acute episodes; and psychiatrically oriented child and teenage guidance counseling.

Visits for the purpose of monitoring drug therapy are covered.

Psychological testing as part of diagnostic evaluation is covered.

#### **b. Inpatient Services**

We cover psychiatric hospitalization in a facility designated by Medical Group or Health Plan. Hospital Services for psychiatric conditions include all Services of Plan Physicians and mental health professionals and the following Services and supplies as prescribed by a Plan Physician while you are a registered bed patient: room and board; psychiatric nursing care; group therapy; electroconvulsive therapy; occupational therapy; drug therapy; and medical supplies.

Separate Coinsurance applies to Services of Plan Physicians and mental health professionals.

#### **c. Partial Hospitalization**

We cover partial hospitalization in a Plan Hospital-based program.



We cover mental health Services, whether they are voluntary or are court-ordered as a result of contact with the criminal justice or juvenile justice system, when they are Medically Necessary and otherwise covered under the plan, and when rendered by a Plan Provider. We do not cover court-ordered treatment that exceeds the scope of coverage of this health benefit plan.

2. Mental Health Services Exclusions

- a. Evaluations for any purpose other than mental health treatment. This includes evaluations for: child custody; disability; or fitness for duty/return to work, unless Medically Necessary.
- b. Court-ordered testing and testing for ability, aptitude, intelligence, or interest.
- c. Services which are custodial or residential in nature.

**P. Out-of-Area Benefit**

A limited benefit is available to Dependents, up to the age of 26, receiving care outside any Kaiser regional health plan service area.

1. Coverage

The Out-of-Area Benefit is limited to certain office visits, diagnostic X-rays, physical, occupational, and speech therapy, and prescription drug fills as covered under this EOC.

- a. Office visit exam limited to:
  - i. Primary care visit.
  - ii. Specialty care visit.
  - iii. Preventive care visit.
  - iv. Gynecology care visit.
  - v. Hearing exam.
  - vi. Mental health visit.
  - vii. Substance use disorder visit.
  - viii. The administration of allergy injections.
  - ix. Prevention immunizations pursuant to the schedule established by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).
- b. Diagnostic X-rays.
- c. Physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits.
- d. Prescription drug fills.

See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for more details.

2. Out-of-Area Benefit Exclusions and Limitations

The Out-of-Area Benefit does not include the following Services:

- a. Other Services provided during a covered office visit such as, but not limited to: procedures, laboratory tests, and office administered drugs and devices, except for allergy injections and prevention immunizations as listed in the “Coverage” section of this benefit.
- b. Services received outside the United States.
- c. Transplant Services.
- d. Services covered outside the Service Area under another section of this EOC (e.g., Emergency Services and Urgent Care).
- e. Allergy evaluation, routine prenatal and postpartum visits, chiropractic care, acupuncture services, applied behavior analysis (ABA), hearing tests, hearing aids, home health visits, hospice services, and travel immunizations.
- f. X-ray special procedures, including but not limited to CT, PET, MRI, nuclear medicine.
- g. Any and all Services not listed in the “Coverage” section of this benefit.

**Q. Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy and Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services**

1. Coverage

a. Hospital Inpatient Care, Care in a Skilled Nursing Facility, and Home Health Care

We cover physical, occupational, and speech therapy as part of your Hospital Inpatient Care, Skilled Nursing Facility, and Home Health Care benefit. Therapies that are performed in the home, but that do not meet the Home Health Care requirements, will be covered at the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance and limits for the therapy performed (i.e., physical, occupational, and/or speech). See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”.

b. Outpatient Care

We cover three (3) types of outpatient therapy (i.e., physical, occupational, and speech therapy) in a Plan Facility or other location approved by Health Plan, to improve or develop skills or functioning due to medical deficits, illness, or injury. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

c. Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services

We will cover treatment in an organized, multidisciplinary rehabilitation Services program in a designated facility or a Skilled Nursing Facility. We also cover multidisciplinary rehabilitation Services while you are an inpatient in a designated facility. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

d. Pulmonary Rehabilitation

Treatment in a pulmonary rehabilitation program is provided if prescribed or recommended by a Plan Physician and provided by therapists at designated facilities.

e. Therapies for Congenital Defects and Birth Abnormalities

After the first 31 days of life, the limitations and exclusions applicable to this EOC apply, except that Medically Necessary physical, occupational, and speech therapy for the care and treatment of congenital defects and birth abnormalities for covered children from age three (3) to age six (6) shall be provided. The benefit level shall be the greater of the number of such visits provided under this health benefit plan or 20 therapy visits per Accumulation Period for each physical, occupational, and speech therapy. Such visits shall be distributed as Medically Necessary throughout the Accumulation Period without regard to whether the condition is acute or chronic and without regard to whether the purpose of the therapy is to maintain or improve functional capacity. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**Note 1:** This benefit is also available for eligible children under the age of three (3) who are not participating in Early Intervention Services.

**Note 2:** The visit limit for therapy to treat congenital defects and birth abnormalities is not applicable if such therapy is Medically Necessary to treat autism spectrum disorders.

f. Therapies for the Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders

For the treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders when prescribed by a Plan Physician and Medically Necessary, we cover:

- i. Outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy in a Plan Medical Office or other location approved by Health Plan. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”
- ii. Applied behavior analysis, including consultations, direct care, supervision, or treatment, or any combination thereof by autism services providers. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

2. Limitations

Occupational therapy is limited to treatment to achieve improved self-care and other customary activities of daily living.

3. Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy and Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services Exclusions

- a. Long-term rehabilitation, not including treatment for autism spectrum disorders.
- b. Speech therapy that is not Medically Necessary, such as: (i) therapy for educational placement or other educational purposes; or (ii) training or therapy to improve articulation in the absence of injury, illness, or medical condition affecting articulation; or (iii) therapy for tongue thrust in the absence of swallowing problems.

**R. Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements**

We use drug formularies. A drug formulary includes the list of prescription drugs that have been approved by our formulary committees for our Members. Our committees are comprised of Plan Physicians, pharmacists, and a nurse practitioner. The committees select prescription drugs for our drug formularies based on a number of factors, including safety and effectiveness as determined from a review of medical literature and research. The committees meet regularly to consider adding and removing prescription drugs on the drug formularies. If you would like information about whether a particular drug is included in our drug formularies, please call **Member Services**.

If your prescription drug has a Copayment shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” and it exceeds the Charges for your prescribed medication, then you pay Charges for the medication instead of the Copayment. The drug formulary, discussed above, also applies.

1. Coverage

a. Limited Drug Coverage Under Your Basic Drug Benefit

If your Group has not purchased supplemental prescription drug coverage, then prescribed drug coverage under your basic drug benefit is limited. It includes base drugs such as: contraceptives; orally administered anti-cancer medication; and post-surgical immunosuppressive drugs required after a transplant. These drugs are available only when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies. You may obtain these drugs at the Copayment or Coinsurance shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” The amount covered cannot exceed the day supply for each maintenance drug or up to the day supply for each non-maintenance drug. Any amount you receive that exceeds the day supply will not be covered. If you receive more than the day supply, you will be charged as a non-Member for any amount that exceeds that limit. Each prescription refill is provided on the same basis as the original prescription.

If your Group has purchased supplemental prescription drug coverage, the applicable generic or brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance and any pharmacy Deductible apply for these types of drugs. For more information, please refer to the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**Note:** Kaiser Permanente may, in its sole discretion, establish quantity limits for specific prescription drugs, regardless of whether your Group has limited or supplemental prescription drug coverage.

i. We cover:

(a) prescription contraceptives intended to last:

- (i) for a three-month period the first time the prescription contraceptive is dispensed to the covered person; and
- (ii) for a twelve-month period or through the end of the covered person’s coverage under the policy, contract, or plan, whichever is shorter, for any subsequent dispensing of the same prescription contraceptive to the covered person, regardless of whether the covered person was enrolled in the policy, contract, or plan at the time the prescription contraceptive was first dispensed; or

(b) a prescribed vaginal contraceptive ring intended to last for a three-month period.

For Copayment or Coinsurance information related to contraceptive drugs and certain devices, please refer to your “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

ii. We cover a five-day supply of an FDA-approved drug for the treatment of opioid dependence without prior authorization, except that the drug supply is limited to a first request within a twelve-month period.

b. Outpatient Prescription Drugs

Unless your Group has purchased additional outpatient prescription drug coverage, we do not cover outpatient drugs except as provided in other provisions of this “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements” section. If your Group has purchased additional coverage for outpatient prescription drugs, see “Additional Provisions.” The drug formulary, discussed above, also applies.

i. Prescriptions by Mail

If requested, refills of maintenance drugs will be mailed through Kaiser Permanente’s mail-order prescription service by First-Class U.S. Mail with no charge for postage and handling. Refills of maintenance drugs prescribed by Plan Physicians or Affiliated Physicians may be obtained for up to the day supply by mail order at the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance. Maintenance drugs are determined by Health Plan. Certain drugs and supplies may not be available through our mail-order service, for example, drugs that require special handling or refrigeration, have a significant potential for waste or diversion, or are high cost. Drugs and supplies available through our mail-order prescription service are subject to change at any time without notice. For information regarding our mail-order prescription service and specialty drugs not available by mail order, please call **Member Services**.

ii. Specialty Drugs

Prescribed specialty drugs, including self-administered injectable drugs, are provided at the specialty drug Copayment or Coinsurance up to the maximum amount per drug dispensed shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

c. Food Supplements

We cover prescribed amino acid modified products used in the treatment of congenital errors of amino acid metabolism and severe protein allergic conditions, elemental enteral nutrition, and parenteral nutrition. Such products are covered for self-administered use upon payment of a \$3.00 Copayment per product, per day. Food products for enteral feedings are not covered.

d. Prescribed Supplies and Accessories

Prescribed supplies, when obtained at Plan Pharmacies or from sources designated by Health Plan, will be provided. Such items include, but may not be limited to:

- i. home glucose monitoring supplies.
- ii. disposable syringes for the administration of insulin.
- iii. glucose test strips.
- iv. acetone test tablets and nitrate screening test strips for pediatric patient home use.

For more information, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What),” and, if your Group has purchased supplemental prescription drug coverage, see “Additional Provisions.”

2. Limitations

a. Adult and pediatric immunizations are limited to those that are not experimental, are medically indicated and are consistent with accepted medical practice.

b. Some drugs may require prior authorization.

- c. If applicable, we may apply Step Therapy to certain drugs. You or your Plan Provider may request an exception if you previously tried a drug and your use of the drug was discontinued due to lack of efficacy or effectiveness, diminished effect, or an adverse event.
  - d. Coverage determinations for the off-label use of medications will be consistent with Medicare compendia, and coverage determinations for the off-label use of oncologic agents will be consistent with the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) of 2008.
3. Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements Exclusions
- a. Drugs for which a prescription is not required by law.
  - b. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze, tape, antiseptics, dressings, and ace-type bandages.
  - c. Drugs or injections for treatment of sexual dysfunction, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage, which is described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”
  - d. Any packaging except the dispensing pharmacy's standard packaging.
  - e. Replacement of prescription drugs for any reason. This includes spilled, lost, damaged, or stolen prescriptions.
  - f. Drugs or injections for the treatment of infertility, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage, which is described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” and “Additional Provisions”.
  - g. Drugs to shorten the length of the common cold.
  - h. Drugs to enhance athletic performance.
  - i. Drugs for the treatment of weight control.
  - j. Drugs available over the counter and by prescription for the same strength.
  - k. Individual drugs determined excluded by our Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.
  - l. Unless approved by Health Plan, drugs not approved by the FDA.
  - m. Non-preferred drugs, except those prescribed and authorized through the non-preferred drug process.
  - n. Prescription drugs necessary for Services excluded under this EOC.
  - o. Drugs administered during a medical office visit. See “Office Services”.
  - p. Medical Foods and Medical Devices. See “Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Prosthetics and Orthotics”.

## S. Preventive Care Services

If your plan has a different preventive care Services benefit, please see “Additional Provisions.”

We cover certain preventive care Services that do one or more of the following:

- 1. Protect against disease;
- 2. Promote health; and/or
- 3. Detect disease in its earliest stages before noticeable symptoms develop.

If you receive any other covered Services during a preventive care visit, you may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, and Coinsurance for those Services.

## T. Reconstructive Surgery

### 1. Coverage

We cover reconstructive surgery when it: (a) will correct significant disfigurement resulting from an injury or Medically Necessary surgery; or (b) will correct a congenital defect, disease, or anomaly to produce major improvement in physical function; or (c) will treat congenital hemangioma and port wine stains. Following Medically Necessary removal of all or part of a breast, we also cover reconstruction of the breast, surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance, and treatment of physical complications, including lymphedemas. An Authorization is required for all types of reconstructive surgeries.

### 2. Reconstructive Surgery Exclusions

Plastic surgery or other cosmetic Services and supplies primarily to change your appearance. This includes cosmetic surgery related to bariatric surgery.

## U. Reproductive Support Services

Reproductive Support Services are not covered unless your Group has purchased additional supplemental coverage.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the Reproductive Support Services benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

## V. Skilled Nursing Facility Care

### 1. Coverage

We cover skilled inpatient Services in a licensed Skilled Nursing Facility. Prior Authorization is required for all Skilled Nursing Facility admissions. The skilled inpatient Services must be those usually provided by Skilled Nursing Facilities. A prior three (3)-day stay in an acute care hospital is not required. We cover the following Services:

- a. Room and board.
- b. Nursing care.

- c. Medical social Services.
- d. Medical and biological supplies.
- e. Blood, blood products, and their administration.

A Skilled Nursing Facility is an institution that: provides skilled nursing or skilled rehabilitation Services, or both; provides Services on a daily basis 24 hours a day; is licensed under applicable state law; and is approved in writing by Medical Group.

**Note:** The following are covered, but not under this section: drugs, see “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements”; DME and prosthetics and orthotics, see “Durable Medical Equipment and Prosthetics and Orthotics”; X-ray, laboratory, and X-ray special procedures, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”.

2. Skilled Nursing Facility Care Exclusion  
Custodial Care, as defined in “Exclusions” under the “Limitations/Exclusions (What is Not Covered)” section.

## W. Substance Use Disorder Services

1. Inpatient Medical and Hospital Services  
We cover Services for the medical management of withdrawal symptoms. Medical Services for alcohol and drug detoxification are covered the same way as any other medical condition. Detoxification is the process of removing toxic substances from the body.

2. Residential Rehabilitation  
The determination of the need for Services of a residential rehabilitation program and referral to such a facility or program is made by or under the supervision of a Plan Physician.

We cover inpatient Services and partial hospitalization in a residential rehabilitation program authorized by Health Plan for the treatment of alcoholism, drug abuse, or drug addiction.

3. Outpatient Services  
Outpatient rehabilitative Services for the treatment of alcohol and drug dependency are covered when referred by a Plan Physician.

We cover substance use disorder Services, whether they are voluntary or are court-ordered as a result of contact with the criminal justice or juvenile justice system, when they are Medically Necessary and otherwise covered under the plan, and when rendered by a Plan Provider. We do not cover court-ordered treatment that exceeds the scope of coverage of this health benefit plan.

Mental health Services required in connection with treatment for substance use disorder are covered as provided in the “Mental Health Services” section.

4. Substance Use Disorder Services Exclusion  
Counseling for a patient who is not responsive to therapeutic management, as determined by a Plan Physician.

## X. Transgender Services

We cover transgender Services when Medically Necessary to treat gender dysphoria or gender identity disorder. Prior Authorization may be required. You must meet all medical criteria developed by Medical Group to be eligible for coverage. Coverage includes, but is not limited to: office Services, hormone therapy, outpatient surgery, and hospital inpatient care. You pay the applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. For example, see “Hospital Inpatient Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for the Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible that apply to hospital inpatient care.

## Y. Transplant Services

1. Coverage  
Transplants are covered on a limited basis as follows:
  - a. Covered transplants are limited to: kidney transplants; heart transplants; heart-lung transplants; liver transplants; liver transplants for children with biliary atresia and other rare congenital abnormalities; small bowel transplants; small bowel and liver transplants; lung transplants; cornea transplants; simultaneous kidney-pancreas transplants; and pancreas alone transplants.
  - b. Bone marrow transplants (autologous stem cell or allogenic stem cell) associated with high dose chemotherapy for germ cell tumors and neuroblastoma in children; and bone marrow transplants for aplastic anemia, leukemia, severe combined immunodeficiency disease, and Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome.
  - c. If all medical criteria developed by Medical Group are met, we cover: stem cell rescue; and transplants of organs, tissue, or bone marrow.

2. Related Prescription Drugs

Prescribed post-surgical immunosuppressive outpatient drugs required after a transplant are provided at the applicable outpatient prescription drug Copayment or Coinsurance and are subject to any pharmacy Deductible shown in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

3. Terms and Conditions

- a. Health Plan, Medical Group, and Plan Physicians do not undertake: to provide a donor or donor organ or bone marrow or cornea; or to assure the availability of a donor or donor organ or bone marrow or cornea; or to assure the availability or capacity of referral transplant facilities approved by Medical Group. In accordance with our guidelines for living transplant donors, we provide certain donation-related Services for a donor, or a person Medical Group or a Plan Physician identifies as a potential donor, even if the donor is not a Member. These Services must be directly related to a covered transplant for you. For information specific to your situation, please call your assigned Transplant Coordinator; or the **Transplant Administrative Offices**.
- b. Plan Physicians must determine that the Member satisfies Medical Group medical criteria before the Member receives Services.
- c. A Plan Physician must provide a written referral for care at a transplant facility. The transplant facility must be from a list of approved facilities selected by Medical Group. The referral may be to a transplant facility outside our Service Area. Transplants are covered only at the facility Medical Group selects for the particular transplant, even if another facility within the Service Area could also perform the transplant.
- d. After referral, if a Plan Physician or the medical staff of the referral facility determines the Member does not satisfy its respective criteria for the Service, Health Plan’s obligation is only to pay for covered Services provided prior to such determination.

4. Transplant Services Exclusions and Limitations

- a. Bone marrow transplants, associated with high dose chemotherapy for solid tissue tumors, (except bone marrow transplants covered under this EOC) are excluded.
- b. Non-human and artificial organs and their implantation are excluded.
- c. Pancreas alone transplants are limited to patients without renal problems who meet set criteria.
- d. Travel and lodging expenses are excluded, except that in some situations, when Medical Group or a Plan Physician refers you to a non-Plan Provider outside our Service Area for transplant Services, as described in “Access to Other Providers” in the “How to Access Your Services and Obtain Approval of Benefits” section, we may pay certain expenses we preauthorize under our internal travel and lodging guidelines. For information specific to your situation, please call your assigned Transplant Coordinator or the **Transplant Administrative Offices**.

**Z. Vision Services**

1. Coverage

We cover routine and non-routine eye exams. Refraction tests to determine the need for vision correction and to provide a prescription for eyeglasses are covered unless specifically excluded in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. We also cover professional exams and the fitting of Medically Necessary contact lenses when a Plan Physician or Plan Optometrist prescribes them for a specific medical condition.

Professional Services for exams and fitting of contact lenses that are not Medically Necessary are provided at an additional Charge when obtained at Health Plan Medical Offices.

2. Vision Services Exclusions

- a. Eyeglass lenses and frames.
- b. Contact lenses.
- c. Professional exams for fittings and dispensing of contact lenses except when Medically Necessary as described above.
- d. All Services related to eye surgery for the purpose of correcting refractive defects such as myopia, hyperopia, or astigmatism (for example, radial keratotomy, photo-refractive keratectomy, and similar procedures).
- e. Orthoptic (eye training) therapy or low vision therapy.

Your Group may have purchased additional optical coverage. See “Additional Provisions.”

**AA. X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures**

1. Coverage

a. Outpatient

We cover the following Services:

- i. Diagnostic X-ray tests, Services, and materials, including but not limited to isotopes, mammograms, and ultrasounds.

- ii. Laboratory tests, Services, and materials, including but not limited to electrocardiograms.  
**Note:** We use a laboratory formulary. A laboratory formulary is a list of laboratory tests, Services, and other materials that have been approved by Health Plan for our Members. If you would like information about whether a particular test or Service is included in our laboratory formulary, please call **Member Services**.
- iii. Therapeutic X-ray Services and materials.
- iv. X-ray special procedures such as MRI, CT, PET, and nuclear medicine.  
**Note:** For X-ray special procedures, you will be billed for each individual procedure performed. A procedure is defined in accordance with the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) medical billing codes published annually by the American Medical Association. You are responsible for any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for X-ray special procedures performed as a part of or in conjunction with other outpatient Services, including but not limited to Emergency Services, urgent care, and outpatient surgery.

Diagnostic procedures include administered drugs. Therapeutic procedures may incur an additional charge for administered drugs.

b. Inpatient

During hospitalization, prescribed diagnostic X-ray and laboratory tests, Services and materials, including diagnostic and therapeutic X-rays and isotopes, electrocardiograms, electroencephalograms, MRI, CT, PET, and nuclear medicine are covered under your hospital inpatient care benefit.

2. X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures Exclusions

- a. Testing of a Member for a non-Member's use and/or benefit.
- b. Testing of a non-Member for a Member's use and/or benefit.

## IV. LIMITATIONS/EXCLUSIONS (WHAT IS NOT COVERED)

### A. Exclusions

The Services listed below are not covered. These exclusions apply to all covered Services under this EOC. Additional exclusions that apply only to a particular Service are listed in the description of that Service in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.

1. **Alternative Medical Services.** The following are not covered unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for these Services. See the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" to determine if your Group has purchased additional coverage.
  - a. Acupuncture Services.
  - b. Naturopathy Services.
  - c. Massage therapy.
  - d. Chiropractic Services and supplies that are not provided by a Plan Provider under this Agreement.
2. **Behavioral Problems.** Any treatment or Service for a behavioral problem not associated with a manifest mental disorder or condition.
3. **Cosmetic Services.** Services that are intended: primarily to change or maintain your appearance; and that will not result in significant improvement in physical function. This includes cosmetic surgery related to bariatric surgery. Exception: Services covered under "Reconstructive Surgery" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.
4. **Cryopreservation.** Any and all Services related to cryopreservation, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage. This excludes, but is not limited to, the procurement and/or storage of semen, sperm, eggs, reproductive materials, and/or embryos. See "Additional Provisions" for additional coverage or exclusions, if applicable to your Group.
5. **Custodial or Residential Care.** Assistance with activities of daily living or care that can be performed safely and effectively by people who, in order to provide the care, do not require medical licenses or certificates or the presence of a supervising licensed nurse. Assistance with activities of daily living include: walking; getting in and out of bed; bathing; dressing; feeding; toileting; and taking medicine.
6. **Dental Services.** Dental Services and dental X-rays, including: dental Services following injury to teeth; dental appliances; implants; orthodontia; TMJ; and dental Services as a result of and following medical treatment such as radiation treatment. This exclusion does not apply to: (a) Medically Necessary Services for the treatment of cleft lip or cleft palate when prescribed by a Plan Physician, unless the Member is covered for these Services under a dental insurance policy or contract, or (b) hospitalization and general anesthesia for dental Services, prescribed or directed by a Plan Physician for Dependent children who: (i) have a physical, mental, or medically compromising condition; or (ii) have dental needs for which local anesthesia is ineffective because of acute infection, anatomic variations, or allergy; or (iii) are extremely uncooperative, unmanageable, anxious, or uncommunicative with dental needs deemed sufficiently important that dental care cannot be deferred; or (iv) have sustained extensive orofacial and dental trauma. Unless otherwise specified herein, (a) and (b) must be received at a Plan Facility or Skilled Nursing Facility.

The following Services for TMJ may be covered if determined Medically Necessary: diagnostic X-rays; laboratory testing; physical therapy; and surgery.

7. **Directed Blood Donations.**
8. **Disposable Supplies.** Disposable supplies for home use such as:
  - a. Bandages;
  - b. Gauze;
  - c. Tape;
  - d. Antiseptics;
  - e. Dressings;
  - f. Ace-type bandages; and
  - g. Any other supplies, dressings, appliances, or devices not specifically listed as covered in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.
9. **Educational Services.** Educational services are not health care services and are not covered. Examples include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Items and services to increase academic knowledge or skills;
  - b. Special education or care for learning deficiencies, whether or not associated with a manifest mental disorder or condition, including but not limited to attention deficit disorder, learning disabilities, and developmental delays;
  - c. Teaching and support services to increase academic performance;
  - d. Academic coaching or tutoring for skills such as grammar, math, and time management;
  - e. Speech training that is not Medically Necessary, and not part of an approved treatment plan, and not provided by or under the direct supervision of a Plan Provider acting within the scope of his or her license under Colorado law that is intended to address speech impediments;
  - f. Teaching you how to read, whether or not you have dyslexia;
  - g. Educational testing;
  - h. Teaching (or any other items or services associated with) activities such as art, dance, horse riding, music, swimming, or teaching you how to play.
10. **Employer or Government Responsibility.** Financial responsibility for Services that an employer or a government agency is required by law to provide.
11. **Experimental or Investigational Services**
  - a. A Service is experimental or investigational for a Member’s condition if any of the following statements apply at the time the Service is or will be provided to the Member. The Service:
    - i. has not been approved or granted by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA); or
    - ii. is the subject of a current new drug or new device application on file with the FDA; or
    - iii. is provided as part of a Phase I or Phase II clinical trial, as the experimental or research arm of a Phase III clinical trial or in any other manner that is intended to determine the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of the Service; or
    - iv. is provided pursuant to a written protocol or other document that lists an evaluation of the Service’s safety, toxicity, or efficacy as among its objectives; or
    - v. is subject to the approval or review of an Institutional Review Board (IRB) or other body that approves or reviews research on the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of Services; or
    - vi. the Service has not been recommended for coverage by the Regional New Technology and Benefit Interpretation Committee, the Interregional New Technology Committee or the Medical Technology Assessment Unit based on analysis of clinical studies and literature for safety and appropriateness, unless otherwise covered by Health Plan; or,
    - vii. is provided pursuant to informed consent documents that describe the Service as experimental or investigational or in other terms that indicate that the Service is being looked at for its safety, toxicity, or efficacy; or
    - viii. is part of a prevailing opinion among experts as expressed in the published authoritative medical or scientific literature that (A) use of the Service should be substantially confined to research settings or (B) further research is needed to determine the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of the Service.
  - b. In determining whether a Service is experimental or investigational, the following sources of information will be solely relied upon:
    - i. The Member’s medical records; and
    - ii. The written protocol(s) or other document(s) under which the Service has been or will be provided; and
    - iii. Any consent document(s) the Member or the Member’s representative has executed or will be asked to execute to receive the Service; and
    - iv. 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; and



- v. The published authoritative medical or scientific literature on the Service as applied to the Member’s illness or injury; and
  - vi. Regulations, records, applications and other documents or actions issued by, filed with, or taken by the FDA, or other agencies within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, or any state agency performing similar functions.
- c. If two (2) or more Services are part of the same plan of treatment or diagnosis, all of the Services are excluded if one of the Services is experimental or investigational.
  - d. Health Plan consults Medical Group and then uses the criteria described above to decide if a particular Service is experimental or investigational.

**Note:** For non-grandfathered health plans only, this exclusion does not apply to Services covered under “Clinical Trials” in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.

- 12. **Genetic Testing.** Genetic testing unless determined to be: Medically Necessary; and meets Medical Group criteria.
- 13. **Infertility Services.** All Services related to the diagnosis or treatment of infertility unless your Group has purchased additional supplemental coverage.
- 14. **Intermediate Care.** Care in an intermediate care facility.
- 15. **Routine Foot Care Services.** Routine foot care Services that are not Medically Necessary.
- 16. **Services for Members in the Custody of Law Enforcement Officers.** Non-Plan Provider Services provided or arranged by criminal justice institutions for Members in the custody of law enforcement officers, unless the Services are covered as out-of-Plan Emergency Services or urgent care outside the Service Area.
- 17. **Services Not Available in our Service Area.** Services not generally and customarily available in our Service Area, except when it is a generally accepted medical practice in our Service Area to refer patients outside our Service Area for the Service.
- 18. **Services Related to a Non-Covered Service.** When a Service is not covered, all Services related to the non-covered Service are excluded. This does not include Services we would otherwise cover to treat complications as a result of the non-covered Service.
- 19. **Third Party Requests or Requirements.** Physical exams, tests, or other services that do not directly treat an actual illness, injury, or condition, and any related reports or paperwork in connection with third party requests or requirements, including but not limited to those for:
  - a. Employment;
  - b. Participation in employee programs;
  - c. Insurance;
  - d. Disability;
  - e. Licensing;
  - f. School events, sports, or camp;
  - g. Governmental agencies;
  - h. Court order, parole, or probation;
  - i. Travel.
- 20. **Travel and Lodging Expenses.** Travel and lodging expenses are excluded. We may pay certain expenses we preauthorize in accordance with our internal travel and lodging guidelines in some situations, when Medical Group refers you to a non-Plan Provider outside our Service Area as described under “Access to Other Providers” in the “How to Access Your Services and Obtain Approval of Benefits” section.
- 21. **Unclassified Medical Technology Devices and Services.** Medical technology devices and Services which have not been classified as durable medical equipment or laboratory by a National Coverage Determination (NCD) issued by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), unless otherwise covered by Health Plan.
- 22. **Weight Management Facilities.** Services received in a weight management facility.
- 23. **Workers’ Compensation or Employer’s Liability.** Financial responsibility for Services for any illness, injury, or condition, to the extent a payment or any other benefit, including any amount received as a settlement (collectively referred to as “Financial Benefit”), is provided under any workers’ compensation or employer’s liability law. We will provide Services even if it is unclear whether you are entitled to a Financial Benefit, but we may recover Charges for any such Services from the following sources:
  - a. Any source providing a Financial Benefit or from whom a Financial Benefit is due.
  - b. You, to the extent that a Financial Benefit is provided or payable or would have been required to be provided or payable if you had diligently sought to establish your rights to the Financial Benefit under any workers’

compensation or employer's liability law.

## B. Limitations

We will use our best efforts to provide or arrange covered Services in the event of unusual circumstances that delay or render impractical the provision of Services. Examples include: major disaster; epidemic; war; riot; civil insurrection; disability of a large share of personnel at a Plan Facility; complete or partial destruction of facilities; and labor disputes not involving Health Plan, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals or Medical Group. In these circumstances, Health Plan, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, Medical Group and Medical Group Plan Physicians will not have any liability for any delay or failure in providing covered Services. In the case of a labor dispute involving Health Plan, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, or Medical Group, we may postpone care until the dispute is resolved if delaying your care is safe and will not result in harmful health consequences.

## C. Reductions

### 1. Coordination of Benefits (COB)

The Services covered under this EOC are subject to Coordination of Benefit (COB) rules. If you have health care coverage with another health plan or insurance company, we will coordinate benefits with the other coverage under the COB guidelines below.

This 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 govern 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% 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. However, 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.
  - i. **Plan** includes: group insurance contracts, health maintenance organization (HMO) contracts, closed panel plans or other forms of group or group-type coverage (whether insured or uninsured); medical care components of long-term care contracts, such as skilled nursing care; medical benefits under group or individual automobile contracts; and Medicare or any other federal governmental plan, as permitted by law.
  - ii. **Plan** does not include: hospital indemnity coverage or other fixed indemnity coverage; accident only coverage; specified disease or specified accident coverage; limited benefit health coverage, as defined by state law; school accident type coverage; benefits for non-medical components of 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 i. or ii. 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 determine whether **This plan** is a **Primary plan** or **Secondary plan** when the person has health coverage under more than one **Plan**.

When **This plan** is primary, its benefits are determined before those of any other **Plan** and without considering any other **Plan's** benefits. When **This plan** is secondary, its benefits are determined after those of another **Plan** and may be reduced because of the **Primary plan's** benefits, so that all **Plan** benefits do not exceed 100% 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**:

- i. 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 or the patient's stay is

- medically necessary in terms of generally accepted medical practice or the hospital does not have a semi-private room.
- ii. 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**.
  - iii. 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**.
  - iv. 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.
  - v. 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. **Claim determination period** is usually a calendar year, but a **Plan** may use some other period of time that fits the coverage of the group contract. A person is covered by a **Plan** during a portion of a **Claim determination period** if that person's coverage starts or ends during the **Claim determination period**. However, it does not include any part of a year during which a person has no coverage under **This plan**, or before the date this **COB** provision or a similar provision takes effect.
  - f. **Closed panel plan** is a **Plan** that provides health benefits to covered persons primarily in the form of services through a panel of providers that have contracted with either directly or indirectly or are employed by the **Plan**, and that limits or excludes benefits for services provided by other providers, except in cases of emergency or referral by a panel member.
  - g. **Custodial parent** means a parent awarded primary custody by a court decree. In the absence of a court decree, it is the parent with whom the child resides more than one half of the calendar year without regard to 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 payment are as follows:

- a. The **Primary plan** pays or provides its benefits according to its terms of coverage and without regard to the benefits under any other **Plan**.
- b.
  - i. Except as provided in paragraph ii, a **Plan** that does not contain a coordination of benefits provision that is consistent with these rules is always primary unless the provisions of both **Plans** state that the complying **Plan** is primary.
  - ii. Coverage that is obtained by virtue of being members in a group, and designed to supplement part of the basic package of benefits, may provide supplementary coverage that shall be in excess of 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 determining 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:
  - i. 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**.
  - ii. 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:

1. The **Plan** of the parent whose birthday (month and day) falls earlier in the calendar year is the **Primary plan**; or
  2. 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:
1. 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;
  2. 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;
  3. 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
  4. 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:
    - The **Plan** covering the **Custodial parent**;
    - The **Plan** covering the spouse of the **Custodial parent**;
    - The **Plan** covering the **non-custodial parent**; and then
    - 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.
- iii. 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.
  - iv. 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.
  - v. Longer or Shorter Length of Coverage. The **Plan** that covered the person as an employee, member, policyholder, subscriber or retiree longer is the **Primary plan** and the **Plan** that covered the person the shorter period of time is the **Secondary plan**.
  - vi. 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 Health Plan 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, Health Plan 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**. Health 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 reasonable cash value of the benefits provided in the form of services.

#### **RIGHT OF RECOVERY**

If the amount of the payments made by Health Plan is more than it should have paid under this **COB** provision, we may recover the excess from one or more of the persons we have paid or for whom we have 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.

#### 2. Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties

You must ensure we receive the maximum reimbursement allowed by law for covered Services you receive for an injury or illness that is alleged to be caused by another party. You do not have to reimburse us more than you receive from or on behalf of any other party, insurance company or organization as a result of the injury or illness. Our right to reimbursement shall include all sources as allowed by law. This includes, but is not limited to, any recovery you receive from: (a) uninsured motorist coverage; or (b) underinsured motorist coverage; or (c) automobile medical payment coverage; or (d) workers’ compensation coverage; or (e) any other liability coverage; or (f) any responsible party or entity.

**Note:** This “Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties” section does not affect your obligation to pay your Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible for these Services. The amount of reimbursement due the Plan is not limited by or subject to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum provision.

To the extent allowed 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 the other 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.

We shall have a first priority lien on the proceeds of any judgment or settlement, whether by compromise or otherwise, you obtain against or from any other party, entity or insurer, regardless of whether the other party, entity or insurer admits fault. Proceeds of such judgment, award or settlement in your or your attorney’s possession shall be held in trust for our benefit.

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

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

For us to determine the existence of any rights we may have and to satisfy those rights, you must complete and send to Equian: all consents; releases; authorizations; assignments; and other documents, including lien forms directing your attorney, any other party or entity and any respective insurer to pay us or our legal representatives directly. You must cooperate to protect our interests under this “Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties” provision and must not take any action prejudicial to our rights.

If your estate, parent, guardian or conservator asserts a claim against another party, entity or insurer based on your injury or illness, your estate, parent, guardian or conservator and any settlement 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. We may assign our rights to enforce our liens and other rights.

Some providers have contracted with Kaiser Permanente to provide certain Services to Members at rates that are typically less than the fees that the providers normally charge to the general public (“General Fees”). However, these contracts may allow providers to assert any independent lien rights they may have to recover their General Fees from a judgment or settlement that you receive from or on behalf of another party, entity or insurer. For Services the provider furnished, our

recovery and the provider's recovery together will not exceed the provider's General Fees.

If you are entitled to Medicare, Medicare law may apply with respect to Services covered by Medicare.

3. Traditional or Gestational Surrogacy

In situations where you receive monetary compensation to act as either a traditional or gestational surrogate, Health Plan will seek reimbursement for covered Services you receive that are associated with conception, pregnancy and/or delivery of the child, except that we will recover no more than half of the monetary compensation you receive. A surrogate arrangement is one in which a woman agrees to become pregnant and to surrender the baby to another person or persons who intend to raise the child. 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 applies to both traditional surrogacy and gestational carriers.

**Note:** This "Traditional or Gestational Surrogacy" section does not affect your obligation to pay your Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible for these Services.

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) receives, including names, addresses, and telephone numbers for any health insurance that will cover Services that the baby (or babies) receives
- 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:

Equian, LLC  
Attn: Surrogacy Subrogation Operations  
PO Box 36380  
Louisville, KY 40233  
Fax: 502-214-1291

## V. MEMBER PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITY

Information on Member payment responsibility, including applicable Deductibles, annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum, Copayments, and Coinsurance, is located in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)." Payment responsibility information for Emergency Services and urgent care is located in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section. For additional questions, contact **Member Services**.

Our contracts with Plan Providers provide that you are not liable for any amounts we owe them for covered Services. However, you may be liable for the cost of non-covered Services or Services you obtain from non-Plan Providers. If our contract with any Plan Provider terminates while you are under the care of that provider, we will retain financial responsibility for covered Services you receive from that provider, in excess of any applicable Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance amounts, until we make arrangements for the Services to be provided by another Plan Provider and so notify the Subscriber.

## VI. CLAIMS PROCEDURE (HOW TO FILE A CLAIM)

Plan Providers submit claims for payment for covered Services directly to Health Plan. For general information on claims, and how to submit pre-service claims, concurrent care claims, and post-service claims, see the "Appeals and Complaints" section. For covered Services by non-Plan Providers, you may need to submit a claim on your own. Contact **Member Services** for more information on how to submit such claims. Health Plan complies with the time frames for resolution and payment of filed claims as required by state law.

## VII. GENERAL POLICY PROVISIONS

### A. Access Plan

Colorado law requires that an Access Plan be available that describes Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado's network of provider Services. To obtain a copy, please call **Member Services**.

## **B. Access to Services for Foreign Language Speakers**

1. **Member Services** will provide a telephone interpreter to assist Members who speak limited or no English.
2. Plan Physicians have telephone access to interpreters in over 150 languages.
3. Plan Physicians can also request an onsite interpreter for an appointment, procedure, or Service.
4. Any interpreter assistance we arrange or provide will be at no Charge to the Member.

## **C. Administration of Agreement**

We may adopt reasonable policies, procedures, and interpretations to promote efficient administration of the Group Agreement and this EOC.

## **D. Advance Directives**

Federal law requires Kaiser Permanente to tell you about your right to make health care decisions.

Colorado law recognizes the right of an adult to accept or reject medical treatment, artificial nourishment and hydration, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

Each adult has the right to establish, in advance of the need for medical treatment, any directives and instructions for the administration of medical treatment in the event the person lacks the decisional capacity to provide informed consent to or refusal of medical treatment. (Colorado Revised Statutes, Section 15-14-504)

Kaiser Permanente will not discriminate against you whether or not you have an advance directive. We will follow the requirements of Colorado law respecting advance directives. If you have an advance directive, please give a copy to the Kaiser Permanente medical records department or to your provider.

A health care provider or health care facility shall provide for the prompt transfer of the principal to another health care provider or health care facility if such health care provider or health care facility wishes not to comply with an agent's medical treatment decision on the basis of policies based on moral convictions or religious beliefs. (Colorado Revised Statutes, Section 15-14-507)

Two (2) brochures are available: *Your Right to Make Health Care Decisions* and *Making Health Care Decisions*. For copies of these brochures or for more information, please call **Member Services**.

## **E. Agreement Binding on Members**

By electing coverage or accepting Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered) 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.

## **F. Amendment of Agreement**

Your Group's Agreement with us will change periodically. If these changes affect this EOC, your Group is required to notify you of them. If it is necessary to make revisions to this EOC, we will issue revised materials to you.

## **G. 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.

## **H. Assignment**

You may assign, in writing, payments due under the policy to a licensed hospital, other licensed health care provider, an occupational therapist, or a massage therapist, for covered Services provided to you. You may not assign this EOC or any other rights, interests, or obligations hereunder without our prior written consent.

## **I. Attorney Fees and Expenses**

In any dispute between a Member and Health Plan or Plan Providers, each party will bear its own attorneys' fees and other expenses.

## **J. Claims Review Authority**

We are responsible for determining whether you are entitled to Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered) under this EOC. We have the authority to review and evaluate claims that arise under this EOC. We conduct this evaluation independently by interpreting the provisions of this EOC. If this EOC is part of a health benefit plan that is subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), then we are a "named fiduciary" to review claims under this EOC.

## **K. Contracts with Plan Providers**

Plan Providers are paid in a number of ways, including: salary; capitation; per diem rates; case rates; fee for service; and incentive payments. If you would like further information about the way Plan Providers are paid to provide or arrange medical and hospital care for Members, please call **Member Services**.

Our contracts with Plan Providers provide that you are not liable for any amounts we owe. However, you may be liable for the cost of non-covered Services or Services you obtain from non-Plan Providers. If our contract with any Plan Provider terminates

while you are under the care of that provider, we will retain financial responsibility for covered Services you receive from that provider, in excess of any applicable Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance amounts, until we make arrangements for the Services to be provided by another Plan Provider and so notify the Subscriber.

#### **L. Deductible/Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit**

Deductible/Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit is a one-time event which occurs at the point of the initial open enrollment. It applies only to:

1. Members of new groups enrolling with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado for the first time. (In this situation, Members must have been covered under one of the group's other carriers at the time of the group's enrollment.)
2. Members of new or current groups who move from non-sole carrier status to sole-carrier status with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado. Non-sole carrier status refers to when an employee has the option of choosing a group health plan either through Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado or through another carrier. (In this situation, Members must have been covered under one of the group's other carriers at the time the group moved to sole-carrier status.)

A credit will be applied toward your Deductible with Health Plan for certain eligible expenses accumulated toward your deductible under your prior coverage. You may also be eligible for a credit to be applied toward your Out-of-Pocket Maximum accumulated under your prior coverage. In order for expenses to be eligible for this credit, you must submit an Explanation of Benefits ("EOB") issued by your prior carrier showing that the expense was applied toward your deductible and/or out-of-pocket maximum under your prior coverage. All such expenses must be for Services that are covered and subject to the Deductible and/or Out-of-Pocket Maximum under this EOC.

For groups with effective dates of coverage during the months of April through December, expenses incurred from January 1 of the current year through the effective date of coverage with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado may be eligible for credit.

For groups with effective dates of coverage during the months of January through March, expenses incurred up to 90 days prior to the effective date of coverage with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan may be eligible for credit.

You must submit all claims for Deductible/Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit within 90 days from the effective date of coverage with Health Plan. To submit a claim, send all EOBs along with a completed Prior Carrier Information Cover Form to the **Kaiser Permanente Claims Department**. To get a copy of the Prior Carrier Information Cover Form, please call the **Claims Department**.

#### **M. Governing Law**

Except as preempted by federal law, this EOC will be governed in accordance with Colorado law. Any provision that is required to be in this EOC by state or federal law shall bind Members and Health Plan whether or not set forth in this EOC.

#### **N. Group and Members are not Health Plan's Agents**

Neither your Group nor any Member is the agent or representative of Health Plan.

#### **O. 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.

#### **P. Nondiscrimination**

We do not discriminate in our employment practices or in the delivery of health care Services on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or physical or mental disability.

#### **Q. Notices**

Our notices to you will be sent to the most recent address we have for the Subscriber. The Subscriber is responsible for notifying us of any change in address. Members who move should call **Member Services** as soon as possible to give us their new address.

#### **R. Overpayment Recovery**

We may recover any overpayment we make for Services from anyone who receives such an overpayment, or from any person or organization obligated to pay for the Services.

#### **S. 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* (see below). Giving us authorization is at your discretion.

**This is only a brief summary of some of our key privacy practices. Our *Notice of Privacy Practices* explains our privacy practices in detail. To request a copy, please call Member Services. You can also find the notice at your local Plan Facility or on our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org).**

## **T. Value-Added Services**

In addition to the Services we cover under this EOC, we make available a variety of value-added services. Value-added services are not covered by your plan. They are intended to give you more options for a healthy lifestyle. Examples may include:

1. Certain health education classes not covered by your plan;
2. Certain health education publications;
3. Discounts for fitness club memberships;
4. Health promotion and wellness programs; and
5. Rewards for participating in those programs.

Some of these value-added services are available to all Members. Others may be available only to Members enrolled through certain groups or plans. To take advantage of these services, you may need to:

1. Show your Health Plan ID card, and
2. Pay the fee, if any,

to the company that provides the value-added service. Because these services are not covered by your plan, any fees you pay will not count toward any coverage calculations, such as Deductible or Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

To learn about value-added services and which ones are available to you, please check our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org).

These value-added services are neither offered nor guaranteed under your Health Plan coverage. Health Plan may change or discontinue some or all value-added services at any time and without notice to you. Value-added services are not offered as inducements to purchase a health care plan from us. Although value-added services are not covered by your plan, we may have included an estimate of their cost when we calculated Premiums.

Health Plan does not endorse or make any representations regarding the quality or medical efficacy of value-added services, or the financial integrity of the companies offering them. We expressly disclaim any liability for the value-added services provided by these companies. If you have a dispute regarding a value-added service, you must resolve it with the company offering such service. Although Health Plan has no obligation to assist with this resolution, you may call **Member Services**, and a representative may try to assist in getting the issue resolved.

## **U. Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act**

In accordance with the "Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998," as determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient, we provide the following coverage after a mastectomy:

1. Reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy was performed.
2. Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical (balanced) appearance.
3. Breast prostheses (artificial replacements).
4. Services for physical complications resulting from the mastectomy.

## **VIII. TERMINATION/NONRENEWAL/CONTINUATION**

Your Group is required to inform the Subscriber of the date coverage terminates. If your membership terminates, all rights to Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered) end at 11:59 p.m. on the termination date. Dependents' memberships end at the same time the Subscriber's membership ends. You will be billed as a non-Member for any Services you receive after your membership terminates. Health Plan and Plan Providers have no further responsibility under this EOC after your membership terminates, except as provided under "Termination of Group Agreement" in this "Termination/Nonrenewal/Continuation" section.

This section describes: how your membership may end; and explains how you may maintain Health Plan coverage if your membership under this EOC ends.

### **A. Termination Due to Loss of Eligibility**

If you no longer meet the eligibility requirements in the "Eligibility" section, we or your Group will provide 30 days' advance written notice of termination.

### **B. Termination of Group Agreement**

If your Group's Agreement with us terminates for any reason, your membership ends on the same date.

If your Group's Agreement terminates for reasons other than nonpayment of Premiums, fraud or abuse, while you are inpatient in a hospital or institution, your coverage will continue until your date of discharge.

### **C. Termination for Cause**

We may terminate the memberships in your Family Unit if anyone in your Family Unit commits any of the following acts.

1. We will send written notice that will include the reason for termination to the Subscriber at least 30 days before the termination date if:
  - a. You are disruptive, unruly, or abusive so that Health Plan's or a Plan Provider's ability to provide Services to you, or to other Members, is seriously impaired; or
  - b. You fail to establish and maintain a satisfactory provider-patient relationship, after the Plan Provider has made reasonable efforts to promote such a relationship; or
2. We will send written notice that will include the reason for termination to the Subscriber at least 30 days before the termination date if:
  - a. You knowingly: (a) misrepresent membership status; (b) present an invalid prescription or physician order; (c) misuse (or let someone else misuse) a Health Plan ID card; or (d) commit any other type of fraud in connection with your membership (including your enrollment application), Health Plan or a Plan Provider; or
  - b. You knowingly: furnish incorrect or incomplete information to us; or fail to notify us of changes in your family status or Medicare coverage that may affect your eligibility or Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered).

Termination of membership for any one of these reasons applies to all members of your Family Unit. All rights to Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered) cease on the date of termination. You will be billed as a non-Member for any Services received after the termination date. You have the right to appeal such a termination. To appeal, please call **Member Services**; or you can call the Colorado Division of Insurance.

We may report any member fraud to the authorities for prosecution. We may also pursue appropriate civil remedies.

### **D. Termination for Nonpayment**

You are entitled to coverage only for the period for which we have received the appropriate Premiums from your Group. If your Group fails to pay us the appropriate Premiums for your Family Unit, we will terminate the memberships of everyone in your Family Unit.

After termination of your enrollment for nonpayment of Premiums, Health Plan may require payment of any outstanding Premiums for prior coverage if permitted by applicable law.

### **E. Termination of a Product or all Products (applies to non-grandfathered health plans only)**

We may terminate a particular product or all products offered in the group market as permitted or required by law. If we discontinue offering a particular product in the group market, we will terminate just the particular product by sending you written notice at least 90 days before the product terminates. If we discontinue offering all products in the group market, we may terminate your Group's Agreement by sending you written notice at least 180 days before the Agreement terminates.

### **F. Rescission of Membership**

We may rescind your membership after it is effective if you or anyone on your behalf did one of the following with respect to your membership (or application) prior to your membership effective date:

1. Performed an act, practice, or omission that constitutes fraud; or
2. Misrepresented a material fact with intent, such as an omission on the application.

We will send written notice to the Subscriber in your Family at least 30 days before we rescind your membership. The rescission will cancel your membership so no coverage ever existed. You will be required to pay as a non-Member for any Services we covered. We will refund all applicable Premiums, less any amounts you owe us.

### **G. Continuation of Group Coverage Under Federal Law, State Law or USERRA**

#### **1. Federal Law (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. Please contact your Group if you want to know how to elect COBRA coverage or how much you will have to pay your Group for it.

#### **2. State Law**

If you are not eligible to continue uninterrupted group coverage under federal law (COBRA), you may be eligible to continue group coverage under Colorado law. Colorado law states that if you have been a Member for at least six (6) consecutive months immediately prior to termination of employment, continue to meet the eligibility requirements of Group and Health Plan and continue to pay applicable monthly Premiums to your Group, you may continue uninterrupted group coverage. If loss of eligibility occurs because of the following reasons, you and/or your Dependents may continue group coverage subject to the terms below:

- a. Your coverage is through a subscriber who dies, divorces or legally separates, or becomes entitled to Medicare or Medicaid benefits; or

- b. You are a Subscriber (or your coverage is through a Subscriber) whose employment terminates, including voluntary termination or layoff, or whose hours of employment have been reduced.

You may enroll children born or placed for adoption with you during the period of continuation coverage. The enrollment and effective date shall be as specified under the “Eligibility” section.

To continue coverage, you must request continuation of group coverage on a form furnished by and returned to your Group along with payment of applicable Premiums, no later than 30 days after the date on which your Group coverage would otherwise terminate.

**Termination of State Continuation Coverage.** Continuation of coverage under this provision continues upon payment of the applicable Premiums to your Group and terminates on the earlier of:

- a. 18 months after your coverage would have otherwise terminated because of termination of employment; or
- b. The date you become covered under another group medical plan; or
- c. The date Health Plan terminates its contract with the Group.

We may terminate your continuation coverage if payment is not received when due.

If you have chosen an alternate health care plan offered through your Group but elect during open enrollment to receive continuation coverage through Health Plan, you will only be entitled to continued coverage for the remainder of the 18-month maximum coverage period.

3. 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 the federal USERRA law. You must submit a 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 or how much you will have to pay your Group for it.

**H. Moving to Another Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Area**

You must notify us immediately if you permanently move outside the Service Area. If you move to another Kaiser regional health plan service area, you should contact your Group’s benefits administrator before you move to learn about your Group health care options. You will be terminated from this plan, but you may be able to transfer your group membership if there is an arrangement with your Group in the new service area. However, eligibility requirements, benefits, Premiums, and Copayments or Coinsurance may not be the same in the other service area.

**IX. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS**

**A. Claims and Appeals**

Health Plan will review claims and appeals, and we may use medical experts to help us review them. The following terms have the following meanings when used in this “Appeals and Complaints” section:

- 1. A **claim** is a request for us to:
  - a. provide or pay for a Service that you have not received (pre-service claim),
  - b. continue to provide or pay for a Service that you are currently receiving (concurrent care claim), or
  - c. pay for a Service that you have already received (post-service claim).
- 2. An **adverse benefit determination** is our decision to do any of the following:
  - a. deny your claim, in whole or in part, including (1) a denial, in whole or in part, of a pre-service claim (preauthorization for a Service), a concurrent care claim (continue to provide or pay for a Service that you are currently receiving) or a post-service claim (a request to pay for a Service) in whole or in part; (2) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is not Medically Necessary, appropriate, effective or efficient or is not provided in or at the appropriate health care setting or level of care; or, (3) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is experimental or investigational,
  - b. terminate your membership retroactively except as the result of non-payment of Premiums (also called rescission or cancellation retroactively),
  - c. deny your (or, if applicable, your dependent’s) application for individual plan coverage,
  - d. uphold our previous adverse benefit determination when you appeal.

In addition, when we deny a request for medical care because it is excluded under this EOC, and you present evidence from a Colorado medical professional that there is a reasonable medical basis that the contractual exclusion does not apply to the denied medical care, then our denial shall be considered an adverse benefit determination.

- 3. An **appeal** is a request for us to review our initial adverse benefit determination.

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

Except when simultaneous external review can occur, you must exhaust the internal claims and appeals procedure as described in this “Appeals and Complaints” section unless we fail to follow the claims and appeals process described in this Section IX.

### **Language and Translation Assistance**

You may request language assistance with your claim and/or appeal by calling **Member Services**.

SPANISH (Español): Para obtener asistencia en Español, llame al 303-338-3800.

TAGALOG (Tagalog): Kung kailangan ninyo ang tulong sa Tagalog tumawag sa 303-338-3800.

CHINESE (中文): 如果需要中文的帮助, 请拨打这个号码 303-338-3800.

NAVAJO (Dine): Dinek'ehgo shika at'ohwol ninisingo, kwijigo holne' 303-338-3800.

### **Appointing a Representative**

If you would like someone (including your provider (medical facility or health care professional)) to act on your behalf regarding your claim, you may appoint an authorized representative. You must make this appointment in writing. Please 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**

You may contact the Colorado Division of Insurance at:

Colorado Division of Insurance  
1560 Broadway, Suite 850  
Denver, Colorado 80202  
(303) 894-7499

### **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. You may request our Authorization for Release of Appeal Information form by calling the **Appeals Program**.

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 and/or Appeal**

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, if you ask for one. Please send all additional information to the Department that issued the adverse benefit determination.

When you appeal, you may give testimony in writing or by telephone. Please send your written testimony to the **Appeals Program**. To arrange to give testimony by telephone, you should contact the **Appeals Program**.

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 our next 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 next decision, that decision will be based on the information already in your claim file.

### **Internal Claims and Appeals Procedures**

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:

1. Pre-service claims (urgent and non-urgent)
2. Concurrent care claims (urgent and non-urgent)
3. Post-service claims

In addition, there is a separate appeals procedure for adverse benefit determinations due to a retroactive termination of membership (rescission) or a denial of an application for individual plan coverage.

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 he/she be the subordinate of someone who did participate in our original decision.

1. 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 or pre-certified in order to be a covered Service 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 pre-service claim, a non-urgent pre-service appeal, and an urgent pre-service appeal.

a. Pre-Service Claim

Tell Health Plan in writing that you want 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 must either mail or fax your claim to **Member Services**.

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 unless your attending health care provider tells us your claim is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, creates an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent claim and appeal, to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

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 not later than 15 days after we receive your claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, so long as we notify you prior to the expiration of the initial 15-day period and explain the circumstances for which we need the extra time and when we expect to make a decision. If we tell you we need more information, we will ask you for the information within 15 days of receiving your claim, and we will give you 45 days to send the information. We will make a decision within 15 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 all of the information that you send us when we make our decision. If we do not receive any of the requested information (including documents) within 45 days after we send our request, we will make a decision based on the information we have within 15 days following the end of the 45-day period.

We will send written notice of our decision to you and, if applicable to your provider. Please let us know if you wish to have our decision sent to your provider.

If your pre-service claim was considered on an urgent basis, we will notify you of our decision (whether adverse or not) orally or in writing within a timeframe appropriate to your clinical condition but not later than 72 hours after we receive your claim. Within 24 hours after we receive your claim, we may ask you for more information. We will notify you of our decision within 48 hours of receiving the first piece of requested information. If we do not receive any of the requested information, then we will notify you of our decision within 48 hours after making our request. If we notify you of our decision orally, we will send you written confirmation within three (3) days after that.

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.

b. Non-Urgent Pre-Service Appeal

Within 180 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 Medical 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 denial, and (5) all supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must either mail or fax your appeal to the **Appeals Program**.

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The members of the appeals committee who will review your appeal will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least 5 days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that 5 day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within a reasonable period of time that is appropriate given your medical condition but not more than 30 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, that may be available to you.

c. 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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 may submit your appeal orally, by mail or by fax to the **Appeals Program**.

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 “Appeals and Complaints” section), if our internal appeal decision is not in your favor.

We will decide whether your appeal is urgent or non-urgent unless your attending health care provider tells us your appeal is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, create an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent appeal to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

You do not have the right to attend or have counsel, advocates and health care professionals in attendance at the expedited review. You are, however, entitled to submit written comments, documents, records and other materials for the reviewer or reviewers to consider; and receive, upon request and free of charge, copies of all documents, records and other information regarding your request for benefits.

We will review your appeal and give you oral or written notice of our decision as soon as your clinical condition requires, but not 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 (3) days after that.

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, that may be available to you.

2. Concurrent Care Claims and Appeals.

Concurrent care claims are requests that Health Plan continue to provide, or pay for, an ongoing course of covered treatment or Services for a period of time or number of treatments or Services, when the course of treatment already being received will end. If you have any general questions about concurrent care claims or appeals, please call **Member Services**.

Unless you are appealing an urgent care concurrent 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 then appeal our decision (an adverse benefit determination), 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 we will only pay for the continuation of Services until we notify you of our appeal decision.

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

a. Concurrent Care Claim

Tell us in writing 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 either mail or fax your claim to **Member Services**.

If you want us to consider your claim on an urgent basis and you contact us at least 24 hours before your 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 unless your attending health care provider tells us your claim is 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, health or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, create an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live

independently; or (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 extending your course of covered treatment. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent claim or an appeal thereof, to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

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 care is ending, we will make our decision before your authorized care actually ends (that is, within 24 hours of receipt of your claim). If your authorized care ended before you submitted your claim, we will make our decision within a reasonable period of time but no later than 15 days after we receive your claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, if we send you notice before the initial 15-days end and explain why we need the extra time and when we expect to make a decision. If we tell you we need more information, we will ask you for the information before the initial decision period ends, and we will give you until your care is ending or, if your care has ended, 45 days to send us the information. We will make our decision as soon as possible, if your care has not ended, or within 15 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 days following the end of the 45 days that we gave you for sending the additional information.

We will send written notice of our decision to you and, if applicable to your provider, upon request. Please let us know if you wish to have our decision sent to your provider.

If we consider your concurrent claim on an urgent basis, we will notify you of our decision orally or in writing as soon as your clinical condition requires, but not later than 24 hours after we received your appeal. If we notify you of our decision orally, we will send you written confirmation within three (3) days after receiving your claim.

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

b. Non-Urgent Concurrent Care Appeal

Within 180 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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 the **Appeals Program**.

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The members of the appeals committee who will review your appeal will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least 5 days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that 5 day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision as soon as possible if your care has not ended but not later than 30 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, that may be available to you.

c. 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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 may submit your appeal orally, by mail or by fax to the **Appeals Program**.

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 “Appeals and Complaints” section).

We will decide whether your appeal is urgent or non-urgent unless your attending health care provider tells us your appeal is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, create an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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 continuing your course of covered treatment. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent appeal to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

You do not have the right to attend or have counsel, advocates and health care professionals in attendance at the expedited review. You are, however, entitled to submit written comments, documents, records and other materials for the reviewer or reviewers to consider; and receive, upon request and free of charge, copies of all documents, records and other information regarding your request for benefits.

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 (3) days after that.

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.

3. 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:

a. Post-Service Claim

Within twelve (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, and (4) why you think we should pay for the Services. You must include a copy of the bill, your medical record(s) and any supporting documents. Your letter and the related documents constitute your claim. Or, you may contact **Member Services** to obtain a claims form. You must either mail or fax your claim to the **Claims Department**.

We will not accept or pay for claims received from you after twelve (12) months from the date of Services.

We will review your claim, and if we have all the information we need we will send you a written decision within 30 days after we receive your claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, if we notify you within 15 days after we receive your claim and explain the circumstances for which we need the extra time and when we expect to make a decision. If we tell you we need more information, we will ask you for the information, and we will give you 45 days to send us the information. We will make a decision within 15 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 days after we send our request, we will make a decision based on the information we have within 15 days following the end of the 45-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.

b. Post-Service Appeal

Within 180 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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) include all supporting documents such as medical records. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must either mail or fax your appeal to the **Appeals Program**.

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The appeals committee members who will review your appeal (who were not involved in our original



decision regarding your claim) will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least 5 days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that 5 day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within 30 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.

#### Voluntary Second Level of Appeal

Within 60 days after you receive our adverse decision regarding your appeal, you may ask us to review our adverse benefit decisions again. We will schedule a review of your second appeal within 60 days of receiving your request, and we will notify you about the date and time of this review no less than 20 days before it occurs. You have the right to request a postponement. You have the right to appear in person or by telephone conference at the meeting. We will make our decision within 7 days of the completion of this meeting.

#### Appeals of Retroactive Membership Termination (rescission or cancellation retroactively)

We may terminate your membership retroactively (see “Rescission of Membership” under the “Termination/Nonrenewal/Continuation” section). We will send you written notice at least 30 days prior to the termination. If you have general questions about retroactive membership terminations or appeals, please call **Member Services**.

Here is the procedure for filing an appeal of a retroactive membership termination:

Within 180 days after you receive our adverse benefit determination that your membership will be terminated retroactively, you must tell us in writing that you want to appeal our termination of your membership retroactively. Please include the following: (1) your name and Medical Record Number, (2) all of the reasons why you disagree with our retroactive membership termination, and (3) all supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must mail your appeal to **Member Services**.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within 30 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, that may be available to you.

#### Appeals of Denial of Individual Plan Application

Here is the procedure for filing an appeal of our denial of an individual plan application:

Within 180 days after you receive our adverse benefit determination regarding your individual plan application, you must tell us in writing that you want to appeal our denial of an individual plan application. Please include the following: (1) your name and application reference number, (2) all of the reasons why you disagree with our adverse benefit determination, and (3) all supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must mail your appeal to:

Member Services  
P.O. Box 203004  
Denver, CO 80220-9004

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within 30 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 that may be available to you.

#### External Review

Following receipt of an adverse decision letter regarding your First Level Appeal or Voluntary Second Level Appeal, you may have a right to request an external review.

You have the right to request an independent external review of our decision if our decision involves an adverse benefit determination regarding a denial of a claim, in whole or in part, that is (1) a denial of a preauthorization for a Service; (2) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is not Medically Necessary, appropriate, effective or efficient or is not provided in or at the appropriate health care setting or level of care; and/or (3) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is experimental or investigational. If our final adverse decision does not involve an adverse benefit determination described in the preceding sentence, then your claim is **not** eligible for external review provided, however, independent external review is available when we deny your appeal because you request medical care that is excluded under your Kaiser Permanente plan and you present evidence from a licensed Colorado professional that there is a reasonable medical basis that the exclusion does not apply.

You will not be responsible for the cost of the external review. There is no minimum dollar amount for a claim to be eligible for an external review.

To request external review, you must:

1. Submit a completed Independent External Review of Carrier's Final Adverse Determination form which will be included with the mandatory internal appeal decision letter and explanation of your appeal rights (you may call the **Appeals Program** to request a copy of this form) to the **Appeals Program** within four (4) months of the date of receipt of the mandatory internal appeal decision or Voluntary Second Level Appeal decision. We shall consider the date of receipt for our notice to be three (3) days after the date on which our notice was drafted, unless you can prove that you received our notice after the three (3) day period ends.
2. Include in your written request a statement authorizing us to release your claim file with your health information including your medical records; or, you may submit a completed Authorization for Release of Appeal Information form which is included with the mandatory internal appeal decision letter and explanation of your appeal rights (you may call **Appeals Program** to request a copy of this form).

If we do not receive your external review request form and/or authorization form to release your health information, then we will not be able to act on your request. We must receive all of this information prior to the end of the applicable timeframe (4 months) for your request of external review.

### **Expedited External Review**

**You may request an expedited review if (1) you have a medical condition for which the timeframe for completion of a standard review would seriously jeopardize your life, health, or ability to regain maximum function, or, if you have a physical or mental disability, would create an imminent and substantial limitation to your existing ability to live independently, or (2) in the opinion of a physician with knowledge of your medical condition, the timeframe for completion of a standard review would subject you to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the medical services that you are seeking. A request for an expedited external review must be accompanied by a written statement from your physician that your condition meets the expedited criteria. You must include the physician's certification that you meet expedited external review criteria when you submit your request for external review along with the other required information (described, above).**

### **Additional Requirements for External Review regarding Experimental or Investigational Services**

**You may request external review or expedited external review involving an adverse benefit determination based upon the Service being experimental or investigational. Your request for external review or expedited external review must include a written statement from your physician that either (a) standard health care services or treatments have not been effective in improving your condition or are not medically appropriate for you, or (b) there is no available standard health care service or treatment covered under this EOC that is more beneficial than the recommended or requested health care service (the physician must certify that scientifically valid studies using accepted protocols demonstrate that the requested health care service or treatment is more likely to be more beneficial to you than an available standard health care services or treatments), and the physician is a licensed, board-certified, or board-eligible physician to practice in the area of medicine to treat your condition. If you are requesting expedited external review, then your physician must also certify that the requested health care service or treatment would be less effective if not promptly initiated. These certifications must be submitted with your request for external review.**

**No expedited external review is available when you have already received the medical care that is the subject of your request for external review. If you do not qualify for expedited external review, we will treat your request as a request for standard external review.**

**After we receive your request for external review, we shall notify you of the information regarding the independent external review entity that the Division of Insurance has selected to conduct the external review.**

If we deny your request for standard or expedited external review, including any assertion that we have not complied with the applicable requirements related to our internal claims and appeals procedure, then we may notify you in writing and include the specific reasons for the denial. Our notice will include information about your right to appeal the denial to the Division of Insurance. At the same time that we send this denial notice to you, we will send a copy of it to the Division of Insurance.

**You will not be able to present your appeal in person to the independent external review organization. You may, however, send any additional information that is significantly different from information provided or considered during the internal claims and appeal procedure and, if applicable Voluntary Second Level of Appeal process. If you send new information, we may consider it and reverse our decision regarding your appeal.**

**You may submit your additional information to the independent external review organization for consideration during its review within five (5) working days of your receipt of our notice describing the independent review organization that has been selected to conduct the external review of your claim. Although it is not required to do so, the independent review organization may accept and consider additional information submitted after this five (5) working day period ends.**

The independent external review entity shall review information regarding your benefit claim and shall base its determination on an objective review of relevant medical and scientific evidence. Within 45 days of the independent external review entity's receipt

of your request for standard external review, it shall provide written notice of its decision to you. If the independent external review entity is deciding your expedited external review request, then the independent external review entity shall make its decision as expeditiously as possible and no more than 72 hours after its receipt of your request for external review and within 48 hours of notifying you orally of its decision provide written confirmation of its decision. This notice shall explain the external review entity's decision and that the external review decision is the final appeal available under state insurance law. An external review decision is binding on Health Plan and you except to the extent Health Plan and you have other remedies available under federal or state law. You or your designated representative may not file a subsequent request for external review involving the same Health Plan adverse determination for which you have already received an external review decision.

**If the independent external review organization overturns our denial of payment for care you have already received, we will issue payment within five (5) working days. If the independent review organization overturns our decision not to authorize pre-service or concurrent care claims, Kaiser Permanente will authorize care within one (1) working day. Such covered services shall be provided subject to the terms and conditions applicable to benefits under your plan.**

Except when external review is permitted to occur simultaneously with your urgent pre-service appeal or urgent concurrent care appeal, you must exhaust our internal claims and appeals procedure (but not the Voluntary Second Level of Appeal) for your claim before you may request external review unless we have failed to substantially comply with federal and/or state law requirements regarding our claims and appeals procedures.

#### **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.

## **B. Complaints**

1. If you are not satisfied with the Services received at a particular Plan 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:
  - a. Sending your written complaint to **Member Services**;
  - b. Requesting to meet with a Member Services Liaison at the Health Plan Administrative Offices; or
  - c. Telephoning **Member Services**.
2. After you notify us of a complaint, this is what happens:
  - a. A Member Services Liaison reviews the complaint and conducts an investigation, verifying all the relevant facts.
  - b. The Member Services Liaison or a Plan Physician evaluates the facts and makes a recommendation for corrective action, if any.
  - c. When you file a written complaint, we usually respond in writing within 30 calendar days, unless additional information is required.
  - d. When you make a verbal complaint, a verbal response is usually made within 30 calendar days.
3. If you are dissatisfied with the resolution, you have the right to request a second review. Please put your request in writing to **Member Services**. **Member Services** will respond to you in writing within 30 calendar days of receipt of your request.

We want you to be satisfied with our Plan Facilities, Services, and Plan Physicians. 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. Please call **Member Services**.

## **X. INFORMATION ON POLICY AND RATE CHANGES**

Your Group's Agreement with us will change periodically. If these changes affect this EOC or your Premiums, your Group is required to notify you of them. If it is necessary to make revisions to this EOC, we will issue revised materials to you.

## **XI. DEFINITIONS**

The following terms, when capitalized and used in any part of this EOC, have the following meaning:

**Accumulation Period:** As stated in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)," the period of time during which benefits are paid and are counted toward the maximum allowed for the specific benefit.

**Affiliated Physician:** Any doctor of medicine contracting with Medical Group to provide covered Services to Members under this EOC.

**Affiliated Provider:** A health care provider that we designate as an Affiliated Provider.

**Authorization:** A referral request that has received approval from Health Plan.

**Charge(s):**

1. For Services provided by Plan Providers or Medical Group, the charges in Health Plan's schedule of Medical Group and Health Plan charges for Services provided to Members; or
2. For Services for which a provider (other than Medical Group or Health Plan) is compensated on a capitation basis, the charges in the schedule of charges that Kaiser Permanente negotiates with the capitated provider; or
3. For items obtained at a Plan Pharmacy, the amount the Plan Pharmacy would charge a Member for the item if a Member's benefit plan did not cover the item (this amount is an estimate of: the cost of acquiring, storing, and dispensing drugs, the direct and indirect costs of providing Kaiser Permanente pharmacy Services to Members, and the Plan Pharmacy program's contribution to the net revenue requirements of Health Plan); or
4. For all other Services, the payments that Health Plan makes for the Services (or, if Health Plan subtracts a Copayment, Coinsurance or Deductible from its payment, the amount Health Plan would have paid if it did not subtract the Copayment, Coinsurance or Deductible).

**CMS:** The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the federal agency responsible for administering Medicare.

**Coinsurance:** A percentage of Charges that you must pay when you receive a covered Service, as listed in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)."

**Copayment:** The specific dollar amount you must pay for a covered Service, as listed in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)."

**Deductible:** The amount you must pay in an Accumulation Period for certain Services before we will cover those Services in that Accumulation Period. The "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" explains the amount of the Deductible and which Services are subject to the Deductible.

**Dependent:** A Member whose relationship to a Subscriber is the basis for membership eligibility and who meets the eligibility requirements as a Dependent. For Dependent eligibility requirements, see "Who Is Eligible" in the "Eligibility" section.

**Emergency Medical Condition:** A medical condition that manifests itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity, including severe pain, that a prudent layperson with an average knowledge of health and medicine could reasonably expect, in the absence of immediate medical attention, to result in:

1. Serious jeopardy to the health of the individual or, with respect to a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child;
2. Serious impairment to bodily functions; or
3. Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part.

**Emergency Services:** With respect to an Emergency Medical Condition:

1. A medical screening examination that is within the capability of the emergency department of a hospital, including ancillary services routinely available to the emergency department to evaluate the Emergency Medical Condition; and
2. Within the capabilities of the staff and facilities available at the hospital, further medical examination and treatment as required to Stabilize the patient 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 individual from a facility.

**Family Unit:** A Subscriber and all of his or her Dependents.

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

**Health Plan:** Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado, a Colorado nonprofit corporation.

**Kaiser Permanente:** Health Plan and Medical Group.

**Life or Limb Threatening Emergency:** Any event that a prudent layperson would believe threatens his or her life or limb in such a manner that a need for immediate medical care is created to prevent death or serious impairment of health.

**Medical Group:** The Colorado Permanente Medical Group, P.C., a for-profit medical corporation.

**Medically Necessary** services or supplies are those that are determined by Health Plan to be all of the following:

- Required to prevent, diagnose, or treat your condition or clinical symptoms; and
- In accordance with generally accepted standards of medical practice; and
- Not solely for the convenience of you, your family, and/or your provider; and
- The most appropriate level of care that can safely be provided to you.

The fact that a Plan or non-Plan Provider prescribes, recommends, or refers you to a Service does not make that Service Medically Necessary or covered under this EOC.

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

**Member:** A person who is eligible and enrolled under this EOC, and for whom we have received applicable Premiums. This EOC sometimes refers to a Member as “you” or “your.”

**Out-of-Pocket Maximum:** The annual limit to the total amount of Deductible (if any), certain Copayments and certain Coinsurance you must pay in an Accumulation Period for covered Services, as described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**Plan Facility:** A Plan Medical Office or Plan Hospital.

**Plan Hospital:** Any hospital listed as a Plan Hospital in our provider directory. Plan Hospitals are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Plan Medical Office:** Any medical office listed in our provider directory, including any outpatient facility designated by Health Plan. Plan Medical Offices are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Plan Optometrist:** Any licensed optometrist who is an employee of Health Plan or any licensed optometrist who contracts to provide Services to Members.

**Plan Pharmacy:** A pharmacy owned and operated by Kaiser Permanente or another pharmacy that we designate. Plan Pharmacies are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Plan Physician:** Any licensed physician who is an employee of Medical Group, an Affiliated Physician or any licensed physician who contracts to provide Services to Members (but not including physicians who contract only to provide referral Services).

**Plan Provider:** A Plan Hospital, Plan Physician, or other health care provider that we designate as Plan Provider, except that Plan Providers are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Premiums:** Periodic membership charges paid by Group.

**Service Area:**

The *Denver/Boulder* Service Area is that portion of Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Clear Creek, Denver, Douglas, Elbert, Gilpin, Jefferson, Larimer, Park, Teller, and Weld counties within the following zip codes: 80001, 80002, 80003, 80004, 80005, 80006, 80007, 80010, 80011, 80012, 80013, 80014, 80015, 80016, 80017, 80018, 80019, 80020, 80021, 80022, 80023, 80024, 80025, 80026, 80027, 80030, 80031, 80033, 80034, 80035, 80036, 80037, 80038, 80040, 80041, 80042, 80044, 80045, 80046, 80047, 80102, 80104, 80107, 80108, 80109, 80110, 80111, 80112, 80113, 80116, 80117, 80120, 80121, 80122, 80123, 80124, 80125, 80126, 80127, 80128, 80129, 80130, 80131, 80134, 80135, 80137, 80138, 80150, 80151, 80155, 80160, 80161, 80162, 80163, 80165, 80166, 80201, 80202, 80203, 80204, 80205, 80206, 80207, 80208, 80209, 80210, 80211, 80212, 80214, 80215, 80216, 80217, 80218, 80219, 80220, 80221, 80222, 80223, 80224, 80225, 80226, 80227, 80228, 80229, 80230, 80231, 80232, 80233, 80234, 80235, 80236, 80237, 80238, 80239, 80241, 80243, 80244, 80246, 80247, 80248, 80249, 80250, 80251, 80256, 80257, 80259, 80260, 80261, 80262, 80263, 80264, 80265, 80266, 80271, 80273, 80274, 80281, 80290, 80291, 80293, 80294, 80299, 80301, 80302, 80303, 80304, 80305, 80306, 80307, 80308, 80309, 80310, 80314, 80401, 80402, 80403, 80419, 80421, 80422, 80425, 80427, 80433, 80436, 80437, 80439, 80444, 80452, 80453, 80454, 80455, 80457, 80465, 80466, 80470, 80471, 80474, 80481, 80501, 80502, 80503, 80504, 80510, 80514, 80516, 80520, 80530, 80533, 80540, 80544, 80601, 80602, 80603, 80614, 80621, 80640, 80642, 80643.

The *Northern Colorado* Service Area is that portion of Adams, Boulder, Larimer, Morgan, and Weld counties within the following zip codes: 69128, 69145, 80511, 80512, 80513, 80515, 80517, 80521, 80522, 80523, 80524, 80525, 80526, 80527, 80528, 80532, 80534, 80535, 80536, 80537, 80538, 80539, 80541, 80542, 80543, 80545, 80546, 80547, 80549, 80550, 80551, 80553, 80610, 80611, 80612, 80615, 80620, 80622, 80623, 80624, 80631, 80632, 80633, 80634, 80638, 80639, 80644, 80645, 80646, 80648, 80649, 80650, 80651, 80652, 80654, 80729, 80732, 80742, 80754, 82063, 82070, 82082.

The *Southern Colorado* Service Area is that portion of Crowley, Custer, Douglas, El Paso, Elbert, Fremont, Huerfano, Las Animas, Lincoln, Otero, Park, Pueblo, and Teller counties within the following zip codes: 80106, 80118, 80132, 80133, 80808, 80809, 80813, 80814, 80816, 80817, 80819, 80820, 80827, 80829, 80831, 80832, 80833, 80840, 80841, 80860, 80863, 80864, 80866, 80901, 80902, 80903, 80904, 80905, 80906, 80907, 80908, 80909, 80910, 80911, 80912, 80913, 80914, 80915, 80916, 80917, 80918, 80919, 80920, 80921, 80922, 80923, 80924, 80925, 80926, 80927, 80928, 80929, 80930, 80931, 80932, 80933, 80934, 80935, 80936, 80937, 80938, 80939, 80941, 80942, 80946, 80947, 80949, 80950, 80951, 80960, 80962, 80970, 80977, 80995, 80997, 81001, 81002, 81003, 81004, 81005, 81006, 81007, 81008, 81009, 81010, 81011, 81012, 81019, 81022, 81023, 81025, 81039, 81062, 81069, 81212, 81215, 81221, 81222, 81223, 81226, 81232, 81233, 81240, 81244, 81253, 81290.

**Services:** Health care services or items.

**Skilled Nursing Facility:** A facility that is licensed as such by the state of Colorado, certified by Medicare and approved by Health Plan. The facility's primary business must be the provision of 24-hour-a-day licensed skilled nursing care for patients who need skilled nursing or skilled rehabilitation care, or both, on a daily basis, as part of an ongoing medical treatment plan.

**Spouse:** Your partner in marriage or a civil union as determined by state law.

**Stabilize:** To provide the medical treatment of the Emergency Medical 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 (including the placenta).

**Step Therapy:** A protocol that requires a covered person to use a prescription drug or sequence of prescription drugs, other than the drug that the covered person’s health care provider recommends for the covered person’s treatment, before the carrier provides coverage for the recommended prescription drug.

**Subscriber:** A Member who is eligible for membership on his or her own behalf and not by virtue of Dependent status and who meets the eligibility requirements as a Subscriber (for Subscriber eligibility requirements, see “Who Is Eligible” in the “Eligibility” section).

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## ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

Please refer to the Summary Chart in this booklet for specific charges and other limitations that may apply to the coverage(s) described below.

### DOMESTIC PARTNER COVERAGE

Your Group coverage includes health benefits for same-sex domestic partners. To be covered they must meet:

- (1) the eligibility requirements as described in the “Eligibility” section of this EOC; and
- (2) the conditions for domestic partnership as described in the Affidavit of Domestic Partnership.

You are required to complete and submit an Affidavit of Domestic Partnership to Health Plan. Please check with your Group's benefit administrator for details.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for same-sex domestic partners. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

DOMP0AA (01-18)  
WOR0AA

### ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT

**(Does not apply to Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage HMO Plan)**

The following paragraph of your EOC is amended, as follows:

#### I. Eligibility

##### A. Who Is Eligible

###### 1. General

To be eligible to enroll and to remain enrolled in this health benefit plan, you must meet the following requirements:

- a. You must meet your Group's eligibility requirements that we have approved. Your Group is required to inform Subscribers of the Group's eligibility requirements; and
- b. You must also meet the Subscriber or Dependent eligibility requirements as described below; and
- c. The Subscriber must live, reside, or work in our Service Area. Our Service Area is described in the “Definitions” section.

This rider amends the general eligibility provision of the EOC. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

WOR0AA (01-20)

### CHIROPRACTIC CARE

#### 1. Coverage

Chiropractic Services are covered as shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” when provided by contracted providers. Coverage includes:

- a. Evaluation;
- b. Manual and manipulative therapy of the spinal and extraspinal regions.

You may self-refer for visits to contracted providers.

**Note:** The following are covered, but not under this section: X-ray and laboratory tests, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”.

#### 2. Exclusions

- a. Hypnotherapy.
- b. Behavior training.
- c. Sleep therapy.



- d. Weight loss programs.
- e. Services related to the treatment of the musculoskeletal system, except for the spinal and extraspinal regions.
- f. Vocational rehabilitation Services.
- g. Thermography.
- h. Air conditioners, air purifiers, therapeutic mattresses, supplies, or any other similar devices and appliances.
- i. Transportation costs. This includes local ambulance charges.
- j. Prescription drugs, vitamins, minerals, food supplements, or other similar products.
- k. Educational programs.
- l. Non-medical self-care or self-help training.
- m. All diagnostic testing related to these excluded Services.
- n. MRI and/or other types of diagnostic radiology.
- o. Physical or massage therapy that is not a part of the manual and manipulative therapy.
- p. Durable medical equipment (DME) and/or supplies for use in the home.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for Chiropractic Care. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

CHIR0AA (01-18)  
DMES0AB

### **DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT (DME) AND PROSTHETIC AND ORTHOTIC DEVICES**

When prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan on either a purchase or rental basis, as determined by Health Plan, DME, prosthetics and orthotics, including replacements other than those necessitated by misuse, theft, or loss, are provided as shown on the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" for your use during the period prescribed. Necessary fittings, repairs and adjustments, other than those necessitated by misuse, are covered. Health Plan may repair or replace a device at its option. Repair or replacement of defective equipment is covered at no additional charge.

Health Plan uses Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) and National Coverage Determinations (NCD) (hereinafter referred to as Medicare Guidelines) for our DME, prosthetic, and orthotic formulary guidelines. These are guidelines only. Health Plan reserves the right to exclude items listed in the Medicare Guidelines (does not apply to Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage plans). Please note that this EOC may contain some, but not all, of these exclusions.

**Limitations:** Coverage is limited to a standard item of DME, prosthetic device, or orthotic device that adequately meets your medical needs.

#### 1. Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

##### a. Coverage

- i. DME is equipment that is appropriate for use in the home, able to withstand repeated use, Medically Necessary, not of use to a person in the absence of illness or injury, and approved for coverage under Medicare. It includes, but is not limited to, infant apnea monitors, insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies, and oxygen and oxygen dispensing equipment.
- ii. Insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iii. When use is no longer prescribed by a Plan Physician, DME must be returned to Health Plan or its designee. If the equipment is not returned, you must pay Health Plan or its designee the fair market price, established by Health Plan, for the equipment.

b. Limitation: Coverage is limited to the lesser of the purchase or rental price, as determined by Health Plan.

##### c. Durable Medical Equipment Exclusions

- i. Electronic monitors of bodily functions, except infant apnea monitors are covered.
- ii. Devices to perform medical testing of body fluids, excretions or substances, except nitrate urine test strips for home use for pediatric patients are covered.
- iii. Non-medical items such as sauna baths or elevators.
- iv. Exercise or hygiene equipment.
- v. Comfort, convenience, or luxury equipment or features.
- vi. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze\*, tape, antiseptics, dressings, and ace-type bandages.  
\*Gauze not excluded in Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Part D plans.
- vii. Replacement of lost or stolen equipment.
- viii. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.
- ix. More than one piece of DME serving essentially the same function, except for replacements.
- x. Spare equipment or alternate use equipment is not covered.

#### 2. Prosthetic Devices

##### a. Coverage

Prosthetic devices are those rigid or semi-rigid external devices that are required to replace all or part of a body organ or extremity. Coverage of prosthetic devices includes:

- i. Internally implanted devices for functional purposes, such as pacemakers and hip joints.
  - ii. Prosthetic devices for Members who have had a mastectomy. Medical Group or Health Plan will designate the source from which external prostheses can be obtained. Replacement will be made when a prosthesis is no longer functional. Custom-made prostheses will be provided when necessary.
  - iii. Prosthetic devices, such as obturators and speech and feeding appliances, required for the treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate are covered when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
  - iv. Prosthetic devices intended to replace, in whole or in part, an arm or leg when prescribed by a Plan Physician, as Medically Necessary and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- b. Prosthetic Devices Exclusions
- i. Dental prostheses, except for Medically Necessary prosthodontic treatment for treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate, as described above.
  - ii. Internally implanted devices, equipment, and prosthetics related to treatment of sexual dysfunction.
  - iii. More than one prosthetic device for the same part of the body, except for replacements.
  - iv. Spare devices or alternate use devices.
  - v. Replacement of lost or stolen prosthetic devices.
  - vi. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.
3. Orthotic Devices
- a. Coverage
- Orthotic devices are those rigid or semi-rigid external devices that are 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.
- b. Orthotic Devices Exclusions
- i. Corrective shoes and orthotic devices for podiatric use and arch supports, except for diabetic shoes in accordance with clinical guidelines and therapeutic shoes for patients with a diagnosis of peripheral vascular disease or peripheral neuropathy.
  - ii. Dental devices and appliances except that Medically Necessary treatment of cleft lip or cleft palate is covered when prescribed by a Plan Physician, unless you are covered for these Services under a dental insurance policy or contract.
  - iii. Experimental and research braces.
  - iv. More than one orthotic device for the same part of the body, except for covered replacements.
  - v. Spare devices or alternate use devices.
  - vi. Replacement of lost or stolen orthotic devices.
  - vii. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and prosthetic and orthotic devices. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

DMES0AB (01-20)

### **HEARING AID CREDIT**

1. Coverage

For Members age 18 and over, a credit per ear, which can be applied toward the purchase of a hearing aid (including dispensing fees associated with the hearing aid purchase), is provided as shown on the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" when prescribed by a Plan Physician or audiologist and obtained from a Plan Provider. Hearing aid means an electronic device worn on the person for the purpose of amplifying sound.

The full per ear credit must be used at the initial point of sale. Any credit balance remaining after the initial point of sale is forfeited.

2. Hearing Aid Exclusions

- a. Replacement parts for the repair of a hearing aid.
- b. Replacement of lost or broken hearing aids.
- c. Accessory parts and routine maintenance.
- d. Batteries.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for hearing aids. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

HEAR0AC (01-19)

### **REPRODUCTIVE SUPPORT SERVICES**

1. Coverage

We cover the following Services as shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”:

- a. Services for diagnosis and treatment of involuntary infertility (including X-ray and laboratory tests).
- b. Intrauterine insemination (IUI).
- c. Office administered drugs supplied and used during an office visit for IUI.

**Note:** Prescription drugs are not covered under this section. See “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if you have coverage for prescription drugs received from a Plan Pharmacy for IUI.

2. Limitations

- a. IUI coverage is limited to three (3) treatment cycles per lifetime.
- b. Services are covered only for the person who is the Member.

3. Exclusions

These exclusions apply to fertile as well as infertile individuals or couples.

- a. Any and all Services to reverse voluntary, surgically induced infertility.
- b. Acupuncture for the treatment of infertility, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for this service. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if your Group has the acupuncture benefit.
- c. Donor semen, sperm, or eggs.
- d. Any and all Services, supplies, office administered drugs, and prescription drugs received from a pharmacy related to the procurement and/or storage of semen, sperm, eggs, reproductive materials, and/or embryos, except as listed in the “Coverage” section of this benefit.
- e. Prescription drugs received from a pharmacy for infertility services unless prescription drug coverage for infertility is purchased.
- f. Any and all Services, supplies, office administered drugs, and prescription drugs received from a pharmacy that are related to conception by artificial means, except as listed in the “Coverage” section of this benefit.

This rider amends the EOC to provide limited coverage for Reproductive Support Services. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

INFT0AA (01-20)

### PREVENTIVE SERVICES RIDER

Preventive care services, as defined under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, are provided at no charge including those shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” when prescribed by a Plan Physician. Please contact **Member Services** for a complete list of covered Preventive Services.

**Note:** If you receive any other covered Services before, during, or after a preventive care visit, you may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, and Coinsurance for those Services. For example:

- You schedule a routine physical maintenance exam. During your preventive exam your provider finds a problem with your health and orders non-preventive Services to diagnose your problem (such as laboratory or radiology tests). You may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance for these additional diagnostic Services.
- You schedule a routine preventive exam. Your provider orders laboratory tests that are not preventive care Services according to the guidelines below. You may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance for these additional non-preventive Services.
- You schedule a routine well-person exam. During your exam, you discuss new symptoms with your provider, or new health concerns are discovered. You may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance for this visit.

Coverage includes, but is not limited to, preventive health care Services for the following in accordance with the A or B recommendations of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, the Health Resources Services Administration women’s preventive services guidelines, and those preventive services mandates required by state law, for the particular preventive health care Service:

1. Office visits for preventive care Services.
2. Alcohol misuse screening and behavioral counseling interventions for adults by your primary care provider.
3. Cervical cancer screening.
4. Breast cancer screening.
5. Blood pressure screening.
6. Cholesterol screening.
7. Colorectal cancer screening.
8. Prostate cancer screening.

9. Immunizations pursuant to the schedule established by the ACIP.
10. Tobacco use screening, counseling, cessation attempt services, FDA-approved tobacco cessation medications, and the Colorado QuitLine.
11. Type 2 diabetes screening for adults with high blood pressure.
12. Diet counseling for adults with hyperlipidemia and at higher risk for cardiovascular and diet-related chronic disease.
13. Cervical cancer vaccines.
14. Influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations.
15. Approved Affordable Care Act contraceptive categories.

“ACIP” means the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention in the federal Department of Health and Human Services, or any successor entity. Go to [cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/](http://cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/). For a list of preventive services that have a rating of A or B from the U.S. Preventive Task Force, go to [uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Name/uspstf-a-and-b-recommendations/](http://uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Name/uspstf-a-and-b-recommendations/). For the Health Resources and Services Administration women’s preventive services guidelines, go to [hrsa.gov/womensguidelines/](http://hrsa.gov/womensguidelines/).

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for preventive Services. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

PV0AD (01-20)

RX0BL

### PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT

**NOTE:** When used in this Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement, the term “preferred” refers to drugs that are included in the Health Plan drug formulary. The term “non-preferred” refers to drugs that are not included in the Health Plan drug formulary.

Please refer to the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” in this booklet for the specific Copayments, Coinsurance, Deductible, and supply limits that apply to the covered prescription drugs described below.

#### 1. Coverage

Prescribed covered drugs are provided at the applicable prescription drug Copayment or Coinsurance for each tier of drug coverage. This may include: a preferred generic drug tier; a tier for preferred brand-name drugs or medications not having a generic or a generic equivalent; a tier for prescribed non-preferred drugs authorized through the non-preferred drug process; and a tier for certain specialty drugs. **Note:** Some specialty drugs are available in other tiers. To learn more, please visit our website at [kp.org/formulary](http://kp.org/formulary).

#### Non-Formulary Drug Exception Process:

You, your designee, or your Plan Provider may request access to clinically appropriate drugs not otherwise covered by Health Plan (non-formulary drugs) through a special exception process. We will make a coverage determination within 72 hours of receipt for standard requests and within 24 hours of receipt for expedited requests. As long as you are an active Member and the exception request is granted, Health Plan will provide coverage of the non-formulary drug for the duration of the prescription. If the exception request is denied, you, your designee, or your Plan Provider may request an external review of the decision by an independent review organization. For additional information about the prescription drug exception processes for non-formulary drugs, please contact **Member Services**.

Prescribed supplies and accessories include, but may not be limited to:

- a. Home glucose monitoring supplies.
- b. Glucose test strips.
- c. Acetone test tablets.
- d. Nitrate urine test strips for pediatric patients.
- e. Disposable syringes for the administration of insulin.

Such items are provided when obtained at Plan Pharmacies or from sources designated by Health Plan.

For Copayment or Coinsurance information related to contraceptive drugs and certain devices please refer to your “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

For each drug, the amount covered will be the lesser of the quantity prescribed or the day supply limit. Any amount you receive that exceeds the day supply will not be covered. If you receive more than the day supply limit, you will be charged as a non-Member for any prescribed amount exceeding the limit. Certain drugs have a significant potential for waste and diversion. Those drugs will be provided for up to a 30-day supply. Each prescription refill is provided on the same basis as the original prescription. Kaiser Permanente may, in its sole discretion, establish quantity limits for specific prescription drugs.

Generic drugs that are available in the United States only from a single manufacturer and that are not listed as generic in the then-current commercially available drug database(s) to which Health Plan subscribes are provided at the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance. The amount covered will be the lesser of the quantity prescribed or the day supply limit.

Prescription drugs are covered only when prescribed by a:

- a. Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies; or

- b. Physician to whom a Member has been referred by a Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies; or
- c. Dentist (when prescribed for acute conditions) and obtained at Plan Pharmacies.

Covered drugs include:

- a. Drugs for which a prescription is required by law. Plan Pharmacies may substitute a generic equivalent for a brand-name drug unless prohibited by the Plan Physician. If you request a brand-name drug when a generic equivalent drug is the preferred product, you must pay the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance, plus any difference in price between the preferred generic equivalent drug prescribed by the Plan Physician and the requested brand-name drug. If the brand-name drug is prescribed due to Medical Necessity, you pay only the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance.
- b. Insulin.
- c. Renewal of prescription eye drops and one additional bottle of prescription eye drops in accordance with state law.
- d. Compounded medications. **Note:** In all Service Areas, if you use a Kaiser Permanente pharmacy, compounded medications must be picked up or mailed from the pharmacy that is designated by Health Plan. Refills of compounded medications cannot be ordered on [kp.org](http://kp.org), by mail order, or through the automated refill line. Please call **303-764-4900** (TTY 711) and press "0" to speak to the pharmacy staff for assistance. In the *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Service Areas, you may fill or refill compounded medications at a network pharmacy.

## 2. Limitations

- a. Some drugs may require prior authorization. You do not need prior authorization for any FDA-approved prescription drug listed on our formulary, for the treatment of substance use disorder.
- b. With the exception of substance use disorder drugs, we may apply Step Therapy to certain drugs. You or your Plan Provider may request an exception if you previously tried a drug and your use of the drug was discontinued due to lack of efficacy or effectiveness, diminished effect, or an adverse event.
- c. Coverage determinations for the off-label use of medications will be consistent with Medicare compendia, and coverage determinations for the off-label use of oncologic agents will be consistent with the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) of 2008.

### 3. Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements Exclusions

- a. Drugs for which a prescription is not required by law.
- b. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze, tape, antiseptics, dressing and ace-type bandages.
- c. Prescription drugs necessary for Services excluded in the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement.
- d. Non-preferred drugs, except those prescribed and authorized through the non-preferred drug process.
- e. Any drugs listed as not covered in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)".
- f. Drugs to shorten the length of the common cold.
- g. Drugs to enhance athletic performance.
- h. Drugs available over the counter and by prescription for the same strength.
- i. Individual drugs determined excluded by our Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.
- j. Drugs for the treatment of weight control.
- k. Any prescription drug packaging except the dispensing pharmacy's standard packaging.
- l. Replacement of prescription drugs for any reason. This includes spilled, lost, damaged, or stolen prescriptions.
- m. Drugs administered during a medical office visit.
- n. Medical Foods and Medical Devices.
- o. Unless approved by Health Plan, drugs not approved by the FDA.

This rider amends the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement to provide coverage for Prescription Drugs. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

RX0BL (01-20)

# NOTES

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**Kaiser Foundation Health  
Plan of Colorado**  
2500 S. Havana St.  
Aurora, CO 80014-1622

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CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER



## Important plan information



# Evidence of Coverage

## Your Medicare Health Benefits and Services and Prescription Drug Coverage as a Member of Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Group Plan (HMO)

This booklet gives you the details about your Medicare health care and prescription drug coverage during your group's 2020 contract year. It explains how to get coverage for the health care services and prescription drugs you need. This is an important legal document. Please keep it in a safe place.

This plan, Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage, is offered by Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (Health Plan). When this Evidence of Coverage says "we," "us," or "our," it means Health Plan. When it says "plan" or "our plan," it means Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage (Senior Advantage).

This document is available for free in Spanish. Please contact our Member Services number at **1-800-476-2167** for additional information. (TTY users should call **711**.) Hours are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week.

Este documento está disponible de forma gratuita en español. Si desea información adicional, por favor llame al número de nuestro Servicio a los Miembros al **1-800-476-2167**. (Los usuarios de la línea TTY deben llamar al **711**). El horario es de 8 a. m. a 8 p. m., siete días a la semana.

This document is available in Braille, large print, or CD if you need it by calling Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

Benefits, premium, deductible, and/or copayments/coinsurance may change on January 1, 2021, and at other times in accordance with your group's agreement with us. The formulary, pharmacy network, and/or provider network may change at any time. You will receive notice when necessary.



**CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER**  
**EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE AMENDMENT - 2020**

**I. The following definitions are *in addition* to those detailed in this Evidence of Coverage (EOC).**

- 1) "Child" shall mean a primary insured's natural child, adopted child, or the natural child or adopted child of either a primary insured's spouse, or primary insured's partner in a civil union.
- 2) "Eligible dependent" shall mean the primary insured's child or spouse
  - a) An eligible dependent may not also be a primary insured on the same insurance plan.
  - b) If spouses are each eligible employees, each may enroll in medical or dental coverage as either a primary insured or eligible dependent, but not both.
  - c) An eligible dependent shall not include any form of grandchild of a primary insured or spouse, unless the primary insured or spouse has a court order of adoption.
  - d) An eligible dependent may be covered by one (1) primary insured only for each insurance plan.
- 3) "Eligible employee" shall mean both: career service employees as defined in section 9.1.1(e) of the charter, and appointed charter officers as defined in section 9.2.1(B) of the charter. The definition of eligible employee shall not include:
  - a) Part-time employees who are regularly scheduled to work less than twenty (20) hours per week;
  - b) Members of the classified service of the police and fire departments; and,
  - c) Persons occupying or employed in on-call (Eligible if employed for 12 months and averaging at least 30 hours per week in accordance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act), temporary, seasonal, or contract positions, or positions in which the incumbent is paid according to the community rate schedule.
- 4) "Employee only" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee only.
- 5) "Employee plus children" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and one (1) or more eligible dependents other than a spouse.
- 6) "Employee plus spouse" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and a spouse.
- 7) "Employer contribution" shall mean funds paid by the city for insurance programs approved by the employee health insurance committee.
- 8) "Family" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and a spouse or spousal equivalent and one (1) or more other eligible dependent.
- 9) "Primary insured" shall mean an eligible employee who enrolls for insurance coverage.
  - a) A primary insured may not also be an eligible dependent on the same insurance.
- 10) "Spouse" shall mean an eligible employee's lawful spouse, a lawful partner in a civil union in accordance with the Colorado Civil Union Act or spousal equivalent.
- 11) "Spousal equivalent" shall mean an adult of the same gender with whom the employee is in an exclusive committed relationship, who is not related to the employee and who shares basic living expenses with the intent for the relationship to last indefinitely. A spousal equivalent cannot be related by blood to a degree which would prevent marriage in Colorado and cannot be married to another person. An employee claiming a spousal equivalent as an eligible dependent shall file with the Office of Human Resources employee benefits section, an affidavit of spousal equivalency or may register as a committed partnership with the clerk's office.


**II. The following definition is removed from those detailed in this Evidence of Coverage (EOC).**





- c. Other dependent persons (but not including foster children) who meet all of the following requirements:
  - i. They are under the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)"; and
  - ii. You or your Spouse is the court-appointed permanent legal guardian (or was before the person reached age 18).




(Ord. No. 959-05, § 1, 12-19-05; Ord. No. 661-12, § 3, 12-26-12; Ord. No. 489-14, § 1, 9-8-14; Ord. No. 763-17, § 1, 8-7-17)



# Medical Benefits Chart: Kaiser Permanente Group Senior Advantage (HMO)



**C&C DENVER-DHMO-RT-DB  
75 - 052**

<b>Services that are covered for you</b>	<b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b>
<b>Annual Deductible</b>	No Medical Deductible
<b>Annual out-of-pocket maximum</b>	\$2,500/Individual per year
 <b>Abdominal aortic aneurysm screening</b> A one-time screening ultrasound for people at risk. Our plan only covers this screening if you have certain risk factors and if you get a referral for it from your physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner, or clinical nurse specialist.	There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for members eligible for this preventive screening.
<b>Alternative therapies *</b>	
Acupuncture	\$15 Copayment each visit  Limited to 12 visits for days 1-90  Limited to 8 visits for days 91-365  See Additional Provisions
<b>Ambulance services</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Covered ambulance services include fixed wing, rotary wing, and ground ambulance services, to the nearest appropriate facility that can provide care if they are furnished to a member whose medical condition is such that other means of transportation could endanger the person’s health or if authorized by our plan.</li> <li>• We also cover the services of a licensed ambulance anywhere in the world without prior authorization (including transportation through the 911 emergency response system where available) if you reasonably believe that you have an emergency medical condition and you reasonably believe that your condition requires the clinical support of ambulance transport services.</li> <li>• You may need to file a claim for reimbursement unless the provider agrees to bill us (see Chapter 7).</li> <li>• †Non-emergency transportation by ambulance is appropriate if it is documented that the member’s condition is such that other means of transportation could endanger the person’s health and that transportation by ambulance is medically required.</li> </ul>	20% Coinsurance Up to \$195 per trip

<b>Services that are covered for you</b>	<b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b>
<p> <b>Annual routine physical exams</b></p> <p>Routine physical exams are covered if the exam is medically appropriate preventive care in accord with generally accepted professional standards of practice. This exam is covered once every 12 months.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for this preventive care.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p> <b>Annual wellness visit</b></p> <p>If you've had Part B for longer than 12 months, you can get an annual wellness visit to develop or update a personalized prevention plan based on your current health and risk factors. This is covered once every 12 months.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Your first annual wellness visit can't take place within 12 months of your "Welcome to Medicare" preventive visit. However, you don't need to have had a "Welcome to Medicare" visit to be covered for annual wellness visits after you've had Part B for 12 months.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the annual wellness visit.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p> <b>Bone-mass measurement</b></p> <p>For qualified individuals (generally, this means people at risk of losing bone mass or at risk of osteoporosis), the following services are covered every 24 months or more frequently if medically necessary: procedures to identify bone mass, detect bone loss, or determine bone quality, including a physician's interpretation of the results.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for Medicare-covered bone mass measurement.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p> <b>Breast cancer screening (mammograms)</b></p> <p>Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One baseline mammogram between the ages of 35 and 39.</li> <li>• One screening mammogram every 12 months for women age 40 and older.</li> <li>• Clinical breast exams once every 24 months.</li> </ul>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for covered screening mammograms.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>


Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p><b>Cardiac rehabilitation services†</b></p> <p>Comprehensive programs for cardiac rehabilitation services that include exercise, education, and counseling are covered for members who meet certain conditions with a doctor's order.</p> <p>Our plan also covers intensive cardiac rehabilitation programs that are typically more rigorous or more intense than cardiac rehabilitation programs.</p>	
<p>Individual therapy visits.</p>	<p>\$15 Copayment each visit or \$30 Copayment each visit Copayment dependent upon provider type</p>
<p>Group therapy visits.</p>	<p>Your primary care office visit copayment or \$10, whichever is less.</p>
<p> <b>Cardiovascular disease risk reduction visit (therapy for cardiovascular disease)</b></p> <p>We cover one visit per year with your primary care doctor to help lower your risk for cardiovascular disease. During this visit, your doctor may discuss aspirin use (if appropriate), check your blood pressure, and give you tips to make sure you're eating healthy.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the intensive behavioral therapy cardiovascular disease preventive benefit.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p> <b>Cardiovascular disease testing</b></p> <p>Blood tests for the detection of cardiovascular disease (or abnormalities associated with an elevated risk of cardiovascular disease) once every five years (60 months).</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for this cardiovascular disease testing that is covered once every five years.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p> <b>Cervical and vaginal cancer screening</b></p> <p>Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For all women: Pap tests and pelvic exams are covered once every 24 months.</li> <li>• If you are at high risk of cervical or vaginal cancer or you are of childbearing age and have had an abnormal Pap test within the past three years: one Pap test every 12 months.</li> </ul>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for Medicare-covered preventive Pap and pelvic exams.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>


<p align="center"><b>Services that are covered for you</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b></p>
<p><b>Chiropractic services</b>  Covered services include:  We cover only manual manipulation of the spine to correct subluxation. These Medicare-covered services are provided by a participating chiropractor. Please refer to your <b>Provider Directory</b> for participating chiropractors providing the Medicare-covered services.</p> <p>If purchased by your group, supplemental chiropractic services.</p> <p>Laboratory Services or X-rays required for Chiropractic care</p>	<p>Your primary care office visit copayment or \$20 whichever is less. Referral required.</p> <p>\$15 Copayment each visit  Limited to 20 visits per Accumulation Period  See Additional Provisions</p> <p>See Outpatient diagnostic tests and therapeutic services and supplies</p>
<p> <b>Colorectal cancer screening</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For people 50 and older, the following are covered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Flexible sigmoidoscopy (or screening barium enema as an alternative) every 48 months.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• One of the following every 12 months: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Guaiac-based fecal occult blood test (gFOBT).</li> <li>◆ Fecal immunochemical test (FIT).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• DNA-based colorectal screening every 3 years.</li> <li>• For people at high risk of colorectal cancer, we cover a screening colonoscopy (or screening barium enema as an alternative) every 24 months.</li> <li>• For people not at high risk of colorectal cancer, we cover a screening colonoscopy every 10 years (120 months), but not within 48 months of a screening sigmoidoscopy.</li> </ul>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for a Medicare-covered colorectal cancer screening exam.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p><b>Dental services (from designated providers)*</b></p>	<p>Please see the Additional Provisions in the back of this booklet to see if your group has purchased coverage for dental services.</p>
<p> <b>Depression screening</b></p> <p>We cover one screening for depression per year. The screening must be done in a primary care setting that can provide follow-up treatment and/or referrals.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for an annual depression screening visit.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p> <b>Diabetes screening</b></p> <p>We cover this screening (includes fasting glucose tests) if you have any of the following risk factors: high blood pressure (hypertension), history of abnormal cholesterol and triglyceride levels (dyslipidemia), obesity, or a history of high blood sugar (glucose). Tests may also be covered if you meet other requirements, like being overweight and having a family history of diabetes.</p> <p>Based on the results of these tests, you may be eligible for up to two diabetes screenings every 12 months.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the Medicare-covered diabetes screening tests.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p><b>Diabetes self-management, training and diabetic services and supplies</b></p> <p>For all people who have diabetes (insulin and non-insulin users), covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supplies to monitor your blood glucose: Blood glucose monitor, blood glucose test strips, lancet devices and lancets, and glucose-control solutions for checking the accuracy of test strips and monitors.</li> </ul>	<p>No charge</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For people with diabetes who have severe diabetic foot disease: One pair per calendar year of therapeutic custom-molded shoes (including inserts provided with such shoes) and two additional pairs of inserts, or one pair of depth shoes and three pairs of inserts (not including the non-customized removable inserts provided with such shoes). Coverage includes fitting.</li> </ul>	<p>No Charge</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Diabetes self-management training is covered under certain conditions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> You may choose to receive diabetes self-management training from a program outside our plan that is recognized by the American Diabetes Association and approved by Medicare. †</p>	<p>\$15 Copayment each visit or \$30 Copayment each visit copayment dependent upon provider</p>
<p><b>Durable medical equipment (DME) and related supplies</b> †</p> <p>(For a definition of “durable medical equipment,” see Chapter 12 of this booklet.)</p> <p>Covered items include, but are not limited to: wheelchairs, crutches, powered mattress systems, diabetic supplies, hospital beds ordered by a provider for use in the home, IV infusion pumps, speech generating devices, oxygen equipment, nebulizers, and walkers.</p> <p>We cover all medically necessary DME covered by Original Medicare. If our supplier in your area does not carry a particular brand or manufacturer, you may ask them if they</p>	<p>No Charge</p> <p>See Additional Provisions</p> <p>No Charge</p>




<p align="center"><b>Services that are covered for you</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b></p>
<p>can special order it for you. The most recent list of suppliers is available on our website at <a href="http://kp.org/directory">kp.org/directory</a>.</p>	
<p><b>Emergency care</b></p>	
<p>Emergency care refers to services that are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Furnished by a provider qualified to furnish emergency services, and</li> <li>• Needed to evaluate or stabilize an emergency medical condition.</li> </ul> <p>A medical emergency is when you, or any other prudent layperson with an average knowledge of health and medicine believe that you have medical symptoms that require immediate medical attention to prevent loss of life, loss of a limb, or loss of function of a limb. The medical symptoms may be an illness, injury, severe pain, or a medical condition that is quickly getting worse.</p> <p>Cost-sharing for necessary emergency services furnished out-of-network is the same as for such services furnished in-network.</p> <p><b>You have worldwide emergency care coverage.</b></p>	<p>\$75 Copayment each visit Includes X-ray special procedures.</p> <p>This copayment does not apply if you are immediately admitted directly to the hospital as an inpatient (it does apply if you are admitted to the hospital as an outpatient; for example, if you are admitted for observation).</p> <p>†If you receive emergency care at an out-of-network hospital and need inpatient care after your emergency condition is stabilized, you must return to a network hospital in order for your care to continue to be covered or you must have your inpatient care at the out-of-network hospital authorized by our plan and your cost is the cost-sharing you would pay at a network hospital.</p>

<b>Services that are covered for you</b>	<b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b>
<p><b>Fitness benefit*</b></p> <p>A health and fitness benefit is provided through SilverSneakers® Fitness Program that includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A basic fitness membership with access to all participating fitness locations and their basic amenities.</li> <li>• SilverSneakers® group fitness classes, taught by certified instructors that focus on cardiovascular health, muscle strengthening, flexibility, agility, balance, and coordination.</li> <li>• Health education events and social activities focused on overall well-being.</li> <li>• Access to <b>www.silversneakers.com/member</b>, a secure online community for members only, with wellness advice and fitness support information.</li> <li>• You can enroll in SilverSneakers® Steps, a self-directed fitness program for members that includes one home kit to help you get fit at home or on the go.</li> </ul> <p>The following are not covered: programs, services, and facilities that carry additional charges, such as racquetball, tennis, and some court sports, massage therapy, lessons related to recreational sports, tournaments, and similar fee-based activities.</p> <p>For more information about SilverSneakers® and the list of participating fitness locations in your area, call toll-free <b>1-888-423-4632 (TTY 711)</b>, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (EST) or visit <b>www.silversneakers.com</b>. Also, you can simply go to a participating fitness location and show your Senior Advantage membership card to enroll in the program.</p> <p>SilverSneakers is a registered trademark of Tivity Health, Inc.</p>	<p>No charge</p>
<p> <b>Health and wellness education programs</b></p> <p>Health and wellness programs include weight management, quitting tobacco, diabetes management, life care planning, prediabetes, and more. Registered dietitians, health coaches, certified diabetes educators, and other health professionals facilitate our classes. We offer in-person, online, and phone options to fit your learning style. Contact Member Services for more details. You can also view information online at <b>kp.org</b>.</p>	<p>No charge</p>
<p><b>Hearing services</b></p>	
<p>Diagnostic hearing and balance evaluations performed by your provider to determine if you need medical treatment</p>	<p>\$15 Copayment each visit</p>



Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
are covered as outpatient care when furnished by a physician, audiologist, or other qualified provider.	
Hearing aids.	\$500 Credit per ear every 36 months See Additional Provisions
Fitting & Recheck visits	\$15 Copayment each visit
 <b>HIV screening</b> For people who ask for an HIV screening test or who are at increased risk for HIV infection, we cover one screening exam every 12 months. For women who are pregnant, we cover up to three screening exams during a pregnancy.	There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for members eligible for Medicare-covered preventive HIV screening.
<b>Home health agency care†</b> Prior to receiving home health services, a doctor must certify that you need home health services and will order home health services to be provided by a home health agency. You must be homebound, which means leaving home is a major effort. Covered services include but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Part-time or intermittent skilled nursing and home health aide services. To be covered under the home health care benefit, your skilled nursing and home health aide services combined must total fewer than 8 hours per day and 35 hours per week.</li> <li>• Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy.</li> <li>• Medical and social services.</li> <li>• Medical equipment and supplies.</li> </ul>	No charge  Note: There is no cost-sharing for home health care services and items provided in accord with Medicare guidelines. However, the applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply if the item is covered under a different benefit; for example, durable medical equipment not provided by a home health agency.
<b>Home infusion therapy†</b> We cover home infusion supplies and drugs if all of the following are true: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your prescription drug is on our Medicare Part D formulary (or you have a formulary exception).</li> <li>• We approved your prescription drug for home infusion therapy.</li> <li>• Your prescription is written by a network provider and filled at a network home-infusion pharmacy.</li> </ul>	No charge

<p align="center"><b>Services that are covered for you</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b></p>
<p><b>Hospice care</b>            You may receive care from any Medicare-certified hospice program. You are eligible for the hospice benefit when your doctor and the hospice medical director have given you a terminal prognosis certifying that you're terminally ill and have six months or less to live if your illness runs its normal course. Your hospice doctor can be a network provider or an out-of-network provider.</p> <p>Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drugs for symptom control and pain relief.</li> <li>• Short-term respite care.</li> <li>• Home care.</li> </ul> <p><b>*For hospice services and services that are covered by Medicare Part A or B and are related to your terminal prognosis:</b> Original Medicare (rather than our plan) will pay for your hospice services and any Part A and Part B services related to your terminal prognosis. While you are in the hospice program, your hospice provider will bill Original Medicare for the services that Original Medicare pays for.</p> <p><b>For services that are covered by Medicare Part A or B and are not related to your terminal prognosis:</b> If you need non-emergency, non-urgently needed services that are covered under Medicare Part A or B and that are not related to your terminal prognosis, your cost for these services depends on whether you use a provider in our plan's network:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you obtain the covered services from a network provider, you only pay the plan cost-sharing amount for in-network services.</li> <li>• *If you obtain the covered services from an out-of-network provider, you pay the cost-sharing under Fee-for-Service Medicare (Original Medicare).</li> </ul> <p><b>For services that are covered by our plan but are not covered by Medicare Part A or B:</b> We will continue to cover plan-covered services that are not covered under Part A or B whether or not they are related to your terminal prognosis. You pay your plan cost-sharing amount for these services.</p> <p><b>For drugs that may be covered by our plan's Part D benefit:</b> Drugs are never covered by both hospice and our plan at the same time. For more information, please see Chapter 5, Section 9.4, "What if you're in Medicare-certified hospice."</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If you need non-hospice care (care that is not related to your terminal prognosis), you should contact us to arrange the services.</p>	<p>When you enroll in a Medicare-certified hospice program, your hospice services and your Part A and Part B services related to your terminal prognosis are paid for by Original Medicare, <b>not</b> our plan.</p>


Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p><b>Hospice care for members without Part A</b></p> <p>For members without Part A, the hospice benefit described earlier in this section does not apply to members who are not enrolled in Medicare Part A. Our plan, rather than Original Medicare, covers hospice care for members who are not enrolled in Medicare Part A. Members must receive hospice services from network providers.</p>	No charge
<p> <b>Immunizations</b></p> <p>Covered Medicare Part B services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pneumonia vaccine.</li> <li>• Flu shots, once each flu season in the fall and winter, with additional flu shots if medically necessary.</li> <li>• Hepatitis B vaccine if you are at high or intermediate risk of getting Hepatitis B.</li> <li>• Other vaccines if you are at risk and they meet Medicare Part B coverage rules.</li> </ul> <p>We also cover some vaccines under our Part D prescription drug benefit.</p>	There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the pneumonia, influenza, and Hepatitis B vaccines.
<p><b>Inpatient hospital care†</b></p>	
<p>Includes inpatient acute, inpatient rehabilitation, long-term care hospitals, and other types of inpatient hospital services. Inpatient hospital care starts the day you are formally admitted to the hospital with a doctor's order. The day before you are discharged is your last inpatient day.</p> <p>There is no limit to the number of medically necessary hospital days or services that are generally and customarily provided by acute care general hospitals.</p> <p>Covered services include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Semiprivate room (or a private room if medically necessary).</li> <li>• Meals including special diets.</li> <li>• Regular nursing services.</li> <li>• Costs of special care units (such as intensive care or coronary care units).</li> <li>• Drugs and medications.</li> <li>• Lab tests.</li> <li>• X-rays and other radiology services.</li> <li>• Necessary surgical and medical supplies.</li> <li>• Use of appliances, such as wheelchairs.</li> <li>• Operating and recovery room costs.</li> <li>• Physical, occupational, and speech language therapy.</li> <li>• Inpatient substance abuse services for medical management of withdrawal symptoms associated with substance abuse (detoxification).</li> </ul>	<p>\$300 Copayment per admission</p> <p>If you get authorized inpatient care at an out-of-network hospital after your emergency condition is stabilized, your cost is the cost-sharing you would pay at a network hospital.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If you are admitted to the hospital in 2019 and are not discharged until sometime in 2020, the 2019 cost-sharing will apply to that admission until you are discharged from the hospital or transferred to a skilled nursing facility.</p>

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under certain conditions, the following types of transplants are covered: corneal, kidney, kidney-pancreatic, heart, liver, lung, heart/lung, bone marrow, stem cell, and intestinal/multivisceral. If you need a transplant, we will arrange to have your case reviewed by a Medicare-approved transplant center that will decide whether you are a candidate for a transplant. Transplant providers may be local or outside of the service area. If our in-network transplant services are outside the community pattern of care, you may choose to go locally as long as the local transplant providers are willing to accept the Original Medicare rate. If we provide transplant services at a location outside the pattern of care for transplants in your community, and you choose to obtain transplants at this distant location, we will arrange or pay for appropriate lodging and transportation costs for you and a companion. <b>Note:</b> Travel and lodging expenses must be authorized by Medical Group when a network physician refers you to an out-of-network provider outside our service area for transplant services. We will pay certain expenses that we preauthorize in accord with our travel and lodging guidelines. For information specific to your situation, please contact your assigned Transplant Coordinator or call the Transplant Administrative Offices at <b>1-877-895-2705</b> (TTY users may call <b>711</b>).</li> <li>• Blood - including storage and administration.</li> <li>• Physician services</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> To be an “inpatient,” your provider must write an order to admit you formally as an inpatient of the hospital. Even if you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an “outpatient.” If you are not sure if you are an “inpatient,” or an “outpatient,” you should ask the hospital staff. You can also find more information in a Medicare fact sheet called, “<i>Are You a Hospital Inpatient or Outpatient? If You Have Medicare – Ask!</i>” This fact sheet is available on the Web at <a href="https://www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/11435.pdf">https://www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/11435.pdf</a> or by calling <b>1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)</b>. TTY users call <b>1-877-486-2048</b>. You can call these numbers for free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p>	
<b>Inpatient substance abuse treatment†</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Substance abuse inpatient medical detoxification.</li> </ul>	\$300 Copayment per admission
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Substance abuse inpatient rehabilitation.</li> </ul>	\$300 Copayment per inpatient admission
<b>Inpatient mental health care†</b>	
Covered services include mental health care services that require a hospital stay.	\$300 Copayment per admission

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We cover up to 190-days per lifetime for inpatient stays in a Medicare-certified psychiatric hospital. The number of covered lifetime hospitalization days is reduced by the number of inpatient days for mental health treatment previously covered by Medicare in a psychiatric hospital.</li> <li>• The 190-day limit does not apply to mental health stays in a psychiatric unit of a general hospital.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Inpatient stay: Covered services received in a hospital or SNF during a non-covered inpatient stay†</b></p>	
<p>If you have exhausted your inpatient mental health or skilled nursing facility (SNF) benefits or if the inpatient stay is not reasonable and necessary, we will not cover your inpatient or SNF stay. However, in some cases, we will cover certain services you receive while you are in the the hospital or SNF. Covered services include but are not limited to:</p> <p>Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physician services.</li> <li>• Diagnostic tests (like lab tests).</li> <li>• X-ray, radium, and isotope therapy including technician materials and services.</li> <li>• Surgical dressings.</li> <li>• Splints, casts and other devices used to reduce fractures and dislocations.</li> <li>• Prosthetics and orthotics devices (other than dental) that replace all or part of an internal body organ (including contiguous tissue), or all or part of the function of a permanently inoperative or malfunctioning internal body organ, including replacement or repairs of such devices.</li> <li>• Leg, arm, back, and neck braces; trusses; and artificial legs, arms, and eyes (including adjustments, repairs, and replacements required because of breakage, wear, loss, or a change in the patient's physical condition).</li> <li>• Physical therapy, speech therapy, and occupational therapy.</li> </ul>	<p>Medicare Part B medical services, will be covered as described under their respective benefit headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physician services, including doctor office visits.</li> <li>• Outpatient diagnostic tests and therapeutic services and supplies.</li> <li>• Prosthetic devices and related supplies.</li> <li>• Outpatient rehabilitation services.</li> <li>• Physical therapy, speech therapy, and occupational therapy.</li> </ul>

<b>Services that are covered for you</b>	<b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b>
<p> <b>Medical nutrition therapy</b></p> <p>This benefit is for people with diabetes, renal (kidney) disease (but not on dialysis), or after a kidney transplant when ordered by your doctor.</p> <p>We cover three hours of one-on-one counseling services during your first year that you receive medical nutrition therapy services under Medicare (this includes our plan, any other Medicare Advantage plan, or Original Medicare), and two hours each year after that. If your condition, treatment, or diagnosis changes, you may be able to receive more hours of treatment with a physician's order. A physician must prescribe these services and renew his or her order yearly if your treatment is needed into the next calendar year.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for members-eligible for Medicare-covered medical nutrition therapy services.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p> <b>Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program (MDPP)</b></p> <p>MDPP services will be covered for eligible Medicare beneficiaries under all Medicare health plans.</p> <p>MDPP is a structured health behavior change intervention that provides practical training in long-term dietary change, increased physical activity, and problem-solving strategies for overcoming challenges to sustaining weight loss and a healthy lifestyle.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the MDPP benefit.</p>



<b>Services that are covered for you</b>	<b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b>
<p><b>Medicare Part B prescription drugs†</b></p> <p>These drugs are covered under Part B of Original Medicare. Members of our plan receive coverage for these drugs through our plan. Covered drugs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drugs that usually are not self-administered by the patient and are injected or infused while you are getting physician, hospital outpatient, or ambulatory surgical center services.</li> <li>• Antigens.</li> <li>• Intravenous Immune Globulin for the home treatment of primary immune deficiency diseases.</li> </ul>	<p>No Charge</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clotting factors you give yourself by injection if you have hemophilia.</li> <li>• Drugs you take using durable medical equipment (such as nebulizers) that was authorized by the plan.</li> <li>• Immunosuppressive drugs, if you were enrolled in Medicare Part A at the time of the organ transplant.</li> <li>• Injectable osteoporosis drugs, if you are homebound, have a bone fracture that a doctor certifies was related to post-menopausal osteoporosis, and cannot self-administer the drug.</li> <li>• Certain oral anti-cancer drugs and anti-nausea drugs.</li> <li>• Certain drugs for home dialysis, including heparin, the antidote for heparin when medically necessary, topical anesthetics, and erythropoiesis-stimulating agents (such as Epogen®, Procrit®, Epoetin Alfa, Aranesp®, or Darbepoetin Alfa).</li> </ul> <p>Chapter 5 explains the Part D prescription drug benefit, including rules you must follow to have prescriptions covered. What you pay for your Part D prescription drugs through our plan is explained in Chapter 6.</p>	<p>You pay the same cost-sharing for these Part B drugs when dispensed through a network pharmacy as reflected in the prescription drug section below.</p>
<p> <b>Obesity screening and therapy to promote sustained weight loss</b></p> <p>If you have a body mass index of 30 or more, we cover intensive counseling to help you lose weight. This counseling is covered if you get it in a primary care setting, where it can be coordinated with your comprehensive prevention plan. Talk to your primary care doctor or practitioner to find out more.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for preventive obesity screening and therapy.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>


<b>Services that are covered for you</b>	<b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b>
<p><b>Opioid treatment program services†</b></p> <p>Opioid use disorder treatment services are covered under Part B of Original Medicare. Members of our plan receive coverage for these services through our plan. Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FDA-approved opioid agonist and antagonist treatment medications and the dispensing and administration of such medications, if applicable.</li>   <li>• Substance use counseling</li> <li>• Individual and group therapy.</li> <li>• Toxicology testing.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Office administered Medicare Part B treatment medications:</b> See “Medicare Part B prescription drugs”</p> <p><b>Dispensing and administration:</b> You will pay one Outpatient substance abuse services copayment per month</p> <p>See Specialty care visits under “Physician/practitioner services, including doctor’s office visits”</p>
<p><b>Outpatient diagnostic tests and therapeutic services and supplies</b></p> <p>Covered services include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laboratory tests.</li> <li>• †Blood -including storage and administration.</li> </ul>	<p>No charge</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• †Surgical supplies, such as dressings.</li> <li>• †Splints, casts, and other devices used to reduce fractures and dislocations.</li> </ul>	<p>20% Coinsurance</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• †X-rays.</li> </ul>	<p>No Charge, per x-ray</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• †Other outpatient diagnostic tests — special procedures such as MRI, CT, PET scans and nuclear medicine.</li> </ul>	<p>\$100 Copayment per procedure</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• †Radiation (radium and isotope) therapy, including technician, materials and supplies</li> </ul>	<p>\$30 Copayment</p>
<p><b>Note:</b> Unless the provider has written an order to admit you as an inpatient to the hospital, you are an outpatient and pay the cost-sharing amounts for outpatient hospital services. Even if you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an “outpatient.” If you are not sure if you are an outpatient, you should ask the hospital staff. You can also find more information in a Medicare fact sheet called, “Are You a Hospital Inpatient or Outpatient? If You Have Medicare – Ask!” This fact sheet is available on the Web at</p> <p><a href="https://www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/11435.pdf">https://www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/11435.pdf</a> or by calling <b>1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)</b>. TTY users call <b>1-877-486-2048</b>. You can call these numbers for free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p>	


Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p><b>Outpatient hospital observation</b></p> <p>Observation services are hospital outpatient services given to determine if you need to be admitted as an inpatient or can be discharged.</p> <p>For outpatient hospital observation services to be covered, they must meet the Medicare criteria and be considered reasonable and necessary. Observation services are covered only when provided by the order of a physician or another individual authorized by state licensure law and hospital staff bylaws to admit patients to the hospital or order outpatient tests.</p>	<p>No charge</p> <p>Note: There's no additional charge for outpatient observation stays when transferred for observation from an Emergency Department or outpatient surgery.</p>
<p>Note: Unless the provider has written an order to admit you as an inpatient to the hospital, you are an outpatient and pay the cost-sharing amounts for outpatient hospital services. Even if you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an "outpatient." If you are not sure if you are an outpatient, you should ask the hospital staff. You can also find more information in a Medicare fact sheet called "Are You a Hospital Inpatient or Outpatient? If You Have Medicare – Ask!" This fact sheet is available on the Web at <a href="https://www.medicare.gov/sites/default/files/2018-09/11435-Are-You-an-Inpatient-or-Outpatient.pdf">https://www.medicare.gov/sites/default/files/2018-09/11435-Are-You-an-Inpatient-or-Outpatient.pdf</a> or by calling <b>1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)</b>. TTY users call <b>1-877-486-2048</b>. You can call these numbers for free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p>	
<p><b>Outpatient hospital services†</b></p> <p>Outpatient hospital services at designated facilities, including but not limited to: electroencephalogram, sleep study, stress test, pulmonary function test, any treatment room.</p>	<p>\$150 Copayment each visit</p>
<p>Note: Unless the provider has written an order to admit you as an inpatient to the hospital, you are an outpatient and pay the cost-sharing amounts for outpatient hospital services. Even if you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an "outpatient." If you are not sure if you are an outpatient, you should ask the hospital staff. You can also find more information in a Medicare fact sheet called "Are You a Hospital Inpatient or Outpatient? If You Have Medicare – Ask!" This fact sheet is available on the Web at <a href="https://www.medicare.gov/sites/default/files/2018-09/11435-Are-You-an-Inpatient-or-Outpatient.pdf">https://www.medicare.gov/sites/default/files/2018-09/11435-Are-You-an-Inpatient-or-Outpatient.pdf</a> or by calling <b>1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)</b>. TTY users call <b>1-877-486-2048</b>. You can call these numbers for free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p>	

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p><b>Outpatient mental health care</b> Covered services include:</p> <p>Mental health services provided by a state-licensed psychiatrist or doctor, clinical psychologist, clinical social worker, clinical nurse specialist, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or other Medicare-qualified mental health care professional as allowed under applicable state laws.</p>	
<p>Outpatient individual therapy (includes visits to monitor outpatient drug therapy).</p> <p>“Partial hospitalization” is a structured program of active psychiatric treatment, provided in a hospital outpatient setting or by a community mental health center that is more intense than the care received in your doctor’s or therapist’s office and is an alternative to inpatient hospitalization.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Because there are no community mental health centers in our network, we cover partial hospitalization only in a hospital outpatient setting.</p>	<p>\$15 Copayment each visit</p> <p>\$15 Copayment per partial hospitalization day</p>
<p>Outpatient group therapy.</p>	<p>50% of individual therapy Copayment</p>
<p><b>Outpatient rehabilitation services</b> Covered services include: physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech language therapy.</p> <p>Outpatient rehabilitation services are provided in various outpatient settings, such as hospital outpatient departments, independent therapist offices, and Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (CORFs)</p>	<p>\$15 Copayment each visit</p>
<p><b>Outpatient substance abuse services</b> We provide treatment and counseling services to diagnose and treat substance abuse (including individual and group therapy visits).</p>	
<p>Outpatient individual therapy</p>	<p>\$15 Copayment each visit</p> <p>\$15 Copayment per partial hospitalization day</p>
<p>Outpatient group therapy</p>	<p>50% of individual therapy Copayment</p>
<p><b>Outpatient surgery†, including services provided at hospital outpatient facilities and ambulatory surgical centers</b></p>	
<p><b>Note:</b> If you are having surgery in a hospital facility, you should check with your provider about whether you will be an inpatient or outpatient. Unless the provider writes an order to admit you as an inpatient to the hospital, you are an outpatient and pay the cost-sharing amounts for outpatient surgery. Even if you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an outpatient.</p>	<p>\$150 Copayment each surgery</p>


Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<b>Prescription drugs</b>	
Deductible for Outpatient prescription drugs	Not Applicable
Initial Coverage Stage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outpatient prescription drugs and refills copayments/coinsurance (except as listed below)</li> <li>• Total Drug Costs</li> </ul>	\$5 Generic/\$15 Non-Preferred Generic/\$40 Brand name/\$60 Non-Preferred Brand name/\$60 Specialty/No Charge injectable Part D vaccines  Up to \$4,020
Coverage Gap Stage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outpatient prescription drugs and refills copayments/coinsurance (except as listed below)</li> <li>• Out-of-Pocket Costs</li> </ul>	\$5 Generic/\$15 Non-Preferred Generic/\$40 Brand name/\$60 Non-Preferred Brand name/\$60 Specialty/No Charge injectable Part D vaccines  Up to \$6,350
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prescribed supplies and accessories.</li> </ul>	No Charge
Infertility drugs.	Not Covered
Sexual dysfunction drugs.	Not Covered
	<u>Supply Limit</u>
Day supply limit.	30 days
Mail-order supply limit.	90 days @ 2 Copayments
<b>Physician/practitioner services, including doctor's office visits</b>	
"Providers" include, but are not limited to, physicians, physician assistants and nurse practitioners.  Covered services include:  Medically necessary medical care or surgery services furnished in a physician's office, certified ambulatory surgical center, hospital outpatient department, or any other location.	
Primary care visits	\$15 Copayment each visit
Specialty care visits (doctor or nurse visit).	\$30 Copayment each visit
Second opinion by another network provider prior to surgery.	Your primary care office visit copayment or specialty care office visit copayment, as applicable.
Outpatient surgery services†	\$150 Copayment each surgery
Consultations with clinical pharmacists	\$15 Copayment each visit

<p align="center"><b>Services that are covered for you</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certain telehealth services, including for: primary and specialty care, which includes cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation, mental health care, substance abuse treatment, kidney disease, diabetes self-management, preparation for a hospital stay, and follow up visits after a hospital stay or Emergency Department visit. Services will only be provided via telehealth when deemed clinically appropriate by the network provider rendering the service. You have the option of receiving these services either through an in-person visit or via telehealth. If you choose to receive one of these services via telehealth, then you must use a network provider that currently offers the service via telehealth. We offer the following means of telehealth: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Interactive video visits for professional services when care can be provided in this format as determined by a network provider.</li> <li>◆ Scheduled telephone appointment visits for professional services when care can be provided in this format as determined by a network provider.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Telehealth services for monthly ESRD-related visits for home dialysis members in a hospital-based or critical access hospital-based renal dialysis center, renal dialysis facility, or the member's home.</li> <li>• Telehealth services for diagnosis, evaluation or treatment of symptoms of an acute stroke.</li> <li>• Brief virtual (for example, via telephone or video chat) 5- to 10-minute check-ins with your doctor, if you are an established patient and the virtual check-in is not related to an office visit within the previous 7 days, nor leads to an office visit within the next 24 hours or soonest available appointment.</li> <li>• Remote evaluation of prerecorded video and/or images you send to your doctor, including your doctor's interpretation and follow-up within 24 hours (except weekends and holidays)—if you are an established patient and the remote evaluation is not related to an office visit within the previous 7 days, nor leads to an office visit within the next 24 hours or soonest available appointment.</li> <li>• Consultation your doctor has with other physicians via telephone, internet, or electronic health record assessment—if you are an established patient.</li> </ul>	<p align="center">No Charge</p>
<p>Non-routine dental care † (covered services are limited to surgery of the jaw or related structures, setting fractures of the jaw or facial bones, extraction of teeth to prepare the jaw</p>	<p>See specialty care office visit and Outpatient surgery cost-sharing above.</p>


<b>Services that are covered for you</b>	<b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b>
for radiation treatments of neoplastic cancer disease, or services that would be covered when provided by a physician)	
Chemotherapy visits.	Your specialty care office visit copayment plus your copayment or coinsurance for office-administered drugs.
Allergy injections.	\$15 Copayment each visit Copayment may apply for allergy serum
Allergy evaluation and testing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary care visits</li> <li>• Specialty care visits</li> </ul>	\$15 Copayment each visit \$30 Copayment each visit
Group visits—Cooperative Health Care Clinic (CHCC), Drop in Group Medical Appointment (DIGMA) and group mental health and substance abuse treatments.	Your primary care office visit copayment or \$10 copayment each visit, whichever is less.
<b>Podiatry services</b>	
Covered services include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diagnosis and the medical or surgical treatment of injuries and diseases of the feet (such as hammer toe or heel spurs).</li> <li>• Routine foot care for members with certain medical conditions affecting the lower limbs.</li> </ul>	See primary care office visit, specialty care office visit, and † Outpatient surgery cost-sharing above.
 <b>Prostate cancer screening exams</b> For men age 50 and older, covered services include the following – once every 12 months: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digital rectal exam.</li> <li>• Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) test.</li> </ul>	There is no coinsurance, copayment or deductible for an annual digital rectal exam or PSA test. The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive care you receive during or subsequent to the visit.
<b>Prosthetic devices and related supplies†</b>  Devices (other than dental) that replace all or part of a body part or function. These include, but are not limited to: colostomy bags and supplies directly related to colostomy care, pacemakers, braces, prosthetic shoes, artificial limbs, and breast prostheses (including a surgical brassiere after a mastectomy). Includes certain supplies related to prosthetic devices, and repair and/or replacement of prosthetic devices. Also includes some coverage following cataract removal or cataract surgery – see “Vision care” later in this section for more detail.	
Prosthetics	No Charge
Internally implanted prosthetic devices.	(See Hospital Inpatient Care and Outpatient Care for applicable cost-sharing)
Enteral and parenteral nutrition therapy covered under Medicare.	No Charge


Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
Prosthetic arm or leg.	No Charge
Orthotic devices and related supplies.	No Charge
Oxygen	No Charge
<p><b>Pulmonary rehabilitation services.</b> †</p> <p>Comprehensive programs for pulmonary rehabilitation are covered for members who have moderate to very severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and a referral for pulmonary rehabilitation from the doctor treating the chronic respiratory disease.</p>	\$5 Copayment each visit
<p> <b>Screening and counseling to reduce alcohol misuse</b></p> <p>We cover one alcohol misuse screening for adults with Medicare (including pregnant women) who misuse alcohol, but aren't alcohol dependent.</p> <p>If you screen positive for alcohol misuse, you can get up to four brief face-to-face counseling sessions per year (if you're competent and alert during counseling) provided by a qualified primary care doctor or practitioner in a primary care setting.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment or deductible for the Medicare-covered screening and counseling to reduce alcohol misuse preventive benefit.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p><b>Screening for lung cancer with low dose computed tomography (LDCT)</b></p> <p>For qualified individuals, a LDCT is covered every 12 months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eligible members are people aged 55–77 years who have no signs or symptoms of lung cancer, but who have a history of tobacco smoking of at least 30 pack-years or who currently smoke or have quit smoking within the last 15 years, who receive a written order for LDCT during a lung cancer screening counseling and shared decision-making visit that meets the Medicare criteria for such visits and be furnished by a physician or qualified non-physician practitioner.</li> <li>• For LDCT lung cancer screenings after the initial LDCT screening, the members must receive a written order for LDCT lung cancer screening, which may be furnished during any appropriate visit with a physician or qualified non-physician practitioner. If a physician or qualified non-physician practitioner elects to provide a lung cancer screening counseling and shared decision-making visit for subsequent lung cancer screenings with LDCT, the visit must meet the Medicare criteria for such visits.</li> </ul>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the Medicare-covered counseling and shared decision-making visit or for the LDCT.</p>




Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p> <b>Screening for sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and counseling to prevent STIs</b></p> <p>We cover sexually transmitted infection (STI) screenings for chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, and Hepatitis B. These screenings are covered for pregnant women and for certain people who are at increased risk for an STI when the tests are ordered by a primary care provider. We cover these tests once every 12 months or at certain times during pregnancy.</p> <p>We also cover up to two individual 20 to 30 minute, face-to-face high-intensity behavioral counseling sessions each year for sexually active adults at increased risk for STIs. We will only cover these counseling sessions as a preventive service if they are provided by a primary care provider and take place in a primary care setting, such as a doctor's office.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurances, copayment, or deductible for the Medicare-covered screening for STIs and counseling for STIs preventive benefit.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p><b>Services to treat kidney disease and conditions</b></p>	
<p>Covered services include:</p> <p>Kidney disease education services to teach kidney care and help members make informed decisions about their care.</p>	<p>\$15 Copayment each visit or \$30 Copayment each visit copayment dependent upon provider</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outpatient dialysis treatments (including dialysis treatments when temporarily out of the service area, as explained in Chapter 3).</li> <li>• Self-dialysis training (includes training for you and anyone helping you with your home dialysis treatments).</li> <li>• Home dialysis equipment and supplies.</li> <li>• Certain home support services (such as, when necessary, visits by trained dialysis workers to check on your home dialysis, to help in emergencies, and to check your dialysis equipment and water supply).</li> </ul> <p>Certain drugs for dialysis are covered under your Medicare Part B drug benefit. For information about coverage for Part B drugs, please go to the section called "Medicare Part B prescription drugs".</p>	<p>No Charge</p>

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p><b>Skilled nursing facility (SNF) care†</b></p> <p>(For a definition of “skilled nursing facility care,” see Chapter 12 of this booklet. Skilled nursing facilities are sometimes called “SNFs.”)</p> <p>We cover up to 100 days per benefit period of skilled inpatient services in a skilled nursing facility in accord with Medicare guidelines (a prior hospital stay is not required).</p> <p>Covered services include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Semiprivate room (or a private room if medically necessary)</li> <li>• Meals, including special diets</li> <li>• Skilled nursing services</li> <li>• Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy</li> <li>• Drugs administered to you as part of your plan of care (this includes substances that are naturally present in the body such as blood clotting factors.)</li> <li>• Blood – including storage and administration.</li> <li>• Medical and surgical supplies ordinarily provided by SNFs</li> <li>• Laboratory tests ordinarily provided by SNFs</li> <li>• X-rays and other radiology services ordinarily provided by SNFs</li> <li>• Use of appliances such as wheelchairs ordinarily provided by SNFs</li> <li>• Physician/practitioner services</li> </ul> <p>Generally, you will get your SNF care from network facilities. However, under certain conditions listed below, you may be able to pay in-network cost-sharing for a facility that isn’t a network provider, if the facility accepts our plan’s amounts for payment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A nursing home or continuing care retirement community where you were living right before you went to the hospital (as long as it provides skilled nursing facility care).</li> </ul> <p>A SNF where your spouse is living at the time you leave the hospital.</p>	<p>No Charge</p> <p>Limited to 100 days per benefit period</p> <p>A benefit period begins on the first day you go to a Medicare-covered inpatient hospital or skilled nursing facility (SNF). The benefit period ends when you haven’t been an inpatient at any hospital or SNF for 60 calendar days in a row.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If a benefit period begins in 2019 for you and does not end until sometime in 2020, the 2019 cost-sharing will continue until the benefit period ends.</p>

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p> <b>Smoking and tobacco use cessation (counseling to stop smoking or tobacco use)</b></p> <p><b>If you use tobacco, but do not have signs or symptoms of tobacco-related disease:</b> We cover two counseling quit attempts within a 12-month period as a preventive service with no cost to you. Each counseling attempt includes up to four face-to-face visits.</p> <p><b>If you use tobacco and have been diagnosed with a tobacco-related disease or are taking medicine that may be affected by tobacco:</b> We cover cessation counseling services. We cover two counseling quit attempts within a 12-month period, however, you will pay the applicable cost-sharing. Each counseling attempt includes up to four face-to-face visits.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the Medicare-covered smoking and tobacco use cessation preventive benefits.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p><b>Supervised Exercise Therapy (SET)</b></p> <p>SET is covered for members who have symptomatic peripheral artery disease (PAD) and a referral for PAD from the physician responsible for PAD treatment.</p> <p>Up to 36 sessions over a 12-week period are covered if the SET program requirements are met.</p> <p>The SET program must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consist of sessions lasting 30–60 minutes, comprising a therapeutic exercise-training program for PAD in patients with claudication.</li> <li>• Be conducted in a hospital outpatient setting or a physician's office.</li> <li>• Be delivered by qualified auxiliary personnel necessary to ensure benefits exceed harms, and who are trained in exercise therapy for PAD.</li> <li>• Be under the direct supervision of a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner/clinical nurse specialist who must be trained in both basic and advanced life support techniques.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> SET may be covered beyond 36 sessions over 12 weeks for an additional 36 sessions over an extended period of time, if deemed medically necessary by a health care provider.</p>	<p>\$30 Copayment each visit</p>
<p><b>Urgently needed services</b></p>	
<p>Urgently needed services are provided to treat a non-emergency, unforeseen medical illness, injury, or condition that requires immediate medical care. Urgently needed services may be furnished by network providers or</p>	<p>\$30 Copayment each visit</p>

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p>by out-of-network providers when network providers are temporarily unavailable or inaccessible.</p> <p>Urgently needed services received in a network urgent care department (or facility) and covered out-of-network urgent care when you are temporarily outside our service area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Inside our service area:</b> You must obtain urgent care from network providers, unless our provider network is temporarily unavailable or inaccessible due to an unusual and extraordinary circumstance (for example, major disaster).</li> <li>• <b>Outside our service area:</b> You have worldwide urgent care coverage when you travel, if you need medical attention right away for an unforeseen illness or injury and you reasonably believed that your health would seriously deteriorate if you delayed treatment until you returned to our service area.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Vision care</b></p>	
<p>Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outpatient physician services for the diagnosis and treatment of diseases and injuries of the eye, including treatment for age-related macular degeneration.</li> <li>• For people with diabetes, screening for diabetic retinopathy is covered once per year.</li> </ul> <p>Original Medicare doesn't cover routine eye exams (eye refractions) for eyeglasses/contacts. However, our plan covers the following exams: Routine eye exams (eye refraction exams) to determine the need for vision correction and to provide a prescription for eyeglass lenses.</p>	
<p>Eye exams performed by an optometrist</p>	<p>\$15 Copayment each visit</p>
<p>Eye exams performed by an ophthalmologist.</p>	<p>\$30 Copayment each visit</p>
<p> For people who are at high risk of glaucoma, we will cover one glaucoma screening each year. People at high risk of glaucoma include people with a family history of glaucoma, people with diabetes, African Americans who are age 50 and older and Hispanic Americans who are 65 or older:</p> <p>Glaucoma screening once per year.</p>	<p>No charge, unless member receives the screening in conjunction with other services, such as a routine eye exam, then member will be charged the applicable copayment.</p>

<p align="center"><b>Services that are covered for you</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One pair of eyeglasses or contact lenses after each cataract surgery that includes insertion of an intraocular lens. (If you have two separate cataract operations, you cannot reserve the benefit after the first surgery and purchase two eyeglasses after the second surgery.)</li> <li>• Corrective lenses/frames (and replacements) needed after a cataract removal without a lens implant. Following Medicare-covered cataract surgery, the member may use their eyewear benefit (if purchased by your group) as described below to pay for upgrades to the Medicare covered eye wear benefit. The Medicare eyewear benefit following cataract surgery is covered per Medicare guidelines.</li> </ul>	<p>No charge, unless the cost exceeds the allowed Medicare fee schedule.</p>
<p>If purchased by your group, lenses, frames, medically necessary contact lenses, or cosmetic contact lenses every two years, purchased at a network optical facility. Any part of the eyewear benefit that is not exhausted at the first point of sale may not be used at a later date. This means that any benefit dollars remaining after the first point of sale are forfeited and cannot be applied to copayments for eye exams or contact lens professional fitting fees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eyeglasses and contact lenses must be prescribed by an optometrist or ophthalmologist and purchased at a network optical facility.</li> <li>• See exclusions for eye surgery to correct refractive defects and for cosmetic contact lenses that are not medically necessary later in this section.</li> </ul>	<p>\$200 Credit every 24 months See Additional Provisions *</p>
<p> <b>“Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit</b></p> <p>We cover the one-time “Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit. The visit includes a review of your health, as well as education and counseling about the preventive services you need (including certain screenings and shots), and referrals for other care if needed.</p> <p><b>Important:</b> We cover the “Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit only within the first 12 months you have Medicare Part B. When you make your appointment, let your doctor’s office know you would like to schedule your “Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the “Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>





**2020 Evidence of Coverage**

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## **SECTION 1. Introduction**

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### **Section 1.1 You are enrolled in Senior Advantage, which is a Medicare HMO**

You are covered by Medicare, and you have chosen to get your Medicare health care and your prescription drug coverage through our plan, Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage.

There are different types of Medicare health plans. Senior Advantage is a Medicare Advantage HMO Plan (HMO stands for Health Maintenance Organization). approved by Medicare and run by a private company.

Coverage under this plan qualifies as Qualifying Health Coverage (QHC) and satisfies the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act's (ACA) individual shared responsibility requirement. Please visit the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) website at <https://www.irs.gov/Affordable-Care-Act/Individuals-and-Families> for more information.

### **Section 1.2 What is the Evidence of Coverage booklet about?**

This **Evidence of Coverage** booklet tells you how to get your Medicare medical care and prescription drugs covered through our plan. This booklet explains your rights and responsibilities, what is covered, and what you pay as a member of our plan.

If you are not certain which plan you are enrolled, please call Member Services or your group's benefit administrator.

This plan is offered by Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (Health Plan) and it includes Medicare part D prescription drug coverage. When this **Evidence of Coverage** says "we," "us," or "our," it means Health Plan. When it says "plan" or "our plan," it means Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage (Senior Advantage).

The words "coverage" and "covered services" refer to the medical care and services and the prescription drugs available to you as a member of our plan.

It's important for you to learn what our plan's rules are and what services are available to you. We encourage you to set aside some time to look through this **Evidence of Coverage** booklet.

If you are confused or concerned or just have a question, please contact Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **Section 1.3 Legal information about the Evidence of Coverage**

#### **It's part of our contract with you**

This **Evidence of Coverage** is part of our contract with you about how we cover your care. Other parts of this contract include your enrollment form, our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**, and any notices you receive from us about changes to your

coverage or conditions that affect your coverage. These notices are sometimes called "riders" or "amendments."

If your group renews on January 1<sup>st</sup>, the **Evidence of Coverage** is in effect for the months in which you are enrolled in Senior Advantage between January 1, 2020, and December 31, 2020, unless amended. If your group's agreement renews at a later date in 2020, the term of this **Evidence of Coverage** is during that contract period, unless amended. Your group can tell you the term of this **Evidence of Coverage** and whether this **Evidence of Coverage** is still in effect and give you a current one if this **Evidence of Coverage** has been amended.

Each calendar year, Medicare allows us to make changes to the plans that we offer. This means we can change the costs and benefits of our plan after December 31, 2020. We can also choose to stop offering the plan, or to offer it in a different service area, after December 31, 2020. In addition, your group can make changes to the plans and benefits it offers at any time.

### **Medicare must approve our plan each year**

Medicare (the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) must approve our plan each year. You can continue to get Medicare coverage as a member of our plan as long as we choose to continue to offer our plan and Medicare renews its approval of our plan.

## **SECTION 2. What makes you eligible to be a plan member?**

### **Section 2.1 Your eligibility requirements**

You are eligible for membership in our plan as long as:

- You have both Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B (or Medicare Part B) (Section 2.2 below tells you about Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B).
- *-and-* you live in our geographic service area (Section 2.3 below describes our service area).
- *-and-* you are a United States citizen or are lawfully present in the United States.
- *-and-* you do not have End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD), with limited exceptions, such as if you develop ESRD when you are already a member of a plan that we offer, or you were a member of a different plan that was terminated.

### **Section 2.2 What are Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B?**

When you first signed up for Medicare, you received information about what services are covered under Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B. Remember:

- Medicare Part A generally helps cover services provided by hospitals (for inpatient services), skilled nursing facilities, or home health agencies.
- Medicare Part B is for most other medical services (such as physician's services and other outpatient services) and certain items (such as durable medical equipment (DME) and supplies).

### **Section 2.3 Here is our plan service area for Senior Advantage**

Although Medicare is a federal program, our plan is available only to individuals who live in our plan service area. To remain a member of our plan, you must continue to reside in the plan service area. The service area is described below.

Our service area includes these counties in Colorado: **Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Clear Creek, Denver, Douglas, Elbert, Gilpin and Jefferson.**

**If you plan to move out of the service area, please contact Member Services** (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). When you move, you will have a special enrollment period that will allow you to switch to Original Medicare or enroll in a Medicare health or drug plan that is available in your new location.

It is also important to notify your group's benefits administrator and that you call Social Security if you move or change your mailing address. You can find phone numbers and contact information for Social Security in Chapter 2, Section 5.

### **Section 2.4 U.S. citizen or lawful presence**

A member of a Medicare health plan must be a U.S. citizen or lawfully present in the United States. Medicare (the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) will notify us if you are not eligible to remain a member on this basis. We must disenroll you if you do not meet this requirement.

### **Section 2.5 Group eligibility requirements**

You must meet your group's eligibility requirements that we have approved. Your group is required to inform subscribers of its eligibility requirements, such as dependent eligibility requirements (for example, your spouse).

Please note that your group might not allow enrollment to some persons who meet the requirements described under "Additional eligibility requirements" below.

#### **Additional eligibility requirements**

**Subscriber.** You may be eligible to enroll as a subscriber under this **Evidence of Coverage** if you are entitled to subscriber coverage under your Group's eligibility requirements. An example would be an employee of your Group who works at least the number of hours stated in those requirements.

If you are a subscriber under this Evidence of Coverage or a subscriber enrolled in a non-Medicare plan offered by your group, the following persons may be eligible to enroll as your dependents under this Evidence of Coverage if they meet all the other requirements described in this section 2.5:

- Your spouse. (Spouse includes a partner in a valid civil union under state law.)
- Your or your Spouse's children (including adopted children, children placed with you for adoption, and foster children) who are under the dependent limiting age. Check with your group to determine the age limit for dependents.

- Other dependent persons who meet all of the following requirements:
  - ◆ they are under the dependent limiting age as determined by your group
  - ◆ you or your spouse is the court-appointed permanent legal guardian (or was before the person reached age 18).
- Your or your spouse's unmarried children of any age who are medically certified as disabled and dependent upon you or your spouse are eligible to enroll or continue coverage as your dependents if the following requirements are met:
  - ◆ they are dependent on you or your spouse; and
  - ◆ you give us proof of the dependent's disability and dependency annually if we request it.
- Subscriber's designated beneficiaries as defined by Colorado law, if your employer elects to cover designated beneficiaries as dependents.

**Students on medical leave of absence.** Dependent children who lose dependent student status at a postsecondary educational institution due to a medically necessary leave of absence remain eligible for coverage until the earlier of (i) one year after the first day of the medically necessary leave of absence; or (ii) the date dependent coverage would otherwise terminate under the non-Medicare plan offered by your group. We must receive written certification by a treating physician of the dependent child which states 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.

**Note:** If you have dependents who do not have Medicare Part B coverage or for some other reason are not eligible to enroll under this Evidence of Coverage, you may be able to enroll them as your dependents under a non-Medicare plan offered by your group. Please contact your group for details, including eligibility and benefit information, and to request a copy of the non-Medicare plan document.

If your plan has different eligibility requirements, please see "Additional Provisions."

## **Section 2.5 When you can enroll and when coverage begins**

Your group is required to inform you when you are eligible to enroll and what your effective date of coverage is under this **Evidence of Coverage**. If you are eligible to enroll as described in this section, enrollment is permitted and membership begins at the beginning (12 a.m.) of the effective date of coverage, except that:

- Your group may have additional requirements that we have approved, which allow enrollment in other situations.
- The effective date of your Senior Advantage coverage under this **Evidence of Coverage** must be confirmed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, as described under "Effective date of Senior Advantage coverage" in this section.

If you are a subscriber under this **Evidence of Coverage** and you have dependents who do not have Medicare Part B coverage or for some other reason are not eligible to enroll under this **Evidence of Coverage**, you may be able to enroll them as your dependents under a non-

Medicare plan offered by your group. Please contact your group for details, including eligibility and benefit information, and to request a copy of the non-Medicare plan document.

If you are eligible to be a dependent under this **Evidence of Coverage** but the subscriber in your family is enrolled under a non-Medicare plan offered by your group, the subscriber must follow the rules applicable to subscribers who are enrolling dependents in this Section 2.5.

### **Effective date of Senior Advantage coverage**

After we receive your completed Senior Advantage enrollment form, we will submit your enrollment request to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services for confirmation and send you a notice indicating the proposed effective date of your Senior Advantage coverage under this **Evidence of Coverage**.

If CMS confirms your Senior Advantage enrollment and effective date, we will send you a notice that confirms your enrollment and effective date. If CMS tell us that you do not have Medicare Part B coverage, we will notify you that you will be disenrolled from Senior Advantage.

### **New subscribers**

When your group informs you that you are eligible to enroll as a subscriber, you may enroll yourself and any eligible dependent by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application and a Senior Advantage enrollment form for each person to your group within 31 days after you become eligible, or as otherwise specified by your group.

**Effective date of Senior Advantage coverage.** The effective date of Senior Advantage coverage for new subscribers and their eligible family dependents is determined by your group, subject to confirmation by CMS.

Employees who are not enrolled when newly eligible must wait until the next open enrollment period to become members of Health Plan, unless: (i) they enroll under special circumstances, as agreed to by your group and Health Plan or (ii) they enroll under the provisions described in "Special Enrollment Due to Loss of Other Coverage" below.

### **Adding new dependents to an existing account**

To enroll a dependent who first becomes eligible to enroll after you became a subscriber (such as a new spouse, a newborn child, or a newly adopted child), you must submit a Health Plan-approved enrollment form and a Senior Advantage enrollment form to your group within 31 days after the dependent first becomes eligible, or as otherwise specified by your group.

Dependents who are not enrolled when newly eligible must wait until the next open enrollment period to become members of Health Plan, unless: (i) they enroll under special circumstances, as agreed to by your group and Health Plan or (ii) they enroll under the provisions described in "Special Enrollment Due to Loss of Other Coverage" below.

**Effective date of Senior Advantage coverage.** The effective date of coverage for newly acquired dependents is determined by your group, subject to confirmation by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

### **Group open enrollment**



You may enroll as a subscriber (along with any eligible dependents), and existing subscribers may add eligible dependents, by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application and a Senior Advantage enrollment form for each person to your group during your group's open enrollment period. Your group will let you know when the open enrollment period begins and ends and the effective date of coverage, which is subject to confirmation by CMS.

### **Special enrollment**

If you do not enroll when you are first eligible and later want to enroll, you can enroll only during open enrollment unless you become eligible as described in this "Special enrollment" section.

### **Special enrollment events**

You may enroll as a subscriber (along with any eligible dependents), and existing subscribers may add eligible dependents, by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application and a Senior Advantage enrollment form for each person to your group within 31 days after the enrolling persons lose other coverage, if:

The enrolling persons had other coverage when you previously declined Health Plan coverage for them (some groups require you to have stated in writing when declining Health Plan coverage that other coverage was the reason); and the loss of the other coverage is due to one of the following: For a comprehensive list of qualifying events for special enrollment see your Group's administrator to obtain a copy of your Group's **Evidence of Coverage**.

### **Open enrollment**

You may enroll as a subscriber (along with any eligible dependents), and existing subscribers may add eligible dependents, by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application and a Senior Advantage enrollment form for each person to your group during your group's open enrollment period. Your group will let you know when the open enrollment period begins and ends and the membership effective date, which is subject to confirmation by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

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## **SECTION 3. What other materials will you get from us?**

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<h3><b>Section 3.1 Your plan membership card—use it to get all covered care and prescription drugs</b></h3>
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While you are a member of our plan, you must use your membership card for our plan whenever you get any services covered by our plan and for prescription drugs you get at network pharmacies. You should also show the provider your Medicaid card, if applicable. Here's a sample membership card to show you what yours will look like:



As long as you are a member of our plan, in most cases, **you must not use your red, white, and blue Medicare card** to get covered medical services (with the exception of routine clinical research studies and hospice services). You may be asked to show your new Medicare card if you need hospital services. Keep your red, white, and blue Medicare card in a safe place in case you need it later.

**Here's why this is so important:** If you get covered services using your red, white, and blue Medicare card instead of using your Senior Advantage membership card while you are a plan member, you may have to pay the full cost yourself.

If your plan membership card is damaged, lost, or stolen, call Member Services right away and we will send you a new card. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

### **Section 3.2 The Provider Directory: Your guide to all providers in our network**

The **Provider Directory** lists our network providers and durable medical equipment suppliers.

#### **What are "network providers"?**

Network providers are the doctors and other health care professionals, medical groups, durable medical equipment suppliers, hospitals, and other health care facilities that have an agreement with us to accept our payment and any plan cost-sharing as payment in full. We have arranged for these providers to deliver covered services to members in our plan. The most recent list of providers and suppliers is available on our website at [kp.org/directory](http://kp.org/directory).

#### **Why do you need to know which providers are part of our network?**

It is important to know which providers are part of our network because, with limited exceptions, while you are a member of our plan you must use network providers to get your medical care and services. The only exceptions are emergencies, urgently needed services when the network is not available (generally, when you are out of the area), out-of-area dialysis services, and cases in which our plan authorizes use of out-of-network providers. See Chapter 3, "Using our plan's coverage for your medical services," for more specific information about emergency, out-of-network, and out-of-area coverage.

If you don't have your copy of the **Provider Directory**, you can request a copy from Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You may ask Member Services for more information about our network providers, including their qualifications. You

can view or download the **Provider Directory** at [kp.org/directory](http://kp.org/directory). Both Member Services and our website can give you the most up-to-date information about our network providers.

### **Section 3.3 The Pharmacy Directory: Your guide to pharmacies in our network**

#### **What are "network pharmacies"?**

Network pharmacies are all of the pharmacies that have agreed to fill covered prescriptions for our plan members.

#### **Why do you need to know about network pharmacies?**

Our network has changed more than usual for 2020. An updated **Pharmacy Directory** is located on our website at [kp.org](http://kp.org). You may also call Member Services for updated provider information or to ask us to mail you a current **Pharmacy Directory**. We strongly suggest that you review our current **Pharmacy Directory** to see if your pharmacy is still in our network. This is important because, with few exceptions, you must get your prescriptions filled at a network pharmacy if you want our plan to cover (help pay for) them.

The **Pharmacy Directory** will also tell you which of the pharmacies in our network have preferred cost-sharing, which may be lower than the standard cost-sharing offered by other network pharmacies for some drugs.

If you don't have the **Pharmacy Directory**, you can get a copy from Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). At any time, you can call Member Services to get up-to-date information about changes in the pharmacy network. You can also find this information on our website at [kp.org/directory](http://kp.org/directory).

### **Section 3.4 Our plan's list of covered drugs (formulary)**

Our plan has a **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**. We call it the "Drug List" for short. It tells you which Part D prescription drugs are covered under the Part D benefit included in our plan. The drugs on this list are selected by our plan with the help of a team of doctors and pharmacists. The list must meet requirements set by Medicare. Medicare has approved our Drug List. The Drug List also tells you if there are any rules that restrict coverage for your drugs.

We will provide you a copy of our Drug List. To get the most complete and current information about which drugs are covered, you can visit our website ([kp.org](http://kp.org)) or call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **Section 3.5 The Part D Explanation of Benefits (the "Part D EOB"): Reports with a summary of payments made for your Part D prescription drugs**

When you use your Part D prescription drug benefits, we will send you a summary report to help you understand and keep track of payments for your Part D prescription drugs. This summary report is called the **Part D Explanation of Benefits** (or the "**Part D EOB**").

The **Part D EOB** tells you the total amount you, or others on your behalf, have spent on your Part D prescription drugs and the total amount we have paid for each of your Part D prescription drugs during the month. Chapter 6 ("What you pay for your Part D prescription drugs") gives you more information about the **Part D EOB** and how it can help you keep track of your drug coverage.

A **Part D EOB** summary is also available upon request. To get a copy, please contact Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You can also choose to get your **Part D EOB** online instead of by mail. Please visit [kp.org/goinggreen](http://kp.org/goinggreen) and sign on to learn more about choosing to view your **Part D EOB** securely online.

## **SECTION 4. Your monthly premium for our plan**

### **Section 4.1 How much is your plan premium?**

#### **Plan premiums**

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

## **SECTION 5. Do you have to pay the Part D "late enrollment penalty"?**

### **Section 5.1 What is the Part D "late enrollment penalty"?**

**Note:** If you receive "Extra Help" from Medicare to pay for your prescription drugs, you will not pay a late enrollment penalty.

The late enrollment penalty is an amount that is added to your Part D premium. You may owe a Part D late enrollment penalty if at any time after your initial enrollment period is over, there is a period of 63 days or more in a row when you did not have Part D or other creditable prescription drug coverage. "Creditable prescription drug coverage" is coverage that meets Medicare's minimum standards since it is expected to pay, on average, at least as much as Medicare's standard prescription drug coverage. The cost of the late enrollment penalty depends upon how

long you went without Part D or creditable prescription drug coverage. You will have to pay this penalty for as long as you have Part D coverage.

If you are required to pay a Part D late enrollment penalty, your group will inform you the amount that you will be required to pay your group.

If you do not pay your Part D late enrollment penalty, you could lose your prescription drug benefits for failure to pay your plan premium.

### **Section 5.2 How much is the Part D late enrollment penalty?**

Medicare determines the amount of the penalty. Here is how it works:

- First count the number of full months that you delayed enrolling in a Medicare drug plan, after you were eligible to enroll. Or count the number of full months in which you did not have creditable prescription drug coverage, if the break in coverage was 63 days or more. The penalty is 1% for every month that you didn't have creditable coverage. For example, if you go 14 months without coverage, the penalty will be 14%.
- Then Medicare determines the amount of the average monthly premium for Medicare drug plans in the nation from the previous year. For 2020, this average premium amount is \$32.74.
- To calculate your monthly penalty, you multiply the penalty percentage and the average monthly premium, and then round it to the nearest 10 cents. In the example here, it would be 14% times \$32.74, which equals \$4.58. This rounds to \$4.60. This amount would be added to the monthly premium for someone with a Part D late enrollment penalty.

There are three important things to note about this monthly Part D late enrollment penalty:

- First, the penalty may change each year because the average monthly premium can change each year. If the national average premium (as determined by Medicare) increases, your penalty will increase.
- Second, you will continue to pay a penalty every month for as long as you are enrolled in a plan that has Medicare Part D drug benefits, even if you change plans.
- Third, if you are under 65 and currently receiving Medicare benefits, the Part D late enrollment penalty will reset when you turn 65. After age 65, your Part D late enrollment penalty will be based only on the months that you don't have coverage after your initial enrollment period for aging into Medicare.

### **Section 5.3 In some situations, you can enroll late and not have to pay the penalty**

Even if you have delayed enrolling in a plan offering Medicare Part D coverage when you were first eligible, sometimes you do not have to pay the Part D late enrollment penalty.

**You will not have to pay a penalty for late enrollment if you are in any of these situations:**

- If you already have prescription drug coverage that is expected to pay, on average, at least as much as Medicare's standard prescription drug coverage. Medicare calls this "creditable drug coverage." **Please note:**
  - ◆ Creditable coverage could include drug coverage from a former employer or union, TRICARE, or the Department of Veterans Affairs. Your insurer or your human resources department will tell you each year if your drug coverage is creditable coverage. This information may be sent to you in a letter or included in a newsletter from the plan. Keep this information because you may need it if you join a Medicare drug plan later. Please note: If you receive a "certificate of creditable coverage" when your health coverage ends, it may not mean your prescription drug coverage was creditable. The notice must state that you had "creditable" prescription drug coverage that expected to pay as much as Medicare's standard prescription drug plan pays.
  - ◆ The following are not creditable prescription drug coverage: prescription drug discount cards, free clinics, and drug discount websites.
  - ◆ For additional information about creditable coverage, please look in your **Medicare & You 2020** handbook or call Medicare at **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**. TTY users call **1-877-486-2048**. You can call these numbers for free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- If you were without creditable coverage, but you were without it for less than 63 days in a row.
- If you are receiving "Extra Help" from Medicare.

**Section 5.4 What can you do if you disagree about your Part D late enrollment penalty?**

If you disagree about your Part D late enrollment penalty, you or your representative can ask for a review of the decision about your late enrollment penalty. Generally, you must request this review within 60 days from the date on the first letter you receive stating you have to pay a late enrollment penalty. If you were paying a penalty before joining our plan, you may not have another chance to request a review of that late enrollment penalty. Call Member Services to find out more about how to do this (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

**SECTION 6. Do you have to pay an extra Part D amount because of your income?**

**Section 6.1 Who pays an extra Part D amount because of income?**

Most people pay a standard monthly Part D premium. However, some people pay an extra amount because of their yearly income. If your income is \$85,000 or above for an individual (or married individuals filing separately) or \$170,000 or above for married couples, **you must pay an extra amount directly to the government** for your Medicare Part D coverage.

If you have to pay an extra amount, Social Security, not your Medicare plan, will send you a letter telling you what that extra amount will be and how to pay it. The extra amount will be withheld from your Social Security, Railroad Retirement Board, or Office of Personnel Management benefit check, no matter how you usually pay your plan premium, unless your monthly benefit isn't enough to cover the extra amount owed. If your benefit check isn't enough to cover the extra amount, you will get a bill from Medicare. You must pay the extra amount to the government. It cannot be paid with your monthly plan premium.

### **Section 6.2 How much is the extra Part D amount?**

If your modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) as reported on your IRS tax return is above a certain amount, you will pay an extra amount in addition to your monthly plan premium. For more information on the extra amount you may have to pay based on your income, visit <https://www.medicare.gov/part-d/costs/premiums/drug-plan-premiums.html>.

### **Section 6.3 What can you do if you disagree about paying an extra Part D amount?**

If you disagree about paying an extra amount because of your income, you can ask Social Security to review the decision. To find out more about how to do this, contact Social Security at **1-800-772-1213** (TTY **1-800-325-0778**).

### **Section 6.4 What happens if you do not pay the extra Part D amount?**

The extra amount is paid directly to the government (not your Medicare plan) for your Medicare Part D coverage. If you are required by law to pay the extra amount and you do not pay it, you will be disenrolled from the plan and lose prescription drug coverage.

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## **SECTION 7. More information about your monthly premium**

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### **Many members are required to pay other Medicare premiums**

In addition to paying the monthly plan premium, many members are required to pay other Medicare premiums. As explained in Section 2 of this chapter, in order to be eligible for our plan, you must be entitled to Medicare Part A and enrolled in Medicare Part B. For that reason, some plan members (those who aren't eligible for premium-free Part A) pay a premium for Medicare Part A. Most plan members pay a premium for Medicare Part B. You must continue paying your Medicare premiums to remain a member of our plan.

If your modified adjusted gross income as reported on your IRS tax return from two years ago is above a certain amount, you'll pay the standard premium amount and an Income Related

Monthly Adjustment Amount, also known as IRMAA. IRMAA is an extra charge added to your premium.

- **If you are required to pay the extra amount and you do not pay it, you will be disenrolled from our plan and lose prescription drug coverage.**
- If you have to pay an extra amount, Social Security, **not your Medicare plan**, will send you a letter telling you what that extra amount will be.
- For more information about Part D premiums based on income, go to Section 6 of this chapter. You can also visit <https://www.medicare.gov> on the Web or call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**. Or you may call Social Security at **1-800-772-1213**. TTY users should call **1-800-325-0778**.

Your copy of **Medicare & You 2020** gives you information about Medicare premiums in the section called "2020 Medicare Costs." This explains how the Medicare Part B and Part D premiums differ for people with different incomes. Everyone with Medicare receives a copy of **Medicare & You** each year in the fall. Those new to Medicare receive it within a month after first signing up. You can also download a copy of **Medicare & You 2020** from the Medicare website (<https://www.medicare.gov>) or you can order a printed copy by phone at **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users call **1-877-486-2048**.

### **Section 7.1 Paying your plan premium**

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

### **Section 7.2 Can we change your monthly plan premium during the year?**

**No.** We are not allowed to change the amount we charge for our plan's monthly plan premium during your group's contract year.

However, in some cases, the part of the premium that you have to pay can change during the year. This happens if you become eligible for the "Extra Help" program or if you lose your eligibility for the "Extra Help" program during the year. If a member qualifies for "Extra Help" with their prescription drug costs, the "Extra Help" program will pay part of the member's monthly plan premium. A member who loses their eligibility during the year will need to start paying their full monthly premium. You can find out more about the "Extra Help" program in Chapter 2, Section 7.



## **SECTION 8. Please keep your plan membership record up-to-date**

### **Section 8.1 How to help make sure that we have accurate information about you**

Your membership record has information from your enrollment form, including your address and telephone number. It shows your specific plan coverage, including your primary care provider.

The doctors, hospitals, pharmacists, and other providers in our network need to have correct information about you. **These network providers use your membership record to know what services and drugs are covered and the cost-sharing amounts for you.** Because of this, it is very important that you help us keep your information up-to-date.

#### **Let us know about these changes:**

- Changes to your name, your address, or your phone number.
- Changes in any other health insurance coverage you have (such as from your employer, your spouse's employer, workers' compensation, or Medicaid).
- If you have any liability claims, such as claims from an automobile accident.
- If you have been admitted to a nursing home.
- If you receive care in an out-of-area or out-of-network hospital or emergency room.
- If your designated responsible party (such as a caregiver) changes.
- If you are participating in a clinical research study.

If any of this information changes, please let us know by calling Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

It is also important to contact Social Security if you move or change your mailing address. You can find phone numbers and contact information for Social Security in Chapter 2, Section 5.

#### **Read over the information we send you about any other insurance coverage you have**

Medicare requires that we collect information from you about any other medical or drug insurance coverage that you have. That's because we must coordinate any other coverage you have with your benefits under our plan. (For more information about how our coverage works when you have other insurance, see Section 10 in this chapter.)

Once each year, we will send you a letter that lists any other medical or drug insurance coverage that we know about. Please read over this information carefully. If it is correct, you don't need to do anything. If the information is incorrect, or if you have other coverage that is not listed, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

## **SECTION 9. We protect the privacy of your personal health information**

### **Section 9.1 We make sure that your health information is protected**

Federal and state laws protect the privacy of your medical records and personal health information. We protect your personal health information as required by these laws.

For more information about how we protect your personal health information, please go to Chapter 8, Section 1.4, of this booklet.

## **SECTION 10. How other insurance works with our plan**

### **Section 10.1 Which plan pays first when you have other insurance?**

When you have other insurance (like employer group health coverage), there are rules set by Medicare that decide whether our plan or your other insurance pays first. The insurance that pays first is called the "primary payer" and pays up to the limits of its coverage. The one that pays second, called the "secondary payer," only pays if there are costs left uncovered by the primary coverage. The secondary payer may not pay all of the uncovered costs.

These rules apply for employer or union group health plan coverage:

- If you have retiree coverage, Medicare pays first.
- If your group health plan coverage is based on your or a family member's current employment, who pays first depends upon your age, the number of people employed by your employer, and whether you have Medicare based on age, disability, or End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD):
  - ◆ If you're under 65 and disabled and you or your family member is still working, your group health plan pays first if the employer has 100 or more employees or at least one employer in a multiple employer plan that has more than 100 employees.
  - ◆ If you're over 65 and you or your spouse is still working, your group health plan pays first if the employer has 20 or more employees or at least one employer in a multiple employer plan that has more than 20 employees.
- If you have Medicare because of ESRD, your group health plan will pay first for the first 30 months after you become eligible for Medicare.

These types of coverage usually pay first for services related to each type:

- No-fault insurance (including automobile insurance).
- Liability (including automobile insurance).
- Black lung benefits.
- Workers' compensation.

Medicaid and TRICARE never pay first for Medicare-covered services. They only pay after Medicare, employer group health plans, and/or Medigap have paid.

If you have other insurance, tell your doctor, hospital, and pharmacy. If you have questions about who pays first, or you need to update your other insurance information, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You may need to give your plan member ID number to your other insurers (once you have confirmed their identity) so your bills are paid correctly and on time.

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**CHAPTER 2. Important phone numbers and resources**

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## **SECTION 1. Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage contacts**

(how to contact us, including how to reach Member Services at our plan)

### **How to contact our plan's Member Services**

For assistance with claims, billing, or membership card questions, please call or write to Senior Advantage Member Services. We will be happy to help you.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Member Services – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-800-476-2167</b> Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Member Services also has free language interpreter services available for non-English speakers.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
<b>FAX</b>	<b>303-214-6489</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado Customer Experience 2500 South Havana Street Aurora, CO 80014-1622
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>kp.org</b>

### **How to contact us when you are asking for a coverage decision or making a complaint about your medical care**

A coverage decision is a decision we make about your benefits and coverage or about the amount we will pay for your medical services. You can make a complaint about us or one of our network providers, including a complaint about the quality of your care. This type of complaint does not involve coverage or payment disputes. (If your problem is about our plan's coverage or payment, you should look at the section about making an appeal.) For more information about asking for coverage decisions or making complaints about your medical care, see Chapter 9, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)." You may call us if you have questions about our coverage decision or complaint processes.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Coverage decisions or complaints about medical care – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-800-476-2167</b> Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
<b>FAX</b>	<b>1-866-466-4042</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado Customer Experience 2500 South Havana Street Aurora, CO 80014-1622
<b>MEDICARE WEBSITE</b>	You can submit a <b><u>complaint</u></b> about our plan directly to Medicare. To submit an online complaint to Medicare, go to <b><a href="https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx">https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx</a></b> .

**How to contact us when you are asking for a coverage decision or making a complaint about your Part D prescription drugs**

A coverage decision is a decision we make about your benefits and coverage or about the amount we will pay for your prescription drugs covered under the Part D benefit included in your plan. You can make a complaint about us or one of our network pharmacies, including a complaint about the quality of your care. This type of complaint does not involve coverage or payment disputes. (If your problem is about our plan's coverage or payment, you should look at the section below about making an appeal.)

For more information about asking for coverage decisions or making complaints about your Part D prescription drugs, see Chapter 9, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)." You may call us if you have questions about our coverage decision or complaint processes.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Coverage decisions or complaints about Part D prescription drugs – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1- 800-476-2167</b> Calls to this number are free. Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**

<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> Calls to this number are free. Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
<b>FAX</b>	<b>1-866-455-1053</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado Pharmacy Benefits and Compliance 16601 East Centretch Parkway Aurora, CO 80011
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>kp.org</b>
<b>MEDICARE WEBSITE</b>	You can submit a <b>complaint</b> about our plan directly to Medicare. To submit an online complaint to Medicare, go to <a href="https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx">https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx</a> .

**How to contact us when you are making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs**

An appeal is a formal way of asking us to review and change a coverage decision we have made. For more information about making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs, see Chapter 9, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)."

<b>Method</b>	<b>Appeals for medical care or Part D prescription drugs – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-888-370-9858</b> Calls to this number are free. Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> Calls to this number are free. Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
<b>FAX</b>	<b>1-866-466-4042</b>
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>kp.org</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	Appeals Program Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado P.O. Box 378066 Denver, CO 80237-8066

### **Where to send a request asking us to pay for our share of the cost for medical care or a drug you have received**

For more information about situations in which you may need to ask us for reimbursement or to pay a bill you have received from a provider, see Chapter 7, "Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs."

**Please note:** If you send us a payment request and we deny any part of your request, you can appeal our decision. See Chapter 9, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)," for more information.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Payment requests – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-800-476-2167</b> Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
<b>WRITE</b>	Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado Claims Department P.O. Box 373150 Denver, CO 80237-3150
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>kp.org</b>

## **SECTION 2. Medicare** (how to get help and information directly from the federal Medicare program)

Medicare is the federal health insurance program for people 65 years of age or older, some people under age 65 with disabilities, and people with End-Stage Renal Disease (permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a kidney transplant).

The federal agency in charge of Medicare is the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (sometimes called "CMS"). This agency contracts with Medicare Advantage organizations, including our plan.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Medicare – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-800-MEDICARE or 1-800-633-4227</b> Calls to this number are free. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>1-877-486-2048</b>

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**



<b>Method</b>	<b>Medicare – contact information</b>
	<p>This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.</p> <p>Calls to this number are free.</p>
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<p><b><a href="https://www.medicare.gov">https://www.medicare.gov</a></b></p> <p>This is the official government website for Medicare. It gives you up-to-date information about Medicare and current Medicare issues. It also has information about hospitals, nursing homes, physicians, home health agencies, and dialysis facilities. It includes booklets you can print directly from your computer. You can also find Medicare contacts in your state.</p> <p>The Medicare website also has detailed information about your Medicare eligibility and enrollment options, with the following tools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Medicare Eligibility Tool:</b> Provides Medicare eligibility status information.</li><li>• <b>Medicare Plan Finder:</b> Provides personalized information about available Medicare prescription drug plans, Medicare health plans, and Medigap (Medicare Supplement Insurance) policies in your area. These tools provide an estimate of what your out-of-pocket costs might be in different Medicare plans.</li></ul> <p>You can also use the website to tell Medicare about any complaints you have about our plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Tell Medicare about your complaint:</b> You can submit a complaint about our plan directly to Medicare. To submit a complaint to Medicare, go to <b><a href="https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx">https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx</a></b>. Medicare takes your complaints seriously and will use this information to help improve the quality of the Medicare program.</li></ul> <p>If you don't have a computer, your local library or senior center may be able to help you visit this website using its computer. Or you can call Medicare and tell them what information you are looking for. They will find the information on the website, print it out, and send it to you. (You can call Medicare at <b>1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)</b>, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call <b>1-877-486-2048</b>.)</p>

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### **SECTION 3. State Health Insurance Assistance Program** (free help, information, and answers to your questions about Medicare)

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The State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) is a government program with trained counselors in every state. In Colorado, the SHIP is called Colorado State Health Insurance Assistance Program ("Colorado SHIP").

Colorado SHIP is independent (not connected with any insurance company or health plan). It is a state program that gets money from the federal government to give free local health insurance counseling to people with Medicare.

Colorado SHIP counselors can help you with your Medicare questions or problems. They can help you understand your Medicare rights, help you make complaints about your medical care or treatment, and help you straighten out problems with your Medicare bills. Colorado SHIP counselors can also help you understand your Medicare plan choices and answer questions about switching plans.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Colorado State Health Insurance Assistance Program – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-888-696-7213</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	SHIP, Colorado Division of Insurance 1560 Broadway St., Ste. 850 Denver, CO 80202
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b><a href="https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dora/senior-healthcare-medicare">https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dora/senior-healthcare-medicare</a></b>

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### **SECTION 4. Quality Improvement Organization** (paid by Medicare to check on the quality of care for people with Medicare)

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There is a designated Quality Improvement Organization for serving Medicare beneficiaries in each state. For Colorado, the Quality Improvement Organization is called KEPRO.

KEPRO has a group of doctors and other health care professionals who are paid by the federal government. This organization is paid by Medicare to check on and help improve the quality of care for people with Medicare. KEPRO is an independent organization. It is not connected with our plan.

You should contact KEPRO in any of these situations:

- You have a complaint about the quality of care you have received.
- You think coverage for your hospital stay is ending too soon.
- You think coverage for your home health care, skilled nursing facility care, or Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services are ending too soon.

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**

<b>Method</b>	<b>KEPRO (Colorado's Quality Improvement Organization) – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-888-317-0891</b> Calls to this number are free. Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Weekends and holidays, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>1-855-843-4776</b> This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
<b>WRITE</b>	KEPRO Rock Run Center, Suite 100 5700 Lombardo Center Drive Seven Hills, OH 44131 Attention: Beneficiary Complaints
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<a href="https://www.keproqio.com">https://www.keproqio.com</a>

## **SECTION 5. Social Security**

Social Security is responsible for determining eligibility and handling enrollment for Medicare. U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents who are 65 or older, or who have a disability or End-Stage Renal Disease and meet certain conditions, are eligible for Medicare. If you are already getting Social Security checks, enrollment into Medicare is automatic. If you are not getting Social Security checks, you have to enroll in Medicare. Social Security handles the enrollment process for Medicare. To apply for Medicare, you can call Social Security or visit your local Social Security office.

Social Security is also responsible for determining who has to pay an extra amount for their Part D drug coverage because they have a higher income. If you got a letter from Social Security telling you that you have to pay the extra amount and have questions about the amount or if your income went down because of a life-changing event, you can call Social Security to ask for a reconsideration.

If you move or change your mailing address, it is important that you contact Social Security to let them know.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Social Security – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-800-772-1213</b>

<b>Method</b>	<b>Social Security – contact information</b>
	Calls to this number are free. Available 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. You can use Social Security's automated telephone services to get recorded information and conduct some business 24 hours a day.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>1-800-325-0778</b>  This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking. Calls to this number are free. Available 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday.
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b><a href="https://www.ssa.gov">https://www.ssa.gov</a></b>

**SECTION 6. Medicaid** (a joint federal and state program that helps with medical costs for some people with limited income and resources)

Medicaid is a joint federal and state government program that helps with medical costs for certain people with limited incomes and resources. Some people with Medicare are also eligible for Medicaid.

In addition, there are programs offered through Medicaid that help people with Medicare pay their Medicare costs, such as their Medicare premiums. These "Medicare Savings Programs" help people with limited income and resources save money each year:

- **Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB):** Helps pay Medicare Part A and Part B premiums, and other cost-sharing (like deductibles, coinsurance, and copayments). Some people with QMB are also eligible for full Medicaid benefits (QMB+).
- **Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB):** Helps pay Part B premiums. Some people with SLMB are also eligible for full Medicaid benefits (SLMB+).
- **Qualified Individual (QI):** Helps pay Part B premiums.
- **Qualified Disabled & Working Individuals (QDWI):** Helps pay Part A premiums.

To find out more about Medicaid and its programs, contact Health First Colorado (Medicaid).

<b>Method</b>	<b>Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid program) – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-800-221-3943</b>  Calls to this number are free. Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b>

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**

<b>Method</b>	<b>Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid program) – contact information</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	Department of Health Care Policy and Financing 1570 Grant Street Denver, CO 80203
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<a href="https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com">https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com</a>

## **SECTION 7. Information about programs to help people pay for their prescription drugs**

### **Medicare's "Extra Help" Program**

Medicare provides "Extra Help" to pay prescription drug costs for people who have limited income and resources. Resources include your savings and stocks, but not your home or car. If you qualify, you get help paying for any Medicare drug plan's monthly premium, yearly deductible, and prescription copayments. This "Extra Help" also counts toward your out-of-pocket costs.

People with limited income and resources may qualify for "Extra Help." Some people automatically qualify for "Extra Help" and don't need to apply. Medicare mails a letter to people who automatically qualify for "Extra Help."

You may be able to get "Extra Help" to pay for your prescription drug premiums and costs. To see if you qualify for getting "Extra Help," call:

- **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**, 24 hours a day/7 days a week;
- The Social Security Office at **1-800-772-1213**, between 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. TTY users should call **1-800-325-0778** (applications); or
- Your state Medicaid office (applications) (see Section 6 in this chapter for contact information).

If you believe you have qualified for "Extra Help" and you believe that you are paying an incorrect cost-sharing amount when you get your prescription at a pharmacy, our plan has established a process that allows you either to request assistance in obtaining evidence of your proper copayment level, or, if you already have the evidence, to provide this evidence to us.

If you aren't sure what evidence to provide us, please contact a network pharmacy or Member Services. The evidence is often a letter from either the state Medicaid or Social Security office that confirms you are qualified for "Extra Help." The evidence may also be state-issued documentation with your eligibility information associated with Home and Community-Based Services.

You or your appointed representative may need to provide the evidence to a network pharmacy when obtaining covered Part D prescriptions so that we may charge you the appropriate cost-sharing amount until the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) updates its records to reflect your current status. Once CMS updates its records, you will no longer need to present the evidence to the pharmacy. Please provide your evidence in one of the following ways so we can forward it to CMS for updating:

- Write to Kaiser Permanente at:  
California Service Center  
Attn: Best Available Evidence  
P.O. Box 232407  
San Diego, CA 92193-2407
- Fax it to **1-877-528-8579**.
- Take it to a network pharmacy.

When we receive the evidence showing your copayment level, we will update our system so that you can pay the correct copayment when you get your next prescription at the pharmacy. If you overpay your copayment, we will reimburse you. Either we will forward a check to you in the amount of your overpayment or we will offset future copayments. If the pharmacy hasn't collected a copayment from you and is carrying your copayment as a debt owed by you, we may make the payment directly to the pharmacy. If a state paid on your behalf, we may make payment directly to the state. Please contact Member Services if you have questions (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **Medicare Coverage Gap Discount Program**

The Medicare Coverage Gap Discount Program provides manufacturer discounts on brand-name drugs to Part D members who have reached the coverage gap and are not receiving "Extra Help." For brand-name drugs, the 70% discount provided by manufacturers excludes any dispensing fee for costs in the gap. Members pay 25% of the negotiated price and a portion of the dispensing fee for brand-name drugs.

If you reach the coverage gap, we will automatically apply the discount when your pharmacy bills you for your prescription and your **Part D Explanation of Benefits (Part D EOB)** will show any discount provided. Both the amount you pay and the amount discounted by the manufacturer count toward your out-of-pocket costs as if you had paid them, and move you through the coverage gap. The amount paid by the plan (5%) does not count toward your out-of-pocket costs.

You also receive some coverage for generic drugs. If you reach the coverage gap, we pay 75% of the price for generic drugs and you pay the remaining 25% of the price. For generic drugs, the amount paid by our plan (75%) does not count toward your out-of-pocket costs. Only the amount you pay counts and moves you through the coverage gap. Also, the dispensing fee is included as part of the cost of the drug.

The Medicare Coverage Gap Discount Program is available nationwide. Because our plan offers additional gap coverage during the Coverage Gap Stage, your out-of-pocket costs will sometimes be lower than the costs described here. Please go to Chapter 6, Section 6, for more information about your coverage during the Coverage Gap Stage.

If you have any questions about the availability of discounts for the drugs you are taking or about the Medicare Coverage Gap Discount Program in general, please contact Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

*What if you have coverage from a State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program (SPAP)?*

If you are enrolled in a State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program (SPAP), or any other program that provides coverage for Part D drugs (other than "Extra Help"), you still get the 70% discount on covered brand-name drugs. Also, the plan pays 5% of the costs of brand-name drugs in the coverage gap. The 70% discount and the 5% paid by the plan are both applied to the price of the drug before any SPAP or other coverage.

*What if you have coverage from an AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)?*

*What is the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)?*

The AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) helps ADAP-eligible individuals living with HIV/AIDS have access to life-saving HIV medications. Medicare Part D prescription drugs that are also covered by ADAP qualify for prescription cost-sharing assistance through **Bridging the Gap Colorado**. Note: To be eligible for the ADAP operating in your state, individuals must meet certain criteria, including proof of state residence and HIV status, low income as defined by the state, and uninsured/underinsured status.

If you are currently enrolled in an ADAP, it can continue to provide you with Medicare Part D prescription cost-sharing assistance for drugs on the ADAP formulary. In order to be sure you continue receiving this assistance, please notify your local ADAP enrollment worker of any changes in your Medicare Part D plan name or policy number. Please call **Bridging the Gap Colorado** at 303-692-2716.

For information on eligibility criteria, covered drugs, or how to enroll in the program, please call **Bridging the Gap Colorado** at 303-692-2716.

*What if you get "Extra Help" from Medicare to help pay your prescription drug costs? Can you get the discounts?*

**No.** If you get "Extra Help," you already get coverage for your prescription drug costs during the coverage gap.

*What if you don't get a discount, and you think you should have?*

If you think that you have reached the coverage gap and did not get a discount when you paid for your brand-name drug, you should review your next *Part D Explanation of Benefits (Part D EOB)* notice. If the discount doesn't appear on your *Part D EOB*, you should contact us to make sure that your prescription records are correct and up-to-date. If we don't agree that you are owed a discount, you can appeal. You can get help filing an appeal from your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) (telephone numbers are in Section 3 of this chapter) or by calling **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.

### State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs

Many states have State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs that help some people pay for prescription drugs based on financial need, age, medical condition or disabilities. Each state has different rules to provide drug coverage to its members.

In Colorado, the name of the State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program is Bridging the Gap Colorado.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Bridging the Gap Colorado - contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>303-692-2716</b> Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
<b>WRITE</b>	Bridging the Gap Colorado C/O Colorado ADAP A3-3800 4300 Cherry Creek Drive South Denver, Colorado 80246-1530
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b><a href="https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/colorado-aids-drug-assistance-program-adap">https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/colorado-aids-drug-assistance-program-adap</a></b>

### SECTION 8. How to contact the Railroad Retirement Board

The Railroad Retirement Board is an independent federal agency that administers comprehensive benefit programs for the nation's railroad workers and their families. If you have questions regarding your benefits from the Railroad Retirement Board, contact the agency.

If you receive your Medicare through the Railroad Retirement Board, it is important that you let them know if you move or change your mailing address.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Railroad Retirement Board – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-877-772-5772</b> Calls to this number are free.  If you press “0,” you may speak with an RRB representative from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, and from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Wednesday  If you press “1,” you may access the automated RRB HelpLine and recorded information 24 hours a day, including weekends and holidays.

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**



**TTY**            **1-312-751-4701**

This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.  
Calls to this number are *not* free.

**WEBSITE**    **<https://www.secure.rrb.gov>**

### **SECTION 9. Do you have "group insurance" or other health insurance from an employer?**

If you (or your spouse) get benefits from your (or your spouse's) employer or retiree group as part of this plan, you may call the employer/union benefits administrator or Member Services if you have any questions. You can ask about your (or your spouse's) employer or retiree health benefits, premiums, or the enrollment period. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet. You may also call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227; TTY: 1-877-486-2048)** with questions related to your Medicare coverage under this plan.

If you have other prescription drug coverage through your (or your spouse's) employer or retiree group, please contact that group's benefits administrator. The benefits administrator can help you determine how your current prescription drug coverage will work with our plan.

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**CHAPTER 3. Using our plan's coverage for your medical services**

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## **SECTION 1. Things to know about getting your medical care covered as a member of our plan**

This chapter explains what you need to know about using our plan to get your medical care covered. It gives you definitions of terms and explains the rules you will need to follow to get the medical treatments, services, and other medical care that are covered by our plan.

For the details on what medical care is covered by our plan and how much you pay when you get this care, use the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

### **Section 1.1 What are "network providers" and "covered services"?**

Here are some definitions that can help you understand how you get the care and services that are covered for you as a member of our plan:

- **"Providers"** are doctors and other health care professionals licensed by the state to provide medical services and care. The term "providers" also includes hospitals and other health care facilities.
- **"Network providers"** are the doctors and other health care professionals, medical groups, hospitals, and other health care facilities that have an agreement with us to accept our payment and your cost-sharing amount as payment in full. We have arranged for these providers to deliver covered services to members in our plan. The providers in our network bill us directly for care they give you. When you see a network provider, you pay only your share of the cost for their services.
- **"Covered services"** include all the medical care, health care services, supplies, and equipment that are covered by our plan. Your covered services for medical care are listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

### **Section 1.2 Basic rules for getting your medical care covered by our plan**

As a Medicare health plan, our plan must cover all services covered by Original Medicare and must follow Original Medicare's coverage rules.

We will generally cover your medical care as long as:

- **The care you receive is included in our plan's Medical Benefits Chart** (found at the front of this **EOC**).
- **The care you receive is considered medically necessary.** "Medically necessary" means that the services, supplies, or drugs are needed for the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of your medical condition and meet accepted standards of medical practice.

- **You have a network primary care provider (a PCP)** who is providing and overseeing your care. As a member of our plan, you must choose a network PCP (for more information about this, see Section 2.1 in this chapter).
  - ◆ In most situations, your network PCP must give you approval in advance before you can use other providers in our plan's network, such as specialists, hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, or home health care agencies. This is called giving you a "referral" (for more information about this, see Section 2.3 in this chapter).
  - ◆ Referrals from your PCP are not required for emergency care or urgently needed services. There are also some other kinds of care you can get without having approval in advance from your PCP (for more information about this, see Section 2.2 in this chapter).
- **You must receive your care from a network provider** (for more information about this, see Section 2 in this chapter). In most cases, care you receive from an out-of-network provider (a provider who is not part of our plan's network) will not be covered. Here are three exceptions:
  - ◆ We cover emergency care or urgently needed services that you get from an out-of-network provider. For more information about this, and to see what emergency or urgently needed services means, see Section 3 in this chapter.
  - ◆ If you need medical care that Medicare requires our plan to cover and the providers in our network cannot provide this care, you can get this care from an out-of-network provider if we authorize the services before you get the care. In this situation, you will pay the same as you would pay if you got the care from a network provider. For information about getting approval to see an out-of-network doctor, see Section 2.3 in this chapter.
  - ◆ We cover kidney dialysis services that you get at a Medicare-certified dialysis facility when you are temporarily outside our service area.

## **SECTION 2. Use providers in our network to get your medical care**

### **Section 2.1 You must choose a Primary Care Provider (PCP) to provide and oversee your medical care**

#### **What is a "PCP" and what does the PCP do for you?**

As a member of our plan, you must choose a network provider to be your primary care provider (PCP). Your PCP is a health care professional who meets state requirements and is trained to give you primary medical care.

Your PCP will provide most of your care and may help you arrange or coordinate the rest of the covered services you get as a member of our plan. This includes your X-rays, laboratory tests, therapies, care from doctors who are specialists, hospital admissions, and follow-up care. "Coordinating" your services includes checking or consulting with other network providers about your care and how it is going.

There are a few types of covered services you can get on your own without contacting your PCP first (see Section 2.2 in this chapter).

In some cases, your PCP will also need to get prior authorization (prior approval) from us. The services that require prior authorization from us are discussed in Section 2.3 of this chapter.

### **How do you choose your PCP?**

You may choose a primary care provider from any of our available network physicians who practice in these specialties: internal medicine, family medicine, and pediatrics. When you make a selection, it is effective immediately. To learn how to choose a primary care provider, please call our Personal Physician Selection Services at **1-855-208-7221** (TTY **711**), weekdays 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. You can also make your selection at **kp.org**.

### **Changing your PCP**

You may change your PCP for any reason, at any time. Also, it's possible that your PCP might leave our network of providers and you would have to find a new PCP. To change your PCP, call our Personal Physician Selection Team at **1-855-208-7221** or **711** (TTY), weekdays 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., or make your selection at **kp.org**.

When you call, be sure to tell our Personal Physician Selection Team if you are seeing specialists or getting other covered services that need your PCP's approval (such as home health services and durable medical equipment). Our Personal Physician Selection Team will help make sure that you can continue with the specialty care and other services you have been getting when you change your PCP. They will also check to be sure the PCP you want to switch to is accepting new patients. When you make a new selection, the change is effective immediately.

## **Section 2.2 What kinds of medical care can you get without getting approval in advance from your PCP?**

You can get the services listed below without getting approval in advance from your PCP:

- Routine women's health care, which includes breast exams, screening mammograms (X-rays of the breast), Pap tests, and pelvic exams, as long as you get them from a network provider.
- Flu shots and pneumonia vaccinations, as long as you get them from a network provider.
- Emergency services from network providers or from out-of-network providers.
- Urgently needed services from network providers or from out-of-network providers when network providers are temporarily unavailable or inaccessible (for example, when you are temporarily outside of our service area).
- Kidney dialysis services that you get at a Medicare-certified dialysis facility when you are temporarily outside our service area. (If possible, please call Member Services before you leave the service area so we can help arrange for you to have maintenance dialysis while you are away.) Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.
- Consultation (routine office) visits to specialty-care departments within our plan, with the exception of the anesthesia clinical pain department.
- Second opinions from another network provider.
- Mental health care or substance abuse services, as long as you get them from a network provider.
- Preventive care except barium enemas, as long as you get them from a network provider.

- Chiropractic services as long as you get them from a network provider.
- Routine eye exams and hearing exams, as long as you get them from a network provider.
- Covered routine care from any Colorado Permanente Medical Group (CPMG) physician at any Kaiser Permanente medical office in our Southern Colorado or Northern Colorado service areas. Note: You cannot get routine care from affiliated network providers in the Southern Colorado or Northern Colorado service areas.

### **Section 2.3 How to get care from specialists and other network providers**

A specialist is a doctor who provides health care services for a specific disease or part of the body. There are many kinds of specialists. Here are a few examples:

- Oncologists care for patients with cancer.
- Cardiologists care for patients with heart conditions.
- Orthopedists care for patients with certain bone, joint, or muscle conditions.

#### **Referrals from your PCP**

You will usually see your PCP first for most of your routine health care needs. There are only a few types of covered services you may get on your own, without getting approval from your PCP first, which are described in Section 2.2 of this chapter.

When your PCP prescribes specialized treatment, he or she will give you a referral to see a network specialist or certain other network providers. However, for some types of specialty care referrals, your PCP may need to get approval in advance from our plan. If there is a particular network specialist or hospital that you want to use, check first to be sure your PCP makes referrals to that specialist, or uses that hospital.

#### **Prior authorization**

For the services and items listed below and in Chapter 4, Sections 2.1 and 2.2, your network provider will need to get approval in advance from our plan (this is called getting "prior authorization"). Decisions regarding requests for authorization will be made only by licensed physicians or other appropriately licensed medical professionals.

- For **certain specialty care**, your PCP will recommend to our plan that you be referred to a network specialist. The plan will authorize the services if it is determined that the covered services are medically necessary. Referrals to such specialist will be for a specific treatment plan, which may include a standing referral if ongoing care is prescribed. Please ask your network physician what services have been authorized. If the specialist wants you to come back for more care, be sure to check if the referral covers more visits to the specialist. If it doesn't, please contact your PCP. You must have an authorized referral for ongoing treatment from a network specialist except as described in Section 2.2. If you don't have a referral (approval in advance) before you get certain ongoing services, you may have to pay for these services yourself.
- If your network provider decides that you require **covered services not available from network providers**, he or she will recommend to our plan that you be referred to an out-of-

network provider inside or outside our service area. The plan will authorize the services if it is determined that the covered services are medically necessary and are not available from a network provider. Referrals to out-of-network providers will be for a specific treatment plan, which may include a standing referral if ongoing care is prescribed. Please ask your network provider what services have been authorized. If the out-of-network specialist wants you to come back for more care, be sure to check if the referral covers more visits to the specialist. If it doesn't, please contact your network provider.

- If your network physician makes a written referral for **bariatric surgery**, the service will be evaluated for medical necessity by our bariatric surgeon and the Metabolic Surgery and Weight Management Department.
- After we are notified that you need **post-stabilization care** from an out-of-network provider following emergency care, we will discuss your condition with the out-of-network provider. If we decide that you require post-stabilization care and that this care would be covered if you received it from a network provider, we will authorize your care from the out-of-network provider only if we cannot arrange to have a network provider (or other designated provider) provide the care. Please see Section 3.1 in this chapter for more information.
- Medically necessary **transgender surgery** and associated procedures.
- Care from a **religious nonmedical health care institution** described in Section 6 of this chapter.
- If your specialist makes a written referral for a **transplant**, the Medical Group's regional transplant advisory committee or board (if one exists) will authorize the services if it determines that they are medically necessary or covered in accord with Medicare guidelines. In cases where no transplant committee or board exists, the Medical Group will designate a specialist within the group to review and approve your transplant referral.

### **What if a specialist or another network provider leaves our plan?**

We may make changes to the hospitals, doctors, and specialists (providers) that are part of your plan during the year. There are a number of reasons why your provider might leave your plan, but if your doctor or specialist does leave your plan, you have certain rights and protections that are summarized below:

- Even though our network of providers may change during the year, Medicare requires that we furnish you with uninterrupted access to qualified doctors and specialists.
- We will make a good faith effort to provide you with at least 30 days' notice that your provider is leaving our plan so that you have time to select a new provider.
- We will assist you in selecting a new qualified provider to continue managing your health care needs.
- If you are undergoing medical treatment, you have the right to request, and we will work with you to ensure, that the medically necessary treatment you are receiving is not interrupted.
- If you believe we have not furnished you with a qualified provider to replace your previous provider or that your care is not being appropriately managed, you have the right to file an appeal of our decision.

- If you find out your doctor or specialist is leaving your plan, please contact us at **1-855-208-7221** (TTY 711), weekdays, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., so we can assist you in finding a new provider and managing your care.

## **Section 2.4 How to get care from out-of-network providers**

Care you receive from an out-of-network provider will not be covered except in the following situations:

- Emergency or urgently needed services that you get from an out-of-network provider. For more information about this, and to see what emergency or urgently needed services mean, see Section 3 in this chapter.
- We authorize a referral to an out-of-network provider described in Section 2.3 of this chapter.
- Kidney dialysis services that you get at a Medicare-certified dialysis facility when you are temporarily outside our service area.
- If you visit the service area of another Kaiser Permanente region, you can receive certain care covered under this **Evidence of Coverage** from designated providers in that service area. Please call Member Services or our away from home travel line at **1-951-268-3900** (24 hours a day, 7 days a week except holidays), TTY 711, for more information about getting care when visiting another Kaiser Permanente region's service area, including coverage information and facility locations in the District of Columbia and parts of California, Georgia, Hawaii, Maryland, Oregon, Virginia, and Washington.

## **SECTION 3. How to get covered services when you have an emergency or urgent need for care or during a disaster**

### **Section 3.1 Getting care if you have a medical emergency**

#### **What is a "medical emergency" and what should you do if you have one?**

A "medical emergency" is when you, or any other prudent layperson with an average knowledge of health and medicine, believe that you have medical symptoms that require immediate medical attention to prevent loss of life, loss of a limb, or loss of function of a limb. The medical symptoms may be an illness, injury, severe pain, or a medical condition that is quickly getting worse.

If you have a medical emergency:

- **Get help as quickly as possible.** Call **911** for help or go to the nearest emergency room or hospital. Call for an ambulance if you need it. You do not need to get approval or a referral first from your PCP.
- **As soon as possible, make sure that our plan has been told about your emergency.** We need to follow up on your emergency care. You or someone else should call to tell us about



your emergency care, usually within 48 hours. The number to call is listed on the back of your plan membership card.

### **What is covered if you have a medical emergency?**

You may get covered emergency medical care whenever you need it, anywhere inside or outside the United States. We cover ambulance services in situations where getting to the emergency room in any other way could endanger your health. For more information, see the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

You may get covered emergency medical care (including ambulance) when you need it anywhere in the world. However; you may have to pay for the services and file a claim for reimbursement (see Chapter 7 for more information).

If you have an emergency, we will talk with the doctors who are giving you emergency care to help manage and follow up on your care. The doctors who are giving you emergency care will decide when your condition is stable and the medical emergency is over.

After the emergency is over, you are entitled to follow-up care to be sure your condition continues to be stable. We will cover your follow-up post-stabilization care in accord with Medicare guidelines. If your emergency care is provided by out-of-network providers, we will try to arrange for network providers to take over your care as soon as your medical condition and the circumstances allow. It is very important that your provider call us to get authorization for post-stabilization care before you receive the care from the out-of-network provider. In most cases, you will only be held financially liable if you are notified by the out-of-network provider or us about your potential liability.

### **What if it wasn't a medical emergency?**

Sometimes it can be hard to know if you have a medical emergency. For example, you might go in for emergency care—thinking that your health is in serious danger—and the doctor may say that it wasn't a medical emergency after all. If it turns out that it was not an emergency, we will cover your care as long as you reasonably thought your health was in serious danger.

However, after the doctor has said that it was not an emergency, we will cover additional care only if you get the additional care in one of these two ways:

- You go to a network provider to get the additional care.
- Or the additional care you get is considered "urgently needed services" and you follow the rules for getting these urgently needed services (for more information about this, see Section 3.2 below).

## **Section 3.2 Getting care when you have an urgent need for services**

### **What are "urgently needed services"?**

"Urgently needed services" are a nonemergency, unforeseen medical illness, injury, or condition that requires immediate medical care. Urgently needed services may be furnished by network providers or by out-of-network providers when network providers are temporarily unavailable or

inaccessible. The unforeseen condition could, for example, be an unforeseen flare-up of a known condition that you have.

### **What if you are in our service area when you have an urgent need for care?**

You should always try to obtain urgently needed services from network providers. However, if providers are temporarily unavailable or inaccessible, and it is not reasonable to wait to obtain care from your network provider when the network becomes available, we will cover urgently needed services that you get from an out-of-network provider.

We know that sometimes it's difficult to know what type of care you need. That's why we have telephone advice nurses available to assist you. Our advice nurses are registered nurses specially trained to help assess medical symptoms and provide advice over the phone, when medically appropriate. Whether you are calling for advice or to make an appointment, you can speak to an advice nurse. They can often answer questions about a minor concern, tell you what to do if a network facility is closed, or advise you about what to do next, including making a same-day urgent care appointment for you if it's medically appropriate. To speak with an advice nurse 24 hours a day, seven days a week, or make an appointment, please call **1-800-218-1059 (TTY 711)**.

### **What if you are outside our service area when you have an urgent need for care?**

When you are outside the service area and cannot get care from a network provider, we will cover urgently needed services that you get from any provider. Our plan covers worldwide urgent care services outside the United States under the following circumstances:

- You are temporarily outside of our service area.
- The services were necessary to treat an unforeseen illness or injury to prevent serious deterioration of your health.
- It was not reasonable to delay treatment until you returned to our service area.
- The services would have been covered had you received them from a network provider.

## **Section 3.3 Getting care during a disaster**

If the governor of your state, the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, or the President of the United States declares a state of disaster or emergency in your geographic area, you are still entitled to care from us.

Please visit the following website—**kp.org**—for information on how to obtain needed care during a disaster.

Generally, if you cannot use a network provider during a disaster, we will allow you to obtain care from out-of-network providers at in-network cost-sharing. If you cannot use a network pharmacy during a disaster, you may be able to fill your prescription drugs at an out-of-network pharmacy. Please see Chapter 5, Section 2.5, for more information.

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## **SECTION 4. What if you are billed directly for the full cost of your covered services?**

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### **Section 4.1 You can ask us to pay our share of the cost for covered services**

If you have paid more than your share for covered services, or if you have received a bill for the full cost of covered medical services, go to Chapter 7, "Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs," for information about what to do.

### **Section 4.2 If services are not covered by our plan, you must pay the full cost**

We cover all medical services that are medically necessary, listed in the Medical Benefits Chart (this chart is found at the front of this **EOC**), and obtained consistent with plan rules. You are responsible for paying the full cost of services that aren't covered by our plan, either because they are not plan covered services or they were obtained out-of-network and were not authorized.

If you have any questions about whether we will pay for any medical service or care that you are considering, you have the right to ask us whether we will cover it before you get it. You also have the right to ask for this in writing. If we say we will not cover your services, you have the right to appeal our decision not to cover your care.

Chapter 9, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)," has more information about what to do if you want a coverage decision from us or want to appeal a decision we have already made. You may also call Member Services to get more information (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

For covered services that have a benefit limitation, you pay the full cost of any services you get after you have used up your benefit for that type of covered service. Any amounts you pay after the benefit has been exhausted will not count toward the out-of-pocket maximum. You can call Member Services when you want to know how much of your benefit limit you have already used.

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## **SECTION 5. How are your medical services covered when you are in a "clinical research study"?**

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### **Section 5.1 What is a "clinical research study"?**

A clinical research study (also called a "clinical trial") is a way that doctors and scientists test new types of medical care, like how well a new cancer drug works. They test new medical care procedures or drugs by asking for volunteers to help with the study. This kind of study is one of the final stages of a research process that helps doctors and scientists see if a new approach works and if it is safe.

Not all clinical research studies are open to members of our plan. Medicare first needs to approve the research study. If you participate in a study that Medicare has not approved, you will be responsible for paying all costs for your participation in the study.

Once Medicare approves the study, someone who works on the study will contact you to explain more about the study and see if you meet the requirements set by the scientists who are running the study. You can participate in the study as long as you meet the requirements for the study and you have a full understanding and acceptance of what is involved if you participate in the study.

If you participate in a Medicare-approved study, Original Medicare pays most of the costs for the covered services you receive as part of the study. When you are in a clinical research study, you may stay enrolled in our plan and continue to get the rest of your care (the care that is not related to the study) through our plan.

If you want to participate in a Medicare-approved clinical research study, you do not need to get approval from us or your PCP. The providers that deliver your care as part of the clinical research study do not need to be part of our plan's network of providers.

Although you do not need to get our plan's permission to be in a clinical research study, **you do need to tell us before you start participating in a clinical research study.**

If you plan on participating in a clinical research study, contact Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) to let them know that you will be participating in a clinical trial and to find out more specific details about what we will pay.

## **Section 5.2 When you participate in a clinical research study, who pays for what?**

Once you join a Medicare-approved clinical research study, you are covered for routine items and services you receive as part of the study, including:

- Room and board for a hospital stay that Medicare would pay for even if you weren't in a study.
- An operation or other medical procedure if it is part of the research study.
- Treatment of side effects and complications of the new care.

Original Medicare pays most of the cost of the covered services you receive as part of the study. After Medicare has paid its share of the cost for these services, our plan will also pay for part of the costs:

- We will pay the difference between the cost-sharing in Original Medicare and your cost-sharing as a member of our plan. This means you will pay the same amount for the services you receive as part of the study as you would if you received these services from our plan.
  - ◆ Here's an example of how the cost-sharing works: Let's say that you have a lab test that costs \$100 as part of the research study. Let's also say that your share of the costs for this test is \$20 under Original Medicare, but the test would be \$10 under our plan's benefits. In this case, Original Medicare would pay \$80 for the test and we would pay another \$10. This means that you would pay \$10, which is the same amount you would pay under our plan's benefits.

- In order for us to pay for our share of the costs, you will need to submit a request for payment. With your request, you will need to send us a copy of your Medicare Summary Notices or other documentation that shows what services you received as part of the study and how much you owe. Please see Chapter 7 for more information about submitting requests for payment.

When you are part of a clinical research study, **neither Medicare nor our plan will pay for any of the following:**

- Generally, Medicare will not pay for the new item or service that the study is testing, unless Medicare would cover the item or service even if you were not in a study.
- Items and services the study gives you or any participant for free.
- Items or services provided only to collect data, and not used in your direct health care. For example, Medicare would not pay for monthly CT scans done as part of the study if your medical condition would normally require only one CT scan.

### **Do you want to know more?**

You can get more information about joining a clinical research study by reading the publication "Medicare and Clinical Research Studies" on the Medicare website (<https://www.medicare.gov>). You can also call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.

## **SECTION 6. Rules for getting care covered in a "religious nonmedical health care institution"**

### **Section 6.1 What is a religious nonmedical health care institution?**

A religious nonmedical health care institution is a facility that provides care for a condition that would ordinarily be treated in a hospital or skilled nursing facility. If getting care in a hospital or a skilled nursing facility is against a member's religious beliefs, we will instead provide coverage for care in a religious nonmedical health care institution. You may choose to pursue medical care at any time for any reason. This benefit is provided only for Part A inpatient services (nonmedical health care services). Medicare will only pay for nonmedical health care services provided by religious nonmedical health care institutions.

### **Section 6.2 What care from a religious nonmedical health care institution is covered by our plan?**

To get care from a religious nonmedical health care institution, you must sign a legal document that says you are conscientiously opposed to getting medical treatment that is "non-excepted."

- "Non-excepted" medical care or treatment is any medical care or treatment that is voluntary and not required by any federal, state, or local law.
- "Excepted" medical treatment is medical care or treatment that you get that is not voluntary or is required under federal, state, or local law.

To be covered by our plan, the care you get from a religious nonmedical health care institution must meet the following conditions:

- The facility providing the care must be certified by Medicare.
- Our plan's coverage of services you receive is limited to nonreligious aspects of care.
- If you get services from this institution that are provided to you in a facility, the following conditions apply:
  - ◆ You must have a medical condition that would allow you to receive covered services for inpatient hospital care or skilled nursing facility care.
  - ◆ – and – you must get approval in advance from our plan before you are admitted to the facility or your stay will not be covered.

**Note:** Covered services are subject to the same limitations and cost-sharing required for services provided by network providers as described in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of the EOC, Chapters 4 and 12.

## **SECTION 7. Rules for ownership of durable medical equipment**

### **Section 7.1 Will you own the durable medical equipment after making a certain number of payments under our plan?**

Durable medical equipment (DME) includes items such as oxygen equipment and supplies, wheelchairs, walkers, powered mattress systems, crutches, diabetic supplies, speech-generating devices, IV infusion pumps, nebulizers, and hospital beds ordered by a provider for use in the home. The member always owns certain items, such as prosthetics. In this section, we discuss other types of DME that you must rent.

In Original Medicare, people who rent certain types of DME own the equipment after paying copayments for the item for 13 months. As a member of our plan, however, you will not acquire ownership of rented DME items no matter how many copayments you make for the item while a member of our plan. Even if you made up to 12 consecutive payments for the DME item under Original Medicare before you joined our plan, you will not acquire ownership no matter how many copayments you make for the item while a member of our plan.

#### **What happens to payments you made for durable medical equipment if you switch to Original Medicare?**

If you did not acquire ownership of the DME item while in our plan, you will have to make 13 new consecutive payments after you switch to Original Medicare in order to own the item. Payments you made while in our plan do not count toward these 13 consecutive payments.

If you made fewer than 13 payments for the DME item under Original Medicare before you joined our plan, your previous payments also do not count toward the 13 consecutive payments. You will have to make 13 new consecutive payments after you return to Original Medicare in

order to own the item. There are no exceptions to this case when you return to Original Medicare.

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**CHAPTER 4. Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

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## **SECTION 1. Understanding your out-of-pocket costs for covered services**

This chapter and the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this EOC focuses on your covered services and what you pay for your medical benefits. The Medical Benefits Chart lists your covered services and some limitations and shows how much you will pay for each covered service as a member of our plan. Later in this chapter, you can find information about medical services that are not covered. It also explains limits on certain services. In addition, please see Chapters 3, 11, and 12 for additional coverage information, including limitations (for example, coordination of benefits, durable medical equipment, home health care, skilled nursing facility care, and third party liability).

### **Section 1.1 Types of out-of-pocket costs you may pay for your covered services**

To understand the payment information we give you in this chapter, you need to know about the types of out-of-pocket costs you may pay for your covered services.

- A "**copayment**" is the fixed amount you pay each time you receive certain medical services. You pay a copayment at the time you get the medical service, unless we do not collect all cost-sharing at that time and send you a bill later. (The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this EOC tells you more about your copayments.)
- "**Coinsurance**" is the percentage you pay of the total cost of certain medical services. You pay a coinsurance at the time you get the medical service, unless we do not collect all cost-sharing at that time and send you a bill later. (The Medical Benefits Chart located found at the front of this EOC tells you more about your coinsurance.)
- The "**deductible**" is the amount you must pay for medical services before our plan begins to pay its share for your covered medical services. (**Note:** Not all plans have a deductible.) Until you have paid the deductible amount, you must pay the full cost of your covered services. Once you have paid your deductible, we will begin to pay our share of the costs for covered medical services and you will pay your share (your copayment or coinsurance). The deductible does not apply to some services. (The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this EOC tells you if your plan has a deductible, the deductible amount, and which services are subject to the deductible.)

Most people who qualify for Medicaid or for the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB) program should never pay deductibles, copayments or coinsurance. Be sure to show your proof of Medicaid or QMB eligibility to your provider, if applicable. If you think that you are being asked to pay improperly, contact Member Services.

### **Section 1.2 What is the most you will pay for Medicare Part A and Part B covered medical services?**

Because you are enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan, there is a limit to how much you have to pay out-of-pocket each year for in-network medical services that are covered under Medicare

Part A and Part B (see the Medical Benefits Chart located at the front of this **EOC**). This limit is called the maximum out-of-pocket amount for medical services.

As a member of our plan, the most you will have to pay out-of-pocket for in-network covered Part A and Part B services in 2020 is stated in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**. The amounts you pay for deductibles (if your plan has a deductible), copayments, and coinsurance for in-network covered services count toward this maximum out-of-pocket amount. The amounts you pay for your plan premiums and for your Part D prescription drugs do not count toward your maximum out-of-pocket amount. In addition, amounts you pay for some services do not count toward your maximum out-of-pocket amount. These services are marked with an asterisk (\*) in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

If you reach the maximum out-of-pocket amount stated in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**, you will not have to pay any out-of-pocket costs for the rest of the year for in-network covered Part A and Part B services. However, you must continue to pay your plan premium and the Medicare Part B premium (unless your Part B premium is paid for you by Medicaid or another third party).

### **Section 1.3 Our plan does not allow providers to "balance bill" you**

As a member of our plan, an important protection for you is that, after you meet any deductibles (if applicable to your plan), you only have to pay your cost-sharing amount when you get services covered by our plan. We do not allow providers to add additional separate charges, called "balance billing." This protection (that you never pay more than your cost-sharing amount) applies even if we pay the provider less than the provider charges for a service and even if there is a dispute and we don't pay certain provider charges.

Here is how this protection works:

- If your cost-sharing is a copayment (a set amount of dollars, for example, \$15.00), then you pay only that amount for any covered services from a network provider.
- If your cost-sharing is a coinsurance (a percentage of the total charges), then you never pay more than that percentage. However, your cost depends upon which type of provider you see:
  - ◆ If you receive the covered services from a network provider, you pay the coinsurance percentage multiplied by our plan's reimbursement rate (as determined in the contract between the provider and our plan).
  - ◆ If you receive the covered services from an out-of-network provider who participates with Medicare, you pay the coinsurance percentage multiplied by the Medicare payment rate for participating providers. (Remember, we cover services from out-of-network providers only in certain situations, such as when you get a referral.)
  - ◆ If you receive the covered services from an out-of-network provider who does not participate with Medicare, you pay the coinsurance percentage multiplied by the Medicare payment rate for nonparticipating providers. (Remember, we cover services from out-of-network providers only in certain situations, such as when you get a referral.)

- ◆ If you believe a provider has “balance billed” you, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

## **SECTION 2. Use the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this EOC to find out what is covered for you and how much you will pay**

### **Section 2.1 Your medical benefits and costs as a member of our plan**


The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** lists the services our plan covers and what you pay out-of-pocket for each service. The services listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** are covered only when the following coverage requirements are met:

- Your Medicare-covered services must be provided according to the coverage guidelines established by Medicare.
- Your services (including medical care, services, supplies, and equipment) must be medically necessary. "Medically necessary" means that the services, supplies, or drugs are needed for the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of your medical condition and meet accepted standards of medical practice.
- You receive your care from a network provider. In most cases, care you receive from an out-of-network provider will not be covered. Chapter 3 provides more information about requirements for using network providers and the situations when we will cover services from an out-of-network provider.
- You have a primary care provider (a PCP) who is providing and overseeing your care. In most situations, your PCP must give you approval in advance before you can see other providers in our plan's network. This is called giving you a "referral." Chapter 3 provides more information about getting a referral and the situations when you do not need a referral.
- Some of the services listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** are covered only if your doctor or other network provider gets approval in advance (sometimes called "prior authorization") from us. Covered services that need approval in advance are marked in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** with a footnote (†). In addition, see Section 2.2 in this chapter and Chapter 3, Section 2.3, for more information about prior authorization, including other services that require prior authorization that are not listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

Other important things to know about our coverage:

- Like all Medicare health plans, we cover everything that Original Medicare covers. For some of these benefits, you pay more in our plan than you would in Original Medicare. For others, you pay less. (If you want to know more about the coverage and costs of Original Medicare, look in your **Medicare & You 2020** handbook. View it online at <https://www.medicare.gov> or ask for a copy by calling **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.)

- For all preventive services that are covered at no cost under Original Medicare, we also cover the service at no cost to you. However, if you also are treated or monitored for an existing medical condition during the visit when you receive the preventive service, cost-sharing will apply for the care received for the existing medical condition.
- Sometimes Medicare adds coverage under Original Medicare for new services during the year. If Medicare adds coverage for any services during 2020, either Medicare or our plan will cover those services.

 You will see this apple next to the preventive services in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

### SECTION 3. What services are not covered by our plan?

#### Section 3.1 Services we do *not* cover (exclusions)

This section tells you what services are "excluded" from Medicare coverage and, therefore, are not covered by this plan. If a service is "excluded," it means that we don't cover the service.

The chart below lists services and items that either are not covered under any condition or are covered only under specific conditions.

If you get services that are excluded (not covered), you must pay for them yourself. We won't pay for the excluded medical services listed in the chart below except under the specific conditions listed. The only exception is we will pay if a service in the chart below is found upon appeal to be a medical service that we should have paid for or covered because of your specific situation. (For information about appealing a decision we have made to not cover a medical service, go to Chapter 9, Section 5.3, in this booklet.)

All exclusions or limitations on services are described in the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this **EOC** or in the chart below. Even if you receive the excluded services at an emergency facility, the excluded services are still not covered and our plan will not pay for them.

Services not covered by Medicare	Not covered under any condition	Covered only under specific conditions
Services considered not reasonable and necessary, according to the standards of Original Medicare		√ This exclusion doesn't apply to services or items that aren't covered by Original Medicare but are covered by our plan.
Experimental medical and surgical procedures, equipment and medications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experimental procedures and items are those items</li> </ul>		√ May be covered by Original Medicare under a Medicare-approved clinical research study.

Services not covered by Medicare	Not covered under any condition	Covered only under specific conditions
and procedures determined by our plan and Original Medicare to not be generally accepted by the medical community		(See Chapter 3, Section 5 for more information about clinical research studies.)
Private room in a hospital		√ Covered only when medically necessary.
Personal items in your room at a hospital or a skilled nursing facility, such as a telephone or a television	√	
Full-time nursing care in your home	√	
Custodial care is care provided in a nursing home, hospice, or other facility setting when you do not require skilled medical care or skilled nursing care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Custodial care is personal care that does not require the continuing attention of trained medical or paramedical personnel, such as care that helps you with activities of daily living, such as bathing or dressing</li> </ul>	√	
Homemaker services include basic household assistance, including light housekeeping or light meal preparation	√	
Fees charged by your immediate relatives or members of your household	√	
Cosmetic surgery or procedures		√

Services not covered by Medicare	Not covered under any condition	Covered only under specific conditions
		<p>Covered in cases of an accidental injury or for improvement of the functioning of a malformed body member.</p> <p>Covered for all stages of reconstruction for a breast after a mastectomy, as well as for the unaffected breast to produce a symmetrical appearance.</p>
Routine dental care, such as cleanings, fillings, or dentures		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> <p>Not covered unless your group has purchased coverage. Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this <b>EOC</b>.</p>
Nonroutine dental care		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> <p>Dental care required to treat illness or injury may be covered as inpatient or outpatient care.</p>
Routine chiropractic care		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> <p>Manual manipulation of the spine to correct a subluxation is covered.</p> <p>In addition, this exclusion does not apply if your employer purchased coverage for additional chiropractic care. Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this <b>EOC</b>.</p>
Routine foot care		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> <p>Some limited coverage provided according to Medicare guidelines, for example, if you have diabetes.</p>
Home-delivered meals	√	
Orthopedic shoes		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> <p>If shoes are part of a leg brace and are included in the cost of the brace, or the shoes are for a person with diabetic foot disease.</p>

Services not covered by Medicare	Not covered under any condition	Covered only under specific conditions
Supportive devices for the feet		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> Orthopedic or therapeutic footwear for people with diabetic foot disease.
Hearing aids		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> This exclusion does not apply if your group has purchased hearing aid coverage. Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart in the front of this <b>EOC</b> .  <b>Note:</b> For all members, this hearing aid exclusion does not apply to cochlear implants and osseointegrated external hearing devices covered by Medicare.
Industrial frames	√	
Lenses and sunglasses without refractive value		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> This exclusion does not apply to any of the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A clear balance lens if only one eye needs correction.</li> <li>• Tinted lenses when medically necessary to treat macular degeneration or retinitis pigmentosa.</li> </ul>
Replacement of lost, broken, or damaged lenses or frames	√	
Eyeglass or contact lens adornment, such as engraving, faceting, or jewelery	√	
Eyewear items that do not require a prescription by law (other than eyeglass frames), such as eyeglass holders, eyeglass cases, and repair kits	√	

Services not covered by Medicare	Not covered under any condition	Covered only under specific conditions
Radial keratotomy, LASIK surgery, and other low vision aids	√	
Reversal of sterilization procedures and non-prescription contraceptive supplies.	√	
Acupuncture		√ This exclusion does not apply if your employer has purchased coverage for acupuncture. Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of the <b>EOC</b> .
Naturopath services (uses natural or alternative treatments)	√	
Private duty nursing	√	
Elective or voluntary enhancement procedures or services (including weight loss, hair growth, sexual performance, athletic performance, cosmetic purposes, anti-aging, and mental performance)		√ Covered if medically necessary and covered under Original Medicare.
Services provided to veterans in Veterans Affairs (VA) facilities		√ When emergency services are received at a VA hospital and the VA cost-sharing is more than the cost-sharing under our plan, we will reimburse veterans for the difference. Members are still responsible for our plan's cost-sharing amounts.
Reconstructive surgery that offers only a minimal improvement in appearance or is performed to alter or		√ We cover reconstructive surgery to correct or repair abnormal structures of the body caused by congenital



Services not covered by Medicare	Not covered under any condition	Covered only under specific conditions
reshape normal structures of the body in order to improve appearance		defect, developmental abnormalities, accidental injury, trauma, infection, tumors, or disease, if a network physician determines that it is necessary to improve function, or create a normal appearance, to the extent possible.
Surgery that, in the judgment of a network physician specializing in reconstructive surgery, offers only a minimal improvement in appearance. Surgery that is performed to alter or reshape normal structures of the body in order to improve appearance	√	
Nonconventional intraocular lenses (IOLs) following cataract surgery (for example, a presbyopia-correcting IOL)		√ You may request and we may provide insertion of a presbyopia-correcting IOL or astigmatism-correcting IOL following cataract surgery in lieu of a conventional IOL. However, you must pay the difference between Plan Charges for a nonconventional IOL and associated services and Plan Charges for insertion of a conventional IOL following cataract surgery.
Directed blood donations	√	
Massage therapy		√ Covered when ordered as part of physical therapy program in accord with Medicare guidelines.
Transportation by air, car, taxi, bus, gurney van, wheelchair van, and any other type of transportation (other than a licensed ambulance),	√	

Services not covered by Medicare	Not covered under any condition	Covered only under specific conditions
even if it is the only way to travel to a network provider		
Licensed ambulance services without transport		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> Covered if the ambulance transports you or if covered by Medicare.
Physical exams and other services (1) required for obtaining or maintaining employment or participation in employee programs, (2) required for insurance or licensing, or (3) on court order or required for parole or probation		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> Covered if a network physician determines that the services are medically necessary or medically appropriate preventive care.
Services related to noncovered services or items		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> When a service or item is not covered, all services related to the noncovered service or item are excluded, (1) except for services or items we would otherwise cover to treat complications of the noncovered service or item, or (2) unless covered in accord with Medicare guidelines.
Services not approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration. Drugs, supplements, tests, vaccines, devices, radioactive materials, and any other services that by law require federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval in order to be sold in the U.S., but are not approved by the FDA		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> This exclusion applies to services provided anywhere, even outside the U.S. It doesn't apply to Medicare-covered clinical trials or covered emergency care you receive outside the U.S.

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## **CHAPTER 5. Using our plan's coverage for your Part D prescription drugs**

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### **Did you know there are programs to help people pay for their drugs?**

There are programs to help people with limited resources pay for their drugs. These include "Extra Help" and State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs. For more information, see Chapter 2, Section 7.

### **Are you currently getting help to pay for your drugs?**

If you are in a program that helps pay for your drugs, **some information in this Evidence of Coverage about the costs for Part D prescription drugs does not apply to you.** We sent you a separate document, called the "**Evidence of Coverage Rider for People Who Get Extra Help Paying for Prescription Drugs**" (also known as the "Low Income Subsidy Rider" or the "LIS Rider"), which tells you about your drug coverage. If you don't have this rider, please call Member Services and ask for the "LIS Rider." Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

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## **SECTION 1. Introduction**

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### **Section 1.1 This chapter describes your coverage for Part D drugs**

This chapter explains rules for using your coverage for Part D drugs. The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** and the next chapter tell you what you pay for Part D drugs (Chapter 6, "What you pay for your Part D prescription drugs").

In addition to your coverage for Part D drugs, we also cover some drugs under our plan's medical benefits. Through our coverage of Medicare Part A benefits, we generally cover drugs you are given during covered stays in the hospital or in a skilled nursing facility. Through our coverage of Medicare Part B benefits, we cover drugs including certain chemotherapy drugs, certain drug injections you are given during an office visit, and drugs you are given at a dialysis facility. The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** tells you about the benefits and costs for drugs during a covered hospital or skilled nursing facility stay, as well as your benefits and costs for Part B drugs.

Your drugs may be covered by Original Medicare if you are in Medicare hospice. We only cover Medicare Parts A, B, and D services and drugs that are unrelated to your terminal prognosis and related conditions, and therefore not covered under the Medicare hospice benefit. For more information, please see Section 9.4 in this chapter, "What if you're in Medicare-certified hospice." For information on hospice coverage, see the hospice section of the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this **EOC**.

If your group has purchased enhanced Part D prescription drug coverage, we cover some drugs that are not covered by Medicare Part B and Part D in accord with our formulary for non-Part D

drugs. The Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this **EOC** tells you about your benefits and costs for these drugs.

The following sections discuss coverage of your drugs under our plan's Part D benefit rules. Section 9 in this chapter, "Part D drug coverage in special situations," includes more information about your Part D coverage and Original Medicare.

## **Section 1.2 Basic rules for our plan's Part D drug coverage**

Our plan will generally cover your drugs as long as you follow these basic rules:

- You must have a provider (a doctor, dentist, or other prescriber) write your prescription.
- Your prescriber must either accept Medicare or file documentation with CMS showing that he or she is qualified to write prescriptions, or your Part D claim will be denied. You should ask your prescribers the next time you call or visit if they meet this condition. If not, please be aware it takes time for your prescriber to submit the necessary paperwork to be processed.
- You generally must use a network pharmacy to fill your prescription. (See Section 2, "Fill your prescriptions at a network pharmacy or through our mail-order service.")
- Your drug must be on our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary** (we call it the "Drug List" for short). (See Section 3, "Your drugs need to be on our Drug List.")
- Your drug must be used for a medically accepted indication. A "medically accepted indication" is a use of the drug that is either approved by the Food and Drug Administration or supported by certain reference books. (See Section 3 for more information about a medically accepted indication.)

## **SECTION 2. Fill your prescription at a network pharmacy or through our mail-order service**

### **Section 2.1 To have your prescription covered, use a network pharmacy**

In most cases, your prescriptions are covered only if they are filled at our network pharmacies. (See Section 2.5 for information about when we would cover prescriptions filled at out-of-network pharmacies.)

A network pharmacy is a pharmacy that has a contract with our plan to provide your covered prescription drugs. The term "covered drugs" means all of the Part D prescription drugs that are covered on our plan's Drug List.

Our network includes pharmacies that offer standard cost-sharing and pharmacies that offer preferred cost-sharing. You may go to either type of network pharmacy to receive your covered prescription drugs. Your cost-sharing may be less at pharmacies with preferred cost-sharing.

## Section 2.2 Finding network pharmacies

### How do you find a network pharmacy in your area?

To find a network pharmacy, you can look in your **Pharmacy Directory**, visit our website ([kp.org/directory](http://kp.org/directory)), or call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

You may go to any of our network pharmacies. However, your costs may be even less for your covered drugs if you use a network pharmacy that offers preferred cost-sharing rather than a network pharmacy that offers standard cost-sharing. The **Pharmacy Directory** will tell you which of the network pharmacies offer preferred cost-sharing. You can find out more about how your out-of-pocket costs could be different for different drugs by contacting us. If you switch from one network pharmacy. If you switch from one network pharmacy to another, and you need a refill of a drug you have been taking, you can ask to have your prescription transferred to your new network pharmacy.

### What if the pharmacy you have been using leaves the network?

If the pharmacy you have been using leaves our plan's network, you will have to find a new pharmacy that is in our network. Or if the pharmacy you have been using stays within the network but is no longer offering preferred cost-sharing, you may switch to a different pharmacy. To find another network pharmacy in your area, you can get help from Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) or use the **Pharmacy Directory**. You can also find information on our website at [kp.org/directory](http://kp.org/directory).

### What if you need a specialized pharmacy?

Sometimes prescriptions must be filled at a specialized pharmacy. Specialized pharmacies include:

- Pharmacies that supply drugs for home infusion therapy.
- Pharmacies that supply drugs for residents of a long-term care (LTC) facility. Usually, an LTC facility (such as a nursing home) has its own pharmacy. If you are in an LTC facility, we must ensure that you are able to routinely receive your Part D benefits through our network of LTC pharmacies, which is typically the pharmacy that the LTC facility uses. If you have any difficulty accessing your Part D benefits in an LTC facility, please contact Member Services.
- Pharmacies that serve the Indian Health Service / Tribal / Urban Indian Health Program (not available in Puerto Rico). Except in emergencies, only Native Americans or Alaska Natives have access to these pharmacies in our network. I/T/U pharmacies must be within our service area.
- Pharmacies that dispense drugs that are restricted by the FDA to certain locations or that require special handling, provider coordination, or education on their use.

**Note: This scenario should happen rarely.**

To locate a specialized pharmacy, look in your **Pharmacy Directory** or call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **Section 2.3 Using our mail-order services**

For certain kinds of drugs, you can use our plan's network mail-order services. Generally, the drugs provided through mail-order are drugs that you take on a regular basis for a chronic or long-term medical condition. The drugs available through our mail-order service are marked as "mail-order" drugs on our Drug List.

Our mail-order service requires you to order at least a 30-day supply of the drug and no more than a 90-day supply.

To get information about filling your prescriptions by mail, call Member Services. You can conveniently order your prescription refills in the following ways:

- Register and order online securely at [kp.org/refill](https://kp.org/refill).
- Call our mail-order service at **1-866-523-6059 (TTY 711)**, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Call the highlighted number listed on your prescription label and follow the prompts. Be sure to select the mail delivery option when prompted.
- Mail your prescription or refill request on a mail-order form available at any Kaiser Permanente network pharmacy.

When you order refills for home delivery online, by phone, or in writing, you must pay your cost-sharing when you place your order (there are no shipping charges for regular mail-order service). If you prefer, you may designate a network pharmacy where you want to pick up and pay for your prescription. Please contact a network pharmacy if you have a question about whether your prescription can be mailed or see our *Drug List* for information about the drugs that can be mailed.

Usually a mail-order pharmacy order will get to you in no more than 5 days. If your mail-order prescription is delayed, please call the number listed above or on your prescription bottle's label for assistance. Also, if you cannot wait for your prescription to arrive from our mail-order pharmacy, you can get an urgent supply by calling your local preferred network retail pharmacy listed in your **Pharmacy Directory** or at [kp.org/directory](https://kp.org/directory). Please be aware that you may pay more if you get a 90-day supply from a network retail pharmacy instead of from our preferred mail-order pharmacy.

**Refills on mail-order prescriptions.** For refills, please contact your pharmacy at least 5 days before you think the drugs you have on hand will run out to make sure your next order is shipped to you in time.

So the pharmacy can reach you to confirm your order before shipping, please make sure to let the pharmacy know the best ways to contact you. When you place your order, please provide your current contact information in case we need to reach you.



## **Section 2.4 How can you get a long-term supply of drugs?**

When you get a long-term supply of drugs, your cost-sharing may be lower. Our plan offers two ways to get a long-term supply (also called an "extended supply") of "maintenance" drugs on our plan's Drug List. Maintenance drugs are drugs that you take on a regular basis for a chronic or long-term medical condition. You may order this supply through mail order (see Section 2.3 in this chapter) or you may go to a retail pharmacy.

1. Some retail pharmacies in our network allow you to get a long-term supply of maintenance drugs. Your Pharmacy Directory tells you which pharmacies in our network can give you a long-term supply of maintenance drugs. You can also call Member Services for more information (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
2. For certain kinds of drugs, you can use our plan's network mail-order services. The drugs available through our mail-order service are marked as "mail-order" drugs on our Drug List. Our mail-order service requires you to order at least a 30-day supply of the drug and no more than a 90-day supply. See Section 2.3 for more information about using our mail-order services.

## **Section 2.5 When can you use a pharmacy that is not in our network?**

### **Your prescription may be covered in certain situations**

Generally, we cover drugs filled at an out-of-network pharmacy only when you are not able to use a network pharmacy. To help you, we have network pharmacies outside of our service area where you can get your prescriptions filled as a member of our plan. If you cannot use a network pharmacy, here are the circumstances when we would cover prescriptions filled at an out-of-network pharmacy:

- If you are traveling within the United States and its territories but outside the service area and you become ill or run out of your covered Part D prescription drugs, we will cover prescriptions that are filled at an out-of-network pharmacy in limited, nonroutine circumstances according to our Medicare Part D formulary guidelines.
- If you need a Medicare Part D prescription drug in conjunction with covered out-of-network emergency care or out-of-area urgent care, we will cover up to a 30-day supply from an out-of-network pharmacy. **Note:** Prescription drugs prescribed and provided outside of the United States and its territories as part of covered emergency or urgent care are covered up to a 30-day supply in a 30-day period. These drugs are not covered under Medicare Part D; therefore, payments for these drugs do not count toward reaching the catastrophic coverage stage.
- If you are unable to obtain a covered drug in a timely manner within our service area because there is no network pharmacy within a reasonable driving distance that provides 24-hour service. We may not cover your prescription if a reasonable person could have purchased the drug at a network pharmacy during normal business hours.
- If you are trying to fill a prescription for a drug that is not regularly stocked at an accessible network pharmacy or available through our mail-order pharmacy (including high-cost drugs).

- If you are not able to get your prescriptions from a network pharmacy during a disaster.

**In these situations, please check first with Member Services to see if there is a network pharmacy nearby.** Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet. You may be required to pay the difference between what you pay for the drug at the out-of-network pharmacy and the cost that we would cover at an in-network pharmacy.

### **How do you ask for reimbursement from our plan?**

If you must use an out-of-network pharmacy, you will generally have to pay the full cost (rather than your normal share of the cost) at the time you fill your prescription. You can ask us to reimburse you for our share of the cost. (Chapter 7, Section 2.1, explains how to ask us to pay you back.)

## **SECTION 3. Your drugs need to be on our "Drug List"**

### **Section 3.1 The "Drug List" tells which Part D drugs are covered**

Our plan has a **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**. In this **Evidence of Coverage**, we call it the "Drug List" for short.

The drugs on this list are selected by our plan with the help of a team of doctors and pharmacists. The list must meet requirements set by Medicare. Medicare has approved our plan's Drug List.

The drugs on the Drug List are only those covered under Medicare Part D (earlier in this chapter, Section 1.1 explains about Part D drugs).

We will generally cover a drug on our plan's Drug List as long as you follow the other coverage rules explained in this chapter and the use of the drug is a medically accepted indication. A "medically accepted indication" is a use of the drug that is either:

- Approved by the Food and Drug Administration. (That is, the Food and Drug Administration has approved the drug for the diagnosis or condition for which it is being prescribed.)
- Or supported by certain reference books. (These reference books are the American Hospital Formulary Service Drug Information; the DRUGDEX Information System; and, for cancer, the National Comprehensive Cancer Network and Clinical Pharmacology or their successors.)

### **Our Drug List includes both brand-name and generic drugs**

A generic drug is a prescription drug that has the same active ingredients as the brand-name drug. Generally, it works just as well as the brand-name drug and usually costs less. There are generic drug substitutes available for many brand-name drugs.

### **What is not on our Drug List?**

Our plan does not cover all prescription drugs.

- In some cases, the law does not allow any Medicare plan to cover certain types of drugs (for more information about this, see Section 7.1 in this chapter).
- In other cases, we have decided not to include a particular drug on our Drug List.

### **Section 3.2 There are six "cost-sharing" tiers" for drugs on our *Drug List***

Every drug on our plan's Drug List is in one of six cost-sharing tiers. Depending upon the plan your group has selected, cost-sharing may vary from one tier to the next. In general, the higher the cost-sharing tier, the higher your cost for the drug:

- Cost-sharing **Tier 1** for preferred generic drugs.
- Cost-sharing **Tier 2** for generic drugs (this tier includes some brand-name drugs).
- Cost-sharing **Tier 3** for preferred brand-name drugs.
- Cost-sharing **Tier 4** for nonpreferred brand-name drugs (this tier includes some generic drugs).
- Cost-sharing **Tier 5** for specialty-tier drugs (this tier includes both generic and brand-name drugs).
- Cost-sharing **Tier 6** for injectable Part D vaccines (this tier includes only brand-name drugs).

To find out which cost-sharing tier your drug is in, look it up on our Drug List. The amount you pay for drugs in each cost-sharing tier is shown in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this EOC.

### **Section 3.3 How can you find out if a specific drug is on our Drug List?**

**You have three ways to find out:**

1. Check the most recent Drug List we provided electronically at **kp.org**.
2. Visit our website (**kp.org/seniorrx**). Our Drug List (**Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**) on the website is always the most current.
3. Call Member Services to find out if a particular drug is on our plan's Drug List (**Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**) or to ask for a copy of the list. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

## **SECTION 4. There are restrictions on coverage for some drugs**

### **Section 4.1 Why do some drugs have restrictions?**

For certain prescription drugs, special rules restrict how and when we cover them. A team of doctors and pharmacists developed these rules to help our members use drugs in the most effective ways. These special rules also help control overall drug costs, which keeps your drug coverage more affordable.

In general, our rules encourage you to get a drug that works for your medical condition and is safe and effective. Whenever a safe, lower-cost drug will work just as well medically as a higher-

cost drug, our plan's rules are designed to encourage you and your provider to use that lower-cost option. We also need to comply with Medicare's rules and regulations for drug coverage and cost-sharing.

If there is a restriction for your drug, it usually means that you or your provider will have to take extra steps in order for us to cover the drug. If you want us to waive the restriction for you, you will need to use the coverage decision process and ask us to make an exception. We may or may not agree to waive the restriction for you. (See Chapter 9, Section 6.2, for information about asking for exceptions.)

Please note that sometimes a drug may appear more than once on our Drug List (**Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**). This is because different restrictions or cost-sharing may apply based on factors such as the strength, amount, or form of the drug prescribed by your health care provider (for instance, 10 mg versus 100 mg; one per day versus two per day; tablet versus liquid).

## **Section 4.2 What kinds of restrictions?**

Our plan uses different types of restrictions to help our members use drugs in the most effective ways. The sections below tell you more about the types of restrictions we use for certain drugs.

### **Restricting brand-name drugs when a generic version is available**

Generally, a "generic" drug works the same as a brand-name drug and usually costs less. When a generic version of a brand-name drug is available, our network pharmacies will provide you the generic version. We usually will not cover the brand-name drug when a generic version is available. However, if your provider has told us the medical reason that neither the generic drug nor other covered drugs that treat the same condition will work for you, then we will cover the brand-name drug. (Your share of the cost may be greater for the brand-name drug than for the generic drug.)

### **Getting plan approval in advance**

For certain drugs, you or your provider need to get approval from our plan before we will agree to cover the drug for you. This is called "**prior authorization.**" Sometimes the requirement for getting approval in advance helps guide appropriate use of certain drugs. If you do not get this approval, your drug might not be covered by our plan.

## **Section 4.3 Do any of these restrictions apply to your drugs?**

Our plan's Drug List includes information about the restrictions described above. To find out if any of these restrictions apply to a drug you take or want to take, check our Drug List. For the most up-to-date information, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) or check our website (**kp.org/seniorrx**).

If there is a restriction for your drug, it usually means that you or your provider will have to take extra steps in order for us to cover the drug. If there is a restriction on the drug you want to take, you should contact Member Services to learn what you or your provider would need to do to get

coverage for the drug. If you want us to waive the restriction for you, you will need to use the coverage decision process and ask us to make an exception. We may or may not agree to waive the restriction for you. (See Chapter 9, Section 6.2, for information about asking for exceptions.)

## **SECTION 5. What if one of your drugs is not covered in the way you'd like it to be covered?**

### **Section 5.1 There are things you can do if your drug is not covered in the way you'd like it to be covered**

We hope that your drug coverage will work well for you. But it's possible that there could be a prescription drug you are currently taking, or one that you and your provider think you should be taking that is not on our formulary or is on our formulary with restrictions. For example:

- The drug might not be covered at all. Or maybe a generic version of the drug is covered but the brand-name version you want to take is not covered.
- The drug is covered, but there are extra rules or restrictions on coverage for that drug. As explained in Section 4, some of the drugs covered by our plan have extra rules to restrict their use. In some cases, you may want us to waive the restriction for you.
- The drug is covered, but it is in a cost-sharing tier that makes your cost-sharing more expensive than you think it should be. Our plan puts each covered drug into one of six different cost-sharing tiers. How much you pay for your prescription depends in part on which cost-sharing tier your drug is in.

There are things you can do if your drug is not covered in the way that you'd like it to be covered. Your options depend upon what type of problem you have:

- If your drug is not on our Drug List or if your drug is restricted, go to Section 5.2 to learn what you can do.
- If your drug is in a cost-sharing tier that makes your cost more expensive than you think it should be, go to Section 5.3 to learn what you can do.

### **Section 5.2 What can you do if your drug is not on our Drug List or if the drug is restricted in some way?**

If your drug is not on our Drug List or is restricted, here are things you can do:

- You may be able to get a temporary supply of the drug (only members in certain situations can get a temporary supply). This will give you and your provider time to change to another drug or to file a request to have the drug covered.
- You can change to another drug.
- You can request an exception and ask us to cover the drug or remove restrictions from the drug.

## **You may be able to get a temporary supply**

Under certain circumstances, we can offer a temporary supply of a drug to you when your drug is not on our Drug List or when it is restricted in some way. Doing this gives you time to talk with your provider about the change in coverage and figure out what to do.

To be eligible for a temporary supply, you must meet the two requirements below:

### **1. The change to your drug coverage must be one of the following types of changes:**

- ◆ The drug you have been taking is no longer on our plan's Drug List.
- ◆ Or the drug you have been taking is now restricted in some way (Section 4 in this chapter tells you about restrictions).

### **2. You must be in one of the situations described below:**

- ◆ **For those members who are new or who were in our plan last year:** We will cover a temporary supply of your drug during the first 90 days of your membership in our plan if you are new and during the first 90 days of the calendar year if you were in our plan last year. This temporary supply will be for a maximum of a 30-day supply. If your prescription is written for fewer days, we will allow multiple fills to provide up to a maximum of a 30-day supply of medication. The prescription must be filled at a network pharmacy. (Please note that the long-term care pharmacy may provide the drug in smaller amounts at a time to prevent waste.)
- ◆ **For those members who have been in our plan for more than 90 days and reside in a long-term care (LTC) facility and need a supply right away:** We will cover one 31-day supply of a particular drug, or less if your prescription is written for fewer days. This is in addition to the above temporary supply situation.
- ◆ **For current members with level of care changes,** if you enter into or are discharged from a hospital, skilled nursing facility, or long-term care facility to a different care setting or home, this is what is known as a level of care change. When your level of care changes, you may require an additional fill of your medication. We will generally cover up to a one-month supply of your Part D drugs during this level of care transition period even if the drug is not on our Drug List.

To ask for a temporary supply, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

During the time when you are getting a temporary supply of a drug, you should talk with your provider to decide what to do when your temporary supply runs out. You can either switch to a different drug covered by our plan or ask us to make an exception for you and cover your current drug. The sections below tell you more about these options.

## **You can change to another drug**

Start by talking with your provider. Perhaps there is a different drug covered by our plan that might work just as well for you. You can call Member Services to ask for a list of covered drugs that treat the same medical condition. This list can help your provider find a covered drug that might work for you. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

### **You can ask for an exception**

You and your provider can ask us to make an exception for you and cover the drug in the way you would like it to be covered. If your provider says that you have medical reasons that justify asking us for an exception, your provider can help you request an exception to the rule. For example, you can ask us to cover a drug even though it is not on our plan's Drug List. Or you can ask us to make an exception and cover the drug without restrictions.

If you and your provider want to ask for an exception, Chapter 9, Section 6.4, tells you what to do. It explains the procedures and deadlines that have been set by Medicare to make sure your request is handled promptly and fairly.

### **Section 5.3 What can you do if your drug is in a cost-sharing tier you think is too high?**

**If your drug is in a cost-sharing tier you think is too high, here are things you can do:**

#### **You can change to another drug**

If your drug is in a cost-sharing tier you think is too high, start by talking with your provider. Perhaps there is a different drug in a lower cost-sharing tier that might work just as well for you. You can call Member Services to ask for a list of covered drugs that treat the same medical condition. This list can help your provider find a covered drug that might work for you. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

#### **You can ask for an exception**

You and your provider can ask us to make an exception to the cost-sharing tier for the drug so that you pay less for it. If your provider says that you have medical reasons that justify asking us for an exception, your provider can help you request an exception to the rule.

If you and your provider want to ask for an exception, Chapter 9, Section 6.4, tells you what to do. It explains the procedures and deadlines that have been set by Medicare to make sure your request is handled promptly and fairly.

Drugs in our specialty tier (Tier 5) are not eligible for this type of exception. We do not lower the cost-sharing amount for drugs in this tier.

## **SECTION 6. What if your coverage changes for one of your drugs?**

### **Section 6.1 The Drug List can change during the year**

Most of the changes in drug coverage happen at the beginning of each year (January 1). However, during the year, we might make changes to the Drug List. For example, we might:

- Add or remove drugs from the Drug List. New drugs become available, including new generic drugs. Perhaps the government has given approval to a new use for

an existing drug. Sometimes, a drug gets recalled and we decide not to cover it. Or we might remove a drug from the list because it has been found to be ineffective.

- Move a drug to a higher or lower cost-sharing tier.
- Add or remove a restriction on coverage for a drug (for more information about restrictions to coverage, see Section 4 in this chapter).
- Replace a brand-name drug with a generic drug.

We must follow Medicare requirements before we change our Drug List.

## **Section 6.2 What happens if coverage changes for a drug you are taking?**

### **Information on changes to drug coverage**

When changes to the Drug List occur during the year, we post information on our website about those changes. We will update our online Drug List on a regularly scheduled basis to include any changes that have occurred after the last update. Below we point out the times that you would get direct notice if changes are made to a drug that you are then taking. You can also call Member Services for more information (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **Do changes to your drug coverage affect you right away?**

Changes that can affect you this year: In the below cases, you will be affected by the coverage changes during the current year:

- **A new generic drug replaces a brand-name drug on the Drug List (or we change the cost-sharing tier or add new restrictions to the brand-name drug)**
  - ◆ We may immediately remove a brand-name drug on our Drug List if we are replacing it with a newly approved generic version of the same drug that will appear on the same or lower cost-sharing tier and with the same or fewer restrictions. Also, when adding the new generic drug, we may decide to keep the brand-name drug on our Drug List, but immediately move it to a higher cost-sharing tier or add new restrictions.
  - ◆ We may not tell you in advance before we make that change—even if you are currently taking the brand-name drug.
  - ◆ You or your prescriber can ask us to make an exception and continue to cover the brand-name drug for you. For information on how to ask for an exception, see Chapter 9, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)."
  - ◆ If you are taking the brand-name drug at the time we make the change, we will provide you with information about the specific change(s) we made. This will also include information on the steps you may take to request an exception to cover the brand-name drug. You may not get this notice before we make the change.
- **Unsafe drugs and other drugs on the Drug List that are withdrawn from the market.**
  - ◆ Once in a while, a drug may be suddenly withdrawn because it has been found to be unsafe or removed from the market for another reason. If this happens, we will immediately remove the drug from the Drug List. If you are taking that drug, we will let you know of this change right away.



- ◆ Your prescriber will also know about this change, and can work with you to find another drug for your condition.
- **Other changes to drugs on the Drug List.**
  - ◆ We may make other changes once the year has started that affect drugs you are taking. For instance, we might add a generic drug that is not new to the market to replace a brand-name drug or change the cost-sharing tier or add new restrictions to the brand-name drug. We also might make changes based on FDA boxed warnings or new clinical guidelines recognized by Medicare. We must give you at least 30 days' advance notice of the change or give you notice of the change and a 30-day refill of the drug you are taking at a network pharmacy
  - ◆ After you receive notice of the change, you should be working with your prescriber to switch to a different drug that we cover.
  - ◆ Or you or your prescriber can ask us to make an exception and continue to cover the drug for you. For information on how to ask for an exception, see Chapter 9, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)."
- **Changes to drugs on the Drug List that will not affect people currently taking the drug:** For changes to the Drug List that are not described above, if you are currently taking the drug, the following types of changes will not affect you until January 1 of the next year if you stay in our plan:
  - ◆ If we move your drug into a higher cost-sharing tier.
  - ◆ If we put a new restriction on your use of the drug.
  - ◆ If we remove your drug from the Drug List.

If any of these changes happen to a drug you are taking (but not because of a market withdrawal, a generic drug replacing a brand-name drug, or other change noted in the sections above), then the change won't affect your use or what you pay as your share of the cost until January 1 of the next year. Until that date, you probably won't see any increase in your payments or any added restriction to your use of the drug. You will not get direct notice this year about changes that do not affect you. However, on January 1 of the next year, the changes will affect you, and it is important to check the new year's Drug List for any changes to drugs.

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## **SECTION 7. What types of drugs are not covered by our plan?**

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### **Section 7.1 Types of drugs we do not cover**

This section tells you what kinds of prescription drugs are "excluded." This means Medicare does not pay for these drugs.

If you get drugs that are excluded, you must pay for them yourself. We won't pay for the drugs that are listed in this section; the only exception is if the requested drug is found upon appeal to be a drug that is not excluded under Part D and we should have paid for or covered it because of

your specific situation. (For information about appealing a decision we have made to not cover a drug, go to Chapter 9, Section 6.5, in this booklet.)

Here are three general rules about drugs that Medicare drug plans will not cover under Part D:

- Our plan's Part D drug coverage cannot cover a drug that would be covered under Medicare Part A or Part B.
- Our plan cannot cover a drug purchased outside the United States and its territories.
- Our plan usually cannot cover off-label use. "Off-label use" is any use of the drug other than those indicated on a drug's label as approved by the Food and Drug Administration.
  - ◆ Generally, coverage for "off-label use" is allowed only when the use is supported by certain reference books. These reference books are the American Hospital Formulary Service Drug Information; the DRUGDEX Information System; and for cancer, the National Comprehensive Cancer Network and Clinical Pharmacology; or their successors. If the use is not supported by any of these reference books, then our plan cannot cover its "off-label use."

Also, by law, these categories of drugs are not covered by Medicare drug plans:

- Nonprescription drugs (also called over-the-counter drugs).
- Drugs when used to promote fertility.
- Drugs when used for the relief of cough or cold symptoms.
- Drugs when used for cosmetic purposes or to promote hair growth.
- Prescription vitamins and mineral products, except prenatal vitamins and fluoride preparations.
- Drugs when used for the treatment of sexual or erectile dysfunction.
- Drugs when used for treatment of anorexia, weight loss, or weight gain.
- Outpatient drugs for which the manufacturer seeks to require that associated tests or monitoring services be purchased exclusively from the manufacturer as a condition of sale.

**If you receive "Extra Help" paying for your drugs**, your state Medicaid program may cover some prescription drugs not normally covered in a Medicare drug plan. Please contact your state Medicaid program to determine what drug coverage may be available to you. (You can find phone numbers and contact information for Medicaid in Chapter 2, Section 6.)

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## **SECTION 8. Show your plan membership card when you fill a prescription**

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### **Section 8.1 Show your membership card**

To fill your prescription, show your plan membership card at the network pharmacy you choose. When you show your plan membership card, the network pharmacy will automatically bill our plan for our share of your covered prescription drug cost. You will need to pay the pharmacy your share of the cost when you pick up your prescription.

## **Section 8.2 What if you don't have your membership card with you?**

If you don't have your plan membership card with you when you fill your prescription, ask the pharmacy to call our plan to get the necessary information.

If the pharmacy is not able to get the necessary information, you may have to pay the full cost of the prescription when you pick it up. You can then ask us to reimburse you for our share. See Chapter 7, Section 2.1, for information about how to ask us for reimbursement.

## **SECTION 9. Part D drug coverage in special situations**

### **Section 9.1 What if you're in a hospital or a skilled nursing facility for a stay that is covered by our plan?**

If you are admitted to a hospital or to a skilled nursing facility for a stay covered by our plan, we will generally cover the cost of your prescription drugs during your stay. Once you leave the hospital or skilled nursing facility, we will cover your drugs as long as the drugs meet all of our rules for coverage. See the previous parts of this section that tell you about the rules for getting drug coverage. The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** gives you more information about drug coverage and what you pay.

**Please note:** When you enter, live in, or leave a skilled nursing facility, you are entitled to a special enrollment period. During this time period, you can switch plans or change your coverage. (Chapter 10, "Ending your membership in our plan," tells you when you can leave our plan and join a different Medicare plan.)

### **Section 9.2 What if you're a resident in a long-term care (LTC) facility?**

Usually, a long-term care (LTC) facility (such as a nursing home) has its own pharmacy, or a pharmacy that supplies drugs for all of its residents. If you are a resident of a long-term care facility, you may get your prescription drugs through the facility's pharmacy as long as it is part of our network.

Check your **Pharmacy Directory** to find out if your long-term care facility's pharmacy is part of our network. If it isn't, or if you need more information, please contact Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **What if you're a resident in a long-term care (LTC) facility and become a new member of our plan?**

If you need a drug that is not on our Drug List or is restricted in some way, we will cover a **temporary supply** of your drug during the first 90 days of your membership. The total supply will be for a maximum of up to a 31-day supply, or less if your prescription is written for fewer days. (Please note that the long-term care (LTC) pharmacy may provide the drug in smaller amounts at a time to prevent waste.)

If you have been a member of our plan for more than 90 days and need a drug that is not on our Drug List or if our plan has any restriction on the drug's coverage, we will cover one 31-day supply, or less if your prescription is written for fewer days.

During the time when you are getting a temporary supply of a drug, you should talk with your provider to decide what to do when your temporary supply runs out. Perhaps there is a different drug covered by our plan that might work just as well for you. Or you and your provider can ask us to make an exception for you and cover the drug in the way you would like it to be covered. If you and your provider want to ask for an exception, Chapter 9, Section 6.4, tells you what to do.

### **Section 9.3 Special note about "creditable coverage"**

Each year your employer or retiree group should send you a notice that tells you if your prescription drug coverage for the next calendar year is "creditable" and the choices you have for drug coverage.

If the coverage from the group plan is "**creditable**," it means that the plan has drug coverage that is expected to pay, on average, at least as much as Medicare's standard prescription drug coverage.

Keep these notices about creditable coverage because you may need them later. If you enroll in a Medicare plan that includes Part D drug coverage, you may need these notices to show that you have maintained creditable coverage. If you didn't get a notice about creditable coverage, from your employer or retiree group plan, you can get a copy from your employer or retiree group's benefits administrator or the employer or union.

### **Section 9.4 What if you're in Medicare-certified hospice?**

Drugs are never covered by both hospice and our plan at the same time. If you are enrolled in Medicare hospice and require an anti-nausea, laxative, pain medication, or antianxiety drug that is not covered by your hospice because it is unrelated to your terminal illness and related conditions, our plan must receive notification from either the prescriber or your hospice provider that the drug is unrelated before our plan can cover the drug. To prevent delays in receiving any unrelated drugs that should be covered by our plan, you can ask your hospice provider or prescriber to make sure we have the notification that the drug is unrelated before you ask a pharmacy to fill your prescription.

In the event you either revoke your hospice election or are discharged from hospice, our plan should cover all your drugs. To prevent any delays at a pharmacy when your Medicare hospice benefit ends, you should bring documentation to the pharmacy to verify your revocation or discharge. See the previous parts of this chapter that tell about the rules for getting drug coverage under Part D. Chapter 6, "What you pay for your Part D prescription drugs," gives more information about drug coverage and what you pay.

## **SECTION 10. Programs on drug safety and managing medications**

### **Section 10.1 Programs to help members use drugs safely**

We conduct drug use reviews for our members to help make sure that they are getting safe and appropriate care. These reviews are especially important for members who have more than one provider who prescribes their drugs.

We do a review each time you fill a prescription. We also review our records on a regular basis. During these reviews, we look for potential problems such as:

- Possible medication errors.
- Drugs that may not be necessary because you are taking another drug to treat the same medical condition.
- Drugs that may not be safe or appropriate because of your age or gender.
- Certain combinations of drugs that could harm you if taken at the same time.
- Prescriptions written for drugs that have ingredients you are allergic to.
- Possible errors in the amount (dosage) of a drug you are taking.
- Unsafe amounts of opioid pain medications.

If we see a possible problem in your use of medications, we will work with your provider to correct the problem.

### **Section 10.2 Drug Management Program (DMP) to help members safely use their opioid medications**

We have a program that can help make sure our members safely use their prescription opioid medications, or other medications that are frequently abused. This program is called a Drug Management Program (DMP). If you use opioid medications that you get from several doctors or pharmacies, we may talk to your doctors to make sure your use is appropriate and medically necessary. Working with your doctors, if we decide you are at risk for misusing or abusing your opioid or benzodiazepine medications, we may limit how you can get those medications. The limitations may be:

- Requiring you to get all your prescriptions for opioid or benzodiazepine medications from one pharmacy.
- Requiring you to get all your prescriptions for opioid or benzodiazepine medications from one doctor.
- Limiting the amount of opioid or benzodiazepine medications we will cover for you.

If we decide that one or more of these limitations should apply to you, we will send you a letter in advance. The letter will have information explaining the terms of the limitations we think

should apply to you. You will also have an opportunity to tell us which doctors or pharmacies you prefer to use. If you think we made a mistake or you disagree with our determination that you are at-risk for prescription drug abuse or the limitation, you and your prescriber have the right to ask us for an appeal. See Chapter 9 for information about how to ask for an appeal.

The DMP may not apply to you if you have certain medical conditions, such as cancer, you are receiving hospice, palliative, or end-of-life care, or you live in a long-term care facility.

### **Section 10.3 Medication Therapy Management (MTM) program to help members manage their medications**

We have a program that can help our members with complex health needs. For example, some members have several medical conditions, take different drugs at the same time, and have high drug costs.

This program is voluntary and free to members. A team of pharmacists and doctors developed the program for us. This program can help make sure that our members get the most benefit from the drugs they take.

Our program is called a Medication Therapy Management (MTM) program. Some members who take medications for different medical conditions may be able to get services through an MTM program. A pharmacist or other health professional will give you a comprehensive review of all your medications. You can talk about how best to take your medications, your costs, and any problems or questions you have about your prescription and over-the-counter medications. You'll get a written summary of this discussion. The summary has a medication action plan that recommends what you can do to make the best use of your medications, with space for you to take notes or write down any follow-up questions. You'll also get a personal medication list that will include all the medications you're taking and why you take them.

It's a good idea to have your medication review before your yearly "Wellness" visit, so you can talk to your doctor about your action plan and medication list. Bring your action plan and medication list with you to your visit or anytime you talk with your doctors, pharmacists, and other health care providers. Also, keep your medication list with you (for example, with your ID) in case you go to the hospital or emergency room.

If we have a program that fits your needs, we will automatically enroll you in the program and send you information. If you decide not to participate, please notify us and we will withdraw you from the program. If you have any questions about these programs, please contact Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

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### **Did you know there are programs to help people pay for their drugs?**

There are programs to help people with limited resources pay for their drugs. These include "Extra Help" and State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs. For more information, see Chapter 2, Section 7.

### **Are you currently getting help to pay for your drugs?**

If you are in a program that helps pay for your drugs, **some information in this Evidence of Coverage about the costs for Part D prescription drugs does not apply to you.** We sent you a separate document, called the "**Evidence of Coverage Rider for People Who Get Extra Help Paying for Prescription Drugs**" (also known as the "Low Income Subsidy Rider" or the "LIS Rider"), which tells you about your drug coverage. If you don't have this rider, please call Member Services and ask for the "LIS Rider." Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

## **SECTION 1. Introduction**

### **Section 1.1 Use this chapter together with other materials that explain your drug coverage**

This chapter focuses on what you pay for your Part D prescription drugs. To keep things simple, we use "drug" in this chapter to mean a Part D prescription drug. As explained in Chapter 5, not all drugs are Part D drugs—some drugs are covered under Medicare Part A or Part B and other drugs are excluded from Medicare coverage by law. Some excluded drugs may be covered under your group's plan.

To understand the payment information we give you in this chapter, you need to know the basics of what drugs are covered, where to fill your prescriptions, and what rules to follow when you get your covered drugs. Here are materials that explain these basics:

- Our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**. To keep things simple, we call this the "**Drug List**."
  - ◆ This Drug List tells you which drugs are covered for you.
  - ◆ It also tells you which of the six "cost-sharing tiers" the drug is in and whether there are any restrictions on your coverage for the drug.
  - ◆ If you need a copy of the Drug List, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You can also find the Drug List on our website at [kp.org/seniorrx](http://kp.org/seniorrx). The Drug List on the website is always the most current.
- **Chapter 5 of this booklet**. Chapter 5 gives you the details about your prescription drug coverage, including rules you need to follow when you get your covered drugs. Chapter 5 also tells you which types of prescription drugs are not covered by our plan.

- **Our plan's Pharmacy Directory.** In most situations, you must use a network pharmacy to get your covered drugs (see Chapter 5 for the details). The **Pharmacy Directory** has a list of pharmacies in our plan's network. It also tells you which pharmacies in our network can give you a long-term supply of a drug (such as filling a prescription for a three-month supply).

## **Section 1.2 Types of out-of-pocket costs you may pay for covered drugs**

To understand the payment information we give you in this chapter, you need to know about the types of out-of-pocket costs you may pay for your covered services. The amount that you pay for a drug is called "cost-sharing," and there are three ways you may be asked to pay.

- The "deductible" is the amount you must pay for drugs before our plan begins to pay its share.
- "Copayment" means that you pay a fixed amount each time you fill a prescription.
- "Coinsurance" means that you pay a percent of the total cost of the drug each time you fill a prescription.

## **SECTION 2. What you pay for a drug depends upon which "drug payment stage" you are in when you get the drug**

### **Section 2.1 What are the drug payment stages for Senior Advantage members?**

As shown in the table below, there are "drug payment stages" for your prescription drug coverage under our plan. How much you pay for a drug depends upon which of these stages you are in at the time you get a prescription filled or refilled. Stage 4 applies to everyone, but your group plan may not include a Deductible Stage (Stage 1) or a Coverage Gap Stage (Stage 3). Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** to find out which stages apply to you. Keep in mind you are always responsible for our plan's monthly premium regardless of the drug payment stage.

Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4
<p><b>Yearly Deductible Stage</b></p> <p>See the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of the EOC to find out if this payment stage applies to you. (This stage does not apply to most members.)</p> <p>If your plan has a deductible, during this stage, you pay the full cost of your drugs. You stay in this stage until you have paid your deductible.</p> <p>(Details are in Section 4 of this chapter.)</p>	<p><b>Initial Coverage Stage</b></p> <p><b>If your plan has a deductible, you begin in this stage after you end the Deductible Stage.</b></p> <p><b>If your plan does not have a deductible, you begin in this stage when you fill your first prescription of the year.</b></p> <p>During this stage, we pay our share of the cost of your drugs and you pay your share of the cost.</p> <p>If your plan has a Coverage Gap Stage, you stay in this stage until your year-to-date "<b>total drug costs</b>" (your payments plus any Part D plan's payments) total <b>\$4,020</b>.</p> <p>If your plan does not have a Coverage Gap Stage, you stay in this stage until your year-to-date "<b>out-of-pocket costs</b>" (your payments) total <b>\$6,350</b>.</p> <p>(Details are in Section 5 of this chapter.)</p>	<p><b>Coverage Gap Stage</b></p> <p>See the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this EOC to find out if this stage applies to you (this stage does not apply to most members).</p> <p>If there is no coverage gap for your plan, this payment stage does not apply to you.</p> <p>If this stage applies to you, coverage during the gap stage varies depending on the plan your group has selected.</p> <p><b>For generic drugs, you pay either the copayment listed in the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this EOC, or 25% of the price, whichever is lower.</b></p> <p><b>For brand-name drugs, you pay 25% of the price</b> (plus a portion of the dispensing fee).</p> <p>You stay in this stage until your year-to-date "out-of-pocket costs" (your payments) reach a total of <b>\$6,350</b>. This amount and rules for counting costs toward this amount have been set by Medicare.</p> <p>(Details are in Section 6 of this chapter.)</p>	<p><b>Catastrophic Coverage Stage</b></p> <p>During this stage, <b>we will pay most of the cost of your drugs</b> for the rest of the calendar year (through December 31, 2020).</p> <p>(Details are in Section 7 of this chapter.)</p>

### **SECTION 3. We send you reports that explain payments for your drugs and which payment stage you are in**

#### **Section 3.1 We send you a monthly report called the "Part D Explanation of Benefits" (the "Part D EOB")**

Our plan keeps track of the costs of your prescription drugs and the payments you have made when you get your prescriptions filled or refilled at the pharmacy. This way, we can tell you when you have moved from one drug payment stage to the next. In particular, there are two types of costs we keep track of:

- We keep track of how much you have paid. This is called your **"out-of-pocket"** cost.
- We keep track of your **"total drug costs."** This is the amount you pay out-of-pocket or others pay on your behalf plus the amount paid by the plan.

Our plan will prepare a written report called the **Part D Explanation of Benefits** (it is sometimes called the **"Part D EOB"**) when you have had one or more prescriptions filled through our plan during the previous month. It includes:

- **Information for that month.** This report gives you the payment details about the prescriptions you have filled during the previous month. It shows the total drug costs, what the plan paid, and what you and others on your behalf paid.
- **Totals for the year since January 1.** This is called "year-to-date" information. It shows you the total drug costs and total payments for your drugs since the year began.

#### **Section 3.2 Help us keep our information about your drug payments up-to-date**

To keep track of your drug costs and the payments you make for drugs, we use records we get from pharmacies. Here is how you can help us keep your information correct and up-to-date:

- **Show your membership card when you get a prescription filled.** To make sure we know about the prescriptions you are filling and what you are paying, show your plan membership card every time you get a prescription filled.
- **Make sure we have the information we need.** There are times you may pay for prescription drugs when we will not automatically get the information we need to keep track of your out-of-pocket costs. To help us keep track of your out-of-pocket costs, you may give us copies of receipts for drugs that you have purchased. (If you are billed for a covered drug, you can ask us to pay our share of the cost. For instructions about how to do this, go to Chapter 7, Section 2, of this booklet.) Here are some types of situations when you may want to give us copies of your drug receipts to be sure we have a complete record of what you have spent for your drugs:
  - ♦ When you purchase a covered drug at a network pharmacy at a special price or using a discount card that is not part of our plan's benefit.

- ◆ When you made a copayment for drugs that are provided under a drug manufacturer patient assistance program.
- ◆ Anytime you have purchased covered drugs at out-of-network pharmacies or other times you have paid the full price for a covered drug under special circumstances.
- **Send us information about the payments others have made for you.** Payments made by certain other individuals and organizations also count toward your out-of-pocket costs and help qualify you for catastrophic coverage. For example, payments made by a State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program, an AIDS drug assistance program, (ADAP), the Indian Health Service, and most charities count toward your out-of-pocket costs. You should keep a record of these payments and send them to us so we can track your costs.
- **Check the written report we send you.** When you receive a **Part D Explanation of Benefits** (a **Part D EOB**) in the mail, please look it over to be sure the information is complete and correct. If you think something is missing from the report, or you have any questions, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You can also choose to view your **Part D EOB** online instead of by mail. Please visit [kp.org/goinggreen](http://kp.org/goinggreen) and sign on to learn more about choosing to view your **Part D EOB** securely online. Be sure to keep these reports. They are an important record of your drug expenses.

#### **SECTION 4. During the Deductible Stage, if applicable, you pay the full cost of your drugs**

See the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** to find out if this stage applies to you (this stage does not apply to most members).

##### **Section 4.1 If your plan includes a deductible for your Part D drugs**

The Deductible Stage is the first payment stage for your drug coverage. This stage begins when you fill your first prescription in the year. When you are in this payment stage, **you must pay the full cost of your drugs** until you reach our plan's deductible amount. Please refer to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** for the deductible amount.

- ◆ Your "**full cost**" is usually lower than the normal full price of the drug, since our plan has negotiated lower costs for most drugs.
- ◆ The "**deductible**" is the amount you must pay for your Part D prescription drugs before our plan begins to pay its share.

Once you have paid the deductible amount shown in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**, you leave the Deductible Stage and move on to the next drug payment stage, which is the Initial Coverage Stage.

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## **SECTION 5. During the Initial Coverage Stage, we pay our share of your drug costs and you pay your share**

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### **Section 5.1 What you pay for a drug depends upon the drug and where you fill your prescription**

During the Initial Coverage Stage, we pay our share of the cost of your covered prescription drugs, and you pay your share (your copayment or coinsurance amount). Your share of the cost will vary depending upon the drug and where you fill your prescription.

#### **Our plan has six cost-sharing tiers**

Every drug on our plan's Drug List is in one of six cost-sharing tiers. Depending upon the plan your group has selected, cost-sharing may vary from one tier to the next. In general, the higher the cost-sharing tier number, the higher your cost for the drug:

- Cost-sharing **Tier 1** for preferred generic drugs.
- Cost-sharing **Tier 2** for generic drugs (this tier includes some brand-name drugs).
- Cost-sharing **Tier 3** for preferred brand-name drugs.
- Cost-sharing **Tier 4** for nonpreferred brand-name drugs (this tier includes some generic drugs).
- Cost-sharing **Tier 5** for specialty-tier drugs (this tier includes both generic and brand-name drugs).
- Cost-sharing **Tier 6** for injectable Part D vaccines (this tier includes only brand-name drugs).

To find out which cost-sharing tier your drug is in, look it up in our plan's Drug List.

#### **Your pharmacy choices**

How much you pay for a drug depends upon whether you get the drug from:

- A network retail pharmacy that offers a standard cost-sharing.
- A network retail pharmacy that offers preferred cost-sharing.
- A pharmacy that is not in our plan's network.
- Our plan's mail-order pharmacy.

For more information about these pharmacy choices and filling your prescriptions, see Chapter 5 in this booklet and our plan's **Pharmacy Directory**.

Generally, we will cover your prescriptions only if they are filled at one of our network pharmacies. Some of our network pharmacies also offer preferred cost-sharing. You may go to either network pharmacies that offer preferred cost-sharing or other network pharmacies that offer standard cost-sharing to receive your covered prescription drugs. Your costs may be less at pharmacies that offer preferred cost-sharing.

### **Section 5.2 Your costs for a one-month supply of a drug**

During the Initial Coverage Stage, your share of the cost of a covered drug will be either a copayment or coinsurance.

- **"Copayment"** means that you pay a fixed amount each time you fill a prescription.
- **"Coinsurance"** means that you pay a percent of the total cost of the drug each time you fill a prescription.

As shown in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**, the amount of the copayment or coinsurance depends upon which cost-sharing tier your drug is in. **Please note:**

- If your covered drug costs less than the copayment amount listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**, you will pay that lower price for the drug. You pay either the full price of the drug or the copayment amount, whichever is lower.
- We cover prescriptions filled at out-of-network pharmacies in only limited situations. Please see Chapter 5, Section 2.5, for information about when we will cover a prescription filled at an out-of-network pharmacy.

Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** for your cost-sharing amounts and day supply limit in the Initial Coverage Stage.

### **Section 5.3 If your doctor prescribes less than a full month's supply, you may not have to pay the cost of the entire month's supply**

Typically, the amount you pay for a prescription drug covers a full month's supply of a covered drug. However, your doctor can prescribe less than a month's supply of drugs. There may be times when you want to ask your doctor about prescribing less than a month's supply of a drug (for example, when you are trying a medication for the first time that is known to have serious side effects). If your doctor prescribes less than a full month's supply, you will not have to pay for the full month's supply for certain drugs.

The amount you pay when you get less than a full month's supply will depend on whether you are responsible for paying coinsurance (a percentage of the total cost) or a copayment (a flat dollar amount).

- If you are responsible for coinsurance, you pay a percentage of the total cost of the drug. You pay the same percentage regardless of whether the prescription is for a full month's supply or for fewer days. However, because the entire drug cost will be lower if you get less than a full month's supply, the amount you pay will be less.
- If you are responsible for a copayment for the drug, your copayment will be based on the number of days of the drug that you receive. We will calculate the amount you pay per day for your drug (the "daily cost-sharing rate") and multiply it by the number of days of the drug you receive.

- ◆ Here's an example: Let's say the copayment for your drug for a full month's supply (a 30-day supply) is \$30. This means that the amount you pay per day for your drug is \$1. If you receive a 7 days' supply of the drug, your payment will be \$1 per day multiplied by 7 days, for a total payment of \$7.

Daily cost-sharing allows you to make sure a drug works for you before you have to pay for an entire month's supply. You can also ask your doctor to prescribe, and your pharmacist to dispense, less than a full month's supply of a drug or drugs, if this will help you better plan refill dates for different prescriptions so that you can take fewer trips to the pharmacy. The amount you pay will depend upon the days' supply you receive.

#### **Section 5.4 Your costs for a long-term (up to a 90-day) supply of a drug**

For some drugs, you can get a long-term supply (also called an "extended supply") when you fill your prescription. A long-term supply is up to a 90-day supply. (For details on where and how to get a long-term supply of a drug, see Chapter 5, Section 2.4.)

Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** for your cost-sharing amounts when you get a long-term (up to a 90-day) supply of a drug.

- **Please note:** If your covered drug costs less than the copayment amount listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**, you will pay that lower price for the drug. You pay either the full price of the drug or the copayment amount, whichever is lower.

#### **Section 5.5 You stay in the Initial Coverage Stage until you reach the next stage**

If your group plan does not include a Coverage Gap Stage, you stay in the Initial Coverage Stage until your total out-of-pocket costs reach **\$6,350**. When you reach an out-of-pocket limit of **\$6,350**, you leave the Initial Coverage Stage and move on to the Catastrophic Coverage Stage. Most group plans do not include a Coverage Gap Stage.

If your group plan includes a Coverage Gap Stage, you stay in the Initial Coverage Stage until the total amount for the prescription drugs you have filled and refilled reaches the **\$4,020 limit for the Initial Coverage Stage**.

Your total drug cost is based on adding together what you have paid and what any Part D plan has paid:

- **What you have paid** for all the covered drugs you have gotten since you started with your first drug purchase of the year. (See Section 6.2 for more information about how Medicare calculates your out-of-pocket costs.) This includes:
  - ◆ The total you paid as your share of the cost for your drugs during the Initial Coverage Stage.
- **What our plan has paid** as its share of the cost for your drugs during the Initial Coverage Stage. (If you were enrolled in a different Part D plan at any time during 2020, the amount that plan paid during the Initial Coverage Stage also counts toward your total drug costs.)



The **Part D Explanation of Benefits (Part D EOB)** that we send to you will help you keep track of how much you and our plan, as well as third parties have spent on your behalf during the year. Many people do not reach the **\$4,020** limit in a year.

We will let you know if you reach this **\$4,020** amount. If you do reach this amount, you will leave the Initial Coverage Stage and move on to the Coverage Gap Stage.

Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** for the amount you will pay for drugs in the Coverage Gap Stage.

## **SECTION 6. During the Coverage Gap Stage, if applicable, we provide some drug coverage**

### **Section 6.1 You stay in the Coverage Gap Stage until your out-of-pocket costs reach \$6,350**

The benefit coverage you receive during the Coverage Gap Stage will depend on the benefits your group selected. See the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** to find out if this stage applies to you (this stage does not apply to most members).

When you are in the Coverage Gap Stage, the Medicare Coverage Gap Discount Program provides manufacturer discounts on brand-name drugs. You pay either the copayments listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** or 25% of the negotiated price and a portion of the dispensing fee for **brand-name drugs**. If you pay 25% of the negotiated price, both the amount you pay and the amount discounted by the manufacturer count toward your out-of-pocket costs as if you had paid them, and move you through the coverage gap.

You also receive some coverage of generic drugs and injectable Part D vaccines during the Coverage Gap Stage. You pay either the copayments listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** or 25% of the costs of generic drugs, whichever is lower. Only the amount you pay counts and moves you through the coverage gap.

You continue paying the applicable cost sharing until your yearly out-of-pocket payments reach a maximum amount that Medicare has set. In 2020, that amount is **\$6,350**.

Medicare has rules about what counts and what does not count as your out-of-pocket costs. When you reach an out-of-pocket limit of **\$6,350**, you leave the Coverage Gap Stage and move on to the Catastrophic Coverage Stage.

### **Section 6.2 How Medicare calculates your out-of-pocket costs for prescription drugs**

Here are Medicare's rules that we must follow when we keep track of your out-of-pocket costs for your drugs.

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### **These payments are included in your out-of-pocket costs**

When you add up your out-of-pocket costs, you can include the payments listed below (as long as they are for Part D covered drugs and you followed the rules for drug coverage that are explained in Chapter 5 of this booklet):

- The amount you pay for drugs when you are in any of the following drug payment stages:
  - ◆ The Deductible Stage (if this stage applies to you).
  - ◆ The Initial Coverage Stage.
  - ◆ The Coverage Gap Stage (if this stage applies to you).
- Any payments you made during this calendar year as a member of a different Medicare prescription drug plan before you joined our plan.

#### **It matters who pays:**

- If you make these payments yourself, they are included in your out-of-pocket costs.
- These payments are also included if they are made on your behalf by certain other individuals or organizations. This includes payments for your drugs made by a friend or relative, by most charities, by AIDS drug assistance programs, by a State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program that is qualified by Medicare, or by the Indian Health Service. Payments made by Medicare's "Extra Help" Program are also included.
- Some of the payments made by the Medicare Coverage Gap Discount Program are included. The amount the manufacturer pays for your brand-name drugs is included. But the amount we pay for your generic drugs is not included.

#### **Moving on to the Catastrophic Coverage Stage:**

When you (or those paying on your behalf) have spent a total of **\$6,350** in out-of-pocket costs within the calendar year, you will move from either the Initial Coverage Stage (if this stage applies to you) or the Coverage Gap Stage (if this stage applies to you) to the Catastrophic Coverage Stage.

### **These payments are not included in your out-of-pocket costs**

When you add up your out-of-pocket costs, you are **not** allowed to include any of these types of payments for prescription drugs:

- The amount you contribute, if any, toward your group's premium.
- Drugs you buy outside the United States and its territories.
- Drugs that are not covered by our plan.
- Drugs you get at an out-of-network pharmacy that do not meet our plan's requirements for out-of-network coverage.
- Non-Part D drugs, including prescription drugs covered by Part A or Part B and other drugs excluded from coverage by Medicare.
- Payments you make toward drugs covered under our additional coverage but not normally covered in a Medicare prescription drug plan.

- Payments you make toward prescription drugs not normally covered in a Medicare prescription drug plan.
- Payments made by our plan for your brand or generic drugs while in the Coverage Gap, if this stage applies to you.
- Payments for your drugs that are made by group health plans, including employer health plans.
- Payments for your drugs that are made by certain insurance plans and government-funded health programs, such as TRICARE and Veterans Affairs.
- Payments for your drugs made by a third party with a legal obligation to pay for prescription costs (for example, Workers' Compensation).

**Reminder:** If any other organization such as the ones listed above pays part or all of your out-of-pocket costs for drugs, you are required to tell our plan. Call Member Services to let us know (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **How can you keep track of your out-of-pocket total?**

- **We will help you.** The **Part D Explanation of Benefits (Part D EOB)** report we send to you includes the current amount of your out-of-pocket costs (Section 3 in this chapter tells you about this report). When you reach a total of **\$6,350** in out-of-pocket costs for the year, this report will tell you that you have left the Coverage Gap Stage and have moved on to the Catastrophic Coverage Stage.
- **Make sure we have the information we need.** Section 3.2 tells you what you can do to help make sure that our records of what you have spent are complete and up-to-date.

## **SECTION 7. During the Catastrophic Coverage Stage, we pay most of the cost for your drugs**

### **Section 7.1 Once you are in the Catastrophic Coverage Stage, you will stay in this stage for the rest of the year**

You qualify for the Catastrophic Coverage Stage when your out-of-pocket costs have reached the **\$6,350** limit for the calendar year. Once you are in the Catastrophic Coverage Stage, you will stay in this payment stage until the end of the calendar year. During this stage, we will pay most of the cost for your drugs.

Your share of the cost for a covered drug will be either coinsurance or a copayment, whichever is larger amount:

- Either, you pay a coinsurance of **5%** of the cost of the drug,
- Or, **\$3.60** for a generic drug or a drug that is treated like a generic, and **\$8.95** for all other drugs.

We will pay the rest of the cost.

## **SECTION 8. What you pay for vaccinations covered by Part D depends upon how and where you get them**

### **Section 8.1 Our plan may have separate coverage for the Part D vaccine medication itself and for the cost of giving you the vaccine**

We provide coverage for a number of Part D vaccines. We also cover vaccines that are considered medical benefits. You can find out about coverage of these vaccines by going to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

There are two parts to our coverage of Part D vaccinations:

- The first part of coverage is the cost of the vaccine medication itself. The vaccine is a prescription medication.
- The second part of coverage is for the cost of giving you the vaccine. (This is sometimes called the "administration" of the vaccine.)

### **What do you pay for a Part D vaccination?**

What you pay for a Part D vaccination depends upon three things:

- 1. The type of vaccine** (what you are being vaccinated for).
  - ◆ Some vaccines are considered medical benefits. You can find out about your coverage of these vaccines by going to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.
  - ◆ Other vaccines are considered Part D drugs. You can find these vaccines listed in our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**.
- 2. Where you get the vaccine medication.**
- 3. Who gives you the vaccine.**

What you pay at the time you get the Part D vaccination can vary depending upon the circumstances. For example:

- ◆ Sometimes when you get your vaccine, you will have to pay the entire cost for both the vaccine medication and for getting the vaccine. You can ask us to pay you back for our share of the cost.
- ◆ Other times, when you get the vaccine medication or the vaccine, you will pay only your share of the cost.

To show how this works, here are three common ways you might get a Part D vaccine.

If your plan has a Deductible Stage, remember you are responsible for all of the costs associated with Part D vaccines (including their administration) during the Deductible Stage of your benefit.

***Situation 1:***

- You buy the Part D vaccine at the pharmacy and you get your vaccine at the network pharmacy. (Whether you have this choice depends upon where you live. Some states do not allow pharmacies to administer a vaccination.)
  - ◆ You will have to pay the pharmacy the amount of your copayment for the vaccine and the cost of giving you the vaccine.
  - ◆ Our plan will pay the remainder of the costs.

***Situation 2:***

- You get the Part D vaccination at your doctor's office.
  - ◆ When you get the vaccination, you will pay for the entire cost of the vaccine and its administration.
  - ◆ You can then ask us to pay our share of the cost by using the procedures that are described in Chapter 7 of this booklet ("Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs").
  - ◆ You will be reimbursed the amount you paid less your normal copayment for the vaccine (including administration).

***Situation 3:***

- You buy the Part D vaccine at your pharmacy, and then take it to your doctor's office where they give you the vaccine.
  - ◆ You will have to pay the pharmacy the amount of your copayment for the vaccine itself.
  - ◆ When your doctor gives you the vaccine, you will pay the entire cost for this service. You can then ask us to pay our share of the cost by using the procedures described in Chapter 7 of this booklet.
  - ◆ You will be reimbursed the amount charged by the doctor for administering the vaccine.

**Section 8.2 You may want to call Member Services  
before you get a vaccination**

The rules for coverage of vaccinations are complicated. We are here to help. We recommend that you first call Member Services whenever you are planning to get a vaccination. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

- We can tell you about how your vaccination is covered by our plan and explain your share of the cost.
- We can tell you how to keep your own cost down by using providers and pharmacies in our network.
- If you are not able to use a network provider and pharmacy, we can tell you what you need to do to get payment from us for our share of the cost.

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**CHAPTER 7. Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received  
for covered medical services or drugs**

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## **SECTION 1. Situations in which you should ask us to pay our share of the cost of your covered services or drugs**

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### **Section 1.1 If you pay our share of the cost of your covered services or drugs, or if you receive a bill, you can ask us for payment**

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Sometimes when you get medical care or a prescription drug, you may need to pay the full cost right away. Other times, you may find that you have paid more than you expected under the coverage rules of our plan. In either case, you can ask us to pay you back (paying you back is often called "reimbursing" you). It is your right to be paid back by our plan whenever you've paid more than your share of the cost for medical services or drugs that are covered by our plan.

There may also be times when you get a bill from a provider for the full cost of medical care you have received. In many cases, you should send this bill to us instead of paying it. We will look at the bill and decide whether the services should be covered. If we decide they should be covered, we will pay the provider directly.

**Here are examples of situations in which you may need to ask us to pay you back or to pay a bill you have received:**

#### **When you've received emergency or urgently needed medical care from a provider who is not in our network**

You can receive emergency services from any provider, whether or not the provider is a part of our network. When you receive emergency or urgently needed services from a provider who is not part of our network, you are only responsible for paying your share of the cost, not for the entire cost. You should ask the provider to bill our plan for our share of the cost.

- If you pay the entire amount yourself at the time you receive the care, you need to ask us to pay you back for our share of the cost. Send us the bill, along with documentation of any payments you have made.
- At times you may get a bill from the provider asking for payment that you think you do not owe. Send us this bill, along with documentation of any payments you have already made.
  - ◆ If the provider is owed anything, we will pay the provider directly.
  - ◆ If you have already paid more than your share of the cost of the service, we will determine how much you owed and pay you back for our share of the cost.

#### **When a network provider sends you a bill you think you should not pay**

Network providers should always bill us directly, and ask you only for your share of the cost. But sometimes they make mistakes, and ask you to pay more than your share.

- You only have to pay your cost-sharing amount when you get services covered by our plan. We do not allow providers to add additional separate charges, called "balance billing." This protection (that you never pay more than your cost-sharing amount) applies even if we pay the provider less than the provider charges for a service, and even if there is a dispute and we

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don't pay certain provider charges. For more information about "balance billing," go to Chapter 4, Section 1.3.

- Whenever you get a bill from a network provider that you think is more than you should pay, send us the bill. We will contact the provider directly and resolve the billing problem.
- If you have already paid a bill to a network provider, but you feel that you paid too much, send us the bill along with documentation of any payment you have made and ask us to pay you back the difference between the amount you paid and the amount you owed under our plan.

### **If you are retroactively enrolled in our plan**

Sometimes a person's enrollment in our plan is retroactive. ("Retroactive" means that the first day of their enrollment has already passed. The enrollment date may even have occurred last year.)

If you were retroactively enrolled in our plan and you paid out-of-pocket for any of your covered services or drugs after your enrollment date, you can ask us to pay you back for our share of the costs. You will need to submit paperwork for us to handle the reimbursement.

- Please call Member Services for additional information about how to ask us to pay you back and deadlines for making your request. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

### **When you use an out-of-network pharmacy to get a prescription filled**

If you go to an out-of-network pharmacy and try to use your membership card to fill a prescription, the pharmacy may not be able to submit the claim directly to us. When that happens, you will have to pay the full cost of your prescription. We cover prescriptions filled at out-of-network pharmacies only in a few special situations. Please go to Chapter 5, Section 2.5, to learn more.

- Save your receipt and send a copy to us when you ask us to pay you back for our share of the cost.

### **When you pay the full cost for a prescription because you don't have your plan membership card with you**

If you do not have your plan membership card with you, you can ask the pharmacy to call us or to look up your plan enrollment information. However, if the pharmacy cannot get the enrollment information they need right away, you may need to pay the full cost of the prescription yourself.

- Save your receipt and send a copy to us when you ask us to pay you back for our share of the cost.

### **When you pay the full cost for a prescription in other situations**

You may pay the full cost of the prescription because you find that the drug is not covered for some reason.



- For example, the drug may not be on our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**; or it could have a requirement or restriction that you didn't know about or don't think should apply to you. If you decide to get the drug immediately, you may need to pay the full cost for it.
- Save your receipt and send a copy to us when you ask us to pay you back. In some situations, we may need to get more information from your doctor in order to pay you back for our share of the cost.

All of the examples above are types of coverage decisions. This means that if we deny your request for payment, you can appeal our decision. Chapter 9 of this booklet, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)," has information about how to make an appeal.

## **SECTION 2. How to ask us to pay you back or to pay a bill you have received**

### **Section 2.1 How and where to send us your request for payment**

Send us your request for payment, along with your bill and documentation of any payment you have made. It's a good idea to make a copy of your bill and receipts for your records.

To make sure you are giving us all the information we need to make a decision, you can fill out our claim form to make your request for payment.

- You don't have to use the form, but it will help us process the information faster.
- Either download a copy of the form from our website (**kp.org**) or call Member Services and ask for the form. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

Mail your request for payment together with any bills or receipts to us at this address:

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado  
Claims Department  
P.O. Box 373150  
Denver, CO 80237-3150

You must submit your claim to us within 365 days of the date you received the service, item, or drug.

Contact Member Services if you have any questions (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). If you don't know what you should have paid, or you receive bills and you don't know what to do about those bills, we can help. You can also call if you want to give us more information about a request for payment you have already sent to us.

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## **SECTION 3. We will consider your request for payment and say yes or no**

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### **Section 3.1 We check to see whether we should cover the service or drug and how much we owe**

When we receive your request for payment, we will let you know if we need any additional information from you. Otherwise, we will consider your request and make a coverage decision.

- If we decide that the medical care or drug is covered and you followed all the rules for getting the care or drug, we will pay for our share of the cost. If you have already paid for the service or drug, we will mail your reimbursement of our share of the cost to you. If you have not paid for the service or drug yet, we will mail the payment directly to the provider. (Chapter 3 explains the rules you need to follow for getting your medical services covered. Chapter 5 explains the rules you need to follow for getting your Part D prescription drugs covered.)
- If we decide that the medical care or drug is not covered, or you did not follow all the rules, we will not pay for our share of the cost. Instead, we will send you a letter that explains the reasons why we are not sending the payment you have requested and your rights to appeal that decision.

### **Section 3.2 If we tell you that we will not pay for all or part of the medical care or drug, you can make an appeal**

If you think we have made a mistake in turning down your request for payment or you don't agree with the amount we are paying, you can make an appeal. If you make an appeal, it means you are asking us to change the decision we made when we turned down your request for payment.

For the details about how to make this appeal, go to Chapter 9 of this booklet, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)." The appeals process is a formal process with detailed procedures and important deadlines. If making an appeal is new to you, you will find it helpful to start by reading Section 4 of Chapter 9. Section 4 is an introductory section that explains the process for coverage decisions and appeals and gives you definitions of terms such as "appeal." Then, after you have read Section 4, you can go to the section in Chapter 9 that tells you what to do for your situation:

- If you want to make an appeal about getting paid back for a medical service, go to Section 5.3 in Chapter 9.
- If you want to make an appeal about getting paid back for a drug, go to Section 6.5 of Chapter 9.

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## **SECTION 4. Other situations in which you should save your receipts and send copies to us**

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### **Section 4.1 In some cases, you should send copies of your receipts to us to help us track your out-of-pocket drug costs**

There are some situations when you should let us know about payments you have made for your drugs. In these cases, you are not asking us for payment. Instead, you are telling us about your payments so that we can calculate your out-of-pocket costs correctly. This may help you to qualify for the Catastrophic Coverage Stage more quickly.

Here are two situations when you should send us copies of receipts to let us know about payments you have made for your drugs:

#### **1. When you buy the drug for a price that is lower than our price**

Sometimes when you are in the Deductible Stage or Coverage Gap Stage (if your plan has one or both—refer to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**), you can buy your drug at a network pharmacy for a price that is lower than our price.

- For example, a pharmacy might offer a special price on the drug. Or you may have a discount card that is outside our benefit that offers a lower price.
- Unless special conditions apply, you must use a network pharmacy in these situations and your drug must be on our Drug List.
- Save your receipt and send a copy to us so that we can have your out-of-pocket expenses count toward qualifying you for the Catastrophic Coverage Stage.
- **Please note:** If you are in the Deductible or Coverage Gap Stage, we will not pay for any share of these drug costs. But sending a copy of the receipt allows us to calculate your out-of-pocket costs correctly and may help you qualify for the Catastrophic Coverage Stage more quickly.

#### **2. When you get a drug through a patient assistance program offered by a drug manufacturer**

Some members are enrolled in a patient assistance program offered by a drug manufacturer that is outside our plan benefits. If you get any drugs through a program offered by a drug manufacturer, you may pay a copayment to the patient assistance program.

- Save your receipt and send a copy to us so that we can have your out-of-pocket expenses count toward qualifying you for the Catastrophic Coverage Stage.
- **Please note:** Because you are getting your drug through the patient assistance program and not through our plan's benefits, we will not pay for any share of these drug costs. But sending a copy of the receipt allows us to calculate your out-of-pocket costs correctly and may help you qualify for the Catastrophic Coverage Stage more quickly.

Since you are not asking for payment in the two cases described above, these situations are not considered coverage decisions. Therefore, you cannot make an appeal if you disagree with our decision.

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## **CHAPTER 8. Your rights and responsibilities**

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## **SECTION 1. We must honor your rights as a member of our plan**

### **Section 1.1 We must provide information in a way that works for you (in languages other than English, in Braille, in large print, or CD)**

To get information from us in a way that works for you, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

Our plan has people and free interpreter services available to answer questions from disabled and non-English-speaking members. This booklet is available in Spanish by calling Member Services (phone numbers are on the back cover of this booklet). We can also give you information in Braille, large print, or CD at no cost if you need it. We are required to give you information about our plan's benefits in a format that is accessible and appropriate for you. To get information from us in a way that works for you, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) or contact our Civil Rights Coordinator.

If you have any trouble getting information from our plan in a format that is accessible and appropriate for you, please call to file a grievance with Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You may also file a complaint with Medicare by calling **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)** or directly with the Office for Civil Rights. Contact information is included in this **Evidence of Coverage** or with this mailing, or you may contact Member Services for additional information.

### **Sección 1.1 Debemos proporcionar la información de un modo adecuado para usted (en idiomas distintos al inglés, en Braille, en letra grande o en CD)**

Para obtener información de una forma que se adapte a sus necesidades, por favor llame a Servicio a los Miembros (los números de teléfono están impresos en la contraportada de este folleto).

Nuestro plan cuenta con personas y servicios de interpretación disponibles sin costo para responder las preguntas de los miembros discapacitados y que no hablan inglés. Este folleto está disponible en español o chino; llame a Servicio a los Miembros (los números de teléfono están en la contraportada de este folleto). Si la necesita, también podemos darle, sin costo, información en Braille, letra grande o CD. Tenemos la obligación de darle información acerca de los beneficios de nuestro plan en un formato que sea accesible y adecuado para usted. Para obtener nuestra información de una forma que se adapte a sus necesidades, por favor llame a Servicio a los Miembros (los números de teléfono están impresos en la contraportada de este folleto) o comuníquese con nuestro Coordinador de Derechos Civiles.

Si tiene algún problema para obtener información de nuestro plan en un formato que sea accesible y adecuado para usted, por favor llame para presentar una queja a Servicio a los Miembros (los números de teléfono están impresos en la contraportada de este folleto). También puede presentar una queja en Medicare llamando al **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)** o directamente en la Oficina de Derechos Civiles. En esta Evidence of Coverage (**Evidencia de**

**Cobertura)** o en esta carta se incluye la información de contacto, o bien puede comunicarse con Servicio a los Miembros para obtener información adicional.

### **Section 1.2 We must ensure that you get timely access to your covered services and drugs**

As a member of our plan, you have the right to choose a primary care provider (PCP) in our network to provide and arrange for your covered services (Chapter 3 explains more about this). Call Member Services to learn which doctors are accepting new patients (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You also have the right to go to a women's health specialist (such as a gynecologist), a mental health services provider, and a provider for routine eye exams without a referral, as well as other providers described in Chapter 3, Section 2.2.

As a plan member, you have the right to get appointments and covered services from our network of providers within a reasonable amount of time. This includes the right to get timely services from specialists when you need that care. You also have the right to get your prescriptions filled or refilled at any of our network pharmacies without long delays.

If you think that you are not getting your medical care or Part D drugs within a reasonable amount of time, Chapter 9, Section 10, of this booklet tells you what you can do. (If we have denied coverage for your medical care or drugs and you don't agree with our decision, Chapter 9, Section 4, tells you what you can do.)

### **Section 1.3 We must protect the privacy of your personal health information**

Federal and state laws protect the privacy of your medical records and personal health information. We protect your personal health information as required by these laws.

- Your "personal health information" includes the personal information you gave us when you enrolled in our plan as well as your medical records and other medical and health information.
- The laws that protect your privacy give you rights related to getting information and controlling how your health information is used. We give you a written notice, called a "Notice of Privacy Practices," that tells you about these rights and explains how we protect the privacy of your health information.

#### **How do we protect the privacy of your health information?**

- We make sure that unauthorized people don't see or change your records.
- In most situations, if we give your health information to anyone who isn't providing your care or paying for your care, we are required to get written permission from you first. Written permission can be given by you or by someone you have given legal power to make decisions for you.
- Your health information is shared with your Group only with your authorization or as otherwise permitted by law.

- There are certain exceptions that do not require us to get your written permission first. These exceptions are allowed or required by law.
  - ◆ For example, we are required to release health information to government agencies that are checking on quality of care.
  - ◆ Because you are a member of our plan through Medicare, we are required to give Medicare your health information, including information about your Part D prescription drugs. If Medicare releases your information for research or other uses, this will be done according to federal statutes and regulations.

### **You can see the information in your records and know how it has been shared with others**

You have the right to look at your medical records held by our plan, and to get a copy of your records. We are allowed to charge you a fee for making copies. You also have the right to ask us to make additions or corrections to your medical records. If you ask us to do this, we will work with your health care provider to decide whether the changes should be made.

You have the right to know how your health information has been shared with others for any purposes that are not routine.

If you have questions or concerns about the privacy of your personal health information, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **Section 1.4 We must give you information about our plan, our network of providers, and your covered services**

As a member of our plan, you have the right to get several kinds of information from us. (As explained above in Section 1.1, you have the right to get information from us in a way that works for you. This includes getting the information in Spanish and in Braille, large print or CD.

If you want any of the following kinds of information, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet):

- **Information about our plan.** This includes, for example, information about our plan's financial condition. It also includes information about the number of appeals made by members and our plan's performance ratings, including how it has been rated by plan members and how it compares to other Medicare health plans.
- **Information about our network providers, including our network pharmacies.**
  - ◆ For example, you have the right to get information from us about the qualifications of the providers and pharmacies in our network and how we pay the providers in our network.
  - ◆ For a list of the providers in our network, see the **Provider Directory**.
  - ◆ For a list of the pharmacies in our network, see the **Pharmacy Directory**.
  - ◆ For more detailed information about our providers or pharmacies, you can call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) or visit our website at [kp.org/directory](http://kp.org/directory).



- **Information about your coverage and the rules you must follow when using your coverage.**
  - ◆ In Chapters 3 and 4 of this booklet, we explain what medical services are covered for you, any restrictions to your coverage, and what rules you must follow to get your covered medical services.
  - ◆ To get the details about your Part D prescription drug coverage, see Chapters 5 and 6 of this booklet plus our plan's Drug List. These chapters, together with the Drug List, tell you what drugs are covered and explain the rules you must follow and the restrictions to your coverage for certain drugs.
  - ◆ If you have questions about the rules or restrictions, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
- **Information about why something is not covered and what you can do about it.**
  - ◆ If a medical service or Part D drug is not covered for you, or if your coverage is restricted in some way, you can ask us for a written explanation. You have the right to this explanation even if you received the medical service or drug from an out-of-network provider or pharmacy.
  - ◆ If you are not happy or if you disagree with a decision we make about what medical care or Part D drug is covered for you, you have the right to ask us to change the decision. You can ask us to change the decision by making an appeal. For details on what to do if something is not covered for you in the way you think it should be covered, see Chapter 9 of this booklet. It gives you the details about how to make an appeal if you want us to change our decision. (Chapter 9 also tells you about how to make a complaint about quality of care, waiting times, and other concerns.)
  - ◆ If you want to ask us to pay our share of a bill you have received for medical care or a Part D prescription drug, see Chapter 7 of this booklet.

**Section 1.5 We must treat you with dignity and respect and support your right to make decisions about your care**

**You have the right to know your treatment options and participate in decisions about your health care**

You have the right to get full information from your doctors and other health care providers when you go for medical care. Your providers must explain your medical condition and your treatment choices in a way that you can understand.

You also have the right to participate fully in decisions about your health care. To help you make decisions with your doctors about what treatment is best for you, your rights include the following:

- **To know about all of your choices.** This means that you have the right to be told about all of the treatment options that are recommended for your condition, no matter what they cost or whether they are covered by our plan. It also includes being told about programs our plan offers to help members manage their medications and use drugs safely.

- **To know about the risks.** You have the right to be told about any risks involved in your care. You must be told in advance if any proposed medical care or treatment is part of a research experiment. You always have the choice to refuse any experimental treatments.
- **The right to say "no."** You have the right to refuse any recommended treatment. This includes the right to leave a hospital or other medical facility, even if your doctor advises you not to leave. You also have the right to stop taking your medication. Of course, if you refuse treatment or stop taking a medication, you accept full responsibility for what happens to your body as a result.
- **To receive an explanation if you are denied coverage for care.** You have the right to receive an explanation from us if a provider has denied care that you believe you should receive. To receive this explanation, you will need to ask us for a coverage decision. Chapter 9 of this booklet tells you how to ask us for a coverage decision.

### **You have the right to give instructions about what is to be done if you are not able to make medical decisions for yourself**

Sometimes people become unable to make health care decisions for themselves due to accidents or serious illness. You have the right to say what you want to happen if you are in this situation. This means that, if you want to, you can:

- Fill out a written form to give someone the legal authority to make medical decisions for you if you ever become unable to make decisions for yourself.
- Give your doctors written instructions about how you want them to handle your medical care if you become unable to make decisions for yourself.

The legal documents that you can use to give your directions in advance in these situations are called "**advance directives**." There are different types of advance directives and different names for them. Documents called "**living will**" and "**power of attorney for health care**" are examples of advance directives.

If you want to use an "advance directive" to give your instructions, here is what to do:

- **Get the form.** If you want to have an advance directive, you can get a form from your lawyer, from a social worker, or from some office supply stores. You can sometimes get advance directive forms from organizations that give people information about Medicare. You can also contact Member Services to ask for the forms (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
- **Fill it out and sign it.** Regardless of where you get this form, keep in mind that it is a legal document. You should consider having a lawyer help you prepare it.
- **Give copies to appropriate people.** You should give a copy of the form to your doctor and to the person you name on the form as the one to make decisions for you if you can't. You may want to give copies to close friends or family members as well. Be sure to keep a copy at home.

If you know ahead of time that you are going to be hospitalized, and you have signed an advance directive, take a copy with you to the hospital.

- If you are admitted to the hospital, they will ask you whether you have signed an advance directive form and whether you have it with you.
- If you have not signed an advance directive form, the hospital has forms available and will ask if you want to sign one.

**Remember, it is your choice whether you want to fill out an advance directive** (including whether you want to sign one if you are in the hospital). According to law, no one can deny you care or discriminate against you based on whether or not you have signed an advance directive.

### **What if your instructions are not followed?**

If you have signed an advance directive, and you believe that a doctor or hospital did not follow the instructions in it, you may file a complaint with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

## **Section 1.6 You have the right to make complaints and to ask us to reconsider decisions we have made**

If you have any problems or concerns about your covered services or care, Chapter 9 of this booklet tells you what you can do. It gives you the details about how to deal with all types of problems and complaints.

What you need to do to follow up on a problem or concern depends upon the situation. You might need to ask us to make a coverage decision for you, make an appeal to us to change a coverage decision, or make a complaint. Whatever you do—ask for a coverage decision, make an appeal, or make a complaint—we are required to treat you fairly.

You have the right to get a summary of information about the appeals and complaints that other members have filed against our plan in the past. To get this information, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

## **Section 1.7 What can you do if you believe you are being treated unfairly or your rights are not being respected?**

### **If it is about discrimination, call the Office for Civil Rights**

If you believe you have been treated unfairly or your rights have not been respected due to your race, disability, religion, sex, health, ethnicity, creed (beliefs), age, or national origin, you should call the Department of Health and Human Services' Office for Civil Rights at **1-800-368-1019** or TTY **1-800-537-7697**, or call your local Office for Civil Rights.

### **Is it about something else?**

If you believe you have been treated unfairly or your rights have not been respected, and it's not about discrimination, you can get help dealing with the problem you are having:

- You can call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
- You can call the State Health Insurance Assistance Program. For details about this organization and how to contact it, go to Chapter 2, Section 3.

- Or you can call Medicare at **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.

### **Section 1.8 How to get more information about your rights**

There are several places where you can get more information about your rights:

- You can call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
- You can call the SHIP. For details about this organization and how to contact it, go to Chapter 2, Section 3.
- You can contact Medicare:
  - ♦ You can visit the Medicare website to read or download the publication "Your Medicare Rights & Protections." (The publication is available at <https://www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/11534-Medicare-Rights-and-Protections.pdf>.)
  - ♦ Or you can call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.

### **Section 1.9 Information about new technology assessments**

Rapidly changing technology affects health care and medicine as much as any other industry. To determine whether a new drug or other medical development has long-term benefits, our plan carefully monitors and evaluates new technologies for inclusion as covered benefits. These technologies include medical procedures, medical devices, and new drugs.

### **Section 1.10 You can make suggestions about rights and responsibilities**

As a member of our plan, you have the right to make recommendations about the rights and responsibilities included in this chapter. Please call Member Services with any suggestions (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

## **SECTION 2. You have some responsibilities as a member of our plan**

### **Section 2.1 What are your responsibilities?**

Things you need to do as a member of our plan are listed below. If you have any questions, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). We're here to help.

- **Get familiar with your covered services and the rules you must follow to get these covered services.** Use this **Evidence of Coverage** booklet to learn what is covered for you and the rules you need to follow to get your covered services.

- ◆ Chapters 3 and 4 give the details about your medical services, including what is covered, what is not covered, rules to follow, and what you pay.
- ◆ Chapters 5 and 6 give the details about your coverage for Part D prescription drugs.
- **If you have any other health insurance coverage or prescription drug coverage in addition to our plan, you are required to tell us.** Please call Member Services to let us know (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
  - ◆ We are required to follow rules set by Medicare to make sure that you are using all of your coverage in combination when you get your covered services from our plan. This is called "coordination of benefits" because it involves coordinating the health and drug benefits you get from us with any other health and drug benefits available to you. We'll help you coordinate your benefits. (For more information about coordination of benefits, go to Chapter 1, Section 10.)
- **Tell your doctor and other health care providers that you are enrolled in our plan.** Show your plan membership card whenever you get your medical care or Part D prescription drugs.
- **Help your doctors and other providers help you by giving them information, asking questions, and following through on your care.**
  - ◆ To help your doctors and other health care providers give you the best care, learn as much as you are able to about your health problems and give them the information they need about you and your health. Follow the treatment plans and instructions that you and your doctors agree upon.
  - ◆ Make sure you understand your health problems and participate in developing mutually agreed upon treatment goals with your providers whenever possible.
  - ◆ Make sure your doctors know all of the drugs you are taking, including over-the-counter drugs, vitamins, and supplements.
  - ◆ If you have any questions, be sure to ask. Your doctors and other health care providers are supposed to explain things in a way you can understand. If you ask a question and you don't understand the answer you are given, ask again.
- **Be considerate.** We expect all our members to respect the rights of other patients. We also expect you to act in a way that helps the smooth running of your doctor's office, hospitals, and other offices.
- **Pay what you owe.** As a plan member, you are responsible for these payments:
  - ◆ In order to be eligible for our plan, you must have Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B (or Medicare Part B). Some plan members must pay a premium for Medicare Part A. Most plan members must pay a premium for Medicare Part B to remain a member of our plan.
  - ◆ For most of your medical services or drugs covered by our plan, you must pay your share of the cost when you get the service or drug. This will be a copayment (a fixed amount) or coinsurance (a percentage of the total cost). The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** tells you what you must pay for your medical services. The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** tells you what you must pay for your Part D prescription drugs.

- ◆ If you get any medical services or drugs that are not covered by our plan or by other insurance you may have, you must pay the full cost.
- ◆ If you disagree with our decision to deny coverage for a service or drug, you can make an appeal. Please see Chapter 9 of this booklet for information about how to make an appeal.
- ◆ If you are required to pay a late enrollment penalty, you must pay the penalty to keep your prescription drug coverage.
- **Tell us if you move.** If you are going to move, it's important to tell us right away. Call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
  - ◆ If you move outside of our plan service area, you cannot remain a member of our plan. (Chapter 1 tells you about our service area.) We can help you figure out whether you are moving outside our service area. If you are leaving our service area, you will have a special enrollment period when you can join any Medicare plan available in your new area. We can let you know if we have a plan in your new area.
  - ◆ If you move within our service area, we still need to know so we can keep your membership record up-to-date and know how to contact you.
  - ◆ If you move, it is also important to tell Social Security (or the Railroad Retirement Board). You can find phone numbers and contact information for these organizations in Chapter 2.
- **Call Member Services for help if you have questions or concerns.** We also welcome any suggestions you may have for improving our plan.
  - ◆ Phone numbers and calling hours for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.
  - ◆ For more information about how to reach us, including our mailing address, please see Chapter 2.

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## Background

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### SECTION 1. Introduction

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#### **Section 1.1 What to do if you have a problem or concern**

This chapter explains two types of processes for handling problems and concerns:

- For some types of problems, you need to use the process for coverage decisions and appeals.
- For other types of problems, you need to use the process for making complaints.

Both of these processes have been approved by Medicare. To ensure fairness and prompt handling of your problems, each process has a set of rules, procedures, and deadlines that must be followed by you and us.

#### **Which one do you use?**

That depends upon the type of problem you are having. The guide in Section 3 will help you identify the right process to use.

#### **Section 1.2 What about the legal terms?**

There are technical legal terms for some of the rules, procedures, and types of deadlines explained in this chapter. Many of these terms are unfamiliar to most people and can be hard to understand.

To keep things simple, this chapter explains the legal rules and procedures using simpler words in place of certain legal terms. For example, this chapter generally says "making a complaint" rather than "filing a grievance," "coverage decision" rather than "organization determination" or "coverage determination," or "at-risk determination," and "Independent Review Organization" instead of "Independent Review Entity." It also uses abbreviations as little as possible.

However, it can be helpful, and sometimes quite important, for you to know the correct legal terms for the situation you are in. Knowing which terms to use will help you communicate more clearly and accurately when you are dealing with your problem and get the right help or information for your situation. To help you know which terms to use, we include legal terms when we give the details for handling specific types of situations.

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## **SECTION 2. You can get help from government organizations that are not connected with us**

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### **Section 2.1 Where to get more information and personalized assistance**

Sometimes it can be confusing to start or follow through the process for dealing with a problem. This can be especially true if you do not feel well or have limited energy. Other times, you may not have the knowledge you need to take the next step.

#### **Get help from an independent government organization**

We are always available to help you. But in some situations, you may also want help or guidance from someone who is not connected with us. You can always contact your **State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)**. This government program has trained counselors in every state. The program is not connected with us or with any insurance company or health plan. The counselors at this program can help you understand which process you should use to handle a problem you are having. They can also answer your questions, give you more information, and offer guidance on what to do.

The services of SHIP counselors are free. You will find phone numbers in Chapter 2, Section 3, of this booklet.

#### **You can also get help and information from Medicare**

For more information and help in handling a problem, you can also contact Medicare. Here are two ways to get information directly from Medicare:

- You can call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.
- You can visit the Medicare website (<https://www.medicare.gov>).

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## **SECTION 3. To deal with your problem, which process should you use?**

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### **Section 3.1 Should you use the process for coverage decisions and appeals? Or should you use the process for making complaints?**

If you have a problem or concern, you only need to read the parts of this chapter that apply to your situation. The guide that follows will help.

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**To figure out which part of this chapter will help you with your specific problem or concern, *START HERE*:**

**Is your problem or concern about your benefits or coverage?**

(This includes problems about whether particular medical care or prescription drugs are covered or not, the way in which they are covered, and problems related to payment for medical care or prescription drugs.)

- **Yes, my problem is about benefits or coverage:**

**Go to the next section in this chapter, Section 4:** "A guide to the basics of coverage decisions and appeals."

- **No, my problem is not about benefits or coverage:**

**Skip ahead to Section 10 at the end of this chapter:** "How to make a complaint about quality of care, waiting times, customer service, or other concerns."

## Coverage decisions and appeals

### SECTION 4. A guide to the basics of coverage decisions and appeals

#### Section 4.1 Asking for coverage decisions and making appeals—*The big picture*

The process for coverage decisions and appeals deals with problems related to your benefits and coverage for medical services and prescription drugs, including problems related to payment. This is the process you use for issues such as whether something is covered or not, and the way in which something is covered.

#### **Asking for coverage decisions**

A coverage decision is a decision we make about your benefits and coverage or about the amount we will pay for your medical services or drugs. For example, your network doctor makes a (favorable) coverage decision for you whenever you receive medical care from him or her or if your network doctor refers you to a medical specialist. You or your doctor can also contact us and ask for a coverage decision, if your doctor is unsure whether we will cover a particular medical service or refuses to provide medical care you think that you need. In other words, if you want to know if we will cover a medical service before you receive it, you can ask us to make a coverage decision for you.

We are making a coverage decision for you whenever we decide what is covered for you and how much we pay. In some cases, we might decide a service or drug is not covered or is no longer covered by Medicare for you. If you disagree with this coverage decision, you can make an appeal.

## **Making an appeal**

If we make a coverage decision and you are not satisfied with this decision, you can "appeal" the decision. An appeal is a formal way of asking us to review and change a coverage decision we have made.

When you appeal a decision for the first time, this is called a Level 1 Appeal. In this appeal, we review the coverage decision we made to check to see if we were following all of the rules properly. Your appeal is handled by different reviewers than those who made the original unfavorable decision. When we have completed the review, we give you our decision. Under certain circumstances, which we discuss later, you can request an expedited or "fast coverage decision" or fast appeal of a coverage decision.

If we say *no* to all or part of your Level 1 Appeal, you can go on to a Level 2 Appeal. The Level 2 Appeal is conducted by an independent organization that is not connected to us. (In some situations, your case will be automatically sent to the independent organization for a Level 2 Appeal. In other situations, you will need to ask for a Level 2 Appeal.) If you are not satisfied with the decision at the Level 2 Appeal, you may be able to continue through additional levels of appeal.

### **Section 4.2 How to get help when you are asking for a coverage decision or making an appeal**

Would you like some help? Here are resources you may wish to use if you decide to ask for any kind of coverage decision or appeal a decision:

- **You can call Member Services** (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
- To get free help from an independent organization that is not connected with our plan, **contact your State Health Insurance Assistance Program** (see Section 2 in this chapter).
- **Your doctor can make a request for you.**
  - ◆ For medical care, your doctor can request a coverage decision or a Level 1 Appeal on your behalf. If your appeal is denied at Level 1, it will be automatically forwarded to Level 2. To request any appeal after Level 2, your doctor must be appointed as your representative.
  - ◆ For Part D prescription drugs, your doctor or other prescriber can request a coverage decision or a Level 1 or Level 2 Appeal on your behalf. To request any appeal after Level 2, your doctor or other prescriber must be appointed as your representative.
- **You can ask someone to act on your behalf.** If you want to, you can name another person to act for you as your "representative" to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal.
  - ◆ There may be someone who is already legally authorized to act as your representative under state law.
  - ◆ If you want a friend, relative, your doctor or other provider, or other person to be your representative, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) and ask for the "Appointment of Representative" form. (The form is also available on Medicare's website at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/CMS-Forms/CMS->

**Forms/downloads/cms1696.pdf** or on our website at **kp.org**.) The form gives that person permission to act on your behalf. It must be signed by you and by the person whom you would like to act on your behalf. You must give us a copy of the signed form.

- **You also have the right to hire a lawyer to act for you.** You may contact your own lawyer, or get the name of a lawyer from your local bar association or other referral service. There are also groups that will give you free legal services if you qualify. However, you are not required to hire a lawyer to ask for any kind of coverage decision or appeal a decision.

### **Section 4.3 Which section of this chapter gives the details for your situation?**

There are four different types of situations that involve coverage decisions and appeals. Since each situation has different rules and deadlines, we give the details for each one in a separate section:

- **Section 5** in this chapter: "Your medical care: How to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal."
- **Section 6** in this chapter: "Your Part D prescription drugs: How to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal."
- **Section 7** in this chapter: "How to ask us to cover a longer inpatient hospital stay if you think the doctor is discharging you too soon."
- **Section 8** in this chapter: "How to ask us to keep covering certain medical services if you think your coverage is ending too soon" (applies to these services only: home health care, skilled nursing facility care, and Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services).

If you're not sure which section you should be using, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You can also get help or information from government organizations such as your SHIP (Chapter 2, Section 3, of this booklet has the phone numbers for this program).

## **SECTION 5. Your medical care: How to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal**



Have you read Section 4 in this chapter ("A guide to the basics of coverage decisions and appeals")? If not, you may want to read it before you start this section.

**Section 5.1 This section tells what to do if you have problems getting coverage for medical care or if you want us to pay you back for our share of the cost of your care**

This section is about your benefits for medical care and services. These benefits are described in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**. To keep things simple, we generally refer to "medical care coverage" or "medical care" in the rest of this section, instead of repeating "medical care or treatment or services" every time. The term "medical care" includes medical items and services as well as Medicare Part B prescription drugs. In some cases, different rules apply to a request for a Part B prescription drug. In those cases, we will explain how the rules for Part B prescription drugs are different from the rules for medical items and services.

This section tells you what you can do if you are in any of the five following situations:

1. You are not getting certain medical care you want, and you believe that this care is covered by our plan.
2. We will not approve the medical care your doctor or other medical provider wants to give you, and you believe that this care is covered by our plan.
3. You have received medical care or services that you believe should be covered by our plan, but we have said we will not pay for this care.
4. You have received and paid for medical care or services that you believe should be covered by our plan, and you want to ask us to reimburse you for this care.
5. You are being told that coverage for certain medical care you have been getting that we previously approved will be reduced or stopped, and you believe that reducing or stopping this care could harm your health.

**Note:** If the coverage that will be stopped is for hospital care, home health care, skilled nursing facility care, or Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services, you need to read a separate section of this chapter because special rules apply to these types of care. Here's what to read in those situations:

- **Chapter 9, Section 7:** "How to ask us to cover a longer inpatient hospital stay if you think the doctor is discharging you too soon."
- **Chapter 9, Section 8:** "How to ask us to keep covering certain medical services if you think your coverage is ending too soon." This section is about three services only: home health care, skilled nursing facility care, and (CORF) services.

For all other situations that involve being told that medical care you have been getting will be stopped, use this section (Section 5) as your guide for what to do.

**Which of these situations are you in?**

<b>If you are in this situation:</b>	<b>This is what you can do:</b>
Do you want to find out whether we will cover the medical care or services you want?	You can ask us to make a coverage decision for you. Go to the next section in this chapter, <b>Section 5.2</b> .
Have we already told you that we will not cover or pay for a medical service in the way that you want it to be covered or paid for?	You can make an appeal. (This means you are asking us to reconsider.) Skip ahead to <b>Section 5.3</b> in this chapter.
Do you want to ask us to pay you back for medical care or services you have already received and paid for?	You can send us the bill. Skip ahead to <b>Section 5.5</b> in this chapter.

**Section 5.2 Step-by-step: How to ask for a coverage decision**  
(how to ask us to authorize or provide the medical care coverage you want)

**Legal Terms**

When a coverage decision involves your medical care, it is called an **"organization determination."**

**Step 1: You ask us to make a coverage decision on the medical care you are requesting.** If your health requires a quick response, you should ask us to make a "fast coverage decision."

**Legal Terms**

A "fast coverage decision" is called an **"expedited determination."**

*How to request coverage for the medical care you want*

- Start by calling, writing, or faxing us to make your request for us to authorize or provide coverage for the medical care you want. You, your doctor, or your representative can do this.
- For the details about how to contact us, go to Chapter 2, Section 1, and look for the section called "How to contact us when you are asking for a coverage decision or making a complaint about your medical care."



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*Generally we use the standard deadlines for giving you our decision*

When we give you our decision, we will use the "standard" deadlines unless we have agreed to use the "fast" deadlines. A standard coverage decision means we will give you an answer **within 14 calendar days** after we receive your request for a medical item or service. If your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug, we will give you an answer **within 72 hours** after we receive your request.

- However, for a request for a medical item or service, we can take up to 14 more calendar days if you ask for more time, or if we need information (such as medical records from out-of-network providers) that may benefit you. If we decide to take extra days to make the decision, we will tell you in writing. We can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.
- If you believe we should not take extra days, you can file a "fast complaint" about our decision to take extra days. When you file a fast complaint, we will give you an answer to your complaint **within 24 hours**. (The process for making a complaint is different from the process for coverage decisions and appeals. For more information about the process for making complaints, including fast complaints, see Section 10 in this chapter.)

*If your health requires it, ask us to give you a "fast coverage decision"*

- A fast coverage decision means we will answer **within 72 hours** if your request is for a medical item or service. If your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug, we will answer **within 24 hours**.
  - ♦ However, for a request for a medical item or service, we can take up to 14 more calendar days if we find that some information that may benefit you is missing (such as medical records from out-of-network providers), or if you need time to get information to us for the review. If we decide to take extra days, we will tell you in writing. We can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.
  - ♦ If you believe we should not take extra days, you can file a "fast complaint" about our decision to take extra days. (For more information about the process for making complaints, including fast complaints, see Section 10 in this chapter.) We will call you as soon as we make the decision.
- **To get a fast coverage decision, you must meet two requirements:**
  - ♦ You can get a fast coverage decision only if you are asking for coverage for medical care you have not yet received. (You cannot get a fast coverage decision if your request is about payment for medical care you have already received.)
  - ♦ You can get a fast coverage decision only if using the standard deadlines could cause serious harm to your health or hurt your ability to function.
- **If your doctor tells us that your health requires a "fast coverage decision,"** we will automatically agree to give you a fast coverage decision.
- **If you ask for a fast coverage decision on your own, without your doctor's support,** we will decide whether your health requires that we give you a fast coverage decision.

- ◆ If we decide that your medical condition does not meet the requirements for a fast coverage decision, we will send you a letter that says so (and we will use the standard deadlines instead).
- ◆ This letter will tell you that if your doctor asks for the fast coverage decision, we will automatically give a fast coverage decision.
- ◆ The letter will also tell how you can file a "fast complaint" about our decision to give you a standard coverage decision instead of the fast coverage decision you requested. (For more information about the process for making complaints, including fast complaints, see Section 10 in this chapter.)

### **Step 2: We consider your request for medical care coverage and give you our answer.**

#### *Deadlines for a "fast coverage decision"*

- Generally, for a fast coverage decision on a request for a medical item or service, we will give you our answer **within 72 hours**. If your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug, we will answer **within 24 hours**.
  - ◆ As explained above, we can take up to 14 more calendar days under certain circumstances. If we decide to take extra days to make the coverage decision, we will tell you in writing. We can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.
  - ◆ If you believe we should not take extra days, you can file a "fast complaint" about our decision to take extra days. When you file a fast complaint, we will give you an answer to your complaint **within 24 hours**. (For more information about the process for making complaints, including fast complaints, see Section 10 in this chapter.)
  - ◆ If we do not give you our answer **within 72 hours** (or if there is an extended time period, by the end of that period), or **24 hours** if your request is for a Part B prescription drug, you have the right to appeal. Section 5.3 below tells you how to make an appeal.
- **If our answer is yes to part or all of what you requested**, we must authorize or provide the medical care coverage we have agreed to provide **within 72 hours** after we received your request. If we extended the time needed to make our coverage decision on your request for a medical item or service, we will authorize or provide the coverage by the end of that extended period.
- **If our answer is no to part or all of what you requested**, we will send you a detailed written explanation as to why we said no.

#### *Deadlines for a "standard" coverage decision*

- Generally, for a standard coverage decision on a request for a medical item or service, we will give you our answer **within 14 calendar days** of receiving your request. If your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug, we will give you an answer **within 72 hours** of receiving your request.
  - ◆ For a request for a medical item or service, we can take up to 14 more calendar days ("an extended time period") under certain circumstances. If we decide to take extra days to make

the coverage decision, we will tell you in writing. We can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.

- ◆ If you believe we should not take extra days, you can file a "fast complaint" about our decision to take extra days. When you file a fast complaint, we will give you an answer to your complaint within 24 hours. (For more information about the process for making complaints, including fast complaints, see Section 10 in this chapter.)
- ◆ If we do not give you our answer **within 14 calendar days** (or if there is an extended time period, by the end of that period) or **72 hours** if your request is for a Part B prescription drug, you have the right to appeal. Section 5.3 below tells you how to make an appeal.
- **If our answer is *yes* to part or all of what you requested**, we must authorize or provide the coverage we have agreed to provide **within 14 calendar days**, or **72 hours** if your request is for a Part B prescription drug, after we received your request. If we extended the time needed to make our coverage decision on your request for a medical item or service, we will authorize or provide the coverage by the end of that extended period.
- **If our answer is *no* to part or all of what you requested**, we will send you a written statement that explains why we said no.

**Step 3: If we say *no* to your request for coverage for medical care, you decide if you want to make an appeal.**

- If we say *no*, you have the right to ask us to reconsider, and perhaps change this decision by making an appeal. Making an appeal means making another try to get the medical care coverage you want.
- If you decide to make an appeal, it means you are going on to Level 1 of the appeals process (see Section 5.3 below).

<p><b>Section 5.3 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 Appeal</b> (how to ask for a review of a medical care coverage decision made by our plan)</p>
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<p><b>Legal Terms</b></p>
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<p>An appeal to our plan about a medical care coverage decision is called a plan "<b>reconsideration</b>."</p>
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**Step 1: You contact us and make your appeal. If your health requires a quick response, you must ask for a "fast appeal."**

*What to do:*

- **To start an appeal, you, your doctor, or your representative must contact us.** For details about how to reach us for any purpose related to your appeal, go to Chapter 2, Section 1, and look for the section called "How to contact us when you are making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs."

- **If you are asking for a standard appeal, make your standard appeal in writing by submitting a request.**
  - ◆ If you have someone appealing our decision for you other than your doctor, your appeal must include an "Appointment of Representative" form authorizing this person to represent you. To get the form, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) and ask for the "Appointment of Representative" form. It is also available on Medicare's website at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/CMS-Forms/CMS-Forms/downloads/cms1696.pdf> or on our website at [kp.org](http://kp.org). While we can accept an appeal request without the form, we cannot begin or complete our review until we receive it. If we do not receive the form within 44 calendar days after receiving your appeal request (our deadline for making a decision on your appeal), your appeal request will be dismissed. If this happens, we will send you a written notice explaining your right to ask the Independent Review Organization to review our decision to dismiss your appeal.
- **If you are asking for a fast appeal, make your appeal in writing or call us** at the phone number shown in Chapter 2, Section 1, "How to contact us when you are making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs."
- **You must make your appeal request within 60 calendar days from the date on the written notice** we sent to tell you our answer to your request for a coverage decision. If you miss this deadline and have a good reason for missing it, we may give you more time to make your appeal. Examples of good cause for missing the deadline may include if you had a serious illness that prevented you from contacting us or if we provided you with incorrect or incomplete information about the deadline for requesting an appeal.
- **You can ask for a copy of the information regarding your medical decision and add more information to support your appeal.**
  - ◆ You have the right to ask us for a copy of the information regarding your appeal. We are allowed to charge a fee for copying and sending this information to you.
  - ◆ If you wish, you and your doctor may give us additional information to support your appeal.

*If your health requires it, ask for a "fast appeal" (you can make a request by calling us)*

<b>Legal Terms</b>
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A "fast appeal" is also called an <b>"expedited reconsideration."</b>
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- If you are appealing a decision we made about coverage for care you have not yet received, you and/or your doctor will need to decide if you need a "fast appeal."
- The requirements and procedures for getting a "fast appeal" are the same as those for getting a "fast coverage decision." To ask for a fast appeal, follow the instructions for asking for a fast coverage decision. (These instructions are given earlier in this section.)
- If your doctor tells us that your health requires a "fast appeal," we will give you a fast appeal.

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**Step 2: We consider your appeal and we give you our answer.**

- When we are reviewing your appeal, we take another careful look at all of the information about your request for coverage of medical care. We check to see if we were following all the rules when we said *no* to your request.
- We will gather more information if we need it. We may contact you or your doctor to get more information.

***Deadlines for a "fast appeal"***

- When we are using the fast deadlines, we must give you our answer **within 72 hours** after we receive your appeal. We will give you our answer sooner if your health requires us to do so.
  - ◆ However, if you ask for more time, or if we need to gather more information that may benefit you, we can take up to 14 more calendar days if your request is for a medical item or service. If we decide to take extra days to make the decision, we will tell you in writing.
  - ◆ If we do not give you an answer **within 72 hours** (or by the end of the extended time period if we took extra days), we are required to automatically send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent organization. Later in this section, we tell you about this organization and explain what happens at Level 2 of the appeals process.
- **If our answer is *yes* to part or all of what you requested**, we must authorize or provide the coverage we have agreed to provide **within 72 hours** after we receive your appeal.
- **If our answer is *no* to part or all of what you requested**, we will automatically send your appeal to the Independent Review Organization for a Level 2 Appeal.

***Deadlines for a "standard appeal"***

- If we are using the standard deadlines, we must give you our answer **within 30 calendar days** after we receive your appeal if your appeal is about coverage for services you have not yet received. If your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug, we will give you our answer **within 7 calendar days** after we receive your appeal if your appeal is about coverage for a Part B prescription drug you have not yet received. We will give you our decision sooner if your health condition requires us to.
  - ◆ However, if you ask for more time, or if we need to gather more information that may benefit you, we can take up to 14 more calendar days if your request is for a medical item or service. If we decide to take extra days to make the decision, we will tell you in writing. We can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.
  - ◆ If you believe we should not take extra days, you can file a "fast complaint" about our decision to take extra days. When you file a fast complaint, we will give you an answer to your complaint **within 24 hours**. (For more information about the process for making complaints, including fast complaints, see Section 10 in this chapter.)
  - ◆ If we do not give you an answer by the applicable deadline above (or by the end of the extended time period if we took extra days for your request for a medical item or service), we are required to send your request on to Level 2

of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent, outside organization. Later in this section, we talk about this review organization and explain what happens at Level 2 of the appeals process.

- **If our answer is *yes* to part or all of what you requested**, we must authorize or provide the coverage we have agreed to provide **within 30 calendar days**, or **within 7 calendar days** if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug after we receive your appeal
- **If our answer is *no* to part or all of what you requested**, we will automatically send your appeal to the Independent Review Organization for a Level 2 Appeal.

**Step 3: If our plan says *no* to part or all of your appeal, your case will automatically be sent on to the next level of the appeals process.**

- To make sure we were following all the rules when we said ***no*** to your appeal, we are required to send your appeal to the Independent Review Organization. When we do this, it means that your appeal is going on to the next level of the appeals process, which is Level 2.

#### **Section 5.4 Step-by-step: How a Level 2 Appeal is done**

If we say ***no*** to your Level 1 Appeal, your case will automatically be sent on to the next level of the appeals process. During the Level 2 Appeal, the **Independent Review Organization** reviews our decision for your first appeal. This organization decides whether the decision we made should be changed.

#### **Legal Terms**

The formal name for the "Independent Review Organization" is the "**Independent Review Entity**." It is sometimes called the "**IRE**."

**Step 1: The Independent Review Organization reviews your appeal.**

- **The Independent Review Organization is an independent organization that is hired by Medicare.** This organization is not connected with us and it is not a government agency. This organization is a company chosen by Medicare to handle the job of being the Independent Review Organization. Medicare oversees its work.
- We will send the information about your appeal to this organization. This information is called your "case file." **You have the right to ask us for a copy of your case file.** We are allowed to charge you a fee for copying and sending this information to you.
- You have a right to give the Independent Review Organization additional information to support your appeal.
- Reviewers at the Independent Review Organization will take a careful look at all of the information related to your appeal.

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*If you had a "fast" appeal at Level 1, you will also have a "fast" appeal at Level 2*

- If you had a fast appeal to our plan at Level 1, you will automatically receive a fast appeal at Level 2. The review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 Appeal **within 72 hours of when it receives your appeal**.
- However, if your request is for a medical item or service and the Independent Review Organization needs to gather more information that may benefit you, it can take up to 14 more calendar days. The Independent Review Organization can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.

*If you had a "standard" appeal at Level 1, you will also have a "standard" appeal at Level 2*

- If you had a standard appeal to our plan at Level 1, you will automatically receive a standard appeal at Level 2. If your request is for a medical item or service, the review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 Appeal **within 30 calendar days** of when it receives your appeal. If your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug, the review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 Appeal **within 7 calendar days** of when it receives your appeal.
- However, if your request is for a medical item or service and the Independent Review Organization needs to gather more information that may benefit you, it can take up to 14 more calendar days. The Independent Review Organization can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.

## **Step 2: The Independent Review Organization gives you their answer.**

The Independent Review Organization will tell you its decision in writing and explain the reasons for it.

- If the review organization says **yes** to part or all of a request for a medical item or service, we must authorize the medical care coverage **within 72 hours** or provide the service **within 14 calendar days** after we receive the decision from the review organization for standard requests or **within 72 hours** from the date we receive the decision from the review organization for expedited requests.
- If this organization says **no** to part or all of your appeal, it means they agree with us that your request (or part of your request) for coverage for medical care should not be approved. (This is called "upholding the decision." It is also called "turning down your appeal.")
  - ◆ If the Independent Review Organization "upholds the decision," you have the right to a Level 3 Appeal. However, to make another appeal at Level 3, the dollar value of the medical care coverage you are requesting must meet a certain minimum. If the dollar value of the coverage you are requesting is too low, you cannot make another appeal, which means that the decision at Level 2 is final. The written notice you get from the Independent Review Organization will tell you how to find out the dollar amount to continue the appeals process.



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**Step 3: If your case meets the requirements, you choose whether you want to take your appeal further.**

- There are three additional levels in the appeals process after Level 2 (for a total of five levels of appeal).
- If your Level 2 Appeal is turned down and you meet the requirements to continue with the appeals process, you must decide whether you want to go on to Level 3 and make a third appeal. The details about how to do this are in the written notice you got after your Level 2 Appeal.
- The Level 3 Appeal is handled by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator. Section 9 in this chapter tells you more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

<b>Section 5.5 What if you are asking us to pay you for our share of a bill you have received for medical care?</b>
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If you want to ask us for payment for medical care, start by reading Chapter 7 of this booklet: "Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs." Chapter 7 describes the situations in which you may need to ask for reimbursement or to pay a bill you have received from a provider. It also tells you how to send us the paperwork that asks us for payment.

**Asking for reimbursement is asking for a coverage decision from us**

If you send us the paperwork that asks for reimbursement, you are asking us to make a coverage decision (for more information about coverage decisions, see Section 4.1 in this chapter). To make this coverage decision, we will check to see if the medical care you paid for is a covered service; see the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**. We will also check to see if you followed all the rules for using your coverage for medical care (these rules are given in Chapter 3 of this booklet: "Using our plan's coverage for your medical services").

**We will say *yes* or *no* to your request**

- If the medical care you paid for is covered and you followed all the rules, we will send you the payment for our share of the cost of your medical care within 60 calendar days after we receive your request. Or if you haven't paid for the services, we will send the payment directly to the provider. (When we send the payment, it's the same as saying *yes* to your request for a coverage decision.)
- If the medical care is not covered, or you did not follow all the rules, we will not send payment. Instead, we will send you a letter that says we will not pay for the services and the reasons why in detail. (When we turn down your request for payment, it's the same as saying *no* to your request for a coverage decision.)



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### What if you ask for payment and we say that we will not pay?

If you do not agree with our decision to turn you down, **you can make an appeal**. If you make an appeal, it means you are asking us to change the coverage decision we made when we turned down your request for payment.

To make this appeal, follow the process for appeals that we describe in Section 5.3. Go to this section for step-by-step instructions. When you are following these instructions, please note:

- If you make an appeal for reimbursement, we must give you our answer within 60 calendar days after we receive your appeal. (If you are asking us to pay you back for medical care you have already received and paid for yourself, you are not allowed to ask for a fast appeal.)
- If the Independent Review Organization reverses our decision to deny payment, we must send the payment you have requested to you or to the provider within 30 calendar days. If the answer to your appeal is *yes* at any stage of the appeals process after Level 2, we must send the payment you requested to you or to the provider within 60 calendar days.

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## SECTION 6. Your Part D prescription drugs: How to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal

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Have you read Section 4 in this chapter ("A guide to the basics of coverage decisions and appeals")? If not, you may want to read it before you start this section.

### Section 6.1 This section tells what to do if you have problems getting a Part D drug or you want us to pay you back for a Part D drug

Your benefits as a member of our plan include coverage for many prescription drugs. Please refer to our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**. To be covered, the drug must be used for a medically accepted indication. (A "medically accepted indication" is a use of the drug that is either approved by the Food and Drug Administration or supported by certain reference books. See Chapter 5, Section 3, for more information about a medically accepted indication.)

- **This section is about your Part D drugs only.** To keep things simple, we generally say "drug" in the rest of this section, instead of repeating "covered outpatient prescription drug" or "Part D drug" every time.
- For details about what we mean by Part D drugs, the **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**, rules and restrictions on coverage, and cost information, see Chapter 5 ("Using our plan's coverage for your Part D prescription drugs") and Chapter 6

("What you pay for your Part D prescription drugs") or the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this EOC.

### Part D coverage decisions and appeals

As discussed in Section 4 of this chapter, a coverage decision is a decision we make about your benefits and coverage or about the amount we will pay for your drugs.

<b>Legal Terms</b>
An initial coverage decision about your Part D drugs is called a " <b>coverage determination.</b> "

Here are examples of coverage decisions you ask us to make about your Part D drugs:

- You ask us to make an exception, including:
  - ◆ Asking us to cover a Part D drug that is not on our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**.
  - ◆ Asking us to waive a restriction on our plan's coverage for a drug (such as limits on the amount of the drug you can get).
  - ◆ Asking to pay a lower cost-sharing amount for a covered drug on a higher cost-sharing tier.
- You ask us whether a drug is covered for you and whether you satisfy any applicable coverage rules. For example, when your drug is on our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**, but we require you to get approval from us before we will cover it for you.
  - ◆ **Please note:** If your pharmacy tells you that your prescription cannot be filled as written, you will get a written notice explaining how to contact us to ask for a coverage decision.
- You ask us to pay for a prescription drug you already bought. This is a request for a coverage decision about payment.

If you disagree with a coverage decision we have made, you can appeal our decision.

This section tells you both how to ask for coverage decisions and how to request an appeal. Use the chart below to help you determine which part has information for your situation:

### Which of these situations are you in?

<b>If you are in this situation:</b>	<b>This is what you can do:</b>
Do you need a drug that isn't on our Drug List or need us to waive a rule or restriction on a drug we cover?	You can ask us to make an exception. (This is a type of coverage decision.) <b>Start with Section 6.2 in this chapter.</b>
Do you want us to cover a drug on our Drug List and you believe you meet any plan	You can ask us for a coverage decision. <b>Skip ahead to Section 6.4 in this chapter.</b>

rules or restrictions (such as getting approval in advance) for the drug you need?

Do you want to ask us to pay you back for a drug you have already received and paid for?

You can ask us to pay you back. (This is a type of coverage decision.)

**Skip ahead to Section 6.4 in this chapter.**

Have we already told you that we will not cover or pay for a drug in the way that you want it to be covered or paid for?

You can make an appeal. (This means you are asking us to reconsider.)

**Skip ahead to Section 6.5 in this chapter.**

## **Section 6.2 What is an exception?**

If a drug is not covered in the way you would like it to be covered, you can ask us to make an "**exception.**" An exception is a type of coverage decision. Similar to other types of coverage decisions, if we turn down your request for an exception, you can appeal our decision.

When you ask for an exception, your doctor or other prescriber will need to explain the medical reasons why you need the exception approved. We will then consider your request. Here are three examples of exceptions that you or your doctor or other prescriber can ask us to make:

### **1. Covering a Part D drug for you that is not on our Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary.** (We call it the "Drug List" for short.)

#### **Legal Terms**

Asking for coverage of a drug that is not on the Drug List is sometimes called asking for a "**formulary exception.**"

- If we agree to make an exception and cover a drug that is not on the Drug List, you will need to pay the cost-sharing amount that applies to drugs in Tier 4 (nonpreferred brand-name drugs). You cannot ask for an exception to the copayment or coinsurance amount we require you to pay for the drug.
- 2. Removing a restriction on our coverage for a covered drug.** There are extra rules or restrictions that apply to certain drugs on our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary** (for more information, go to Chapter 5 and look for Section 4).

Legal Terms
Asking for removal of a restriction on coverage for a drug is sometimes called asking for a <b>"formulary exception."</b>

- The extra rules and restrictions on coverage for certain drugs include:
  - ♦ Being required to use the generic version of a drug instead of the brand-name drug.
  - ♦ Getting **plan approval in advance** before we will agree to cover the drug for you. (This is sometimes called "prior authorization.")
- If we agree to make an exception and waive a restriction for you, you can ask for an exception to the copayment or coinsurance amount we require you to pay for the drug.
- 3. **Changing coverage of a drug to a lower cost-sharing tier.** Every drug on our Drug List is in one of six cost-sharing tiers. In general, the lower the cost-sharing tier number, the less you will pay as your share of the cost of the drug.

Legal Terms
Asking to pay a lower price for a covered nonpreferred drug is sometimes called asking for a <b>"tiering exception."</b>

- If our Drug List contains alternative drug(s) for treating your medical condition that are in a lower cost-sharing tier than your drug, you can ask us to cover your drug at the cost-sharing amount that applies to the alternative drug(s). This would lower your share of the cost for the drug.
  - ♦ If the drug you're taking is a brand-name drug you can ask us to cover your drug at the cost-sharing amount that applies to the lowest tier that contains brand-name alternatives for treating your condition.
- If the drug you're taking is a generic drug you can ask us to cover your drug at the cost-sharing amount that applies to the lowest tier that contains either brand or generic alternatives for treating your condition.
- You cannot ask us to change the cost-sharing tier for any drug in Tier 5 (specialty-tier drugs).
- If we approve your request for a tiering exception and there is more than one lower cost-sharing tier with alternative drugs you can't take, you will usually pay the lowest amount.

<b>Section 6.3 Important things to know about asking for exceptions</b>
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### Your doctor must tell us the medical reasons

Your doctor or other prescriber must give us a statement that explains the medical reasons for requesting an exception. For a faster decision, include this medical information from your doctor or other prescriber when you ask for the exception.

Typically, our Drug List includes more than one drug for treating a particular condition. These different possibilities are called "**alternative**" drugs. If an alternative drug would be just as effective as the drug you are requesting and would not cause more side effects or other health problems, we will generally not approve your request for an exception. If you ask us for a tiering exception, we will generally not approve your request for an exception unless all the alternative drugs in the lower cost-sharing tier(s) won't work as well for you.

### **We can say *yes* or *no* to your request**

- If we approve your request for an exception, our approval usually is valid until the end of the plan year. This is true as long as your doctor continues to prescribe the drug for you and that drug continues to be safe and effective for treating your condition.
- If we say *no* to your request for an exception, you can ask for a review of our decision by making an appeal. Section 6.5 tells you how to make an appeal if we say no.

The next section tells you how to ask for a coverage decision, including an exception.

## **Section 6.4 Step-by-step: How to ask for a coverage decision, including an exception**

**Step 1: You ask us to make a coverage decision about the drug(s) or payment you need.** If your health requires a quick response, you must ask us to make a "fast coverage decision." You cannot ask for a fast coverage decision if you are asking us to pay you back for a drug you already bought.

*What to do:*

- **Request the type of coverage decision you want.** Start by calling, writing, or faxing us to make your request. You, your representative, or your doctor (or other prescriber) can do this. You can also access the coverage decision process through our website. For the details, go to Chapter 2, Section 1, and look for the section called "How to contact us when you are asking for a coverage decision or making a complaint about your Part D prescription drugs." Or if you are asking us to pay you back for a drug, go to the section called "Where to send a request asking us to pay for our share of the cost for medical care or a drug you have received."
- **You or your doctor or someone else who is acting on your behalf** can ask for a coverage decision. Section 4 in this chapter tells you how you can give written permission to someone else to act as your representative. You can also have a lawyer act on your behalf.
- **If you want to ask us to pay you back for a drug,** start by reading Chapter 7 of this booklet: "Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs." Chapter 7 describes the situations in which you may need to ask for reimbursement. It also tells you how to send us the paperwork that asks us to pay you back for our share of the cost of a drug you have paid for.
- **If you are requesting an exception, provide the "supporting statement."** Your doctor or other prescriber must give us the medical reasons for the drug exception you are requesting. (We call this the "supporting statement.") Your doctor or other prescriber can fax or mail the

statement to us. Or your doctor or other prescriber can tell us on the phone and follow up by faxing or mailing a written statement if necessary. See Sections 6.2 and 6.3 for more information about exception requests.

- **We must accept any written request**, including a request submitted on the CMS Model Coverage Determination Request Form, which is available on our website.

<b>Legal Terms</b>
A "fast coverage decision" is called an " <b>expedited coverage determination.</b> "

If your health requires it, ask us to give you a "fast coverage decision"

- When we give you our decision, we will use the "standard" deadlines unless we have agreed to use the "fast" deadlines. A standard coverage decision means we will give you an answer **within 72 hours after we receive your doctor's statement**. A fast coverage decision means we will answer within 24 hours after we receive your doctor's statement.
- **To get a fast coverage decision, you must meet two requirements:**
  - ◆ You can get a fast coverage decision only if you are asking for a drug you have not yet received. (You cannot get a fast coverage decision if you are asking us to pay you back for a drug you have already bought.)
  - ◆ You can get a fast coverage decision only if using the standard deadlines could cause serious harm to your health or hurt your ability to function.
- **If your doctor or other prescriber tells us that your health requires a "fast coverage decision,"** we will automatically agree to give you a fast coverage decision.
- **If you ask for a fast coverage decision on your own** (without your doctor's or other prescriber's support), we will decide whether your health requires that we give you a fast coverage decision.
  - ◆ If we decide that your medical condition does not meet the requirements for a fast coverage decision, we will send you a letter that says so (and we will use the standard deadlines instead).
  - ◆ This letter will tell you that if your doctor or other prescriber asks for the fast coverage decision, we will automatically give a fast coverage decision.
  - ◆ The letter will also tell you how you can file a complaint about our decision to give you a standard coverage decision instead of the fast coverage decision you requested. It tells you how to file a "fast complaint," which means you would get our answer to your complaint within 24 hours of receiving the complaint. (The process for making a complaint is different from the process for coverage decisions and appeals. For more information about the process for making complaints, see Section 10 in this chapter.)

**Step 2: We consider your request and we give you our answer.**

*Deadlines for a "fast coverage decision"*

- If we are using the fast deadlines, we must give you our answer **within 24 hours**.

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- ◆ Generally, this means within 24 hours after we receive your request. If you are requesting an exception, we will give you our answer within 24 hours after we receive your doctor's statement supporting your request. We will give you our answer sooner if your health requires us to.
  - ◆ If we do not meet this deadline, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent, outside organization. Later in this section, we talk about this review organization and explain what happens at Appeal Level 2.
  - **If our answer is *yes to part or all of what you requested***, we must provide the coverage we have agreed to provide within 24 hours after we receive your request or doctor's statement supporting your request.
  - **If our answer is *no to part or all of what you requested***, we will send you a written statement that explains why we said no. We will also tell you how to appeal.

*Deadlines for a "standard coverage decision" about a drug you have not yet received*

- If we are using the standard deadlines, we must give you our answer **within 72 hours**.
  - ◆ Generally, this means within 72 hours after we receive your request. If you are requesting an exception, we will give you our answer within 72 hours after we receive your doctor's statement supporting your request. We will give you our answer sooner if your health requires us to.
  - ◆ If we do not meet this deadline, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent organization. Later in this section, we talk about this review organization and explain what happens at Appeal Level 2.
- **If our answer is *yes to part or all of what you requested***:
  - ◆ If we approve your request for coverage, we must provide the coverage we have agreed to provide within 72 hours after we receive your request or doctor's statement supporting your request.
- **If our answer is *no to part or all of what you requested***, we will send you a written statement that explains why we said no. We will also tell you how to appeal.

*Deadlines for a "standard coverage decision" about payment for a drug you have already bought*

- We must give you our answer **within 14 calendar days** after we receive your request.
  - ◆ If we do not meet this deadline, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent organization. Later in this section, we talk about this review organization and explain what happens at Appeal Level 2.
- **If our answer is *yes to part or all of what you requested***, we are also required to make payment to you within 14 calendar days after we receive your request.

- **If our answer is *no* to part or all of what you requested**, we will send you a written statement that explains why we said no. We will also tell you how to appeal.

**Step 3: If we say *no* to your coverage request, you decide if you want to make an appeal.**

- If we say no, you have the right to request an appeal. Requesting an appeal means asking us to reconsider—and possibly change—the decision we made.

**Section 6.5 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 Appeal**

(how to ask for a review of a coverage decision made by our plan)

**Legal Terms**

An appeal to our plan about a Part D drug coverage decision is called a plan "**redetermination**."

**Step 1: You contact us and make your Level 1 Appeal. If your health requires a quick response, you must ask for a "fast appeal."**

*What to do:*

- **To start your appeal, you (or your representative or your doctor or other prescriber) must contact us.**
  - ♦ For details about how to reach us by phone, fax, or mail, or on our website for any purpose related to your appeal, go to Chapter 2, Section 1, and look for the section called "How to contact us when you are making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs."
- **If you are asking for a standard appeal, make your appeal by submitting a written request.**
- **If you are asking for a fast appeal, you may make your appeal in writing or you may call us at the phone number shown in Chapter 2, Section 1, "How to contact us when you are making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs."**
- We must accept any written request, including a request submitted on the CMS Model Coverage Determination Request Form, which is available on our website.
- **You must make your appeal request within 60 calendar days from the date on the written notice** we sent to tell you our answer to your request for a coverage decision. If you miss this deadline and have a good reason for missing it, we may give you more time to make your appeal. Examples of good cause for missing the deadline may include if you had a serious illness that prevented you from contacting us or if we provided you with incorrect or incomplete information about the deadline for requesting an appeal.
- **You can ask for a copy of the information in your appeal and add more information.**
  - ♦ You have the right to ask us for a copy of the information regarding your appeal. We are allowed to charge a fee for copying and sending this information to you.



- ◆ If you wish, you and your doctor or other prescriber may give us additional information to support your appeal.

<b>Legal Terms</b>
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A "fast appeal" is also called an " <b>expedited redetermination.</b> "
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*If your health requires it, ask for a "fast appeal"*

- If you are appealing a decision we made about a drug you have not yet received, you and your doctor or other prescriber will need to decide if you need a "fast appeal."
- The requirements for getting a "fast appeal" are the same as those for getting a "fast coverage decision" in Section 6.4 of this chapter.

**Step 2: We consider your appeal and we give you our answer.**

- When we are reviewing your appeal, we take another careful look at all of the information about your coverage request. We check to see if we were following all the rules when we said *no* to your request. We may contact you or your doctor or other prescriber to get more information.

*Deadlines for a "fast appeal"*

- If we are using the fast deadlines, we must give you our answer **within 72 hours after we receive your appeal**. We will give you our answer sooner if your health requires it.
  - ◆ If we do not give you an answer within 72 hours, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an Independent Review Organization. Later in this section, we talk about this review organization and explain what happens at Level 2 of the appeals process.
- **If our answer is *yes* to part or all of what you requested**, we must provide the coverage we have agreed to provide within 72 hours after we receive your appeal.
- **If our answer is *no* to part or all of what you requested**, we will send you a written statement that explains why we said *no* and how to appeal our decision.

*Deadlines for a "standard appeal"*

- If we are using the standard deadlines, we must give you our answer **within 7 calendar days after we receive your appeal for a drug you have not received yet**. We will give you our decision sooner if you have not received the drug yet and your health condition requires us to do so. If you believe your health requires it, you should ask for a "fast appeal".
- If we do not give you a decision within 7 calendar days, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an Independent Review Organization. Later in this section, we tell you about this review organization and explain what happens at Level 2 of the appeals process.
- **If our answer is *yes* to part or all of what you requested:**

- ◆ If we approve a request for coverage, we must provide the coverage we have agreed to provide as quickly as your health requires, but no later than 7 calendar days after we receive your appeal.
- ◆ If we approve a request to pay you back for a drug you already bought, we are required to send payment to you within 30 calendar days after we receive your appeal request.
- **If our answer is *no* to part or all of what you requested**, we will send you a written statement that explains why we said *no* and how to appeal our decision.
- If you are requesting that we pay you back for a drug you have already bought, we must give you our answer **within 14 calendar days** after we receive your request.
  - ◆ If we do not give you a decision within 14 calendar days, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent organization. Later in this section, we talk about this review organization and explain what happens at Appeal Level 2.
- **If our answer is *yes* to part or all of what you requested**, we are also required to make payment to you within 30 calendar days after we receive your request.
- **If our answer is *no* to part or all of what you requested**, we will send you a written statement that explains why we said no. We will also tell you how to appeal.

**Step 3: If we say *no* to your appeal, you decide if you want to continue with the appeals process and make *another* appeal.**

- If we say *no* to your appeal, you then choose whether to accept this decision or continue by making another appeal.

If you decide to make another appeal, it means your appeal is going on to Level 2 of the appeals process (see below).

<b>Section 6.6 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 2 Appeal</b>
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If we say *no* to your appeal, you then choose whether to accept this decision or continue by making another appeal. If you decide to go on to a Level 2 Appeal, the **Independent Review Organization** reviews the decision we made when we said *no* to your first appeal. This organization decides whether the decision we made should be changed.

<b>Legal Terms</b>
The formal name for the "Independent Review Organization" is the " <b>Independent Review Entity</b> ." It is sometimes called the " <b>IRE</b> ."

**Step 1: To make a Level 2 Appeal, you (or your representative or your doctor or other prescriber) must contact the Independent Review Organization and ask for a review of your case.**

- If we say *no* to your Level 1 Appeal, the written notice we send you will include instructions about how to make a Level 2 Appeal with the Independent Review Organization. These

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**

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instructions will tell you who can make this Level 2 Appeal, what deadlines you must follow, and how to reach the review organization.

- When you make an appeal to the Independent Review Organization, we will send the information we have about your appeal to this organization. This information is called your "case file." You have the right to ask us for a copy of your case file. We are allowed to charge you a fee for copying and sending this information to you.
- You have a right to give the Independent Review Organization additional information to support your appeal.

### **Step 2: The Independent Review Organization does a review of your appeal and gives you an answer.**

- **The Independent Review Organization is an independent organization that is hired by Medicare.** This organization is not connected with us and it is not a government agency. This organization is a company chosen by Medicare to review our decisions about your Part D benefits with us.
- Reviewers at the Independent Review Organization will take a careful look at all of the information related to your appeal. The organization will tell you its decision in writing and explain the reasons for it.

#### *Deadlines for "fast appeal" at Level 2*

- If your health requires it, ask the Independent Review Organization for a "fast appeal."
- If the review organization agrees to give you a fast appeal, the review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 Appeal **within 72 hours after it receives your appeal request.**
- If the Independent Review Organization says *yes* to part or all of what you requested, we must provide the drug coverage that was approved by the review organization within 24 hours after we receive the decision from the review organization.

#### *Deadlines for "standard appeal" at Level 2*

- If you have a standard appeal at Level 2, the review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 Appeal **within 7 calendar days after it receives your appeal** if it is for a drug you have not received yet. If you are requesting that we pay you back for a drug you have already bought, the review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 appeal within 14 calendar days after it receives your request.
- If the Independent Review Organization says *yes* to part or all of what you requested:
  - ♦ If the Independent Review Organization approves a request for coverage, we must provide the drug coverage that was approved by the review organization within 72 hours after we receive the decision from the review organization.
  - ♦ If the Independent Review Organization approves a request to pay you back for a drug you already bought, we are required to send payment to you within 30 calendar days after we receive the decision from the review organization.

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### **What if the review organization says *no* to your appeal?**

If this organization says *no* to your appeal, it means the organization agrees with our decision not to approve your request. (This is called "upholding the decision." It is also called "turning down your appeal.")

If the Independent Review Organization "upholds the decision," you have the right to a Level 3 Appeal. However, to make another appeal at Level 3, the dollar value of the drug coverage you are requesting must meet a minimum amount. If the dollar value of the drug coverage you are requesting is too low, you cannot make another appeal and the decision at Level 2 is final. The notice you get from the Independent Review Organization will tell you the dollar value that must be in dispute to continue with the appeals process.

### **Step 3: If the dollar value of the coverage you are requesting meets the requirement, you choose whether you want to take your appeal further.**

- There are three additional levels in the appeals process after Level 2 (for a total of five levels of appeal).
- If your Level 2 Appeal is turned down and you meet the requirements to continue with the appeals process, you must decide whether you want to go on to Level 3 and make a third appeal. If you decide to make a third appeal, the details about how to do this are in the written notice you got after your second appeal.
- The Level 3 Appeal is handled by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator. Section 9 in this chapter tells you more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

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## **SECTION 7. How to ask us to cover a longer inpatient hospital stay if you think the doctor is discharging you too soon**

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When you are admitted to a hospital, you have the right to get all of your covered hospital services that are necessary to diagnose and treat your illness or injury. For more information about our coverage for your hospital care, including any limitations on this coverage, see the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

During your covered hospital stay, your doctor and the hospital staff will be working with you to prepare for the day when you will leave the hospital. They will also help arrange for care you may need after you leave.

- The day you leave the hospital is called your "**discharge date**."
- When your discharge date has been decided, your doctor or the hospital staff will let you know.
- If you think you are being asked to leave the hospital too soon, you can ask for a longer hospital stay and your request will be considered. This section tells you how to ask.

### Section 7.1 During your inpatient hospital stay, you will get a written notice from Medicare that tells about your rights

During your covered hospital stay, you will be given a written notice called **An Important Message from Medicare about Your Rights**. Everyone with Medicare gets a copy of this notice whenever they are admitted to a hospital. Someone at the hospital (for example, a caseworker or nurse) must give it to you within two days after you are admitted. If you do not get the notice, ask any hospital employee for it. If you need help, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You can also call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.

- Read this notice carefully and ask questions if you don't understand it. It tells you about your rights as a hospital patient, including:
  - ◆ Your right to receive Medicare-covered services during and after your hospital stay, as ordered by your doctor. This includes the right to know what these services are, who will pay for them, and where you can get them.
  - ◆ Your right to be involved in any decisions about your hospital stay, and know who will pay for it.
  - ◆ Where to report any concerns you have about quality of your hospital care.
  - ◆ Your right to appeal your discharge decision if you think you are being discharged from the hospital too soon.

#### Legal Terms

The written notice from Medicare tells you how you can "**request an immediate review**." Requesting an immediate review is a formal, legal way to ask for a delay in your discharge date so that we will cover your hospital care for a longer time. (Section 7.2 below tells you how you can request an immediate review.)

- **You must sign the written notice** to show that you received it and understand your rights.
  - ◆ You or someone who is acting on your behalf must sign the notice. (Section 4 in this chapter tells you how you can give written permission to someone else to act as your representative.)
  - ◆ Signing the notice shows **only** that you have received the information about your rights. The notice does not give your discharge date (your doctor or hospital staff will tell you your discharge date). Signing the notice does not mean you are agreeing on a discharge date.
- **Keep your copy** of the signed notice so you will have the information about making an appeal (or reporting a concern about quality of care) handy if you need it.

- ◆ If you sign the notice more than two days before the day you leave the hospital, you will get another copy before you are scheduled to be discharged.
- ◆ To look at a copy of this notice in advance, you can call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) or **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**. You can also see it online at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/BNI/HospitalDischargeAppealNotices.html>.

## **Section 7.2 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 Appeal to change your hospital discharge date**

If you want to ask for your inpatient hospital services to be covered by us for a longer time, you will need to use the appeals process to make this request. Before you start, understand what you need to do and what the deadlines are.

- **Follow the process.** Each step in the first two levels of the appeals process is explained below.
- **Meet the deadlines.** The deadlines are important. Be sure that you understand and follow the deadlines that apply to things you must do.
- **Ask for help if you need it.** If you have questions or need help at any time, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). Or call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program, a government organization that provides personalized assistance (see Section 2 in this chapter).

**During a Level 1 Appeal, the Quality Improvement Organization reviews your appeal.** It checks to see if your planned discharge date is medically appropriate for you.

**Step 1: Contact the Quality Improvement Organization for your state and ask for a "fast review" of your hospital discharge. You must act quickly.**

*What is the Quality Improvement Organization?*

- This organization is a group of doctors and other health care professionals who are paid by the federal government. These experts are not part of our plan. This organization is paid by Medicare to check on and help improve the quality of care for people with Medicare. This includes reviewing hospital discharge dates for people with Medicare.

*How can you contact this organization?*

- The written notice you received (**An Important Message from Medicare About Your Rights**) tells you how to reach this organization. (Or find the name, address, and phone number of the Quality Improvement Organization for your state in Chapter 2, Section 4, of this booklet.)

*Act quickly:*

- To make your appeal, you must contact the Quality Improvement Organization **before** you leave the hospital and **no later than your planned discharge date**. (Your "planned discharge date" is the date that has been set for you to leave the hospital.)
  - ♦ **If you meet this deadline**, you are allowed to stay in the hospital after your discharge date without paying for it while you wait to get the decision on your appeal from the Quality Improvement Organization.
  - ♦ **If you do not meet this deadline**, and you decide to stay in the hospital after your planned discharge date, you may have to pay all of the costs for hospital care you receive after your planned discharge date.
- If you miss the deadline for contacting the Quality Improvement Organization about your appeal, you can make your appeal directly to our plan instead. For details about this other way to make your appeal, see Section 7.4.

*Ask for a "fast review":*

- You must ask the Quality Improvement Organization for a "fast review" of your discharge. Asking for a "fast review" means you are asking for the organization to use the "fast" deadlines for an appeal instead of using the standard deadlines.

Legal Terms
A "fast review" is also called an <b>"immediate review"</b> or an <b>"expedited review."</b>

**Step 2: The Quality Improvement Organization conducts an independent review of your case.***What happens during this review?*

- Health professionals at the Quality Improvement Organization (we will call them "the reviewers" for short) will ask you (or your representative) why you believe coverage for the services should continue. You don't have to prepare anything in writing, but you may do so if you wish.
- The reviewers will also look at your medical information, talk with your doctor, and review information that the hospital and we have given to them.
- By noon of the day after the reviewers informed our plan of your appeal, you will also get a written notice that gives you your planned discharge date and explains in detail the reasons

why your doctor, the hospital, and we think it is right (medically appropriate) for you to be discharged on that date.

### Legal Terms

This written explanation is called the "**Detailed Notice of Discharge**." You can get a sample of this notice by calling Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) or **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. (TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.) Or you can see a sample notice online at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/BNI/HospitalDischargeAppealNotices.html>.

**Step 3: Within one full day after it has all the needed information, the Quality Improvement Organization will give you its answer to your appeal.**

*What happens if the answer is **yes**?*

- If the review organization says **yes** to your appeal, **we must keep providing your covered inpatient hospital services for as long as these services are medically necessary.**
- You will have to keep paying your share of the costs (such as deductibles or copayments, if these apply). In addition, there may be limitations on your covered hospital services. (See the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.)

*What happens if the answer is **no**?*

- If the review organization says **no** to your appeal, they are saying that your planned discharge date is medically appropriate. If this happens, our coverage for your **inpatient hospital services will end** at noon on the day after the Quality Improvement Organization gives you its answer to your appeal.
- If the review organization says **no** to your appeal and you decide to stay in the hospital, then **you may have to pay the full cost of hospital care** you receive after noon on the day after the Quality Improvement Organization gives you its answer to your appeal.

**Step 4: If the answer to your Level 1 Appeal is *no*, you decide if you want to make another appeal.**

- If the Quality Improvement Organization has turned down your appeal, and you stay in the hospital after your planned discharge date, then you can make another appeal. Making another appeal means you are going on to "Level 2" of the appeals process.

### **Section 7.3 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 2 Appeal to change your hospital discharge date**

If the Quality Improvement Organization has turned down your appeal, and you stay in the hospital after your planned discharge date, then you can make a Level 2 Appeal. During a Level 2 Appeal, you ask the Quality Improvement Organization to take another look at the decision they made on your first appeal. If the Quality Improvement Organization turns down

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**



your Level 2 Appeal, you may have to pay the full cost for your stay after your planned discharge date.

Here are the steps for Level 2 of the appeals process:

**Step 1: You contact the Quality Improvement Organization again and ask for another review.**

- **You must ask for this review within 60 calendar days** after the day the Quality Improvement Organization said *no* to your Level 1 Appeal. You can ask for this review only if you stayed in the hospital after the date that your coverage for the care ended.

**Step 2: The Quality Improvement Organization does a second review of your situation.**

- Reviewers at the Quality Improvement Organization will take another careful look at all of the information related to your appeal.

**Step 3: Within 14 calendar days of receipt of your request for a second review, the Quality Improvement Organization reviewers will decide on your appeal and tell you their decision.**

*If the review organization says yes:*

- We must reimburse you for our share of the costs of hospital care you have received since noon on the day after the date your first appeal was turned down by the Quality Improvement Organization. We must continue providing coverage for your inpatient hospital care for as long as it is medically necessary.
- You must continue to pay your share of the costs and coverage limitations may apply.

*If the review organization says no:*

- It means they agree with the decision they made on your Level 1 Appeal and will not change it. This is called "upholding the decision."
- The notice you get will tell you in writing what you can do if you wish to continue with the review process. It will give you the details about how to go on to the next level of appeal, which is handled by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator.

**Step 4: If the answer is no, you will need to decide whether you want to take your appeal further by going on to Level 3.**

- There are three additional levels in the appeals process after Level 2 (for a total of five levels of appeal). If the review organization turns down your Level 2 Appeal, you can choose whether to accept that decision or whether to go on to Level 3 and make another appeal. At Level 3, your appeal is reviewed by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator.
- Section 9 in this chapter tells you more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

## **Section 7.4 What if you miss the deadline for making your Level 1 Appeal?**

### **You can appeal to us instead**

As explained above in Section 7.2, you must act quickly to contact the Quality Improvement Organization to start your first appeal of your hospital discharge. ("Quickly" means before you leave the hospital and no later than your planned discharge date.) If you miss the deadline for contacting this organization, there is another way to make your appeal.

If you use this other way of making your appeal, the first two levels of appeal are different.

### **Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 Alternate Appeal**

If you miss the deadline for contacting the Quality Improvement Organization, you can make an appeal to us, asking for a "fast review." A fast review is an appeal that uses the fast deadlines instead of the standard deadlines.

#### **Legal Terms**

A "fast review" (or "fast appeal") is also called an "**expedited appeal**."

*Step 1: Contact us and ask for a "fast review."*

- For details about how to contact us, **go to Chapter 2**, Section 1, and look for the section called "How to contact us when you are making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs."
- **Be sure to ask for a "fast review."** This means you are asking us to give you an answer using the "fast" deadlines rather than the "standard" deadlines.

*Step 2: We do a "fast review" of your planned discharge date, checking to see if it was medically appropriate.*

- During this review, we take a look at all of the information about your hospital stay. We check to see if your planned discharge date was medically appropriate. We will check to see if the decision about when you should leave the hospital was fair and followed all the rules.
- In this situation, we will use the "fast" deadlines rather than the standard deadlines for giving you the answer to this review.

*Step 3: We give you our decision within 72 hours after you ask for a "fast review" ("fast appeal").*

- **If we say yes to your fast appeal**, it means we have agreed with you that you still need to be in the hospital after the discharge date, and will keep providing your covered inpatient hospital services for as long as it is medically necessary. It also means that we have agreed to reimburse you for our share of the costs of care you have received since the date when we said your coverage would end. (You must pay your share of the costs and there may be coverage limitations that apply.)

- **If we say *no* to your fast appeal**, we are saying that your planned discharge date was medically appropriate. Our coverage for your inpatient hospital services ends as of the day we said coverage would end.
- **If you stayed in the hospital after your planned discharge date, then you may have to pay the full cost of hospital care you received after the planned discharge date.**

*Step 4: If we say no to your fast appeal, your case will automatically be sent on to the next level of the appeals process.*

- To make sure we were following all the rules when we said ***no*** to your fast appeal, we are required to send your appeal to the Independent Review Organization. When we do this, it means that you are **automatically** going on to Level 2 of the appeals process.

### **Step-by-step: Level 2 Alternate Appeal Process**

If we say ***no*** to your Level 1 Appeal, your case will automatically be sent on to the next level of the appeals process. During the Level 2 Appeal, an **Independent Review Organization** reviews the decision we made when we said ***no*** to your "fast appeal." This organization decides whether the decision we made should be changed.

<b>Legal Terms</b>
The formal name for the "Independent Review Organization" is the " <b>Independent Review Entity</b> ." It is sometimes called the " <b>IRE</b> ."

*Step 1: We will automatically forward your case to the Independent Review Organization.*

- We are required to send the information for your Level 2 Appeal to the Independent Review Organization within 24 hours of when we tell you that we are saying ***no*** to your first appeal. (If you think we are not meeting this deadline or other deadlines, you can make a complaint. The complaint process is different from the appeals process. Section 10 in this chapter tells you how to make a complaint.)

*Step 2: The Independent Review Organization does a "fast review" of your appeal. The reviewers give you an answer within 72 hours.*

- The Independent Review Organization is an independent organization that is hired by Medicare. This organization is not connected with our plan and it is not a government agency. This organization is a company chosen by Medicare to handle the job of being the Independent Review Organization. Medicare oversees its work.
- Reviewers at the Independent Review Organization will take a careful look at all of the information related to your appeal of your hospital discharge.
- If this **organization says yes** to your appeal, then we must reimburse you (pay you back) for our share of the costs of hospital care you have received since the date of your planned discharge. We must also continue our plan's coverage of your inpatient hospital services for as long as it is medically necessary. You must continue to pay your share of the costs. If there are

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coverage limitations, these could limit how much we would reimburse or how long we would continue to cover your services.

- **If this organization says *no* to your appeal**, it means they agree with us that your planned hospital discharge date was medically appropriate.
  - ◆ The notice you get from the Independent Review Organization will tell you in writing what you can do if you wish to continue with the review process. It will give you the details about how to go on to a Level 3 Appeal, which is handled by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator.

*Step 3: If the Independent Review Organization turns down your appeal, you choose whether you want to take your appeal further.*

- There are three additional levels in the appeals process after Level 2 (for a total of five levels of appeal). If reviewers say ***no*** to your Level 2 Appeal, you decide whether to accept their decision or go on to Level 3 and make a third appeal.
- Section 9 in this chapter tells you more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

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## **SECTION 8. How to ask us to keep covering certain medical services if you think your coverage is ending too soon**

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<p><b>Section 8.1</b> <i>This section is about three services only: Home health care, skilled nursing facility care, and Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services</i></p>
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This section is **only** about the following types of care:

- **Home health care services** you are getting.
- **Skilled nursing care** you are getting as a patient in a skilled nursing facility. (To learn about requirements for being considered a "skilled nursing facility," see Chapter 12, "Definitions of important words.")
- **Rehabilitation care** you are getting as an outpatient at a Medicare-approved Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF). Usually this means you are getting treatment for an illness or accident, or you are recovering from a major operation. (For more information about this type of facility, see Chapter 12, "Definitions of important words.")

When you are getting any of these types of care, you have the right to keep getting your covered services for that type of care for as long as the care is needed to diagnose and treat your illness or injury. For more information about your covered services, including your share of the cost and any limitations to coverage that may apply, see the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this EOC.

When we decide it is time to stop covering any of the three types of care for you, we are required to tell you in advance. When your coverage for that care ends, **we will stop paying our share of the cost for your care.**

If you think we are ending the coverage of your care too soon, you can appeal our decision. This section tells you how to ask for an appeal.

### **Section 8.2 We will tell you in advance when your coverage will be ending**

- **You receive a notice in writing.** At least two days before our plan is going to stop covering your care, you will receive a notice.
  - ◆ The written notice tells you the date when we will stop covering the care for you.
  - ◆ The written notice also tells you what you can do if you want to ask us to change this decision about when to end your care, and keep covering it for a longer period of time.

#### **Legal Terms**

In telling you what you can do, the written notice is telling how you can request a **"fast-track appeal."** Requesting a fast-track appeal is a formal, legal way to request a change to our coverage decision about when to stop your care. (Section 8.3 below tells you how you can request a fast-track appeal.)

The written notice is called the **"Notice of Medicare Non-Coverage."** To get a sample copy, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) or **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. (TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.) Or see a copy online at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/BNI/MAEDNotices.html>.

- You must sign the written notice to show that you received it.
  - ◆ You or someone who is acting on your behalf must sign the notice. (Section 4 tells you how you can give written permission to someone else to act as your representative.)
  - ◆ Signing the notice shows **only** that you have received the information about when your coverage will stop. **Signing it does not mean you agree** with us that it's time to stop getting the care.

### **Section 8.3 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 Appeal to have our plan cover your care for a longer time**

If you want to ask us to cover your care for a longer period of time, you will need to use the appeals process to make this request. Before you start, understand what you need to do and what the deadlines are.

- **Follow the process.** Each step in the first two levels of the appeals process is explained below.

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- **Meet the deadlines.** The deadlines are important. Be sure that you understand and follow the deadlines that apply to things you must do. There are also deadlines our plan must follow. (If you think we are not meeting our deadlines, you can file a complaint. Section 10 in this chapter tells you how to file a complaint.)
  - **Ask for help if you need it.** If you have questions or need help at any time, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). Or call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program, a government organization that provides personalized assistance (see Section 2 in this chapter).

**If you ask for a Level 1 Appeal on time, the Quality Improvement Organization reviews your appeal and decides whether to change the decision made by our plan.**

**Step 1: Make your Level 1 Appeal: Contact the Quality Improvement Organization for your state and ask for a review. You must act quickly.**

*What is the Quality Improvement Organization?*

- This organization is a group of doctors and other health care experts who are paid by the federal government. These experts are not part of our plan. They check on the quality of care received by people with Medicare and review plan decisions about when it's time to stop covering certain kinds of medical care.

*How can you contact this organization?*

- The written notice you received tells you how to reach this organization. (Or find the name, address, and phone number of the Quality Improvement Organization for your state in Chapter 2, Section 4, of this booklet.)

*What should you ask for?*

- Ask this organization for a "fast-track appeal" (to do an independent review) of whether it is medically appropriate for us to end coverage for your medical services.

*Your deadline for contacting this organization.*

- You must contact the Quality Improvement Organization to start your appeal no later than noon of the day after you receive the written notice telling you when we will stop covering your care.
- If you miss the deadline for contacting the Quality Improvement Organization about your appeal, you can make your appeal directly to us instead. For details about this other way to make your appeal, see Section 8.5 in this chapter.

**Step 2: The Quality Improvement Organization conducts an independent review of your case.**

*What happens during this review?*

- Health professionals at the Quality Improvement Organization (we will call them "the reviewers" for short) will ask you (or your representative) why you believe coverage

for the services should continue. You don't have to prepare anything in writing, but you may do so if you wish.

- The review organization will also look at your medical information, talk with your doctor, and review information that our plan has given to them.
- By the end of the day the reviewers inform us of your appeal, you will also get a written notice from us that explains in detail our reasons for ending our coverage for your services.

<b>Legal Terms</b>
This notice of explanation is called the " <b>Detailed Explanation of Non-Coverage.</b> "

**Step 3: Within one full day after they have all the information they need, the reviewers will tell you their decision.**

*What happens if the reviewers say **yes** to your appeal?*

- If the reviewers say **yes** to your appeal, then **we must keep providing your covered services for as long as it is medically necessary.**
- You will have to keep paying your share of the costs (such as deductibles or copayments, if these apply). In addition, there may be limitations on your covered services (see the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**).

*What happens if the reviewers say **no** to your appeal?*

- If the reviewers say **no** to your appeal, then **your coverage will end** on the date we have told you. We will stop paying our share of the costs of this care on the date listed on the notice.
- If you decide to keep getting the home health care, or skilled nursing facility care, or Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services after this date when your coverage ends, **then you will have to pay the full cost of this care yourself.**

**Step 4: If the answer to your Level 1 Appeal is *no*, you decide if you want to make another appeal.**

- This first appeal you make is "Level 1" of the appeals process. If reviewers say **no** to your Level 1 Appeal, and you choose to continue getting care after your coverage for the care has ended, then you can make another appeal.
- Making another appeal means you are going on to "Level 2" of the appeals process.

<b>Section 8.4 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 2 Appeal to have our plan cover your care for a longer time</b>
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If the Quality Improvement Organization has turned down your appeal and you choose to continue getting care after your coverage for the care has ended, then you can make a Level 2 Appeal. During a Level 2 Appeal, you ask the Quality Improvement Organization to take another

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look at the decision they made on your first appeal. If the Quality Improvement Organization turns down your Level 2 Appeal, you may have to pay the full cost for your home health care, or skilled nursing facility care, or Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services after the date when we said your coverage would end.

Here are the steps for Level 2 of the appeals process:

**Step 1: You contact the Quality Improvement Organization again and ask for another review.**

- **You must ask for this review within 60 days** after the day when the Quality Improvement Organization said *no* to your Level 1 Appeal. You can ask for this review only if you continued getting care after the date that your coverage for the care ended.

**Step 2: The Quality Improvement Organization does a second review of your situation.**

- Reviewers at the Quality Improvement Organization will take another careful look at all of the information related to your appeal.

**Step 3: Within 14 days of receipt of your appeal request reviewers will decide on your appeal and tell you their decision.**

*What happens if the review organization says **yes** to your appeal?*

- **We must reimburse you** for our share of the costs of care you have received since the date when we said your coverage would end. **We must continue providing coverage** for the care for as long as it is medically necessary.
- You must continue to pay your share of the costs and there may be coverage limitations that apply.

*What happens if the review organization says **no**?*

- It means they agree with the decision we made to your Level 1 Appeal and will not change it.
- The notice you get will tell you in writing what you can do if you wish to continue with the review process. It will give you the details about how to go on to the next level of appeal, which is handled by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator.

**Step 4: If the answer is *no*, you will need to decide whether you want to take your appeal further.**

- There are three additional levels of appeal after Level 2, for a total of five levels of appeal. If reviewers turn down your Level 2 Appeal, you can choose whether to accept that decision or to go on to Level 3 and make another appeal. At Level 3, your appeal is reviewed by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator.
- Section 9 in this chapter tells you more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.



## **Section 8.5 What if you miss the deadline for making your Level 1 Appeal?**

### **You can appeal to us instead**

As explained above in Section 8.3, you must act quickly to contact the Quality Improvement Organization to start your first appeal (within a day or two, at the most). If you miss the deadline for contacting this organization, there is another way to make your appeal. If you use this other way of making your appeal, the first two levels of appeal are different.

### **Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 Alternate Appeal**

If you miss the deadline for contacting the Quality Improvement Organization, you can make an appeal to us, asking for a "fast review." A fast review is an appeal that uses the fast deadlines instead of the standard deadlines.

Here are the steps for a Level 1 Alternate Appeal:

#### **Legal Terms**

A "fast review" (or "fast appeal") is also called an "**expedited appeal**."

#### *Step 1: Contact us and ask for a "fast review."*

- For details about how to contact us, go to Chapter 2, Section 1, and look for the section called "How to contact us when you are making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs."
- **Be sure to ask for a "fast review."** This means you are asking us to give you an answer using the "fast" deadlines rather than the "standard" deadlines.

#### *Step 2: We do a "fast review" of the decision we made about when to end coverage for your services.*

- During this review, we take another look at all of the information about your case. We check to see if we were following all the rules when we set the date for ending our plan's coverage for services you were receiving.
- We will use the "fast" deadlines rather than the standard deadlines for giving you the answer to this review.

#### *Step 3: We give you our decision within 72 hours after you ask for a "fast review" ("fast appeal").*

- **If we say yes to your fast appeal,** it means we have agreed with you that you need services longer, and will keep providing your covered services for as long as it is medically necessary. It also means that we have agreed to reimburse you for our share of the costs of care you have received since the date when we said your coverage would end. (You must pay your share of the costs and there may be coverage limitations that apply.)

- If we say **no** to your fast appeal, then your coverage will end on the date we told you and we will not pay any share of the costs after this date.
- If you continued to get home health care, or skilled nursing facility care, or Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services after the date when we said your coverage would end, **then you will have to pay the full cost of this care yourself.**

*Step 4: If we say **no** to your fast appeal, your case will automatically go on to the next level of the appeals process.*

- To make sure we were following all the rules when we said **no** to your fast appeal, **we are required to send your appeal to the Independent Review Organization.** When we do this, it means that you are automatically going on to Level 2 of the appeals process.

### **Step-by-step: Level 2 Alternate Appeal Process**

If we say **no** to your Level 1 Appeal, your case will automatically be sent on to the next level of the appeals process. During the Level 2 Appeal, the **Independent Review Organization** reviews the decision we made when we said **no** to your "fast appeal." This organization decides whether the decision we made should be changed.

<b>Legal Terms</b>
The formal name for the "Independent Review Organization" is the <b>"Independent Review Entity."</b> It is sometimes called the <b>"IRE."</b>

*Step 1: We will automatically forward your case to the Independent Review Organization.*

- We are required to send the information for your Level 2 Appeal to the Independent Review Organization within 24 hours of when we tell you that we are saying **no** to your first appeal. (If you think we are not meeting this deadline or other deadlines, you can make a complaint. The complaint process is different from the appeals process. Section 10 in this chapter tells you how to make a complaint.)

*Step 2: The Independent Review Organization does a "fast review" of your appeal. The reviewers give you an answer within 72 hours.*

- The **Independent Review Organization** is an independent organization that is hired by Medicare. This organization is not connected with our plan and it is not a government agency. This organization is a company chosen by Medicare to handle the job of being the Independent Review Organization. Medicare oversees its work.
- Reviewers at the Independent Review Organization will take a careful look at all of the information related to your appeal.
- **If this organization says yes** to your appeal, then we must reimburse you (pay you back) for our share of the costs of care you have received since the date when we said your coverage would end. We must also continue to cover the care for as long as it is medically necessary.

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You must continue to pay your share of the costs. If there are coverage limitations, these could limit how much we would reimburse or how long we would continue to cover your services.

- **If this organization says *no* to your appeal**, it means they agree with the decision our plan made to your first appeal and will not change it.
  - ◆ The notice you get from the Independent Review Organization will tell you in writing what you can do if you wish to continue with the review process. It will give you the details about how to go on to a Level 3 Appeal.

*Step 3: If the Independent Review Organization turns down your appeal, you choose whether you want to take your appeal further.*

- There are three additional levels of appeal after Level 2, for a total of five levels of appeal. If reviewers say ***no*** to your Level 2 Appeal, you can choose whether to accept that decision or whether to go on to Level 3 and make another appeal. At Level 3, your appeal is reviewed by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator.
- Section 9 in this chapter tells you more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

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## **SECTION 9. Taking your appeal to Level 3 and beyond**

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### **Section 9.1 Levels of Appeal 3, 4, and 5 for Medical Service Appeals**

This section may be appropriate for you if you have made a Level 1 Appeal and a Level 2 Appeal, and both of your appeals have been turned down.

If the dollar value of the item or medical service you have appealed meets certain minimum levels, you may be able to go on to additional levels of appeal. If the dollar value is less than the minimum level, you cannot appeal any further. If the dollar value is high enough, the written response you receive to your Level 2 Appeal will explain whom to contact and what to do to ask for a Level 3 Appeal.

For most situations that involve appeals, the last three levels of appeal work in much the same way. Here is who handles the review of your appeal at each of these levels.

**Level 3 Appeal: A judge (called an administrative law judge) or attorney adjudicator who works for the federal government will review your appeal and give you an answer.**

- **If the administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator says *yes* to your appeal, the appeals process may or may not be over.** We will decide whether to appeal this decision to Level 4. Unlike a decision at Level 2 (Independent Review Organization), we have the right to appeal a Level 3 decision that is favorable to you.

- 
- ◆ If we decide **not** to appeal the decision, we must authorize or provide you with the service **within 60 calendar days** after receiving the administrative law judge's or attorney adjudicator's decision.
  - ◆ If we decide to appeal the decision, we will send you a copy of the Level 4 Appeal request with any accompanying documents. We may wait for the Level 4 Appeal decision before authorizing or providing the service in dispute.
  - **If the administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator says *no* to your appeal, the appeals process may or may not be over.**
    - ◆ If you decide to accept this decision that turns down your appeal, the appeals process is over.
    - ◆ If you do not want to accept the decision, you can continue to the next level of the review process. If the administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator says ***no*** to your appeal, the notice you get will tell you what to do next if you choose to continue with your appeal.

**Level 4 Appeal:** The Medicare **Appeals Council** (Council) will review your appeal and give you an answer. The Council is part of the federal government.

- **If the answer is *yes*, or if the Council denies our request to review a favorable Level 3 Appeal decision, the appeals process may or may not be over.** We will decide whether to appeal this decision to Level 5. Unlike a decision at Level 2 (Independent Review Organization), we have the right to appeal a Level 4 decision that is favorable to you.
  - ◆ If we decide **not** to appeal the decision, we must authorize or provide you with the service **within 60 calendar days** after receiving the Council's decision.
  - ◆ If we decide to appeal the decision, we will let you know in writing.
- **If the answer is *no* or if the Council denies the review request, the appeals process may or may not be over.**
  - ◆ If you decide to accept this decision that turns down your appeal, the appeals process is over.
  - ◆ If you do not want to accept the decision, you might be able to continue to the next level of the review process. If the Council says ***no*** to your appeal, the notice you get will tell you whether the rules allow you to go on to a Level 5 Appeal. If the rules allow you to go on, the written notice will also tell you whom to contact and what to do next if you choose to continue with your appeal.

**Level 5 Appeal:** A judge at the **Federal District Court** will review your appeal.

- This is the last step of the appeals process.

**Section 9.2 Levels of Appeal 3, 4, and 5 for Part D Drug Appeals**

This section may be appropriate for you if you have made a Level 1 Appeal and a Level 2 Appeal, and both of your appeals have been turned down.

If the value of the drug you have appealed meets a certain dollar amount, you may be able to go on to additional levels of appeal. If the dollar amount is less, you cannot appeal any further. The written response you receive to your Level 2 Appeal will explain whom to contact and what to do to ask for a Level 3 Appeal.

For most situations that involve appeals, the last three levels of appeal work in much the same way. Here is who handles the review of your appeal at each of these levels.

**Level 3 Appeal:** A judge (called an administrative law judge or an attorney adjudicator who works for the federal government) will review your appeal and give you an answer.

- **If the answer is *yes*, the appeals process is over.** What you asked for in the appeal has been approved. We must authorize or provide the drug coverage that was approved by the administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator **within 72 hours (24 hours for expedited appeals)** or make payment no later than **30 calendar days** after we receive the decision.
- **If the answer is *no*, the appeals process may or may not be over.**
  - ◆ If you decide to accept this decision that turns down your appeal, the appeals process is over.
  - ◆ If you do not want to accept the decision, you can continue to the next level of the review process. If the administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator says ***no*** to your appeal, the notice you get will tell you what to do next if you choose to continue with your appeal.

**Level 4 Appeal:** The Medicare Appeals Council (Council) will review your appeal and give you an answer. The Council is part of the federal government.

- **If the answer is *yes*, the appeals process is over.** What you asked for in the appeal has been approved. We must authorize or provide the drug coverage that was approved by the Council **within 72 hours (24 hours for expedited appeals)** or make payment no later than 30 calendar days after we receive the decision.
- **If the answer is *no*, the appeals process may or may not be over.**
  - ◆ If you decide to accept this decision that turns down your appeal, the appeals process is over.
  - ◆ If you do not want to accept the decision, you might be able to continue to the next level of the review process. If the Council says ***no*** to your appeal or denies your request to review the appeal, the notice you get will tell you whether the rules allow you to go on to a Level 5 Appeal. If the rules allow you to go on, the written notice will also tell you whom to contact and what to do next if you choose to continue with your appeal.

**Level 5 Appeal:** A judge at the **Federal District Court** will review your appeal.

- This is the last step of the appeals process.

## Making complaints

### SECTION 10. How to make a complaint about quality of care, waiting times, customer service, or other concerns



If your problem is about decisions related to benefits, coverage, or payment, then this section is not for you. Instead, you need to use the process for coverage decisions and appeals. Go to Section 4 in this chapter.

#### Section 10.1 What kinds of problems are handled by the complaint process?

This section explains how to use the process for making complaints. The complaint process is **only** used for certain types of problems. This includes problems related to quality of care, waiting times, and the customer service you receive. Here are examples of the kinds of problems handled by the complaint process.

#### If you have any of these kinds of problems, you can "make a complaint":

- **Quality of your medical care**
  - ♦ Are you unhappy with the quality of care you have received (including care in the hospital)?
- **Respecting your privacy**
  - ♦ Do you believe that someone did not respect your right to privacy or shared information about you that you feel should be confidential?
- **Disrespect, poor customer service, or other negative behaviors**
  - ♦ Has someone been rude or disrespectful to you?
  - ♦ Are you unhappy with how our Member Services has treated you?
  - ♦ Do you feel you are being encouraged to leave our plan?
- **Waiting times**
  - ♦ Are you having trouble getting an appointment, or waiting too long to get it?
  - ♦ Have you been kept waiting too long by doctors, pharmacists, or other health professionals? Or by Member Services or other staff at our plan?
  - ♦ Examples include waiting too long on the phone, in the waiting room, when getting a prescription, or in the exam room.
- **Cleanliness**

- ◆ Are you unhappy with the cleanliness or condition of a clinic, hospital, or doctor's office?
- **Information you get from our plan**
  - ◆ Do you believe we have not given you a notice that we are required to give?
  - ◆ Do you think written information we have given you is hard to understand?

### **Timeliness (these types of complaints are all related to the timeliness of our actions related to coverage decisions and appeals)**

The process of asking for a coverage decision and making appeals is explained in Sections 4–9 of this chapter. If you are asking for a decision or making an appeal, you use that process, not the complaint process.

However, if you have already asked for a coverage decision or made an appeal, and you think that we are not responding quickly enough, you can also make a complaint about our slowness. Here are examples:

- If you have asked us to give you a "fast coverage decision" or a "fast appeal," and we have said we will not, you can make a complaint.
- If you believe our plan is not meeting the deadlines for giving you a coverage decision or an answer to an appeal you have made, you can make a complaint.
- When a coverage decision we made is reviewed and our plan is told that we must cover or reimburse you for certain medical services or drugs, there are deadlines that apply. If you think we are not meeting these deadlines, you can make a complaint.
- When we do not give you a decision on time, we are required to forward your case to the Independent Review Organization. If we do not do that within the required deadline, you can make a complaint.

### **Section 10.2 The formal name for "making a complaint" is "filing a grievance"**

#### **Legal Terms**

- What this section calls a "complaint" is also called a "grievance."
- Another term for "making a complaint" is "filing a grievance."
- Another way to say "using the process for complaints" is "using the process for filing a grievance."

### **Section 10.3 Step-by-step: Making a complaint**

**Step 1: Contact us promptly—either by phone or in writing.**

- **Usually calling Member Services is the first step.** If there is anything else you need to do, Member Services will let you know. Call toll-free **1-800-476-2167 (TTY 711)**, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

- **If you do not wish to call (or you called and were not satisfied), you can put your complaint in writing and send it to us.** If you put your complaint in writing, we will respond to you in writing. We will also respond in writing when you make a complaint by phone if you request a written response or your complaint is related to quality of care.
- **If you have a complaint, we will try to resolve your complaint over the phone.** If we cannot resolve your complaint over the phone, we have a formal procedure to review your complaints. Your grievance must explain your concern, such as why you are dissatisfied with the services you received. Please see Chapter 2 for whom you should contact if you have a complaint.
  - ◆ You must submit your grievance to us (orally or in writing) within 60 calendar days of the event or incident. We must address your grievance as quickly as your health requires, but no later than 30 calendar days after receiving your complaint. We may extend the time frame to make our decision by up to 14 calendar days if you ask for an extension, or if we justify a need for additional information and the delay is in your best interest.
  - ◆ You can file a fast grievance about our decision not to expedite a coverage decision or appeal, or if we extend the time we need to make a decision about a coverage decision or appeal. We must respond to your fast grievance within 24 hours.
- **Whether you call or write, you should contact Member Services right away.** The complaint must be made within 60 calendar days after you had the problem you want to complain about.
- **If you are making a complaint because we denied your request for a "fast coverage decision" or a "fast appeal," we will automatically give you a "fast complaint."** If you have a "fast complaint," it means we will give you an answer **within 24 hours.**

<b>Legal Terms</b>
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What this section calls a "fast complaint" is also called an "expedited grievance."
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### Step 2: **We look into your complaint and give you our answer.**

- **If possible, we will answer you right away.** If you call us with a complaint, we may be able to give you an answer on the same phone call. If your health condition requires us to answer quickly, we will do that.
- **Most complaints are answered in 30 calendar days.** If we need more information and the delay is in your best interest or if you ask for more time, we can take up to 14 more calendar days (44 calendar days total) to answer your complaint. If we decide to take extra days, we will tell you in writing.
- **If we do not agree** with some or all of your complaint or don't take responsibility for the problem you are complaining about, we will let you know. Our response will include our reasons for this answer. We must respond whether we agree with the complaint or not.



### **Section 10.4 You can also make complaints about quality of care to the Quality Improvement Organization**

You can make your complaint about the quality of care you received to us by using the step-by-step process outlined above.

When your complaint is about quality of care, you also have two extra options:

- **You can make your complaint to the Quality Improvement Organization.** If you prefer, you can make your complaint about the quality of care you received directly to this organization (without making the complaint to us).
  - ◆ The Quality Improvement Organization is a group of practicing doctors and other health care experts paid by the federal government to check and improve the care given to Medicare patients.
  - ◆ To find the name, address, and phone number of the Quality Improvement Organization for your state, look in Chapter 2, Section 4, of this booklet. If you make a complaint to this organization, we will work with them to resolve your complaint.
- **Or you can make your complaint to both at the same time.** If you wish, you can make your complaint about quality of care to us and also to the Quality Improvement Organization.

### **Section 10.5 You can also tell Medicare about your complaint**

You can submit a complaint about our plan directly to Medicare. To submit a complaint to Medicare, go to <https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx>. Medicare takes your complaints seriously and will use this information to help improve the quality of the Medicare program.

If you have any other feedback or concerns, or if you feel the plan is not addressing your issue, please call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**. TTY/TDD users can call **1-877-486-2048**.

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**CHAPTER 10. Ending your membership in our plan**

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## **SECTION 1. Introduction**

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### **Section 1.1 This chapter focuses on ending your membership in our plan**

Ending your membership in our plan may be **voluntary** (your own choice) or **involuntary** (not your own choice):

- **You might leave our plan because you have decided that you want to leave.**
  - ◆ There are only certain times during the year, or certain situations, when you may voluntarily end your membership in our plan. Section 2 tells you when you can end your membership in our plan.
  - ◆ The process for voluntarily ending your membership varies depending upon what type of new coverage you are choosing. Section 3 tells you how to end your membership in each situation.
- There are also limited situations where you do not choose to leave, but we are required to end your membership. Section 5 tells you about situations when we must end your membership.

If you are leaving our plan, you must continue to get your medical care through our plan until your membership ends.

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## **SECTION 2. When can you end your membership in our plan?**

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You may end your membership in our plan only during certain times of the year, known as enrollment periods. All members have the opportunity to leave our plan during your group's open enrollment period. In certain situations, you may also be eligible to leave our plan at other times of the year. Before you request disenrollment, please check with your group to determine if you are able to continue your group membership.

If you request disenrollment during your group's open enrollment, your disenrollment effective date is determined by the date your written request is received by us and the date your group coverage ends. The effective date will not be earlier than the first day of the following month after we receive your written request, and no later than three months after we receive your request.

If you request disenrollment at a time other than your group's open enrollment, your disenrollment effective date will be the first day of the month following our receipt of your disenrollment request.

## **Section 2.1 Where can you get more information about when you can end your group membership?**

If you have any questions or would like more information about when you can end your group membership:

- Contact your group's benefits administrator.
- You can **call Member Services** (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
- You can find the information in the **Medicare & You 2020** handbook.
  - ◆ Everyone with Medicare receives a copy of **Medicare & You** each fall. Those new to Medicare receive it within a month after first signing up.
  - ◆ You can also download a copy from the Medicare website (<https://www.medicare.gov>). Or you can order a printed copy by calling Medicare at the number below.

You can contact **Medicare** at **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.

## **SECTION 3. How do you end your membership in our plan?**

### **Section 3.1 There are several ways to end your Senior Advantage membership**

You may request disenrollment by:

- Requesting disenrollment with your group's benefits administrator. You should always consult them before taking any action because it can affect your eligibility for group benefits.
- Calling toll-free **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**, or
- Sending written notice to the following address:  
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc.  
California Service Center  
P.O. Box 232407  
San Diego, CA 92193-2400

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## **SECTION 4. Until your membership ends, you must keep getting your medical services and drugs through our plan**

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### **Section 4.1 Until your membership ends, you are still a member of our plan**

If you leave our plan, it may take time before your membership ends and your new Medicare coverage goes into effect. (See Section 2 for information about when your new coverage begins.) During this time, you must continue to get your medical care and prescription drugs through our plan.

- **You should continue to use our network pharmacies to get your prescriptions filled until your membership in our plan ends.** Usually, your prescription drugs are only covered if they are filled at a network pharmacy, including through our mail-order pharmacy services.
- If you are hospitalized on the day that your membership ends, your hospital stay will usually be covered by our plan until you are discharged (even if you are discharged after your new health coverage begins).

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## **SECTION 5. We must end your membership in our plan in certain situations**

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### **Section 5.1 When must we end your membership in our plan?**

**We must end your membership in our plan if any of the following happen:**

- If you no longer have Medicare Part A and/or Part B.
- If you move out of our service area.
- If you are away from our service area for more than six months.
  - ♦ If you move or take a long trip, you need to call Member Services to find out if the place you are moving or traveling to is in our plan's area. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.
- If you become incarcerated (go to prison).
- If you are not a United States citizen or lawfully present in the United States.
- If you lie about or withhold information about other insurance you have that provides prescription drug coverage.
- If you intentionally give us incorrect information when you are enrolling in our plan and that information affects your eligibility for our plan. We cannot make you leave our plan for this reason unless we get permission from Medicare first.
- If you continuously behave in a way that is disruptive and makes it difficult for us to provide medical care for you and other members of our plan. We cannot make you leave our plan for this reason unless we get permission from Medicare first.

- If you let someone else use your membership card to get medical care. We cannot make you leave our plan for this reason unless we get permission from Medicare first.
  - ◆ If we end your membership because of this reason, Medicare may have your case investigated by the Inspector General.
- If you are required to pay the extra Part D amount because of your income and you do not pay it, Medicare will disenroll you from our plan and you will lose prescription drug coverage.

### **Where can you get more information?**

If you have questions or would like more information about when we can end your membership:

- You can call Member Services for more information (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **Section 5.2 We cannot ask you to leave our plan for any reason related to your health**

We are not allowed to ask you to leave our plan for any reason related to your health.

### **What should you do if this happens?**

If you feel that you are being asked to leave our plan because of a health-related reason, you should call Medicare at **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**. You may call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

### **Section 5.3 You have the right to make a complaint if we end your membership in our plan**

If we end your membership in our plan, we must tell you our reasons in writing for ending your membership. We must also explain how you can file a grievance or make a complaint about our decision to end your membership. You can look in Chapter 9, Section 10, for information about how to make a complaint.

### **Section 5.4 What happens if you are no longer eligible for group coverage?**

After your group notifies us to terminate your group 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 Health Plan member.

- If you are no longer eligible for group membership, you can request enrollment in our Senior Advantage Individual Plan if you still meet the eligibility requirements for Senior Advantage. The premiums and coverage under our individual plan will differ from those under this **Evidence of Coverage** and will include Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage.
- You may not be eligible to enroll in our Senior Advantage individual plan if your membership ends for the reasons stated under Section 5.1. For more information or

information about other individual plans, call Member Services. Phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

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## **SECTION 1. Notice about governing law**

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Many laws apply to this **Evidence of Coverage** and some additional provisions may apply because they are required by law. This may affect your rights and responsibilities even if the laws are not included or explained in this document. The principal law that applies to this document is Title XVIII of the Social Security Act and the regulations created under the Social Security Act by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, or CMS. In addition, other federal laws may apply and, under certain circumstances, the laws of the state you live in.

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## **SECTION 2. Notice about nondiscrimination**

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Our plan must obey laws that protect you from discrimination or unfair treatment. We don't discriminate based on race, ethnicity, national origin, color, religion, sex, gender, age, mental or physical disability, health status, claims experience, medical history, genetic information, evidence of insurability, or geographic location within the service area. All organizations that provide Medicare Advantage plans, like our plan, must obey federal laws against discrimination, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, all other laws that apply to organizations that get federal funding, and any other laws and rules that apply for any other reason.

If you want more information or have concerns about discrimination or unfair treatment, please call the Department of Health and Human Services' **Office for Civil Rights** at **1-800-368-1019** (TTY **1-800-537-7697**) or your local Office for Civil Rights.

If you have a disability and need help with access to care, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). If you have a complaint, such as a problem with wheelchair access, Member Services can help.

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## **SECTION 3. Notice about Medicare Secondary Payer subrogation rights**

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We have the right and responsibility to collect for covered Medicare services for which Medicare is not the primary payer. According to CMS regulations at 42 CFR sections 422.108 and 423.462, Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage, as a Medicare Advantage Organization, will exercise the same rights of recovery that the Secretary exercises under CMS regulations in subparts B through D of part 411 of 42 CFR and the rules established in this section supersede any state laws.

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## **SECTION 4 Administration of this Evidence of Coverage**

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We may adopt reasonable policies, procedures, and interpretations to promote orderly and efficient administration of this **Evidence of Coverage**.

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## **SECTION 5. Amendment of this Agreement**

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Your group's Agreement with us will change periodically. If these changes affect this **Evidence of Coverage**, your group is required to inform you in accord with applicable law and your group's Agreement.

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## **SECTION 6. Applications and statements**

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You must complete any applications, forms, or statements that we request in our normal course of business or as specified in this **Evidence of Coverage**.

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## **SECTION 7. Assignment**

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You may not assign this **Evidence of Coverage** or any of the rights, interests, claims for money due, benefits, or obligations hereunder without our prior written consent.

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## **SECTION 8. Attorney and advocate fees and expenses**

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In any dispute between a member and Health Plan, the Medical Group, or Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, each party will bear its own fees and expenses, including attorneys' fees, advocates' fees, and other expenses except as otherwise required by law.

---

## **SECTION 9. Coordination of benefits**

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As described in Chapter 1 (Section 10) "How other insurance works with our plan," if you have other insurance, you are required to use your other coverage in combination with your coverage as a Senior Advantage member to pay for the care you receive. This is called "coordination of benefits" because it involves coordinating all of the health benefits that are available to you. You will get your covered care as usual from network providers, and the other coverage you have will simply help pay for the care you receive.

If your other coverage is the primary payer, it will often settle its share of payment directly with us, and you will not have to be involved. However, if payment owed to us by a primary payer is sent directly to you, you are required by Medicare law to give this primary payment to us. For

more information about primary payments in third party liability situations, see Section 18, and for primary payments in workers' compensation cases, see Section 20.

You must tell us if you have other health care coverage, and let us know whenever there are any changes in your additional coverage.

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### **SECTION 10. Employer responsibility**

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For any services that the law requires an employer to provide, we will not pay the employer, and when we cover any such services, we may recover the value of the services from the employer.

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### **SECTION 11. Evidence of Coverage binding on members**

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By electing coverage or accepting benefits under this **Evidence of Coverage**, all members legally capable of contracting, and the legal representatives of all members incapable of contracting, agree to all provisions of this **Evidence of Coverage**.

---

### **SECTION 12. Government agency responsibility**

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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 such services we may recover the value of the services from the government agency.

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### **SECTION 13. Member nonliability**

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Our contracts with network providers provide that you are not liable for any amounts we owe. However, you are liable for the cost of noncovered services you obtain from network providers or out-of-network providers.

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### **SECTION 14. No waiver**

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Our failure to enforce any provision of this **Evidence of Coverage** will not constitute a waiver of that or any other provision, or impair our right thereafter to require your strict performance of any provision.

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### **SECTION 15. Notices**

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Our notices to you will be sent to the most recent address we have. You are responsible for notifying us of any change in your address. If you move, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back of this booklet) and Social Security at **1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778)** as soon as possible to report your address change.

**Note:** When we tell your group about changes to this **Evidence of Coverage** or provide your group other information that affects you, your group is required to notify the subscriber within 30 calendar days (or five days if we terminate your group's Agreement) after receiving the information from us.

### **SECTION 16. Overpayment recovery**

We may recover any overpayment we make for services from anyone who receives such an overpayment or from any person or organization obligated to pay for the services.

### **SECTION 17. Surrogacy**

In situations where a member receives monetary compensation to act as a surrogate, our plan will seek reimbursement of all Plan Charges for covered services the member receives that are associated with conception, pregnancy and/or delivery of the child. A surrogate arrangement is one in which a woman agrees to become pregnant and to surrender the baby to another person or persons who intend to raise the child.

### **SECTION 18. Third party liability**

As stated in Chapter 1, Section 10, third parties who cause you injury or illness (and/or their insurance companies) usually must pay first before Medicare or our plan. Therefore, we are entitled to pursue these primary payments. If you obtain a judgment or settlement from or on behalf of a third party who allegedly caused an injury or illness for which you received covered services, you must ensure we receive reimbursement for those services. Note: This Section 18 does not affect your obligation to pay cost-sharing for these services.

To the extent permitted or required by law, we shall be subrogated to all claims, causes of action, and other rights you may have against a third 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 the third 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.

To secure our rights, we will have a lien and reimbursement rights to the proceeds of any judgment or settlement you or we obtain against a third party that results in any settlement proceeds or judgment, from other types of coverage that include but are not limited to: liability, uninsured motorist, underinsured motorist, personal umbrella, worker's compensation, personal injury, medical payments and all other first party types. The proceeds of any judgment or settlement that you or we obtain shall first be applied to satisfy our lien, regardless of whether you are made whole and regardless of whether the total amount of the proceeds is less than the actual losses and damages you incurred. We are not required to pay attorney fees or costs to any attorney hired by you to pursue your damages claim.

Within 30 days after submitting or filing a claim or legal action against a third party, you must send written notice of the claim or legal action to:

Patient Business Services

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado  
2500 South Havana Street  
Aurora, CO 80014-1622

Please contact our Patient Business Services Department at **303-743-5900**, or TTY users may call **711**.

In order for us to determine the existence of any rights we may have and to satisfy those rights, you must complete and send us all consents, releases, authorizations, assignments, and other documents, including lien forms directing your attorney, the third party, and the third party's liability insurer to pay us directly. You may not agree to waive, release, or reduce our rights under this provision without our prior, written consent.

If your estate, parent, guardian, or conservator asserts a claim against a third party based on your injury or illness, your estate, parent, guardian, or conservator and any settlement 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 the third party. We may assign our rights to enforce our liens and other rights.

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## **SECTION 19. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**

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For any services for conditions arising from military service that the law requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide, we will not pay the Department of Veterans Affairs, and when we cover any such services we may recover the value of the services from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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## **SECTION 20. Workers' compensation or employer's liability benefits**

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As stated in Chapter 1, Section 10, workers' compensation usually must pay first before Medicare or our plan. Therefore, we are entitled to pursue primary payments under workers' compensation or employer's liability law. You may be eligible for payments or other benefits, including amounts received as a settlement (collectively referred to as "Financial Benefit"), under workers' compensation or employer's liability law. We will provide covered services even if it is unclear whether you are entitled to a Financial Benefit, but we may recover the value of any covered services from the following sources:

- From any source providing a Financial Benefit or from whom a Financial Benefit is due.

From you, to the extent that a Financial Benefit is provided or payable or would have been required to be provided or payable if you had diligently sought to establish your rights to the Financial Benefit under any workers' compensation or employer's liability law.

## **CHAPTER 12. Definitions of important words**

**Allowance** – A specified credit amount that you can use toward the cost of an item. If the cost of the item(s) you select exceeds the allowance, you will pay the amount in excess of the allowance, which does not apply to the annual out-of-pocket maximum.

**Ambulatory Surgical Center** – An Ambulatory Surgical Center is an entity that operates exclusively for the purpose of furnishing outpatient surgical services to patients not requiring hospitalization and whose expected stay in the center does not exceed 24 hours.

**Appeal** – An appeal is something you do if you disagree with our decision to deny a request for coverage of health care services or prescription drugs or payment for services or drugs you already received. You may also make an appeal if you disagree with our decision to stop services that you are receiving. For example, you may ask for an appeal if we don't pay for a drug, item, or service you think you should be able to receive. Chapter 9 explains appeals, including the process involved in making an appeal.

**Balance Billing** – When a provider (such as a doctor or hospital) bills a patient more than the plan's allowed cost-sharing amount. As a member of our plan, you only have to pay our plan's cost-sharing amounts when you get services covered by our plan. We do not allow providers to "balance bill" or otherwise charge you more than the amount of cost-sharing your plan says you must pay.

**Benefit Period** – The way that both our plan and Original Medicare measure your use of skilled nursing facility (SNF) services. A benefit period begins the day you go into a hospital or skilled nursing facility. The benefit period ends when you haven't received any inpatient hospital care (or skilled care in a SNF) for 60 days in a row. If you go into a hospital or a skilled nursing facility after one benefit period has ended, a new benefit period begins. There is no limit to the number of benefit periods.

**Brand-Name Drug** – A prescription drug that is manufactured and sold by the pharmaceutical company that originally researched and developed the drug. Brand-name drugs have the same active-ingredient formula as the generic version of the drug. However, generic drugs are manufactured and sold by other drug manufacturers and are generally not available until after the patent on the brand-name drug has expired.

**Catastrophic Coverage Stage** – The stage in the Part D Drug Benefit when you pay a low copayment or coinsurance for your drugs after you or other qualified parties on your behalf have spent **\$6,350** in covered drugs during the covered year.

**Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)** – The federal agency that administers Medicare. Chapter 2 explains how to contact CMS.

**Coinsurance** – An amount you may be required to pay as your share of the cost for services or prescription drugs after you pay any deductibles, if applicable. Coinsurance is usually a percentage (for example, 20%) of Plan Charges.

**Complaint** – The formal name for "making a complaint" is "filing a grievance." The complaint process is used for certain types of problems only. This includes problems related to quality of

care, waiting times, and the customer service you receive. See also "Grievance," in this list of definitions.

**Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF)** – A facility that mainly provides rehabilitation services after an illness or injury, and provides a variety of services, including physical therapy, social or psychological services, respiratory therapy, occupational therapy and speech-language pathology services, and home environment evaluation services.

**Coordination of Benefits (COB)** – Coordination of Benefits is a provision used to establish the order in which claims are paid when you have other insurance. If you have Medicare and other health insurance or coverage, each type of coverage is called a "payer." When there is more than one payer, there are "coordination of benefits" rules that decide which one pays first. The "primary payer" pays what it owes on your bills first, and then sends the rest to the "secondary payer" to pay. If payment owed to us is sent directly to you, you are required under Medicare law to give the payment to us. In some cases, there may also be a third payer. See Chapter 1 (Section 10) and Chapter 11 (Section 9) for more information.

**Copayment (or "copay")** – An amount you may be required to pay as your share of the cost for a medical service or supply, like a doctor's visit, hospital outpatient visit, or a prescription drug. A copayment is a set amount, rather than a percentage. For example, you might pay \$10 or \$20 for a doctor's visit or prescription drug.

**Cost-Sharing** – Cost-sharing refers to amounts that a member has to pay when services or drugs are received. (This is in addition to our plan's monthly premium.) Cost-sharing includes any combination of the following three types of payments: (1) any deductible amount a plan may impose before services or drugs are covered; (2) any fixed "copayment" amount that a plan requires when a specific service or drug is received; or (3) any "coinsurance" amount, a percentage of the total amount paid for a service or drug that a plan requires when a specific service or drug is received. A "daily cost-sharing rate" may apply when your doctor prescribes less than a full month's supply of certain drugs for you and you are required to pay a copayment. Note: In some cases, you may not pay all applicable cost-sharing at the time you receive the services, and we will send you a bill later for the cost-sharing. For example, if you receive nonpreventive care during a scheduled preventive care visit, we may bill you later for the cost-sharing applicable to the nonpreventive care. For items ordered in advance, you may pay the cost-sharing in effect on the order date (although we will not cover the item unless you still have coverage for it on the date you receive it) and you may be required to pay the copayment when the item is ordered. For outpatient prescription drugs, the order date is the date that the pharmacy processes the order after receiving all of the information they need to fill the prescription.

**Cost-Sharing Tier** – Every drug on the list of covered drugs is in one of six cost-sharing tiers. In general, the higher the cost-sharing tier, the higher your cost for the drug.

**Coverage Determination** – A decision about whether a drug prescribed for you is covered by our plan and the amount, if any, you are required to pay for the prescription. In general, if you take your prescription to a pharmacy and the pharmacy tells you the prescription isn't covered under your plan, that isn't a coverage determination. You need to call or write to your plan to ask for a formal decision about the coverage. Coverage determinations are called "coverage decisions" in this booklet. Chapter 9 explains how to ask us for a coverage decision.

**Covered Drugs** – The term we use to mean all of the prescription drugs covered by our plan.

**Covered Services** – The general term we use to mean all of the health care services and items that are covered by our plan.

**Creditable Prescription Drug Coverage** – Prescription drug coverage (for example, from an employer or union) that is expected to pay, on average, at least as much as Medicare's standard prescription drug coverage. People who have this kind of coverage when they become eligible for Medicare can generally keep that coverage without paying a penalty, if they decide to enroll in Medicare prescription drug coverage later.

**Custodial Care** – Custodial care is personal care provided in a nursing home, hospice, or other facility setting when you do not need skilled medical care or skilled nursing care. Custodial care is personal care that can be provided by people who don't have professional skills or training, such as help with activities of daily living like bathing, dressing, eating, getting in or out of a bed or chair, moving around, and using the bathroom. It may also include the kind of health-related care that most people do themselves, like using eye drops. Medicare doesn't pay for custodial care.

**Daily Cost-Sharing Rate** – A "daily cost-sharing rate" may apply when your doctor prescribes less than a full month's supply of certain drugs for you and you are required to pay a copayment. A daily cost-sharing rate is the copayment divided by the number of days in a month's supply. Here is an example: If your copayment for a one-month supply of a drug is \$30, and a one-month's supply in your plan is 30 days, then your "daily cost-sharing rate" is \$1 per day. This means you pay \$1 for each day's supply when you fill your prescription.

**Deductible** – The amount you must pay for health care or prescriptions before our plan begins to pay.

**Dependent** – A member who meets the eligibility requirements as a dependent (for dependent eligibility requirements, see Chapter 1, Section 2).

**Disenroll or Disenrollment** – The process of ending your membership in our plan. Disenrollment may be voluntary (your own choice) or involuntary (not your own choice).

**Dispensing Fee** – A fee charged each time a covered drug is dispensed to pay for the cost of filling a prescription. The dispensing fee covers costs such as the pharmacist's time to prepare and package the prescription.

**Durable Medical Equipment (DME)** – Certain medical equipment that is ordered by your doctor for medical reasons. Examples include walkers, wheelchairs, crutches, powered mattress systems, diabetic supplies, IV infusion pumps, speech-generating devices, oxygen equipment, nebulizers, or hospital beds ordered by a provider for use in the home.

**Emergency** – A medical emergency is when you, or any other prudent layperson with an average knowledge of health and medicine, believe that you have medical symptoms that require immediate medical attention to prevent loss of life, loss of a limb, or loss of function of a limb. The medical symptoms may be an illness, injury, severe pain, or a medical condition that is quickly getting worse.

**Emergency Care** – Covered services that are (1) rendered by a provider qualified to furnish emergency services; and (2) needed to treat, evaluate, or stabilize an emergency medical condition.



**Emergency Medical Condition** – Either: (1) a medical or psychiatric condition that manifests itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) such that you could reasonably expect the absence of immediate medical attention to result in serious jeopardy to your health or body functions or organs, or (2) active labor when there isn't enough time for safe transfer to a plan hospital (or designated hospital) before delivery or if transfer poses a threat to your (or your unborn child's) health and safety.

**Evidence of Coverage (EOC) and Disclosure Information** – This document, along with your enrollment form and any other attachments, riders, or other optional coverage selected, which explains your coverage, what we must do, your rights, and what you have to do as a member of our plan.

**Exception** – A type of coverage determination that, if approved, allows you to get a drug that is not on your plan sponsor's formulary (a formulary exception), or get a nonpreferred drug at a lower cost-sharing level (a tiering exception). You may also request an exception if we limit the quantity or dosage of the drug you are requesting (a formulary exception).

**Excluded Drug** – A drug that is not a "covered Part D drug," as defined under 42 U.S.C. Section 1395w-102(e).

**Extra Help** – A Medicare program to help people with limited income and resources pay Medicare prescription drug program costs, such as premiums, deductibles, and coinsurance.

**Family** – A subscriber and all of his or her dependents.

**Formulary** – A list of Medicare Part D drugs covered by our plan.

**Generic Drug** – A prescription drug that is approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as having the same active ingredient(s) as the brand-name drug. Generally, a "generic" drug works the same as a brand-name drug and usually costs less.

**Grievance** – A type of complaint you make about us, including a complaint concerning the quality of your care. This type of complaint does not involve coverage or payment disputes.

**Group** – The entity with which we have entered into the *Agreement* that includes this **Evidence of Coverage**.

**Home Health Aide** – A home health aide provides services that don't need the skills of a licensed nurse or therapist, such as help with personal care (for example, bathing, using the toilet, dressing, or carrying out the prescribed exercises). Home health aides do not have a nursing license or provide therapy.

**Home Health Care** – Skilled nursing care and certain other health care services that you get in your home for the treatment of an illness or injury. Covered services are listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**. We cover home health care in accord with Medicare guidelines. Home health care can include services from a **home health aide** if the services are part of the home health plan of care for your illness or injury. They aren't covered unless you are also getting a covered skilled service. Home health services do not include the services of housekeepers, food service arrangements, or full-time nursing care at home.

**Hospice** – A member who has six months or less to live has the right to elect hospice. We, your plan, must provide you with a list of hospices in your geographic area. If you elect hospice and continue to pay premiums, you are still a member of our plan. You can still obtain all medically

necessary services as well as the supplemental benefits we offer. The hospice will provide special treatment for your state.

**Hospital Inpatient Stay** – A hospital stay when you have been formally admitted to the hospital for skilled medical services. Even if you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an "outpatient."

**Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount (IRMAA)** – If your modified adjusted gross income as reported on your IRS tax return from two years ago is above a certain amount, you'll pay the standard premium amount and an Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount, also known as IRMAA. IRMAA is an extra charge added to your premium. Less than 5 % of people with Medicare are affected, so most people will not pay a higher premium.

**Initial Coverage Limit** – The maximum limit of coverage under the Initial Coverage Stage.

**Initial Coverage Stage** – This is the stage after you have met your deductible, if applicable, and before your total drug costs, including amounts you have paid and what your plan has paid on your behalf, for the year have reached **\$4,020**.

**Initial Enrollment Period** – When you are first eligible for Medicare, the period of time when you can sign up for Medicare Part A and Part B. For example, if you're eligible for Medicare when you turn 65, your Initial Enrollment Period is the seven month period that begins three months before the month you turn 65, includes the month you turn 65, and ends three months after the month you turn 65.

**Inpatient Hospital Care** – Health care that you get during an inpatient stay in an acute care general hospital.

**Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (Health Plan)** – Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado is a Colorado nonprofit corporation and a Medicare Advantage organization. This **Evidence of Coverage** sometimes refers to Health Plan as "we" or "us."

**Kaiser Permanente** – Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado and the Medical Group.

**Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary (Formulary or "Drug List")** – A list of prescription drugs covered by our plan. The drugs on this list are selected by us with the help of doctors and pharmacists. The list includes both brand-name and generic drugs.

**Kaiser Permanente Region** – A Kaiser Foundation Health Plan organization that conducts a direct-service health care program. When you are outside our service area, you can get medically necessary health care and ongoing care for chronic conditions from designated providers in another Kaiser Permanente region's service area. For more information, please refer to Chapter 3, Section 2.2.

**Long-Term Care Hospital** – A Medicare-certified acute-care hospital that typically provide Medicare covered services such as comprehensive rehabilitation, respiratory therapy, head trauma treatment, and pain management. They are not long-term care facilities such as convalescent or assisted living facilities.

**Low Income Subsidy (LIS)** – See "Extra Help."

**Maximum Out-of-Pocket Amount** – The most that you pay out-of-pocket during the calendar year for in-network covered Part A and Part B services. Amounts you pay for any contributions

toward your group's monthly premium, your Medicare Part A and Part B premiums, and Part D prescription drugs do not count toward the maximum out-of-pocket amount. See Chapter 4, Section 1.2, for information about your maximum out-of-pocket amount.

**Medicaid (or Medical Assistance)** – A joint federal and state program that helps with medical costs for some people with low incomes and limited resources. Medicaid programs vary from state to state, but most health care costs are covered if you qualify for both Medicare and Medicaid. See Chapter 2, Section 6, for information about how to contact Medicaid in your state.

**Medical Care or Services** – Health care services or items. Some examples of health care items include durable medical equipment, eyeglasses, and drugs covered by Medicare Part A or Part B, but not drugs covered under Medicare Part D.

**Medical Group** – It is the network of plan providers that our plan contracts with to provide covered services to you. The name of our medical group is Colorado Permanente Medical Group, P.C., a for-profit professional corporation.

**Medically Accepted Indication** – A use of a drug that is either approved by the Food and Drug Administration or supported by certain reference books. See Chapter 5, Section 3, for more information about a medically accepted indication.

**Medically Necessary** – Services, supplies, or drugs that are needed for the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of your medical condition and meet accepted standards of medical practice.

**Medicare** – The federal health insurance program for people 65 years of age or older, some people under age 65 with certain disabilities, and people with End-Stage Renal Disease (generally those with permanent kidney failure who need dialysis or a kidney transplant). People with Medicare can get their Medicare health coverage through Original Medicare, PACE plan, or a Medicare Advantage Plan.

**Medicare Advantage (MA) Plan** – Sometimes called Medicare Part C. A plan offered by a private company that contracts with Medicare to provide you with all your Medicare Part A and Part B benefits. A Medicare Advantage Plan can be an HMO, a PPO, a Private Fee-for-Service (PFFS) plan, or a Medicare Medical Savings Account (MSA) plan. When you are enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan, Medicare services are covered through the plan and are not paid for under Original Medicare. In most cases, Medicare Advantage Plans also offer Medicare Part D (prescription drug coverage). These plans are called **Medicare Advantage Plans with Prescription Drug Coverage**. Everyone who has Medicare Part A and Part B is eligible to join any Medicare health plan that is offered in their area, except people with End-Stage Renal Disease (unless certain exceptions apply).

**Medicare Coverage Gap Discount Program** – A program that provides discounts on most covered Part D brand-name drugs to Part D members who have reached the Coverage Gap Stage and who are not already receiving "Extra Help." Discounts are based on agreements between the federal government and certain drug manufacturers. For this reason, most, but not all, brand-name drugs are discounted.

**Medicare-Covered Services** – Services covered by Medicare Part A and Part B. All Medicare health plans, including our plan, must cover all of the services that are covered by Medicare Part A and B.

**Medicare Health Plan** – A Medicare health plan is offered by a private company that contracts with Medicare to provide Part A and Part B benefits to people with Medicare who enroll in the plan. This term includes all Medicare Advantage Plans, Medicare Cost Plans, Demonstration/Pilot Programs, and Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE).

**Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage (Medicare Part D)** – Insurance to help pay for outpatient prescription drugs, vaccines, biologicals, and some supplies not covered by Medicare Part A or Part B.

**"Medigap" (Medicare Supplement Insurance) Policy** – Medicare supplement insurance sold by private insurance companies to fill "gaps" in Original Medicare. Medigap policies only work with Original Medicare. (A Medicare Advantage Plan is not a Medigap policy.)

**Member (Member of our Plan, or "Plan Member")** – A person with Medicare who is eligible to get covered services, who has enrolled in our plan, and whose enrollment has been confirmed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

**Member Services and Customer Experience** – Departments within our plan responsible for answering your questions about your membership, benefits, grievances, and appeals. See Chapter 2 for information about how to contact Member Services and Customer Experience.

**Network Pharmacy** – A network pharmacy is a pharmacy where members of our plan can get their prescription drug benefits. We call them "network pharmacies" because they contract with our plan. In most cases, your prescriptions are covered only if they are filled at one of our network pharmacies.

**Network Physician** – Any licensed physician who is a partner or employee of the Medical Group, or any licensed physician who contracts to provide services to our members (but not including physicians who contract only to provide referral services).

**Network Provider** – "Provider" is the general term we use for doctors, other health care professionals, (including but not limited to, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and nurses), hospitals, and other health care facilities that are licensed or certified by Medicare and by the state to provide health care services. We call them "**network providers**" when they have an agreement with our plan to accept our payment as payment in full, and in some cases, to coordinate as well as provide covered services to members of our plan. We pay network providers based on the agreements it has with the providers or if the providers agree to provide you with plan-covered services. Network providers may also be referred to as "plan providers."

**Organization Determination** – The Medicare Advantage plan has made an organization determination when it makes a decision about whether items or services are covered or how much you have to pay for covered items or services. Organization determinations are called "coverage decisions" in this booklet. Chapter 9 explains how to ask us for a coverage decision.

**Original Medicare** ("Traditional Medicare" or "Fee-for-Service" Medicare) – Original Medicare is offered by the government, and not a private health plan like Medicare Advantage Plans and prescription drug plans. Under Original Medicare, Medicare services are covered by paying doctors, hospitals, and other health care providers payment amounts established by Congress. You can see any doctor, hospital, or other health care provider that accepts Medicare. You must pay the deductible. Medicare pays its share of the Medicare-approved amount, and you pay your

share. Original Medicare has two parts: Part A (Hospital Insurance) and Part B (Medical Insurance) and is available everywhere in the United States.

**Out-of-Network Pharmacy** – A pharmacy that doesn't have a contract with our plan to coordinate or provide covered drugs to members of our plan. As explained in this **Evidence of Coverage**, *most drugs you get from out-of-network pharmacies are not covered* by our plan unless certain conditions apply (see Chapter 5, Section 2.5, for more information).

**Out-of-Network Provider or Out-of-Network Facility** – A provider or facility with which we have not arranged to coordinate or provide covered services to members of our plan. Out-of-network providers are providers that are not employed, owned, or operated by our plan or are not under contract to deliver covered services to you. Using out-of-network providers or facilities is explained in this booklet in Chapter 3.

**Out-of-Pocket Costs** – See the definition for "Cost-Sharing" above. A member's cost-sharing requirement to pay for a portion of services or drugs received is also referred to as the member's "out-of-pocket" cost requirement.

**PACE Plan** – A PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly) plan combines medical, social, and long-term care (LTC) services for frail people to help people stay independent and living in their community (instead of moving to a nursing home) for as long as possible, while getting the high-quality care they need. People enrolled in PACE plans receive both their Medicare and Medicaid benefits through the plan.

**Part C** – See "**Medicare Advantage (MA) Plan.**"

**Part D** – The voluntary Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Program. (For ease of reference, we will refer to the prescription drug benefit program as Part D.)

**Part D Drugs** – Drugs that can be covered under Part D. We may or may not offer all Part D drugs. (See your formulary for a specific list of covered drugs.) Certain categories of drugs were specifically excluded by Congress from being covered as Part D drugs.

**Part D Late Enrollment Penalty** – An amount added to your monthly premium for Medicare drug coverage if you go without creditable coverage (coverage that is expected to pay, on average, at least as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage) for a continuous period of 63 days or more. You pay this higher amount as long as you have a Medicare drug plan. There are some exceptions. For example, if you receive "Extra Help" from Medicare to pay your prescription drug plan costs, you will not pay a late enrollment penalty.

**Plan** – Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage.

**Plan Charges** – Plan Charges means the following:

- For services provided by the Medical Group or Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, the charges in Health Plan's schedule of Medical Group and Kaiser Foundation Hospitals charges for services provided to members.
- For services for which a provider (other than the Medical Group or Kaiser Foundation Hospitals) is compensated on a capitation basis, the charges in the schedule of charges that Kaiser Permanente negotiates with the capitated provider.

- For items obtained at a pharmacy owned and operated by Kaiser Permanente, the amount the pharmacy would charge a member for the item if a member's benefit plan did not cover the item (this amount is an estimate of: the cost of acquiring, storing, and dispensing drugs; the direct and indirect costs of providing Kaiser Permanente pharmacy services to members; and the pharmacy program's contribution to the net revenue requirements of Health Plan).
- For all other services, the payments that Kaiser Permanente makes for the services or, if Kaiser Permanente subtracts cost-sharing from its payment, the amount Kaiser Permanente would have paid if it did not subtract cost-sharing.

**Post-Stabilization Care** – Medically necessary services related to your emergency medical condition that you receive after your treating physician determines that this condition is clinically stable. You are considered clinically stable when your treating physician believes, within a reasonable medical probability and in accordance with recognized medical standards, that you are safe for discharge or transfer and that your condition is not expected to get materially worse during or as a result of the discharge or transfer.

**Preferred Cost-Sharing** – Preferred cost-sharing means lower cost-sharing for certain covered Part D drugs at certain network pharmacies.

**Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) Plan** – A Preferred Provider Organization plan is a Medicare Advantage Plan that has a network of contracted providers that have agreed to treat plan members for a specified payment amount. A PPO plan must cover all plan benefits whether they are received from network or out-of-network providers. Member cost-sharing will generally be higher when plan benefits are received from out-of-network providers. PPO plans have an annual limit on your out-of-pocket costs for services received from network (preferred) providers and a higher limit on your total combined out-of-pocket costs for services from both network (preferred) and out-of-network (nonpreferred) providers.

**Premium** – The periodic payment to Medicare, an insurance company, or a health care plan for health care or prescription drug coverage.

**Primary Care Provider (PCP)** – Your primary care provider is the doctor or other provider you see first for most health problems. He or she makes sure you get the care you need to keep you healthy. He or she also may talk with other doctors and health care providers about your care and refer you to them. In many Medicare health plans, you must see your primary care provider before you see any other health care provider. See Chapter 3, Section 2.1, for information about primary care providers.

**Prior Authorization** – Approval in advance to get services or certain drugs that may or may not be on our formulary. Some in-network medical services are covered only if your doctor or other network provider gets "prior authorization" from our plan. Covered services that need prior authorization are marked in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this EOC and described in Chapter 3, Section 2.3. Some drugs are covered only if your doctor or other network provider gets "prior authorization" from us. Covered drugs that need prior authorization are marked in the formulary.

**Prosthetics and Orthotics** – These are medical devices ordered by your doctor or other health care provider. Covered items include, but are not limited to, arm, back, and neck braces; artificial



limbs; artificial eyes; and devices needed to replace an internal body part or function, including ostomy supplies and enteral and parenteral nutrition therapy.

**Quality Improvement Organization (QIO)** – A group of practicing doctors and other health care experts paid by the federal government to check and improve the care given to Medicare patients. See Chapter 2, Section 4, for information about how to contact the QIO for your state.

**Quantity Limits** – A management tool that is designed to limit the use of selected drugs for quality, safety, or utilization reasons. Limits may be on the amount of the drug that we cover per prescription or for a defined period of time.

**Rehabilitation Services** – These services include physical therapy, speech and language therapy, and occupational therapy.

**Service Area** – A geographic area where a health plan accepts members if it limits membership based on where people live. For plans that limit which doctors and hospitals you may use, it's also generally the area where you can get routine (nonemergency) services. Our plan may disenroll you if you permanently move out of our plan's service area.

**Services** – Health care services or items.

**Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Care** – Skilled nursing care and rehabilitation services provided on a continuous, daily basis, in a skilled nursing facility. Examples of skilled nursing facility care include physical therapy or intravenous injections that can only be given by a registered nurse or doctor.

**Specialty-Tier Drugs** – Very high-cost drugs approved by the FDA that are on our formulary.

**Spouse** – Your legal husband or wife.

**Standard Cost-Sharing** – Standard cost-sharing is cost-sharing other than preferred cost-sharing offered at a network pharmacy.

**Subscriber** – A member who is eligible for membership on his or her own behalf and not by virtue of dependent status (for subscriber eligibility requirements, see Chapter 1, Section 2).

**Supplemental Security Income (SSI)** – A monthly benefit paid by Social Security to people with limited income and resources who are disabled, blind, or age 65 and older. SSI benefits are not the same as Social Security benefits.

**Urgently Needed Services** – Urgently needed services are provided to treat a nonemergency, unforeseen medical illness, injury, or condition that requires immediate medical care. Urgently needed services may be furnished by network providers or by out-of-network providers when network providers are temporarily unavailable or inaccessible.

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## Notice of nondiscrimination

Kaiser Permanente complies with applicable federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Kaiser Permanente does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. 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 **1-800-476-2167 (TTY 711)**, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., seven days a week.

If you believe that Kaiser Permanente does has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance with our Civil Rights Coordinator by writing to 2500 South Havana, Aurora, CO 80014 or calling Member Services at the number listed above. You can file a grievance by mail or phone. If you need help filing a grievance, our Civil Rights Coordinator is available to help you. 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, **1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD)**. Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.



## Multi-language Interpreter Services

### English

ATTENTION: If you speak a language other than English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**).

### Spanish

ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**).

### 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 **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**)。

### Vietnamese

CHÚ Ý: Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**).

### Tagalog

PAUNAWA: Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, maaari kang gumamit ng mga serbisyo ng tulong sa wika nang walang bayad. Tumawag sa **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**).

### Korean

주의: 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다.

**1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**)번으로 전화해 주십시오.

### Russian

ВНИМАНИЕ: Если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните **1-800-476-2167** (телетайп: **711**).

### 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。

**1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**) まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

### Amharic

ማስታወሻ: የሚናገሩት ቋንቋ አማርኛ ከሆነ የትርጉም እርዳታ ድርጅቶች፣ በነጻ ሊያግዝዎት ተዘጋጅተዋል። ወደ ሚከተለው ቁጥር ይደውሉ **1-800-476-2167** (መስማት ለተሳናቸው: **711**)።

### German

ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**).

### French

ATTENTION : Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le **1-800-476-2167** (ATS : **711**).

### Farsi

توجه: اگر به زبان فارسی گفتگو می کنید، تسهیلات زبانی بصورت رایگان برای شما فراهم می باشد. با **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**) تماس بگیرید.

### Arabic

ملحوظة: إذا كنت تتحدث اذكر اللغة، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم **1-800-476-2167** (رقم هاتف الصم والبكم: **117**).

**Yoruba**

AKIYESI: Ti o ba nso ede Yoruba ofe ni iranlowo lori ede wa fun yin o. E pe ero ibanisoro yi **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: 711).

**Cushite-Oromo**

XIYYEEFFANNAA: Afaan dubbattu Oroomiffa, tajaajila gargaarsa afaanii, kanfaltiidhaan ala, ni argama. Bilbilaa **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: 711).

**Nepali**

ध्यान दिनुहोस्: तपाईंले नेपाली बोल्नुहुन्छ भने तपाईंको निम्ति भाषा सहायता सेवाहरू निःशुल्क रूपमा उपलब्ध छ । फोन गर्नुहोस् **1-800-476-2167** (टिटिवाइ: 711) ।

## ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

Please refer to the Summary Chart in this booklet for specific charges and other limitations that may apply to the coverage(s) described below.

### DOMESTIC PARTNER COVERAGE

Your Group coverage includes health benefits for same-sex domestic partners. To be covered they must meet:

- (1) the eligibility requirements as described in the “Eligibility” section of this EOC; and
- (2) the conditions for domestic partnership as described in the Affidavit of Domestic Partnership.

You are required to complete and submit an Affidavit of Domestic Partnership to Health Plan. Please check with your Group's benefit administrator for details.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for same-sex domestic partners. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

DOMP0AA (01-18) WOR0AA

### ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT

**(Does not apply to Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage HMO Plan)**

The following paragraph of your EOC is amended, as follows:

#### I. Eligibility

##### A. Who Is Eligible

###### 1. General

To be eligible to enroll and to remain enrolled in this health benefit plan, you must meet the following requirements:

- a. You must meet your Group's eligibility requirements that we have approved. Your Group is required to inform Subscribers of the Group's eligibility requirements; and
- b. You must also meet the Subscriber or Dependent eligibility requirements as described below; and
- c. The Subscriber must live, reside, or work in our Service Area. Our Service Area is described in the “Definitions” section.

This rider amends the general eligibility provision of the EOC. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

WOR0AA (01-20)

### CHIROPRACTIC CARE

#### 1. Coverage

Chiropractic Services are covered as shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” when provided by contracted providers. Coverage includes:

- a. Evaluation;
- b. Manual and manipulative therapy of the spinal and extraspinal regions.

You may self-refer for visits to contracted providers.

**Note:** The following are covered, but not under this section: X-ray and laboratory tests, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”.

## 2. Exclusions

- a. Hypnotherapy.
- b. Behavior training.
- c. Sleep therapy.
- d. Weight loss programs.
- e. Services related to the treatment of the musculoskeletal system, except for the spinal and extraspinal regions.
- f. Vocational rehabilitation Services.
- g. Thermography.
- h. Air conditioners, air purifiers, therapeutic mattresses, supplies, or any other similar devices and appliances.
- i. Transportation costs. This includes local ambulance charges.
- j. Prescription drugs, vitamins, minerals, food supplements, or other similar products.
- k. Educational programs.
- l. Non-medical self-care or self-help training.
- m. All diagnostic testing related to these excluded Services.
- n. MRI and/or other types of diagnostic radiology.
- o. Physical or massage therapy that is not a part of the manual and manipulative therapy.
- p. Durable medical equipment (DME) and/or supplies for use in the home.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for Chiropractic Care. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

CHIR0AA (01-18)

### **ACUPUNCTURE SERVICES**

#### 1. Coverage

Acupuncture Services are covered as shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” when provided by contracted acupuncturists and if clinically appropriate.

Coverage includes treatment for:

- a. Neuromusculoskeletal pain due to an injury or illness; or
- b. Allergy, asthma, nausea or vomiting.

Services include:

- a. Acupuncture by manual stimulation.
- b. Electro-acupuncture applied to inserted needles and acupressure.

Cupping or moxibustion are only covered in lieu of electrical stimulation.

You may self-refer for visits to contracted acupuncturists.

#### 2. Acupuncture Services Exclusions:

- a. Rental or purchase of durable medical equipment (DME);
- b. Air purifiers, therapeutic mattresses, supplies or similar devices, appliances, or equipment. Their use or installation does not have to be for therapy or easy access;
- c. Radiology and lab tests;
- d. Prescription drugs, vitamins, herbs or food supplements. It does not matter if they are prescribed or recommended by a contracted acupuncturist;
- e. Massage or soft tissue techniques, except acupressure;
- f. Treatment mainly for obesity or weight control;
- g. Vocational, stroke or long term rehabilitation;
- h. Hypnotherapy;
- i. Behavior training;
- j. Sleep therapy or biofeedback;

- k. Acupuncture Services provided for maintenance or preventive care Services;
- l. Addiction. This includes quitting smoking;
- m. Expenses for acupuncture Services provided during visits that exceed the member's visit limit;
- n. Expenses for any Services provided before coverage begins or after coverage ends for this benefit;
- o. Any Services provided by an acupuncturist who is not contracted. It does not matter if the Services are obtained in or out of Health Plan's Service Area;
- p. Acupuncture Services that Health Plan determines are not clinically appropriate in its utilization review. (Members may not be surcharged for such Services);
- q. Services not authorized by Health Plan. This exclusion does not apply to the initial evaluation;
- r. Any techniques or procedures not generally accepted in a majority of state acupuncture licensing boards; and
- s. Benefits, items, or Services that are limited or excluded in the EOC, unless changed by this benefit.

This rider amends the EOC to provide limited coverage for acupuncture Services. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

CMPL0AA (01-19)

DMESOAB

### **DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT (DME) AND PROSTHETIC AND ORTHOTIC DEVICES**

When prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan on either a purchase or rental basis, as determined by Health Plan, DME, prosthetics and orthotics, including replacements other than those necessitated by misuse, theft, or loss, are provided as shown on the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" for your use during the period prescribed. Necessary fittings, repairs and adjustments, other than those necessitated by misuse, are covered. Health Plan may repair or replace a device at its option. Repair or replacement of defective equipment is covered at no additional charge.

Health Plan uses Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) and National Coverage Determinations (NCD) (hereinafter referred to as Medicare Guidelines) for our DME, prosthetic, and orthotic formulary guidelines. These are guidelines only. Health Plan reserves the right to exclude items listed in the Medicare Guidelines (does not apply to Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage plans). Please note that this EOC may contain some, but not all, of these exclusions.

**Limitations:** Coverage is limited to a standard item of DME, prosthetic device, or orthotic device that adequately meets your medical needs.

1. Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

a. Coverage

- i. DME is equipment that is appropriate for use in the home, able to withstand repeated use, Medically Necessary, not of use to a person in the absence of illness or injury, and approved for coverage under Medicare. It includes, but is not limited to, infant apnea monitors, insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies, and oxygen and oxygen dispensing equipment.
- ii. Insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iii. When use is no longer prescribed by a Plan Physician, DME must be returned to Health Plan or its designee. If the equipment is not returned, you must pay Health Plan or its designee the fair market price, established by Health Plan, for the equipment.

b. Limitation: Coverage is limited to the lesser of the purchase or rental price, as determined by Health Plan.

c. Durable Medical Equipment Exclusions

- i. Electronic monitors of bodily functions, except infant apnea monitors are covered.
- ii. Devices to perform medical testing of body fluids, excretions or substances, except nitrate urine test strips for home use for pediatric patients are covered.
- iii. Non-medical items such as sauna baths or elevators.
- iv. Exercise or hygiene equipment.
- v. Comfort, convenience, or luxury equipment or features.
- vi. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze\*, tape, antiseptics, dressings, and ace-type bandages.  
\*Gauze not excluded in Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Part D plans.
- vii. Replacement of lost or stolen equipment.
- viii. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.
- ix. More than one piece of DME serving essentially the same function, except for replacements.

x. Spare equipment or alternate use equipment is not covered.

## 2. Prosthetic Devices

### a. Coverage

Prosthetic devices are those rigid or semi-rigid external devices that are required to replace all or part of a body organ or extremity. Coverage of prosthetic devices includes:

- i. Internally implanted devices for functional purposes, such as pacemakers and hip joints.
- ii. Prosthetic devices for Members who have had a mastectomy. Medical Group or Health Plan will designate the source from which external prostheses can be obtained. Replacement will be made when a prosthesis is no longer functional. Custom-made prostheses will be provided when necessary.
- iii. Prosthetic devices, such as obturators and speech and feeding appliances, required for the treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate are covered when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iv. Prosthetic devices intended to replace, in whole or in part, an arm or leg when prescribed by a Plan Physician, as Medically Necessary and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.

### b. Prosthetic Devices Exclusions

- i. Dental prostheses, except for Medically Necessary prosthodontic treatment for treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate, as described above.
- ii. Internally implanted devices, equipment, and prosthetics related to treatment of sexual dysfunction.
- iii. More than one prosthetic device for the same part of the body, except for replacements.
- iv. Spare devices or alternate use devices.
- v. Replacement of lost or stolen prosthetic devices.
- vi. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.

## 3. Orthotic Devices

### a. Coverage

Orthotic devices are those rigid or semi-rigid external devices that are 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.

### b. Orthotic Devices Exclusions

- i. Corrective shoes and orthotic devices for podiatric use and arch supports, except for diabetic shoes in accordance with clinical guidelines and therapeutic shoes for patients with a diagnosis of peripheral vascular disease or peripheral neuropathy.
- ii. Dental devices and appliances except that Medically Necessary treatment of cleft lip or cleft palate is covered when prescribed by a Plan Physician, unless you are covered for these Services under a dental insurance policy or contract.
- iii. Experimental and research braces.
- iv. More than one orthotic device for the same part of the body, except for covered replacements.
- v. Spare devices or alternate use devices.
- vi. Replacement of lost or stolen orthotic devices.
- vii. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and prosthetic and orthotic devices. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

DMES0AB (01-20)

## **HEARING AID CREDIT**

### 1. Coverage

For Members age 18 and over, a credit per ear, which can be applied toward the purchase of a hearing aid (including dispensing fees associated with the hearing aid purchase), is provided as shown on the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" when prescribed by a Plan Physician or audiologist and obtained from a Plan Provider. Hearing aid means an electronic device worn on the person for the purpose of amplifying sound.

The full per ear credit must be used at the initial point of sale. Any credit balance remaining after the initial point of sale is forfeited.

### 2. Hearing Aid Exclusions

- a. Replacement parts for the repair of a hearing aid.
- b. Replacement of lost or broken hearing aids.
- c. Accessory parts and routine maintenance.
- d. Batteries.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for hearing aids. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

HEAR0AC (01-19)

OPT0AB

### OPTICAL BENEFIT

#### 1. Coverage

A credit, as shown in the “Vision Services and Optical” section of the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What),” applies toward the purchase of one pair of: (i) regular lenses; (ii) frames; or (iii) contact lenses, including cosmetic lenses, when obtained at a Plan Medical Office and prescribed by a physician or an optometrist. This includes: a \$60 replacement credit for single vision and contact lenses; and \$90 replacement credit for multifocal lenses if a Member's prescription changes .50 diopter or more within 12 months of the initial exam.

Covered Services include:

- a. The frame;
- b. Mounting of lenses in the frames; and
- c. The original fitting and subsequent adjustment of the frame.

Professional Services for exams and fitting of contact lenses that are not Medically Necessary are provided at an additional charge, when obtained at Plan Medical Offices.

#### 2. Exclusions

Replacement of lost or broken lenses or frames.

This rider amends the EOC to provide optical hardware coverage. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

OPT0AB (01-20)

RX0BL

### PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT

**NOTE:** When used in this Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement, the term “preferred” refers to drugs that are included in the Health Plan drug formulary. The term “non-preferred” refers to drugs that are not included in the Health Plan drug formulary.

Please refer to the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” in this booklet for the specific Copayments, Coinsurance, Deductible, and supply limits that apply to the covered prescription drugs described below.

#### 1. Coverage

Prescribed covered drugs are provided at the applicable prescription drug Copayment or Coinsurance for each tier of drug coverage. This may include: a preferred generic drug tier; a tier for preferred brand-name drugs or medications not having a generic or a generic equivalent; a tier for prescribed non-preferred drugs authorized through the non-preferred drug process; and a tier for certain specialty drugs. **Note:** Some specialty drugs are available in other tiers. To learn more, please visit our website at [kp.org/formulary](http://kp.org/formulary).

Non-Formulary Drug Exception Process:

You, your designee, or your Plan Provider may request access to clinically appropriate drugs not otherwise covered by Health Plan (non-formulary drugs) through a special exception process. We will make a coverage determination within 72 hours of receipt for standard requests and within 24 hours of receipt for expedited requests. As long as you are an active Member and the exception request is granted, Health Plan will provide coverage of the non-formulary drug for the duration of the prescription. If the exception request is denied, you, your designee, or your Plan Provider may request an external review of the decision by an independent review organization. For additional information about the prescription drug exception processes for non-formulary drugs, please contact **Member Services**.

Prescribed supplies and accessories include, but may not be limited to:

- a. Home glucose monitoring supplies.
- b. Glucose test strips.
- c. Acetone test tablets.
- d. Nitrate urine test strips for pediatric patients.
- e. Disposable syringes for the administration of insulin.

Such items are provided when obtained at Plan Pharmacies or from sources designated by Health Plan.

For Copayment or Coinsurance information related to contraceptive drugs and certain devices please refer to your “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

For each drug, the amount covered will be the lesser of the quantity prescribed or the day supply limit. Any amount you receive that exceeds the day supply will not be covered. If you receive more than the day supply limit, you will be charged as a non-Member for any prescribed amount exceeding the limit. Certain drugs have a significant potential for waste and diversion. Those drugs will be provided for up to a 30-day supply. Each prescription refill is provided on the same basis as the original prescription. Kaiser Permanente may, in its sole discretion, establish quantity limits for specific prescription drugs.

Generic drugs that are available in the United States only from a single manufacturer and that are not listed as generic in the then-current commercially available drug database(s) to which Health Plan subscribes are provided at the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance. The amount covered will be the lesser of the quantity prescribed or the day supply limit.

Prescription drugs are covered only when prescribed by a:

- a. Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies; or
- b. Physician to whom a Member has been referred by a Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies; or
- c. Dentist (when prescribed for acute conditions) and obtained at Plan Pharmacies.

Covered drugs include:

- a. Drugs for which a prescription is required by law. Plan Pharmacies may substitute a generic equivalent for a brand-name drug unless prohibited by the Plan Physician. If you request a brand-name drug when a generic equivalent drug is the preferred product, you must pay the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance, plus any difference in price between the preferred generic equivalent drug prescribed by the Plan Physician and the requested brand-name drug. If the brand-name drug is prescribed due to Medical Necessity, you pay only the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance.
- b. Insulin.
- c. Renewal of prescription eye drops and one additional bottle of prescription eye drops in accordance with state law.
- d. Compounded medications. **Note:** In all Service Areas, if you use a Kaiser Permanente pharmacy, compounded medications must be picked up or mailed from the pharmacy that is designated by Health Plan. Refills of compounded medications cannot be ordered on [kp.org](http://kp.org), by mail order, or through the automated refill line. Please call **303-764- 4900 (TTY 711)** and press “0” to speak to the pharmacy staff for assistance. In the *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Service Areas, you may fill or refill compounded medications at a network pharmacy.

## 2. Limitations

- a. Some drugs may require prior authorization. You do not need prior authorization for any FDA-approved prescription drug listed on our formulary, for the treatment of substance use disorder.
- b. With the exception of substance use disorder drugs, we may apply Step Therapy to certain drugs. You or your Plan Provider may request an exception if you previously tried a drug and your use of the drug was discontinued due to lack of efficacy or effectiveness, diminished effect, or an adverse event.
- c. Coverage determinations for the off-label use of medications will be consistent with Medicare compendia, and coverage determinations for the off-label use of oncologic agents will be consistent with the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) of 2008.

### 3. Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements Exclusions

- a. Drugs for which a prescription is not required by law.
- b. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze, tape, antiseptics, dressing and ace-type bandages.
- c. Prescription drugs necessary for Services excluded in the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement.
- d. Non-preferred drugs, except those prescribed and authorized through the non-preferred drug process.
- e. Any drugs listed as not covered in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”.
- f. Drugs to shorten the length of the common cold.
- g. Drugs to enhance athletic performance.
- h. Drugs available over the counter and by prescription for the same strength.
- i. Individual drugs determined excluded by our Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.
- j. Drugs for the treatment of weight control.
- k. Any prescription drug packaging except the dispensing pharmacy's standard packaging.
- l. Replacement of prescription drugs for any reason. This includes spilled, lost, damaged, or stolen prescriptions.
- m. Drugs administered during a medical office visit.
- n. Medical Foods and Medical Devices.
- o. Unless approved by Health Plan, drugs not approved by the FDA.

This rider amends the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement to provide coverage for Prescription Drugs. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.



### **SILVER SNEAKERS FITNESS BENEFIT**

A health and fitness benefit is covered and provided at participating fitness or wellness facilities within our Service Area. Health and fitness benefits include:

1. Fitness classes (to improve posture, flexibility and strength).
2. Toning with weights.
3. Aerobic classes.
4. Circuit training.

Additional benefits provided at some facilities include:

1. Swimming.
2. Court sports.
3. Running tracks.
4. Saunas.

You may access Services by taking your current Plan Identification Card to one of the participating fitness facilities within our Service Area and enrolling in the program. To get a list of the participating facilities, please call **Member Services**.

You will be given a one-time activity readiness assessment. Participation in the Fitness Benefit program is dependent upon the result of this assessment and may require a subsequent evaluation at a Plan Medical Office. There is no initiation fee and no monthly dues for participation.

Programs, Services and facilities which carry additional charges such as:

1. Racquetball;
2. Tennis and other court sports;
3. Massage therapy;
4. Lessons related to recreational sports;
5. Tournaments; and
6. Similar fee-based activities;

are excluded.

SNKR0AA (01-12)

### **ELECTIVE ABORTION EXCLUSION**

Voluntary, elective abortions and any related Services, drugs or supplies are excluded. Exceptions to this are:

1. When an abortion is Medically Necessary to preserve the life or health of the mother if the pregnancy continues to term; or
2. When the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest; or
3. Treatment of complications following an abortion.

TABS0AA (01-12)

# NOTES

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## **Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Member Services**

<b>METHOD</b>	<b>Member Services – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-800-476-2167</b> Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Member Services also has free language interpreter services available for non-English speakers.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> Calls to this number are free. Seven days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
<b>WRITE</b>	Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado Customer Experience 2500 South Havana Street Aurora, CO 80014-1622
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>kp.org</b>

## **Colorado State Health Insurance Assistance Program**

Colorado State Health Insurance Assistance Program is a state program that gets money from the federal government to give free local health insurance counseling to people with Medicare.

<b>METHOD</b>	<b>Contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-888-696-7213</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	SHIP, Colorado Division of Insurance 1650 Broadway Street, Suite 850 Denver, CO 80202
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b><a href="https://www.dora.state.co.us/insurance/senior/senior.htm">https://www.dora.state.co.us/insurance/senior/senior.htm</a></b>

**Kaiser Foundation Health  
Plan of Colorado**  
2500 S. Havana St.  
Aurora, CO 80014-1622

CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

Important plan information

**TITLE PAGE (Cover Page)**

# **Important Benefit Information Enclosed Evidence of Coverage**

## **About this Evidence of Coverage (EOC)**

This Evidence of Coverage (EOC) describes the health care coverage provided under the Agreement between Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (Health Plan) and your Group. This EOC is for your Group's 2020 contract year.

In this EOC, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado is sometimes referred to as “Kaiser Permanente,” “Kaiser,” “Health Plan,” “we,” or “us.” Members are sometimes referred to as “you.” Out-of-Health Plan is sometimes referred to as “Out-of-Plan.” Some capitalized terms have special meaning in this EOC; please see the “Definitions” section for terms you should know.

The health care coverage described in this EOC has been designed to be a High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP) compatible for use with a Health Savings Account (HSA). An HSA is a tax-exempt account established under Section 223(d) of the Internal Revenue Code exclusively for the purpose of paying qualified medical expenses of the account beneficiary. Contributions to such an account are tax deductible but in order to qualify for and make contributions to an HSA, you must be enrolled in a qualified High Deductible Health Plan.

Please note that the tax references contained in this document relate to federal income tax only. The tax treatment of HSA contributions and distributions under your state’s income tax laws may differ from the federal tax treatment, and differs from state to state. Kaiser Permanente does not provide tax advice. Consult with your financial or tax advisor for tax advice or more information about your eligibility for an HSA.



## NONDISCRIMINATION NOTICE

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (Kaiser Health Plan) complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Kaiser Health Plan does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. 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 **1-800-632-9700** (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, or sex, you can file a grievance by mail at: Customer Experience Department, Attn: Kaiser Permanente Civil Rights Coordinator, 2500 South Havana, Aurora, CO 80014, or by phone at Member Services: 1-800-632-9700.

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, 1-800-368-1019, 1-800-537-7697 (TDD). Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.

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## HELP IN YOUR LANGUAGE

**ATTENTION:** If you speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**አማርኛ (Amharic) ማስታወሻ:** የሚናገሩት ቋንቋ አማርኛ ከሆነ የትርጉም እርዳታ ድርጅቶች፣ በነጻ ሊያገዝዎት ተዘጋጅተዋል። ወደ ሚከተለው ቁጥር ይደውሉ **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**)።

**العربية (Arabic) ملحوظة:** إذا كنت تتحدث العربية، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) .

**Bàsòò Wùdù (Bassa) Dè dɛ nià kɛ dyédé gbo:** ɔ jũ ké ñ Bàsòò-wùdù-po-nyò jũ ní, nií, à wuɖu kà kò dò po-poò béin ñ gbo kpáa. Đá **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) 。

**فارسی (Farsi) توجه:** اگر به زبان فارسی گفتگو می کنید، تسهیلات زبانی بصورت رایگان برای شما فراهم می باشد. با **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) تماس بگیرید.

**Français (French) ATTENTION:** Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**Deutsch (German) ACHTUNG:** Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung.  
Rufnummer: **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**Igbo (Igbo) NRUBAMA:** O bụrụ na ị na asụ Igbo, ọrụ enyemaka asụsụ, n'efu, dijiri gi. Kpọọ **1-800-632-9700** (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。 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

**한국어 (Korean) 주의:** 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) 번으로 전화해 주십시오.

**Naabeehó (Navajo) Díí baa akó nínízin:** Díí saad bee yáníłti'go Diné Bizaad, saad bee áká'ánída'áwo'déé', t'áá jiik'eh, éi ná hóló, kóji' hódíílnih **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**नेपाली (Nepali) ध्यान दिनुहोस्:** तपाईंले नेपाली बोल्नुहुन्छ भने तपाईंको निम्ति भाषा सहायता सेवाहरू निःशुल्क रूपमा उपलब्ध छ । **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) फोन गर्नुहोस् ।

**Afaan Oromoo (Oromo) XIYYEEFFANNAA:** Afaan dubbattu Oroomiffa, tajaajila gargaarsa afaanii, kanfaltiidhaan ala, ni argama. Bilbilaa **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**Русский (Russian) ВНИМАНИЕ:** если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**Español (Spanish) ATENCIÓN:** si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**Yorùbá (Yoruba) AKIYESI:** Ti o ba nso ede Yoruba ofe ni iranlowo lori ede wa fun yin o. E pe ero ibanisoro yi **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).



**CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER**  
**EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE AMENDMENT - 2020**

**I. The following definitions are *in addition* to those detailed in this Evidence of Coverage (EOC).**

- 1) "Child" shall mean a primary insured's natural child, adopted child, or the natural child or adopted child of either a primary insured's spouse, or primary insured's partner in a civil union.
- 2) "Eligible dependent" shall mean the primary insured's child or spouse
  - a) An eligible dependent may not also be a primary insured on the same insurance plan.
  - b) If spouses are each eligible employees, each may enroll in medical or dental coverage as either a primary insured or eligible dependent, but not both.
  - c) An eligible dependent shall not include any form of grandchild of a primary insured or spouse, unless the primary insured or spouse has a court order of adoption.
  - d) An eligible dependent may be covered by one (1) primary insured only for each insurance plan.
- 3) "Eligible employee" shall mean both: career service employees as defined in section 9.1.1(e) of the charter, and appointed charter officers as defined in section 9.2.1(B) of the charter. The definition of eligible employee shall not include:
  - a) Part-time employees who are regularly scheduled to work less than twenty (20) hours per week;
  - b) Members of the classified service of the police and fire departments; and,
  - c) Persons occupying or employed in on-call (Eligible if employed for 12 months and averaging at least 30 hours per week in accordance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act), temporary, seasonal, or contract positions, or positions in which the incumbent is paid according to the community rate schedule.
- 4) "Employee only" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee only.
- 5) "Employee plus children" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and one (1) or more eligible dependents other than a spouse.
- 6) "Employee plus spouse" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and a spouse.
- 7) "Employer contribution" shall mean funds paid by the city for insurance programs approved by the employee health insurance committee.
- 8) "Family" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and a spouse or spousal equivalent and one (1) or more other eligible dependent.
- 9) "Primary insured" shall mean an eligible employee who enrolls for insurance coverage.
  - a) A primary insured may not also be an eligible dependent on the same insurance.
- 10) "Spouse" shall mean an eligible employee's lawful spouse, a lawful partner in a civil union in accordance with the Colorado Civil Union Act or spousal equivalent.
- 11) "Spousal equivalent" shall mean an adult of the same gender with whom the employee is in an exclusive committed relationship, who is not related to the employee and who shares basic living expenses with the intent for the relationship to last indefinitely. A spousal equivalent cannot be related by blood to a degree which would prevent marriage in Colorado and cannot be married to another person. An employee claiming a spousal equivalent as an eligible dependent shall file with the Office of Human Resources employee benefits section, an affidavit of spousal equivalency or may register as a committed partnership with the clerk's office.

**II. The following definition is removed from those detailed in this Evidence of Coverage (EOC).**

- c. Other dependent persons (but not including foster children) who meet all of the following requirements:
  - i. They are under the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)"; and
  - ii. You or your Spouse is the court-appointed permanent legal guardian (or was before the person reached age 18).

(Ord. No. 959-05, § 1, 12-19-05; Ord. No. 661-12, § 3, 12-26-12; Ord. No. 489-14, § 1, 9-8-14; Ord. No. 763-17, § 1, 8-7-17)

## SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (WHO PAYS WHAT)

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This Schedule of Benefits discusses:

- I. DEDUCTIBLES (if applicable)
- II. ANNUAL OUT-OF-POCKET MAXIMUMS (OPM)
- III. COPAYMENTS AND COINSURANCE
- IV. DEPENDENT LIMITING AGE

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION: PLEASE READ

This Schedule of Benefits does not fully describe the Services covered under this EOC. ***For a complete understanding of the benefits, limitations and exclusions that apply to your coverage under this plan, it is important to read this EOC in conjunction with this Schedule of Benefits.*** Please refer to the identical heading in the "Benefits/Coverage (What Is Covered)" section and to the "Limitations/Exclusions (What Is Not Covered)" section of this EOC.

Services received may be described in multiple sections of this Schedule of Benefits (for example, Office Services, Durable Medical Equipment, X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures may all apply to a broken arm). See the appropriate sections for applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and Deductible information.

You are responsible for any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for Services performed as part of or in conjunction with other outpatient Services, including but not limited to: office visits, Emergency Services, urgent care, and outpatient surgery.

Here is some important information to keep in mind as you read this Schedule of Benefits:

1. For a Service to be a covered Service:
  - a. The Service must be Medically Necessary (refer to the "Definitions" section in this EOC); **and**
  - b. The Service must be provided, prescribed, recommended, or directed by a Plan Provider; **and**
  - c. The Service must be described in this EOC as covered. Refer to the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.
2. The Charges for your Services are not always known at the time you receive the Service. You **will get a bill** for any Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance that are not known at the time you receive the Service.
3. The Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance listed here apply to covered Services provided to Members enrolled in this plan. Only covered Services apply to the Deductible and OPM. Non-covered Services will not apply to the Deductible and OPM.
4. Copayments for Services are due at the time you receive the Service. Deductibles or Coinsurance for Services may also be due at the time you receive the Service.
5. Except for #6 below, you may be responsible for any amounts over eligible Charges in addition to any Copayment or Coinsurance.
6. With respect to Emergency Services received in a non-Plan Facility, or Services rendered by a non-Plan Provider in a Plan Facility, you will not be balance billed by either the non-Plan Provider or non-Plan Facility. You are responsible for the same Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance amounts that you would pay if the care was provided in a Plan Facility or provided by a Plan Provider.
7. You may be charged separate Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance for additional Services you receive during your visit or if you receive Services from more than one provider during your visit.
8. We reserve the right to reschedule non-emergency, non-routine care if you do not pay all amounts due at the time you receive the Service.
9. For items ordered in advance, you pay the Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance in effect on the order date.
10. You, as the Subscriber, are responsible for any Deductibles, Copayments, and/or Coinsurance incurred by your Dependents enrolled in the Plan.

11. If you are the only person on your plan, your plan will become a family plan upon the addition of any eligible Dependent to your plan. This includes, but is not limited to, any temporary additions to your plan, such as the coverage of a newborn for 31 days as required by state law.

## **I. DEDUCTIBLES**

The medical Deductible represents the full amount you must pay for certain covered Services during the Accumulation Period before any Copayment or Coinsurance applies.

For covered Services that are subject to the medical Deductible, any amounts you pay over eligible Charges will not apply toward the medical Deductible.

- A. For covered Services that **ARE** subject to the medical Deductible:
  1. You must pay full charges for covered Services until your medical Deductible is satisfied. Please see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance” to find out which covered Services are subject to the medical Deductible.
  2. Once you have met your medical Deductible for the Accumulation Period, you will then pay, for the rest of the Accumulation Period, your applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for those covered Services subject to the medical Deductible (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”).
  3. Your applicable Copayment and Coinsurance may apply to your annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum (OPM) (see “II. Annual Out-of-Pocket Maximums”).
- B. For covered Services that **ARE NOT** subject to the medical Deductible: Your Copayment or Coinsurance will always apply, as listed in “III. Copayments and Coinsurance.”

## **II. ANNUAL OUT-OF-POCKET MAXIMUMS**

The OPM limits the total amount you must pay during the Accumulation Period for certain covered Services. Covered Services may or may not apply to the OPM (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”). It depends on the plan your Group has purchased.

For covered Services that apply to the OPM, any amounts you pay over eligible Charges will not apply toward the OPM.

- A. Your medical Deductible applies to the OPM (see “I. Deductibles”).
- B. For covered Services that **APPLY** to the OPM.
  1. The only Copayments or Coinsurance **that apply** toward the OPM are those made for covered Services listed as **applying** to the OPM (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”).
  2. Once your OPM is met, you will no longer pay for covered Services **that apply** to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period.
- C. For covered Services that do **NOT APPLY** to the OPM.
  1. The only Copayments or Coinsurance that **do not apply** toward the OPM are those made for covered Services listed as **not** applying to the OPM (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”).
  2. Once your OPM is met, you will continue to pay for covered Services that **do not apply** to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period.

### **Tracking Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Amounts**

Once you have received Services and we have processed the claim for Services rendered, we will provide an Explanation of Benefits (EOB). The EOB will list the Services you received, the cost of those Services, and the payments made for the Services. It will also include information regarding what portion of the payments were applied to your medical Deductible and/or OPM amounts.

For more information about your medical Deductible or OPM amounts, please call **Member Services** or go to **kp.org**.

**Benefits for CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER**  
**75 - 013**

**III. COPAYMENTS AND COINSURANCE**

**Note:** Day, visit, and dollar limits, Deductibles, and Out-of-Pocket Maximums are based on a calendar year Accumulation Period.

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**Medical Deductible**

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AGGREGATE Medical Deductible  
*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

\$1,450/Individual per Accumulation  
Period  
\$2,900/Family per Accumulation  
Period

An Aggregate Medical Deductible means:

- If you are the only person covered on your plan, the individual Medical Deductible amount applies. After the individual medical Deductible is met, the Member will begin paying Copayments or Coinsurance for most covered Services for the rest of the Accumulation Period.
  - If there are two or more family Members on your plan, the individual Medical Deductible amount does not apply. The entire family Medical Deductible must be met before Copayment or Coinsurance is applied for any individual family Member. No one in the family is considered to have met the Deductible until the entire family Deductible is met.
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**Out-of-Pocket Maximum**

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AGGREGATE OPM

\$2,900/Individual per Accumulation  
Period  
\$5,800/Family per Accumulation  
Period

An Aggregate OPM means:

- If you are the only person covered on your plan, the individual OPM amount applies. After the individual OPM is met, the Member will no longer pay Copayments or Coinsurance for those covered Services that apply to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period.
  - If there are two or more family Members on your plan, the individual OPM amount does not apply. The family OPM amount applies to the entire family as a whole. The entire family medical OPM amount must be met before any covered family Member will no longer pay Copayments or Coinsurance for covered Services. No one in the family is considered to have met the OPM until the entire family OPM is met.
-

<b>Office Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.	
Primary care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Specialty care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Consultations with clinical pharmacists <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Allergy evaluation and testing	
• Primary care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: 20% Coinsurance
• Specialty care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: 20% Coinsurance
Allergy injections <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Gynecology care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Routine prenatal and postpartum visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Office-administered drugs <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
• Travel immunizations <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<b>Virtual Care Services</b>	
• Email	
o Primary care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
o Specialty care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
• Chat with a doctor online via kp.org	
o Primary care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
o Specialty care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
• Telephone visits	
o Primary care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
o Specialty care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
• Video visits	
o Primary care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
o Specialty care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Covered Services not otherwise listed in this Schedule of Benefits received during an office visit, a scheduled procedure visit, video visit, or provided by a Plan Medical Office <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance

<b>Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.	

Outpatient surgery at Plan Facilities <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Ambulatory surgical center: 10% Coinsurance Outpatient hospital: 20% Coinsurance
Outpatient hospital Services <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<b>Hospital Inpatient Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(See Hospital Inpatient Care in "Benefits/Coverage (What Is Covered)" in this EOC for the list of covered Services.)</i> <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Inpatient professional Services <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<b>Alternative Medicine</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Chiropractic care	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluation and/or manipulation <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>Laboratory Services or x-rays required for chiropractic care <i>(See "X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information)</i></li> </ul>	20% Coinsurance each visit Limited to 20 visits per Accumulation Period See Additional Provisions See "X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
Acupuncture Services <i>(Not subject to Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<b>Ambulance Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<b>Bariatric Surgery</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(Not subject to Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<b>Dental Services following Accidental Injury</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<b>Dialysis Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance

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**Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Prosthetics and Orthotics**

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**You Pay**

Durable Medical Equipment

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

See Additional Provisions

- Breast pumps

*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

No Charge

Prosthetic devices

- Internally implanted prosthetic devices

*(See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)*

See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for applicable Copayment(s) and/or Coinsurance.

- Prosthetic arm or leg

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

- All other prosthetic devices

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Orthotic devices

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Oxygen

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Maximum limit paid by Health Plan for Durable Medical Equipment, certain prosthetic devices, and orthotic devices

Not Applicable

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**Emergency Services**

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**You Pay**

Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.

Plan and non-Plan emergency room visits and related covered Services unless otherwise noted (covered 24 hours a day)

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

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**Urgent Care****You Pay**

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Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.

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**Plan Facility within Service Area**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Urgent care may require additional Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits (for example: Office Services, Durable Medical Equipment, X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures). See the appropriate section for applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and Deductible information.

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**Urgent care outside Service Area**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Urgent care may require additional Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits (for example: Office Services, Durable Medical Equipment, X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures). See the appropriate section for applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and Deductible information.

Covered only if all the following requirements are met:

- The care is required to prevent serious decline of health
  - The need for care results from an unforeseen illness or injury when temporarily away from our Service Area
  - The care cannot be delayed until you return to our Service Area
- 

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**Family Planning and Sterilization Services****You Pay**

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**Family planning counseling**

*(See "Office Services" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)*

See "Office Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.

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**Associated outpatient surgery procedures**

*(See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)*

See "Office Services" or "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.

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**Health Education Services****You Pay**

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**Training in self-care and preventive care**

*(See "Office Services" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)*

See "Office Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.

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<b>Hearing Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction when performed by an audiologist <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction when performed by a specialist other than an audiologist <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Hearing aids for Members up to age 18 <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fitting and recheck visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	20% Coinsurance
Hearing aids for Members age 18 and over <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fitting and recheck visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<b>Home Health Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Home health Services prescribed by a Plan Physician <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<b>Hospice Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Special Services program for hospice-eligible Members who have not yet elected hospice care <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Hospice care for terminally ill patients <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<b>Mental Health Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Inpatient psychiatric hospitalization <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inpatient day limit</li> </ul>	Not Applicable
Inpatient professional Services for psychiatric hospitalization <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Outpatient individual therapy or intensive outpatient therapy <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance including partial hospitalization
Outpatient group therapy <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance

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**Out-of-Area Benefit****You Pay**

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The following Services are limited to Dependents up to the age of 26 outside the Service Area

**Outpatient office visits**

*(Combined office visit limit between primary care, specialty care, outpatient mental health and substance use disorder services, gynecology care, hearing exam, prevention immunizations, preventive care, and the administration of allergy injections. Office visits do not include: allergy evaluation, routine prenatal and postpartum visits, chiropractic care, acupuncture services, hearing aids, hearing tests, home health visits, hospice services, and applied behavioral analysis (ABA).)*

*Visit: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

*Other Services: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

*Preventive immunizations: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

Visit limit: Limited to 5 visits per Accumulation Period

Visit: 20% Coinsurance

Other Services received during an office visit: Not Covered

Preventive immunizations:  
No Charge

**Diagnostic X-ray Services**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

Diagnostic X-ray Services limit:  
Limited to 5 diagnostic X-rays per Accumulation Period  
20% Coinsurance

**Outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

Therapy visit limit: Limited to 5 therapy visits (any combination) per Accumulation Period  
Visit: 20% Coinsurance

**Outpatient prescription drugs**

Prescription drug fills: Limited to 5 prescription drug fills (any combination) per Accumulation Period

- Copayment/Coinsurance (except as listed below)  
*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

50% Coinsurance Generic/50%  
Coinsurance Brand name/50%  
Coinsurance Non-preferred/50%  
Coinsurance Specialty

- Prescribed diabetic supplies  
*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

- Preventive drugs
  - Contraceptive drugs  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
  - Over the counter (OTC) items:  
*(Federally mandated over the counter items)*  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
  - Tobacco cessation drugs  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

No Charge

No Charge

No Charge

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**Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy and Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services**

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**You Pay**

Inpatient treatment in a multidisciplinary rehabilitation program provided in a designated rehabilitation facility

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance; Up to 60 days per condition per Accumulation Period

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Short-term outpatient physical, occupational and speech therapy visits

- **Habilitative Services**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Limited to 20 visits per therapy per Accumulation Period

- **Rehabilitative Services**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Limited to 20 visits per therapy per Accumulation Period

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Outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits to treat Autism Spectrum Disorder

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

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Applied Behavioral Services

- **Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

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Pulmonary rehabilitation

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

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**Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements****You Pay**

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Outpatient prescription drugs Copayment/Coinsurance  
(except as listed below):

\$10 Generic/\$35 Brand name/\$60  
Non-Preferred

*(Prescriptions are subject to the medical Deductible and apply to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum  
except as otherwise listed in this "Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements" section.)*

- Pharmacy Deductible
- Infertility drugs  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
- Insulin
  - o Prescribed supplies  
*(When obtained from sources designated by Kaiser Permanente)  
(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

Not Applicable

Not Covered

Applicable Copayment/Coinsurance  
not to exceed \$100 up to a 30-day  
supply  
20% Coinsurance

- Over the counter (OTC) items:  
*(Federally mandated over the counter (OTC) items. OTCs require a prescription and  
must be filled at a Kaiser Permanente pharmacy.)  
(Not subject to medical or pharmacy Deductible)*

No Charge

- Prescription contraceptives  
*(Supply limit according to applicable law)  
(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

No Charge

- Preventive tier drugs  
*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

See applicable Outpatient  
prescription drug  
Copayment/Coinsurance

- Sexual dysfunction drugs  
*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

Not Covered

- Specialty drugs  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

See applicable Outpatient  
prescription drug  
Copayment/Coinsurance

- Tobacco cessation drugs  
*(Not subject to medical or pharmacy Deductible)*

No Charge

**Supply Limit**

- Day supply limit
- Mail-order supply limit

30 days

\$20 Generic/\$70 Brand/\$120  
Non-Preferred

Up to 90 days

See Additional Provisions

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<b>Preventive Care Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Preventive care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult preventive care exams and screenings</li> <li>• Behavioral health screening</li> <li>• Well-woman care exams and screenings</li> <li>• Well-child care exams</li> <li>• Immunizations</li> </ul>	
Colorectal cancer screenings <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colonoscopies</li> <li>• Flexible sigmoidoscopies</li> </ul>	No Charge
Preventive Virtual Care Services <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Email</li> <li>• Chat with a doctor online via kp.org</li> <li>• Telephone</li> <li>• Video visits</li> </ul>	
Non-preventive covered Services received in conjunction with preventive care exam <i>(See "Office Services" or "Laboratory Services" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Office Services" or "Laboratory Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
<b>Reconstructive Surgery</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
<b>Reproductive Support Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Covered Services for diagnosis and treatment of infertility (including lab and X-ray) <i>(Not subject to Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
Intrauterine insemination (IUI) <i>(Not subject to Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
Gamete Intrafallopian Transfer (GIFT) <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
Zygote Intrafallopian Transfer (ZIFT) <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<b>Skilled Nursing Facility Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance Limited to 100 days per Accumulation Period

<b>Substance Use Disorder Services (formerly Chemical Dependency Services)</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Inpatient medical detoxification <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Inpatient professional Services for medical detoxification <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Outpatient individual therapy or intensive outpatient therapy <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance including partial hospitalization
Outpatient group therapy <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Residential rehabilitation <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance per inpatient admission
<b>Transplant Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(See "Office Services", "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services", or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Office Services", "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services", or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
<b>Vision Services and Optical</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Eye exams for treatment of injuries and/or diseases	See "Office Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
Routine eye exam when performed by an Optometrist	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members up to the end of the calendar year he/she turns age 19 <i>Visit: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: 20% Coinsurance Test: 20% Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members age 19 and over <i>Visit: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: 20% Coinsurance Test: 20% Coinsurance
Routine eye exam when performed by an Ophthalmologist	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members up to the end of the calendar year he/she turns age 19 <i>Visit: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: 20% Coinsurance Test: 20% Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members age 19 and over <i>Visit: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: 20% Coinsurance Test: 20% Coinsurance
Covered Services not otherwise listed in this Schedule of Benefits received during an office visit, a scheduled procedure visit, or provided by a Plan Medical Office <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Optical hardware	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members up to the end of the calendar year he/she turns age 19 <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members age 19 and over <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered

<b>X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Diagnostic laboratory Services <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Diagnostic X-ray Services <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Therapeutic X-ray Services <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
X-ray special procedures including but not limited to CT, PET, MRI, nuclear medicine <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diagnostic procedures include administered drugs.</li> <li>• Therapeutic procedures may incur an additional charge for administered drugs.</li> </ul> <i>(See "Office Services" for "Office-administered Drugs")</i>	

<b>Plus Benefit</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Maximum limit per Accumulation Period	Not Applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preventive care visits with a non-Plan Provider <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary care and allergy injection visits, hearing exams, outpatient mental health and substance use disorder individual therapy visits, and short-term outpatient physical, occupational, or speech therapy visits with a non-Plan Provider. Visits include phone or email virtual care Services. <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specialty and gynecology care visits, hearing exams, and allergy testing and evaluations with a non-Plan Provider. Visits include phone or email virtual care Services. <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Covered Services received during an office visit with a non-Plan Provider, allergy injections, durable medical equipment, diagnostic X-ray and laboratory Services, and implantable or injectable contraceptives. <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
Prescription Drug fill maximum per Accumulation Period	Not Applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outpatient prescription drugs filled at a non-Plan Pharmacy <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
Outpatient prescription drugs prescribed by a non-Plan Provider and filled at a Plan Pharmacy <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered

#### **IV. DEPENDENT LIMITING AGE**

The Dependent limiting age as described under Dependents in the "Eligibility" section of the EOC is the end of the month in which age 26 is reached. A Dependent child will continue to be eligible until the Dependent child reaches this age, if he or she continues to meet all other eligibility requirements. For additional information regarding eligible Dependents, including certain Dependents over the limiting age, please refer to the "Eligibility" section in the EOC.

#### **Additional Provisions**

Please see "Additional Provisions" for any supplemental information that applies to your coverage.





**CONTACT US**

**Appointments and Medical Advice (Advice Nurses) – Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week**

**CALL**      *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-338-4545** or toll-free **1-800-218-1059**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-800-218-1059**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **970-207-7171** or toll-free **1-800-218-1059**

**TTY**      **711**  
 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**Behavioral Health**

**CALL**      *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-471-7700**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-866-702-9026**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-866-359-8299**

**TTY**      **711**  
 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**Member Services**

**CALL**      *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-338-3800** or toll-free **1-800-632-9700**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-888-681-7878**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-844-201-5824**

**TTY**      **711**  
 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**FAX**      **303-338-3444**

**WRITE**      **Member Services**  
**Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado**  
**2500 South Havana Street**  
**Aurora, CO 80014-1622**

**WEBSITE**      [kp.org](http://kp.org)

**Appeals Program**

<b>CALL</b>	<b>303-344-7933</b> or toll free <b>1-888-370-9858</b>
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
<b>FAX</b>	<b>1-866-466-4042</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	<b>Appeals Program</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 378066</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-8066</b>

**Claims Department**

<b>CALL</b>	<i>Denver/Boulder</i> Members: <b>303-338-3600</b> or toll-free <b>1-800-382-4661</b> <i>Southern Colorado</i> Members: <b>1-888-681-7878</b> <i>Northern Colorado</i> Members: <b>1-800-382-4661</b>
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
<b>WRITE</b>	<i>Denver/Boulder</i> Members: <b>Claims Department</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 373150</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-3150</b>  <i>Southern Colorado</i> Members: <b>Claims Department</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 372910</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-6910</b>  <i>Northern Colorado</i> Members: <b>Claims Department</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 373150</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-3150</b>

**Membership Administration**

<b>WRITE</b>	<b>Membership Administration</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 203004</b> <b>Denver, CO 80220-9004</b>
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**Patient Financial Services**

**CALL** *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-743-5900**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-888-681-7878**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-844-201-5824**

**TTY** **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**WRITE** **Patient Financial Services**  
**Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado**  
**2500 South Havana Street, Suite 500**  
**Aurora, CO 80014-1622**

**Personal Physician Selection Services**

**CALL** *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-338-4477**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-855-208-7221**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-855-208-7221**

**TTY** **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**WEBSITE** [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations) for a list of providers and facilities

**Transplant Administrative Offices**

**CALL** **303-636-3131**

**TTY** **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.



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**ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS**





## I. ELIGIBILITY

### A. Who Is Eligible

#### 1. General

To be eligible to enroll and to remain enrolled in this health benefit plan, you must meet the following requirements:

- a. You must meet your Group's eligibility requirements that we have approved. Your Group is required to inform Subscribers of the Group's eligibility requirements; and
- b. You must also meet the Subscriber or Dependent eligibility requirements as described below; and
- c. The Subscriber must live or reside in our Service Area. Our Service Area is described in the "Definitions" section.

#### 2. Subscribers

You may be eligible to enroll as a Subscriber if you are entitled to Subscriber coverage under your Group's eligibility requirements. An example would be an employee of your Group who works at least the number of hours stated in those requirements.

#### 3. Dependents

If you are a Subscriber, the following persons may be eligible to enroll as your Dependents under this plan:

- a. Your Spouse. (Spouse includes a partner in a valid civil union under state law.)
- b. Your or your Spouse's children (including adopted children and children placed with you for adoption) who are under the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)."
- c. Other dependent persons (but not including foster children) who meet all of the following requirements:
  - i. They are under the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)"; and
  - ii. You or your Spouse is the court-appointed permanent legal guardian (or was before the person reached age 18).
- d. Your or your Spouse's unmarried children over the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" who are medically certified as disabled and dependent upon you or your Spouse are eligible to enroll or continue coverage as your Dependents if the following requirements are met:
  - i. They are dependent on you or your Spouse; and
  - ii. You give us proof of the Dependent's disability and dependency annually if we request it.
- e. Subscriber's designated beneficiary prescribed by Colorado law, if your employer elects to cover designated beneficiaries as dependents.

**Students on Medical Leave of Absence.** Dependent children who lose dependent student status at a postsecondary educational institution due to a Medically Necessary leave of absence may remain eligible for coverage until the earlier of (i) one year after the first day of the Medically Necessary leave of absence; or (ii) the date dependent coverage would otherwise terminate under this EOC. We must receive written certification by a treating physician of the dependent child which states 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.

If your plan has different eligibility requirements, please see "Additional Provisions."

#### 4. Health Savings Account Eligibility

Enrollment in a High Deductible Health Plan that is HSA-compatible is only one of the eligibility requirements for establishing and contributing to an HSA. Other requirements include that you must not be: (a) covered by another health coverage plan (for example, through your spouse's employer) that is not also an HSA-compatible health plan, with certain exceptions; (b) enrolled in Medicare; or (c) able to be claimed as a Dependent on another person's tax return. Consult your tax advisor for more information about your eligibility for an HSA.

### B. Enrollment and Effective Date of Coverage

Eligible people may enroll as follows, and membership begins at 12:00 a.m. on the membership effective date.

#### 1. New Employees and their Dependents

If you are a new employee, you may enroll yourself and any eligible Dependents by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application to your Group within 31 days after you become eligible. You should check with your Group to see when new employees become eligible. Your membership will become effective on the date specified by your Group.

#### 2. Members Who are Inpatient on Effective Date of Coverage

If you are an inpatient in a hospital or institution when your coverage with us becomes effective and you had other coverage when you were admitted, state law will determine whether we or your prior carrier will be responsible for payment for your care until your date of discharge.

3. Special Enrollment Due to Newly Acquired Dependents

You may enroll as a Subscriber (along with any eligible Dependents), and existing Subscribers may add eligible Dependents, by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application to your Group within 31 days after a Dependent becomes newly eligible.

The membership effective date for the Dependents (and, if applicable, the new Subscriber) will be:

- a. For newborn children, the moment of birth. Your newborn child is covered for the first 31 days following birth. This coverage is required by state law, whether or not you intend to add the newborn to this plan.

For existing Subscribers:

- i. If the addition of the newborn child to the Subscriber's coverage will change the amount the Subscriber is required to pay for that coverage, then the Subscriber, in order for the newborn to keep coverage beyond the first 31-day period of coverage, is required to: (A) pay the new amount due for coverage after the first 31-day period of coverage; and (B) notify Health Plan within 31 days of the newborn's birth.
- ii. If the addition of the newborn child to the Subscriber's coverage will not change the amount the Subscriber pays for coverage, the Subscriber must still notify Health Plan after the birth of the newborn to get the newborn enrolled onto the Subscriber's Health Plan coverage.

- b. For newly adopted children (including children newly placed for adoption), the date of the adoption or placement for adoption. An eligible adopted child must be enrolled within 31 days from the date the child is placed in your custody or the date of the final decree of adoption.

For existing Subscribers:

- i. If the addition of the newly adopted child to the Subscriber's coverage will change the amount the Subscriber is required to pay for that coverage, then the Subscriber, in order for the newly adopted child to continue coverage beyond the initial 31-day period of coverage, is required to (A) pay the new amount due for coverage after the initial 31-day period of coverage; and (B) notify Health Plan within 31 days of the child's adoption or placement for adoption.
- ii. If the addition of the newly adopted child to the Subscriber's coverage will not change the amount the Subscriber pays for coverage, the Subscriber must still notify Health Plan after the adoption or placement for adoption of the child to get the child enrolled onto the Subscriber's Health Plan coverage.

- c. For all other Dependents, if enrolled within 31 days of becoming eligible, no later than the first day of the month following the date your Group receives the enrollment application. Your Group will let you know the membership effective date. Employees and Dependents who are not enrolled when newly eligible must wait until the next open enrollment period to become Members of Health Plan, unless: (i) they enroll under special circumstances, as agreed to by your Group and Health Plan; or (ii) they enroll under the provisions described in "Special Enrollment".

4. Special Enrollment

You or your Dependent may experience a triggering event that allows a change in your enrollment. Examples of triggering events are the loss of coverage, a Dependent's aging off this plan, marriage, and birth of a child. The triggering event results in a special enrollment period that usually (but not always) starts on the date of the triggering event and lasts for 30 days. During the special enrollment period, you may enroll your Dependent(s) in this plan or, in certain circumstances, you may change plans (your plan choice may be limited). There are requirements that you must meet to take advantage of a special enrollment period including showing proof of your own or your Dependent's triggering event. To learn more about triggering events, special enrollment periods, how to enroll or change your plan (if permitted), timeframes for submitting information to Health Plan and other requirements, call **Member Services** to obtain a copy of Health Plan's *Special Enrollment Guide*.

5. Open Enrollment

You may enroll as a Subscriber (along with any eligible Dependents), and existing Subscribers may add eligible Dependents, by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application to your Group during the open enrollment period. Your Group will let you know when the open enrollment period begins and ends and the membership effective date.

6. Persons Barred from Enrolling

You cannot enroll if you have had your entitlement to receive Services through Health Plan terminated for cause.

## II. HOW TO ACCESS YOUR SERVICES AND OBTAIN APPROVAL OF BENEFITS

As a Member, you are selecting our medical care program to provide your health care. You must receive all covered Services from Plan Providers inside your home Service Area, except as described under the following headings:

- "Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)" in "Emergency Services and Urgent Care" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.

- “Urgent Care Outside the Service Area” in “Emergency Services and Urgent Care” in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.
- “Out-of-Area Benefit” in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.
- “Access to Other Providers” in this section.
- “Cross Market Access” in this section.
- “Visiting Other Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Areas” in this section.
- “Plus Benefit” if purchased by your Group. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if your Group has purchased this coverage.

Your home Service Area is printed on your Health Plan Identification (ID) card. For more information about your ID card, please refer to the “Using Your Health Plan Identification Card” section.

In some circumstances, you might receive emergency or non-emergency Services from a non-Plan Provider or non-Plan Facility. **Non-emergency Services from non-Plan Providers are not covered unless they are authorized by us.** If Services from a non-Plan Provider are authorized, the Deductible, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance for these authorized Services are the same as for covered Services received from a Plan Provider. You have the right and responsibility to request a Plan Provider to provide Services.

**Note:** *Denver/Boulder* Members do not have access to Affiliated Providers within the *Denver/Boulder* Service Area unless authorized by Health Plan. *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Members do have access to Affiliated Providers within their home Service Area.

## A. Your Primary Care Provider

Your primary care provider (PCP) plays an important role in coordinating your health care needs. This includes hospital stays and referrals to specialists. Every member of your family should have his or her own PCP.

### 1. Choosing Your Primary Care Provider

You may select a PCP from family medicine, pediatrics, or internal medicine within your home Service Area. You may also receive a second medical opinion from a Plan Physician upon request. Please refer to the “Second Opinions” section.

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

You may choose your PCP from our provider directory. To review a list of Plan Providers and their biographies, visit our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). You can also get a copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. To choose a PCP, sign in to your account online or call **Personal Physician Selection Services**. This team will help you choose a primary care provider, accepting new patients, based on your health care needs.

#### b. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

You must choose a PCP when you enroll. If you do not select a PCP upon enrollment, we will assign you one near your home.

Medical Group contracts with a panel of Affiliated Physicians, specialists, and other health care professionals to provide medical Services in the *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Service Areas. You may choose your PCP from our panel of *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* providers.

You can find these physicians, along with a list of affiliated specialists and ancillary providers, in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your specific home Service Area. You can review a list of *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Plan Providers by visiting our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). You can also get a copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. To choose a PCP, call **Personal Physician Selection Services**. This team will help you choose a primary care provider, accepting new patients, based on your health care needs.

If you are seeking routine or specialty care in *Denver/Boulder*, you must have a referral from your local PCP with an Authorization from Health Plan. If you do not have an Authorization, you will be billed for the full amount of the office visit Charges. If you are visiting in the *Denver/Boulder* Service Area and need urgent or emergency care, you can visit a *Denver/Boulder* Plan Facility without a referral. For a referral from a specialist, see the “Access to Other Providers” section. For care in *Denver/Boulder* Plan Medical Offices, see “Cross Market Access”.

### 2. Changing Your Primary Care Provider

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

Please call **Personal Physician Selection Services** to change your PCP. You may also change your PCP online or when visiting a Plan Facility. You may change your PCP at any time.

#### b. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

Please call **Personal Physician Selection Services** to change your PCP. Notify us of your new PCP choice by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month. Your selection will be effective on the first day of the following month.

## B. Access to Other Providers

### 1. Referrals and Authorizations

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

If your Medical Group physician decides that you need covered Services not available from us, he or she will request a referral for you to see a non-Medical Group physician inside or outside our Service Area. This referral request will result in an Authorization or a denial. However, there may be circumstances where Health Plan will partially authorize your provider's referral request.

An Authorization is a referral request that has received approval from Health Plan. An Authorization is limited to a specific Service, treatment or series of treatments, and period of time. The provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid. Copayments or Coinsurance for authorized Services are the same as those required for Services provided by a Medical Group physician.

An Authorization is required for Services provided by non-Plan Providers, non-Medical Group physicians, or non-Plan Facilities. If your provider refers you to a non-Medical Group physician, non-Plan Provider, or non-Plan Facility, inside or outside our Service Area, you must have a written Authorization in order for us to cover the Services.

All referral Services must be requested and authorized in advance. We will not pay for any care rendered by a provider unless the care is specifically authorized by Health Plan and approved in advance. A written or verbal recommendation by a provider that you get non-covered Services (whether Medically Necessary or not) is not considered an Authorization, and is **not** covered.

#### b. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

If your Medical Group physician decides that you need covered Services not available from us, he or she will request a referral for you to see a non-Medical Group physician inside or outside our Service Area. This referral request will result in an Authorization or a denial. However, there may be circumstances where Health Plan will partially authorize your provider's referral request.

An Authorization is a referral request that has received approval from Health Plan. An Authorization is limited to a specific Service, treatment or series of treatments, and period of time. The provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid. Copayments or Coinsurance for authorized Services are the same as those required for Services provided by a Medical Group physician.

An Authorization is required for Services provided by non-Plan Providers, non-Medical Group physicians, or non-Plan Facilities. If your provider refers you to a non-Medical Group physician, non-Plan Provider, or non-Plan Facility, inside or outside our Service Area, you must have a written Authorization in order for us to cover the Services.

All referral Services must be requested and authorized in advance. We will not pay for any care rendered by a provider unless the care is specifically authorized by Health Plan and approved in advance. A written or verbal recommendation by a provider that you get non-covered Services (whether Medically Necessary or not) is not considered an Authorization, and is **not** covered.

### 2. Specialty Self-Referrals

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

In some cases you can refer yourself for consultation (routine office) visits to specialty-care departments within Kaiser Permanente, with the exception of certain specialty-care departments such as the anesthesia clinical pain department. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to eye care services from a Plan Provider. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a Plan Provider who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology.

You will find specialty-care providers in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your home Service Area. The Provider Directory is available on our website, [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). If you need a printed copy of the Provider Directory, please call **Member Services**.

A self-referral provides coverage for routine office visits only. Certain Services other than those provided as part of a routine office visit will not be covered unless authorized by Kaiser Permanente before Services are rendered.

Authorization from Kaiser Permanente is required for: (i) Services in addition to those provided as part of the visit, such as surgery; and (ii) visits to specialty-care Plan Providers not eligible for self-referrals; and (iii) non-Plan Providers. The request for these Services can be generated by either your PCP or by a specialty-care provider. If the request is approved, the provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and

you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid.

A Plan Provider can directly refer you for some laboratory or radiology Services and for specialty procedures such as a CT scan or MRI. However, certain laboratory or radiology Services and specialty procedures will still require an Authorization.

b. **Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas**

In some cases you can refer yourself for consultation (routine office) visits to specialty-care departments within Kaiser Permanente, with the exception of certain specialty-care departments such as the anesthesia clinical pain department. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to eye care services from a Plan Provider. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a Plan Provider who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology.

You will find specialty-care providers in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your home Service Area. The Provider Directory is available on our website, [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). If you need a printed copy of the Provider Directory, please call **Member Services**.

A self-referral provides coverage for routine office visits only. Certain Services other than those provided as part of a routine office visit will not be covered unless authorized by Kaiser Permanente before Services are rendered.

Authorization from Kaiser Permanente is required for: (i) Services in addition to those provided as part of the visit, such as surgery; and (ii) visits to specialty-care Plan Providers not eligible for self-referrals; and (iii) non-Plan Providers. The request for these Services can be generated by either your PCP or by a specialty-care provider. If the request is approved, the provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid.

A Plan Provider can directly refer you for some laboratory or radiology Services and for specialty procedures such as a CT scan or MRI. However, certain laboratory or radiology Services and specialty procedures will still require an Authorization.

**Southern and Northern Colorado** Members may be able to self-refer to Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices in the **Denver/Boulder** Service Area (see "Cross Market Access" in this section).

3. **Second Opinions**

Upon request and subject to payment of any applicable Deductible, Copayments, and/or Coinsurance, you may get a second opinion from a Plan Physician about any proposed covered Services.

If the recommendations of the first and second physician differ regarding the need for surgery (or other major procedure), a third opinion may be covered if authorized by Health Plan. Third medical opinions are not covered unless authorized by Health Plan before Services are rendered.

**C. Plan Facilities**

Plan Facilities are Plan Medical Offices or Plan Hospitals in our Service Area that we contract with to provide covered Services to our Members.

1. **Denver/Boulder Service Area**

We offer health care at Plan Medical Offices conveniently located throughout the **Denver/Boulder** Service Area. At most of our Plan Facilities, you can usually receive all the covered Services you need. This includes specialized care. You are not restricted to a certain Plan Facility. We encourage you to use the Plan Facility in your home Service Area that will be most convenient for you.

Plan Facilities are listed in our provider directory, which we update regularly. You can get a current copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. You can also get a list of Plan Facilities on our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations).

2. **Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas**

When you select your PCP, you will receive your Services at that provider's office. You can find **Southern and Northern Colorado** Plan Physicians and their facilities, along with a list of affiliated specialists and ancillary providers, in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your specific home Service Area. You can get a copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. You can also get a list from our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations).

**D. Getting the Care You Need**

Emergency care is covered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week anywhere in the world. **If you think you have a Life or Limb Threatening Emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room.** For coverage information about emergency care, including out-of-Plan Emergency Services, and emergency benefits away from home, please refer to "Emergency Services" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.

If you need urgent care, you may use one of the designated urgent care Plan Facilities. The Copayment or Coinsurance for urgent care received in Plan Facilities listed in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” will apply. For additional information about urgent care, please refer to “Urgent Care” in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.

Urgent care received at a non-Plan Facility inside your Service Area is **not covered**. If you receive care for minor medical problems at non-Plan Facilities inside your Service Area, you will be responsible for payment for any treatment received.

There may be instances when you need to receive unauthorized urgent care outside your Service Area. Please see “Urgent Care” in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section for coverage information about urgent care Services outside the Service Area.

#### **E. Visiting Other Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Areas**

You may receive visiting member services from another Kaiser regional health plan as directed by that other plan so long as such services would be covered under this EOC. Kaiser regional health plan service areas may change at any time. Currently they are: the District of Columbia and parts of California, Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Maryland, Oregon, Virginia, and Washington. For more information, please call **Member Services**. Visiting member services shall be subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this EOC including but not limited to those pertaining to prior Authorization, Deductible, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance, as further described in the Visiting Member Brochure available online at [kp.org/travel](http://kp.org/travel). Certain services are not covered as visiting member services.

For more information about receiving visiting member services in other Kaiser regional health plan service areas, including 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).

#### **F. Moving Outside of our Service Area**

If you move to an area not within any Kaiser regional health plan service area, your membership may be terminated. We will provide you with thirty (30) days’ notice of termination which will include the reason for termination.

#### **G. Using Your Health Plan Identification Card**

Each Member is issued a Health Plan Identification (ID) card with a Health Record Number on it. This is useful when you call for advice, make an appointment, or go to a Plan Provider for care. The Health Record Number is used to identify your medical records and membership information. You should always have the same Health Record Number. Please call **Member Services** if: (1) we ever inadvertently issue you more than one Health Record Number; or (2) you need to replace your Health Plan ID card.

Your Health Plan ID card is for identification only. To receive covered Services, you must be a current Health Plan Member. Anyone who is not a Member will be billed as a non-Member for any Services we provide. In addition, claims for Emergency or non-emergency care Services from non-Plan Providers will be denied. If you let someone else use your Health Plan ID card, we may keep your card and terminate your membership upon 30 days written notice that will include the reason for termination.

When you receive Services, you will need to show photo identification along with your Health Plan ID card. This allows us to ensure proper identification and to better protect your coverage and medical information from fraud. If you suspect you or your membership is a victim of fraud, please call **Member Services** to report your concern.

#### **H. Cross Market Access**

Members may access certain Services at Kaiser Permanente Colorado Plan Medical Offices outside of their home Service Area.

1. **Denver/Boulder Members**

**Denver/Boulder** Members have access for certain Services at designated Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices in the **Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Service Areas. **Denver/Boulder** Members do not have access to Affiliated Providers in **Southern** and **Northern Colorado** unless authorized by Health Plan.

2. **Southern and Northern Colorado Members**

**Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Members have access for certain Services at any Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Office in the **Denver/Boulder**, **Southern**, and **Northern Colorado** Service Areas. **Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Members do not have access to Affiliated Providers outside their home Service Area unless authorized by Health Plan.

Services available to Members at Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices outside of their home Service Area include: primary care; specialty care; urgent care; pharmacy; laboratory; X-ray; vision; and hearing Services. These Services may not be available at all Plan Medical Offices and are subject to change. For more information on what Services you may access outside your designated home Service Area and at which Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices you may receive Services, please call **Member Services**.

### III. BENEFITS/COVERAGE (WHAT IS COVERED)

The Services described in this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section are covered only if all the following conditions are satisfied:

- The Services are Medically Necessary; and
- The Services are provided, prescribed, recommended, or directed by a Plan Provider. This does not apply where specifically noted to the contrary in the following sections of this EOC: (a) “Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)” and “Urgent Care Outside the Service Area” in “Emergency Services and Urgent Care”; and (b) “Out-of-Area Benefit”; and (c) “Plus Benefit” if purchased by your Group (see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if your Group has purchased this coverage); and
- You receive the Services from Plan Providers inside our Service Area. This does not apply where noted to the contrary in the following sections of this EOC: (a) “Referrals and Authorizations” and “Specialty Self-Referrals”; and (b) “Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)” and “Urgent Care Outside the Service Area” in “Emergency Services and Urgent Care”; and (c) “Out-of-Area Benefit”; and (d) “Visiting Other Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Areas”; and (e) “Plus Benefit” if purchased by your Group (see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if your Group has purchased this coverage); and
- Your provider has received prior Authorization for your Services, as appropriate; and
- You have met any Deductible requirements described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

Exclusions and limitations that apply only to a certain benefit are described in this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section. Exclusions, limitations, and reductions that apply to all benefits are described in the “Limitations/Exclusions (What is Not Covered)” section.

**Note:** Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance may apply to the benefits and are described below. For a complete list of Deductible, Copayment, and Coinsurance requirements, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” You are responsible for any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for Services performed as part of or in conjunction with other outpatient Services, including but not limited to: office visits, Emergency Services, urgent care, and outpatient surgery.

#### A. Office Services

##### Office Services for Preventive Care, Diagnosis, and Treatment

We cover, under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section and subject to any specific limitations, exclusions, or exceptions as noted throughout this EOC, the following office Services for preventive care, diagnosis, and treatment, including professional medical Services of physicians and other health care professionals in the physician’s office, during medical office consultations, in a Skilled Nursing Facility, or at home:

1. Primary care visits: Services from family medicine, internal medicine, and pediatrics.
2. Specialty care visits: Services from providers that are not primary care, as defined above.
3. Routine prenatal and postpartum visits: The routine prenatal benefit covers office exams, routine chemical urinalysis and fetal stress tests performed during the office visit. See the applicable section of your “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for the Copayment and/or Coinsurance for all other Services received during a prenatal visit.
4. Consultations with clinical pharmacists (*Denver/Boulder* Members only).
5. Other covered Services received during an office visit or a scheduled procedure visit.
6. Outpatient hospital clinic visits with an Authorization from Health Plan.
7. Blood, blood products, and their administration.
8. Second opinion.
9. House calls when care can best be provided in your home as determined by a Plan Physician.
10. Medical social Services.
11. Preventive care Services (see “Preventive Care Services” in this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section for more details).
12. Professional review and interpretation of patient data from a remote monitoring device.
13. Virtual care Services.
14. Office-administered drugs.

**Note:** If the following are administered in a Plan Medical Office or during home visits, and administration or observation by medical personnel is required, they are covered at the applicable office-administered drug Copayment or Coinsurance shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” This Copayment or Coinsurance may be in addition to your Office Services Copayment or Coinsurance.

Drugs and injectables; radioactive materials used for therapeutic purposes; vaccines and immunizations approved for use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA); and allergy test and treatment materials.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” If your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, you must meet Medical Group’s criteria to be eligible for coverage.

## B. Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services

### Outpatient Services at Designated Facilities

We cover, only as described under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section and subject to any specific limitations, exclusions, or exceptions as noted throughout this EOC, the following outpatient Services for diagnosis and treatment, including professional medical Services of physicians:

1. Outpatient surgery at designated Plan Facilities, including an ambulatory surgical center, surgical suite, or outpatient hospital facility. Kaiser Permanente applies Medicare global surgery guidelines in accordance with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).
2. Outpatient hospital Services at designated facilities, including but not limited to: electroencephalogram, sleep study, stress test, pulmonary function test, any treatment room, or any observation room. You may be charged an additional Copayment or Coinsurance for any Service which is listed as a separate benefit under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” If your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, you must meet Medical Group’s criteria to be eligible for coverage.

## C. Hospital Inpatient Care

### 1. Inpatient Services in a Plan Hospital

We cover, only as described under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section and subject to any specific limitations, exclusions or exceptions as noted throughout this EOC, the following inpatient Services in a Plan Hospital, when the Services are generally and customarily provided by acute care general hospitals in our Service Areas:

- a. Room and board, such as semiprivate accommodations or, when it is Medically Necessary, private accommodations or private duty nursing care.
- b. Intensive care and related hospital Services.
- c. Professional Services of physicians and other health care professionals during a hospital stay.
- d. General nursing care.
- e. Obstetrical care and delivery. This includes Cesarean section. If the covered stay for child birth ends after 8 p.m., coverage will be continued until 8 a.m. the following morning. **Note:** If you are discharged within 48 hours after delivery (or 96 hours if delivery is by Cesarean section), your Plan Physician may order a follow-up visit for you and your newborn to take place within 48 hours after discharge. Charges incurred by the newborn are subject to all Health Plan provisions. This includes the newborn’s own Deductible, Out-of-Pocket Maximum, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance requirements. This applies even if the newborn is covered only for the first 31 days that is required by state law.
- f. Meals and special diets.
- g. Other hospital Services and supplies, such as:
  - i. Operating, recovery, maternity, and other treatment rooms.
  - ii. Prescribed drugs and medicines.
  - iii. Diagnostic laboratory tests and X-rays.
  - iv. Blood, blood products and their administration.
  - v. Dressings, splints, casts, and sterile tray Services.
  - vi. Anesthetics, including nurse anesthetist Services.
  - vii. Medical supplies, appliances, medical equipment, including oxygen, and any covered items billed by a hospital for use at home.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” If your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, you must meet Medical Group’s criteria to be eligible for coverage.

### 2. Hospital Inpatient Care Exclusions

- a. Dental Services are excluded, except that we cover hospitalization and general anesthesia for dental Services provided to Members as required by state law.
- b. Cosmetic surgery related to bariatric surgery.

## D. Ambulance Services and Other Transportation

### 1. Coverage

We cover ambulance Services only if your condition requires the use of medical Services that only a licensed ambulance can provide. Kaiser Permanente applies Medicare guidelines for ambulance Services in accordance with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).



2. Ambulance Services Exclusions

- a. Non-emergency routine ambulance services to home or other non-acute health care setting are not covered.
- b. Transportation by other than a licensed ambulance is not covered. Transportation by car, taxi, bus, gurney van, minivan, or any other type of transportation is not covered, even if it is the only way to travel to a Plan Provider.

**Note:** Health Plan will cover certain non-emergent, non-ambulance transportation when there is prior Authorization by Health Plan.

## E. Clinical Trials

**Note:** We cover the initial evaluation for eligibility and acceptance into a clinical trial only if authorized by Health Plan.

1. Coverage (applies to non-grandfathered health plans only)

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

- a. We would have covered the Services if they were not related to a clinical trial.
- b. You are eligible to participate in the clinical trial according to the trial protocol with respect to treatment of cancer or other life-threatening condition (a condition from which the likelihood of death is probable unless the course of the condition is interrupted), as determined in one of the following ways:
  - i. A Plan Provider makes this determination.
  - ii. You provide us with medical and scientific information establishing this determination.
- c. If any Plan 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 Plan Provider unless the clinical trial is outside the state where you live.
- d. The clinical trial is a phase I, phase II, phase III, or phase IV clinical trial related to the prevention, detection, or treatment of cancer or other life-threatening condition and it meets one of the following requirements:
  - i. The study or investigation is conducted under an investigational new drug application reviewed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
  - ii. The study or investigation is a drug trial that is exempt from having an investigational new drug application.
  - iii. The study or investigation is approved or funded by at least one of the following:
    - (a) The National Institutes of Health.
    - (b) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
    - (c) The Agency for Health Care Research and Quality.
    - (d) The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.
    - (e) A cooperative group or center of any of the above entities or of the Department of Defense or the Department of Veterans Affairs.
    - (f) A qualified non-governmental research entity identified in the guidelines issued by the National Institutes of Health for center support grants.
    - (g) 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:
      - (i) It is comparable to the National Institutes of Health system of peer review of studies and investigations.
      - (ii) 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 applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” that you would pay if the Services were not related to a clinical trial. For example, see “Hospital Inpatient Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for the Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible that apply to hospital inpatient care.

2. Clinical Trials Exclusions

- a. The investigational Service.
- b. Services provided solely for data collection and analysis and that are not used in your direct clinical management.

## F. Dialysis Care

We cover dialysis Services related to acute renal failure and end-stage renal disease if the following criteria are met:

1. The Services are provided inside our Service Area; and
2. You meet all medical criteria developed by Medical Group and by the facility providing the dialysis; and
3. The facility is certified by Medicare and contracts with Health Plan; and
4. A Plan Physician provides a written referral for care at the facility.

After the referral to a dialysis facility, we cover: equipment; training; and medical supplies required for home dialysis. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

## G. Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Prosthetics and Orthotics

We cover DME and prosthetics and orthotics, when prescribed by a Plan Physician as described below; when prescribed by a Plan Physician during a covered stay in a Skilled Nursing Facility, but only if Skilled Nursing Facilities ordinarily furnish the DME or prosthetics and orthotics.

Health Plan uses Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) and National Coverage Determinations (NCD) (hereinafter referred to as Medicare Guidelines) for our DME, prosthetic, and orthotic formulary guidelines. These are guidelines only. Health Plan reserves the right to exclude items listed in the Medicare Guidelines. Please note that this EOC may contain some, but not all, of these exclusions.

**Limitations:** Coverage is limited to the standard item of DME, prosthetic device, or orthotic device that adequately meets your medical needs.

### 1. Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

#### a. Coverage

DME, with the exception of the following, is **not** covered unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for DME, including prosthetic and orthotic devices. See “Additional Provisions.”

- i. Oxygen dispensing equipment and oxygen used in your home are covered. Oxygen refills are covered while you are temporarily outside the Service Area. To qualify for coverage, you must have a pre-existing oxygen order and must obtain your oxygen from the vendor designated by Health Plan.
- ii. Insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iii. Infant apnea monitors are provided.
- iv. Enteral nutrition, medical foods, and related feeding equipment and supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.

#### b. Durable Medical Equipment Exclusions

- i. All other DME not described above, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for DME. See “Additional Provisions.”
- ii. Replacement of lost or stolen equipment.
- iii. Repair, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.
- iv. Spare equipment or alternate use equipment.
- v. More than one piece of DME serving essentially the same function, except for replacements.

### 2. Prosthetic Devices

#### a. Coverage

We cover the following prosthetic devices, including repairs, adjustments, and replacements other than those necessitated by misuse, theft, or loss, when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan:

- i. Internally implanted devices for functional purposes, such as pacemakers and hip joints.
- ii. Prosthetic devices for Members who have had a mastectomy. Medical Group or Health Plan will designate the source from which external prostheses can be obtained. Replacement will be made when a prosthesis is no longer functional. Custom-made prostheses will be provided when necessary.
- iii. Prosthetic devices, such as obturators and speech and feeding appliances, required for treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iv. Prosthetic devices intended to replace, in whole or in part, an arm or leg when prescribed by a Plan Physician, as Medically Necessary and provided in accordance with this EOC, including repairs and replacements of such prosthetic devices.

Your Group may have purchased additional coverage for prosthetic devices. See “Additional Provisions.”

#### b. Prosthetic Devices Exclusions

- i. All other prosthetic devices not described above, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for prosthetic devices. See “Additional Provisions.” Your Plan Physician can provide the Services necessary to determine your need for prosthetic devices and help you make arrangements to obtain such devices at a reasonable rate.
- ii. Internally implanted devices, equipment, and prosthetics related to treatment of sexual dysfunction, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for this benefit.

### 3. Orthotic Devices

Orthotic devices are **not** covered unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for DME, including prosthetic and orthotic devices. See “Additional Provisions.”

## H. Early Childhood Intervention Services

### 1. Coverage

Covered children, from birth up to age three (3), who have significant delays in development or have a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in significant delays in development as defined by state law, are covered for the number of Early Intervention Services (EIS) visits as required by state law. EIS are subject to the Deductible and apply toward the Out-of-Pocket Maximum. EIS are not subject to any Copayments or Coinsurance.

**Note:** You may be billed for any EIS received after the number of visits required by state law is satisfied.

### 2. Limitations

The number of visits as required by state law does not apply to:

- a. Rehabilitation or therapeutic Services which are necessary as the result of an acute medical condition or post-surgical rehabilitation;
- b. Services provided to a child who is not an eligible child and whose services are not provided pursuant to an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP); and
- c. Assistive technology covered by the durable medical equipment benefit provisions of this EOC.

### 3. Early Childhood Intervention Services Exclusions

- a. Respite care;
- b. Non-emergency medical transportation;
- c. Service coordination other than case management services; or
- d. Assistive technology, not to include durable medical equipment that is otherwise covered under this EOC.

## I. Emergency Services and Urgent Care

### 1. Emergency Services

Emergency Services are available at all times - 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK. If you have an Emergency Medical Condition or mental health emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest hospital emergency department. You do not need prior Authorization for Emergency Services. When you have an Emergency Medical Condition, we cover Emergency Services you receive from Plan Providers and non-Plan Providers anywhere in the world, as long as the Services would have been covered under your plan if you had received them from Plan Providers. For information about emergency benefits away from home, please call **Member Services**.

You will pay your plan's Deductible, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance for covered Emergency Services, regardless of whether the Services are provided by a Plan Provider or a non-Plan Provider.

Please note that in addition to any Copayment or Coinsurance that applies under this section, you may incur additional Copayment or Coinsurance amounts for Services and procedures covered under other sections of this EOC.

#### a. **Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)**

“Out-of-Plan Emergency Services” are Emergency Services that are not provided by a Plan Physician. There may be times when you or a family member may receive Emergency Services from non-Plan Providers. The patient's medical condition may be so critical that you cannot call or come to one of our Plan Medical Offices or the emergency room of a Plan Hospital, or, the patient may need Emergency Services while traveling outside our Service Area.

**Please refer to “ii. Emergency Services Limitation for non-Plan Providers” if you are hospitalized for Emergency Services.**

#### i. We cover out-of-Plan Emergency Services as follows:

- A. Outside our Service Area. If you are injured or become unexpectedly ill while you are outside our Service Area, we will cover out-of-Plan Emergency Services that could not reasonably be delayed until you could get to a Plan Hospital, a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, or a Plan Facility, only if a prudent layperson having average knowledge of health services and medicine and acting reasonably would have believed that an Emergency Medical Condition or Life or Limb Threatening Emergency existed. Covered benefits include Medically Necessary out-of-Plan Emergency Services for conditions that arise unexpectedly, including but not limited to myocardial infarction, appendicitis, or premature delivery.
- B. Inside our Service Area. If you are inside our Service Area, we will cover out-of-Plan Emergency Services only if a prudent layperson would have reasonably believed that the delay in going to a Plan Hospital, a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, or a Plan Facility for treatment would result in death or serious impairment of health.

#### ii. Emergency Services Limitation for non-Plan Providers

If you are admitted to a non-Plan Hospital, non-Plan Facility, or a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, you or someone on your behalf must notify us within 24 hours, or as soon as reasonably possible. Please call the **Telephonic Medicine Center at 303-743-5763**.

We will decide whether to make arrangements for necessary continued care where you are, or to transfer you to a Plan Facility we designate once you are Stabilized. If you are admitted to a non-Plan Hospital, non-Plan Facility, or a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, we may transfer you to a Plan Hospital or Plan Facility. By notifying us of your hospitalization as soon as possible, you will protect yourself from potential liability for payment for Services you receive after transfer to one of our Plan Facilities would have been possible.

b. Emergency Services Limitations

Continuing or follow-up treatment: We cover only the Emergency Services that are required before you could have been moved to a Plan Facility we designate either inside or outside our Service Area. If you are admitted to a Plan Facility, we may transfer you to another Plan Facility. When approved by Health Plan, we will cover ambulance Services or other transportation Medically Necessary to move you to a designated Plan Facility for continuing or follow-up treatment.

c. Payment

Our payment is reduced by:

- i. any applicable Copayment and/or Coinsurance for Emergency Services and X-ray special procedures performed in the emergency room. The emergency room and X-ray special procedures Copayments, if applicable, are waived if you are admitted directly to the hospital as an inpatient; and
- ii. the Copayment or Coinsurance for ambulance Services, if any; and
- iii. coordination of benefits; and
- iv. all amounts paid or payable, or which in the absence of this EOC would be payable, for the Services in question, under any insurance policy or contract, or any other contract, or any government program except Medicaid; and
- v. amounts you or your legal representative recover from motor vehicle insurance or because of third-party liability.

**Note:** If you receive out-of-Plan Emergency Services, our payment is also reduced by any other payments you would have had to make if you received the same Services from our Plan Providers. The procedure for receiving reimbursement for out-of-Plan Emergency Services is described in the “Appeals and Complaints” section regarding “Post-Service Claims and Appeals.”

**Note:** As part of an emergent care episode, Medically Necessary DME and prosthetics and orthotics following Stabilization will be covered if authorized by Health Plan.

2. Urgent Care

a. Urgent Care Provided by Plan Providers

i. Denver/Boulder Service Area

Urgent care Services are Services that are not Emergency Services, are required to prevent serious deterioration of your health, and that are required as a result of an unforeseen illness, injury, or condition.

Urgent care that cannot wait for a scheduled visit with your PCP or specialist can be received at one of our designated urgent care Plan Facilities. In some circumstances, you may be able to receive care in your home. For Copayment and Coinsurance information, see “Urgent Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. For information regarding the designated urgent care Plan Facilities, please call **Member Services** during normal business hours. You can also go to our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org), for information on designated urgent care facilities.

You may call **Advice Nurses** at any time, and one of our advice nurses can speak with you. Our advice nurses are registered nurses (RNs) specially trained to help assess medical symptoms and provide advice over the phone, when medically appropriate. They can often answer questions about a minor concern or advise you about what to do next, including making an appointment for you if appropriate.

ii. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

Urgent care Services are Services that are not Emergency Services, are required to prevent serious deterioration of your health, and that are required as a result of an unforeseen illness, injury, or condition.

Urgent care that cannot wait for a scheduled visit with your PCP or specialist can be received at one of our designated urgent care Plan Facilities. In some circumstances, you may be able to receive care in your home. For Copayment and Coinsurance information, see “Urgent Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. For information regarding the designated urgent care Plan Facilities, please call **Member Services** during normal business hours. You can also go to our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org), for information on designated urgent care facilities.

You may call **Advice Nurses** at any time, and one of our advice nurses can speak with you. Our advice nurses are registered nurses (RNs) specially trained to help assess medical symptoms and provide advice over the phone, when medically appropriate. They can often answer questions about a minor concern or advise you about what to do next, including making an appointment for you if appropriate.

b. Urgent Care Outside the Service Area

There may be situations when it is necessary for you to receive unauthorized urgent care outside your Service Area. Urgent care received from non-Plan Providers outside your Service Area is covered only if all of the following requirements are met:

- i. The care is required to prevent serious deterioration of your health; and
- ii. The need for care results from an unforeseen illness or injury when you are temporarily away from our Service Area; and
- iii. The care cannot be delayed until you return to our Service Area.

**Note:** If you receive urgent care outside the Service Area, you may be responsible for any amounts over eligible Charges, in addition to any Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance. The procedure for receiving reimbursement for urgent care Services outside the Service Area is described in the “Appeals and Complaints” section regarding “Post-Service Claims and Appeals.”

**Note:** As part of an urgent care episode, Medically Necessary DME and prosthetics and orthotics following Stabilization will be covered if authorized by Health Plan.

**J. Family Planning and Sterilization Services**

1. Coverage

- a. Family planning counseling. This includes counseling and information on birth control.
- b. Tubal ligations.
- c. Vasectomies.

**Note:** The following are covered, but not under this section: diagnostic procedures, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”; contraceptive drugs and devices, see the “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements” section.

2. Family Planning and Sterilization Services Exclusions

- a. Any and all Services to reverse voluntary, surgically induced sterilization.
- b. Acupuncture for the treatment of infertility.
- c. Donor semen or eggs.
- d. Any and all Services, supplies, office administered drugs and prescription drugs related to the procurement and/or storage of semen and/or eggs.
- e. Any and all Services, supplies, office administered drugs and prescription drugs received from the pharmacy that are related to intrauterine insemination or conception by artificial means. This includes, but is not limited to: in vitro fertilization, ovum transplants, gamete intra fallopian transfer, and zygote intra fallopian transfer.

**Note:** See “Additional Provisions” for additional coverage or exclusions, if applicable to your Group.

**K. Health Education Services**

We provide health education appointments to support understanding of chronic diseases such as diabetes and hypertension. We also teach self-care on topics such as stress management and nutrition.

**L. Hearing Services**

1. Members up to Age 18

We cover hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction. For minor children with a verified hearing loss, coverage shall also include:

- a. Initial hearing aids and replacement hearing aids not more frequently than every five (5) years;
- b. A new hearing aid when alterations to the existing hearing aid cannot adequately meet the needs of the child; and
- c. Services and supplies including, but not limited to, the initial assessment, fitting, adjustments, and auditory training that is provided according to accepted professional standards.

2. Members Age 18 Years and Older

a. Coverage

We cover hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction. Your Group may have purchased additional coverage for hearing aids. See “Additional Provisions.”

b. Hearing Services Exclusions

- i. Tests to determine an appropriate hearing aid model, unless your Group has purchased that coverage.
- ii. Hearing aids and tests to determine their usefulness, unless your Group has purchased that coverage.

**M. Home Health Care**

1. Coverage

We cover skilled nursing care, home health aide Services, home infusion therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, and medical social Services:

- a. only on a Part-Time or Intermittent Care basis; and
- b. only within our Service Area; and
- c. only to an eligible Member when ordered by a Plan Physician and either self-administered or administered by a Plan Provider. Care must be provided under a home health care plan established by the Plan Physician and the approved Plan Provider; and
- d. only if a Plan Physician determines that it is feasible to maintain effective supervision and control of your care in your home.

Part-Time Care or Intermittent Care means part-time or intermittent skilled nursing and home health aide Services.

**Note:** Services that are performed in the home, but that do not meet the Home Health Care requirements above, will be covered at the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance and limits for the Service performed (e.g. urgent care, physical, occupational, and/or speech therapy). See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”.

**Note:** X-ray, laboratory, and X-ray special procedures are not covered under this section. See “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”.

2. Home Health Care Exclusions

- a. Custodial care.
- b. Homemaker Services.
- c. Care that Medical Group determines may be appropriately provided in a Plan Facility or Skilled Nursing Facility, if we offer to provide that care in one of these facilities.

**N. Hospice Special Services and Hospice Care**

1. Hospice Special Services

If you have been diagnosed with a life limiting illness with a life expectancy of 24 months or less, but are not yet ready to elect hospice care, you are eligible for Hospice Special Services. Coverage of hospice care is described below.

Hospice Special Services give you and your family time to become more familiar with hospice-type Services and to decide what is best for you. It helps you bridge the gap between your diagnosis and preparing for the end of life.

The difference between Hospice Special Services and regular Home Health Care visiting nurse visits is that: you may or may not be homebound or have skilled nursing care needs; or you may only require spiritual or emotional care. Services available through this program are provided by professionals with specific training in end-of-life issues.

2. Hospice Care

We cover hospice care for terminally ill Members inside our Service Area. If a Plan Physician diagnoses you with a terminal illness and determines that your life expectancy is six (6) months or less, you can choose hospice care instead of traditional Services otherwise provided for your illness.

If you elect to receive hospice care, you will not receive **additional** benefits for the terminal illness. However, you can continue to receive Health Plan benefits for conditions other than the terminal illness.

We cover the following Services and other benefits when: (1) prescribed by a Plan Physician and the hospice care team; and (2) received from a licensed hospice approved, in writing, by Kaiser Permanente:

- a. Physician care.
- b. Nursing care.
- c. Physical, occupational, speech, and respiratory therapy.
- d. Medical social Services.
- e. Home health aide and homemaker Services.
- f. Medical supplies, drugs, biologicals, and appliances.
- g. Palliative drugs in accordance with our drug formulary guidelines.
- h. Short-term inpatient care including respite care, care for pain control, and acute and chronic pain management.
- i. Counseling and bereavement Services.
- j. Services of volunteers.

**O. Mental Health Services**

1. Coverage

We cover mental health Services as shown below. Coverage includes evaluation and Services for conditions which, in the judgment of a Plan Physician, would respond to therapeutic management. Mental health includes but is not limited to biologically based illnesses or disorders.

a. Outpatient Therapy

We cover: diagnostic evaluation; individual therapy; intensive outpatient therapy; psychiatric treatment; crisis intervention and stabilization for acute episodes; and psychiatrically oriented child and teenage guidance counseling.

Visits for the purpose of monitoring drug therapy are covered.

Psychological testing as part of diagnostic evaluation is covered.

b. Inpatient Services

We cover psychiatric hospitalization in a facility designated by Medical Group or Health Plan. Hospital Services for psychiatric conditions include all Services of Plan Physicians and mental health professionals and the following Services and supplies as prescribed by a Plan Physician while you are a registered bed patient: room and board; psychiatric nursing care; group therapy; electroconvulsive therapy; occupational therapy; drug therapy; and medical supplies.

Separate Coinsurance applies to Services of Plan Physicians and mental health professionals.

c. Partial Hospitalization

We cover partial hospitalization in a Plan Hospital-based program.

We cover mental health Services, whether they are voluntary or are court-ordered as a result of contact with the criminal justice or juvenile justice system, when they are Medically Necessary and otherwise covered under the plan, and when rendered by a Plan Provider. We do not cover court-ordered treatment that exceeds the scope of coverage of this health benefit plan.

2. Mental Health Services Exclusions

- a. Evaluations for any purpose other than mental health treatment. This includes evaluations for: child custody; disability; or fitness for duty/return to work, unless Medically Necessary.
- b. Court-ordered testing and testing for ability, aptitude, intelligence, or interest.
- c. Services which are custodial or residential in nature.

**P. Out-of-Area Benefit**

A limited benefit is available to Dependents, up to the age of 26, receiving care outside any Kaiser regional health plan service area.

1. Coverage

The Out-of-Area Benefit is limited to certain office visits, diagnostic X-rays, physical, occupational, and speech therapy, and prescription drug fills as covered under this EOC:

- a. Office visit exam limited to:
  - i. Primary care visit.
  - ii. Specialty care visit.
  - iii. Preventive care visit.
  - iv. Gynecology care visit.
  - v. Hearing exam.
  - vi. Mental health visit.
  - vii. Substance use disorder visit.
  - viii. The administration of allergy injections.
  - ix. Prevention immunizations pursuant to the schedule established by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).
- b. Diagnostic X-rays.
- c. Physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits.
- d. Prescription drug fills.

See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for more details.

2. Out-of-Area Benefit Exclusions and Limitations

The Out-of-Area Benefit does not include the following Services:

- a. Other Services provided during a covered office visit such as, but not limited to: procedures, laboratory tests, and office administered drugs and devices, except for allergy injections and prevention immunizations as listed in the “Coverage” section of this benefit.
- b. Services received outside the United States.
- c. Transplant Services.
- d. Services covered outside the Service Area under another section of this EOC (e.g., Emergency Services and Urgent Care).

- e. Allergy evaluation, routine prenatal and postpartum visits, chiropractic care, acupuncture services, applied behavior analysis (ABA), hearing tests, hearing aids, home health visits, hospice services, and travel immunizations.
- f. X-ray special procedures, including but not limited to CT, PET, MRI, nuclear medicine.
- g. Any and all Services not listed in the “Coverage” section of this benefit.

## Q. Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy and Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services

### 1. Coverage

#### a. Hospital Inpatient Care, Care in a Skilled Nursing Facility, and Home Health Care

We cover physical, occupational, and speech therapy as part of your Hospital Inpatient Care, Skilled Nursing Facility, and Home Health Care benefit. Therapies that are performed in the home, but that do not meet the Home Health Care requirements, will be covered at the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance and limits for the therapy performed (i.e., physical, occupational, and/or speech). See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”.

#### b. Outpatient Care

We cover three (3) types of outpatient therapy (i.e., physical, occupational, and speech therapy) in a Plan Facility or other location approved by Health Plan, to improve or develop skills or functioning due to medical deficits, illness, or injury. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

#### c. Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services

We will cover treatment in an organized, multidisciplinary rehabilitation Services program in a designated facility or a Skilled Nursing Facility. After your Deductible has been met, we also cover multidisciplinary rehabilitation Services while you are an inpatient in a designated facility. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

#### d. Pulmonary Rehabilitation

We cover treatment in a pulmonary rehabilitation program if prescribed or recommended by a Plan Physician and provided by therapists at designated facilities. After your Deductible has been met, you pay the applicable physical, occupational and speech therapy Coinsurance.

#### e. Therapies for Congenital Defects and Birth Abnormalities

After the first 31 days of life, the limitations and exclusions applicable to this EOC apply, except that Medically Necessary physical, occupational, and speech therapy for the care and treatment of congenital defects and birth abnormalities for covered children from age three (3) to age six (6) shall be provided. The benefit level shall be the greater of the number of such visits provided under this health benefit plan or 20 therapy visits per Accumulation Period for each physical, occupational, and speech therapy. Such visits shall be distributed as Medically Necessary throughout the Accumulation Period without regard to whether the condition is acute or chronic and without regard to whether the purpose of the therapy is to maintain or improve functional capacity. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**Note 1:** This benefit is also available for eligible children under the age of three (3) who are not participating in Early Intervention Services.

**Note 2:** The visit limit for therapy to treat congenital defects and birth abnormalities is not applicable if such therapy is Medically Necessary to treat autism spectrum disorders.

#### f. Therapies for the Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders

For the treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders when prescribed by a Plan Physician and Medically Necessary, we cover:

- i. Outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy in a Plan Medical Office or other location approved by Health Plan. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”
- ii. Applied behavior analysis, including consultations, direct care, supervision, or treatment, or any combination thereof by autism services providers. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

### 2. Limitations

Occupational therapy is limited to treatment to achieve improved self-care and other customary activities of daily living.

### 3. Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy and Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services Exclusions

- a. Long-term rehabilitation, not including treatment for autism spectrum disorders.
- b. Speech therapy that is not Medically Necessary, such as: (i) therapy for educational placement or other educational purposes; or (ii) training or therapy to improve articulation in the absence of injury, illness, or medical condition affecting articulation; or (iii) therapy for tongue thrust in the absence of swallowing problems.

## R. Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements

We use drug formularies. A drug formulary includes the list of prescription drugs that have been approved by our formulary committees for our Members. Our committees are comprised of Plan Physicians, pharmacists, and a nurse practitioner. The committees select prescription drugs for our drug formularies based on a number of factors, including safety and effectiveness as determined from a review of medical literature and research. The committees meet regularly to consider adding and removing



prescription drugs on the drug formularies. If you would like information about whether a particular drug is included in our drug formularies, please call **Member Services**.

In any Accumulation Period, you must pay full Charges for all drugs until you meet your Deductible. After you meet your Deductible, you pay the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for these drugs for the rest of the Accumulation Period, subject to the annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum limits.

If your prescription drug has a Copayment shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” and it exceeds the Charges for your prescribed medication, then you pay Charges for the medication instead of the Copayment. The drug formulary, discussed above, also applies.

## 1. Coverage

### a. Limited Drug Coverage Under Your Basic Drug Benefit

If your Group has not purchased supplemental prescription drug coverage, then prescribed drug coverage under your basic drug benefit is limited. It includes base drugs such as: contraceptives; orally administered anti-cancer medication; and post-surgical immunosuppressive drugs required after a transplant. These drugs are available only when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies. You may obtain these drugs at the Copayment or Coinsurance shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” The amount covered cannot exceed the day supply for each maintenance drug or up to the day supply for each non-maintenance drug. Any amount you receive that exceeds the day supply will not be covered. If you receive more than the day supply, you will be charged as a non-Member for any amount that exceeds that limit. Each prescription refill is provided on the same basis as the original prescription.

If your Group has purchased supplemental prescription drug coverage, the applicable generic or brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance and any pharmacy Deductible apply for these types of drugs. For more information, please refer to the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**Note:** Kaiser Permanente may, in its sole discretion, establish quantity limits for specific prescription drugs, regardless of whether your Group has limited or supplemental prescription drug coverage.

#### i. We cover:

##### (a) prescription contraceptives intended to last:

- (i) for a three-month period the first time the prescription contraceptive is dispensed to the covered person; and
- (ii) for a twelve-month period or through the end of the covered person’s coverage under the policy, contract, or plan, whichever is shorter, for any subsequent dispensing of the same prescription contraceptive to the covered person, regardless of whether the covered person was enrolled in the policy, contract, or plan at the time the prescription contraceptive was first dispensed; or

##### (b) a prescribed vaginal contraceptive ring intended to last for a three-month period.

For Copayment or Coinsurance information related to contraceptive drugs and certain devices, please refer to your “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

#### ii. We cover a five-day supply of an FDA-approved drug for the treatment of opioid dependence without prior authorization, except that the drug supply is limited to a first request within a twelve-month period.

### b. Outpatient Prescription Drugs

Unless your Group has purchased additional outpatient prescription drug coverage, we do not cover outpatient drugs except as provided in other provisions of this “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements” section. If your Group has purchased additional coverage for outpatient prescription drugs, see “Additional Provisions.” The drug formulary, discussed above, also applies.

#### i. Prescriptions by Mail

If requested, refills of maintenance drugs will be mailed through Kaiser Permanente’s mail-order prescription service by First-Class U.S. Mail with no charge for postage and handling. Refills of maintenance drugs prescribed by Plan Physicians or Affiliated Physicians may be obtained for up to the day supply by mail order at the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance. Maintenance drugs are determined by Health Plan. Certain drugs and supplies may not be available through our mail-order service, for example, drugs that require special handling or refrigeration, have a significant potential for waste or diversion, or are high cost. Drugs and supplies available through our mail-order prescription service are subject to change at any time without notice. For information regarding our mail-order prescription service and specialty drugs not available by mail order, please call **Member Services**.

#### ii. Specialty Drugs

Prescribed specialty drugs, including self-administered injectable drugs, are provided at the specialty drug Copayment or Coinsurance up to the maximum amount per drug dispensed shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

c. Food Supplements

We cover prescribed amino acid modified products used in the treatment of congenital errors of amino acid metabolism and severe protein allergic conditions, elemental enteral nutrition, and parenteral nutrition. Such products are covered for self-administered use upon payment of a \$3.00 Copayment per product, per day. Food products for enteral feedings are not covered.

d. Prescribed Supplies and Accessories

Prescribed supplies and accessories, when obtained at Plan Pharmacies or from sources designated by Health Plan, will be provided. Such items include, but may not be limited to:

- i. home glucose monitoring supplies.
- ii. disposable syringes for the administration of insulin.
- iii. glucose test strips.
- iv. acetone test tablets and nitrate screening test strips for pediatric patient home use.

For more information, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What),” and, if your Group has purchased supplemental prescription drug coverage, see “Additional Provisions.”

2. Limitations

- a. Adult and pediatric immunizations are limited to those that are not experimental, are medically indicated and are consistent with accepted medical practice.
- b. Some drugs may require prior authorization.
- c. If applicable, we may apply Step Therapy to certain drugs. You or your Plan Provider may request an exception if you previously tried a drug and your use of the drug was discontinued due to lack of efficacy or effectiveness, diminished effect, or an adverse event.
- d. Coverage determinations for the off-label use of medications will be consistent with Medicare compendia, and coverage determinations for the off-label use of oncologic agents will be consistent with the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) of 2008.

3. Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements Exclusions

- a. Drugs for which a prescription is not required by law.
- b. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze, tape, antiseptics, dressing and ace-type bandages.
- c. Drugs or injections for treatment of sexual dysfunction, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage, which is described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”
- d. Any packaging except the dispensing pharmacy’s standard packaging.
- e. Replacement of prescription drugs for any reason. This includes spilled, lost, damaged, or stolen prescriptions.
- f. Drugs or injections for the treatment of infertility, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage, which is described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” and “Additional Provisions”.
- g. Drugs to shorten the length of the common cold.
- h. Drugs to enhance athletic performance.
- i. Drugs for the treatment of weight control.
- j. Drugs available over the counter and by prescription for the same strength.
- k. Individual drugs determined excluded by our Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.
- l. Unless approved by Health Plan, drugs not approved by the FDA.
- m. Non-preferred drugs, except those prescribed and authorized through the non-preferred drug process.
- n. Prescription drugs necessary for Services excluded under this EOC.
- o. Drugs administered during a medical office visit. See “Office Services”.
- p. Medical Foods and Medical Devices. See “Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Prosthetics and Orthotics”.

**S. Preventive Care Services**

If your plan has a different preventive care Services benefit, please see “Additional Provisions.”

We cover certain preventive care Services that do one or more of the following:

- 1. Protect against disease;
- 2. Promote health; and/or
- 3. Detect disease in its earliest stages before noticeable symptoms develop.

If you receive any other covered Services during a preventive care visit, you may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, and Coinsurance for those Services.

**T. Reconstructive Surgery**1. Coverage

We cover reconstructive surgery when it: (a) will correct significant disfigurement resulting from an injury or Medically Necessary surgery; or (b) will correct a congenital defect, disease, or anomaly to produce major improvement in physical function; or (c) will treat congenital hemangioma and port wine stains. Following Medically Necessary removal of all or part of a breast, we also cover reconstruction of the breast, surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance, and treatment of physical complications, including lymphedemas. An Authorization is required for all types of reconstructive surgeries.

2. Reconstructive Surgery Exclusions

Plastic surgery or other cosmetic Services and supplies primarily to change your appearance. This includes cosmetic surgery related to bariatric surgery.

**U. Reproductive Support Services**

Reproductive Support Services are not covered unless your Group has purchased additional supplemental coverage.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the Reproductive Support Services benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**V. Skilled Nursing Facility Care**1. Coverage

We cover skilled inpatient Services in a licensed Skilled Nursing Facility. Prior Authorization is required for all Skilled Nursing Facility admissions. The skilled inpatient Services must be those usually provided by Skilled Nursing Facilities. A prior three (3)-day stay in an acute care hospital is not required. We cover the following Services:

- a. Room and board.
- b. Nursing care.
- c. Medical social Services.
- d. Medical and biological supplies.
- e. Blood, blood products, and their administration.

A Skilled Nursing Facility is an institution that: provides skilled nursing or skilled rehabilitation Services, or both; provides Services on a daily basis 24 hours a day; is licensed under applicable state law; and is approved in writing by Medical Group.

**Note:** The following are covered, but not under this section: drugs, see “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements”; DME and prosthetics and orthotics, see “Durable Medical Equipment and Prosthetics and Orthotics”; X-ray, laboratory, and X-ray special procedures, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”.

2. Skilled Nursing Facility Care Exclusion

Custodial Care, as defined in “Exclusions” under the “Limitations/Exclusions (What is Not Covered)” section.

**W. Substance Use Disorder Services**1. Inpatient Medical and Hospital Services

We cover Services for the medical management of withdrawal symptoms. Medical Services for alcohol and drug detoxification are covered the same way as any other medical condition. Detoxification is the process of removing toxic substances from the body.

2. Residential Rehabilitation

The determination of the need for Services of a residential rehabilitation program and referral to such a facility or program is made by or under the supervision of a Plan Physician.

We cover inpatient Services and partial hospitalization in a residential rehabilitation program authorized by Health Plan for the treatment of alcoholism, drug abuse, or drug addiction.

3. Outpatient Services

Outpatient rehabilitative Services for the treatment of alcohol and drug dependency are covered when referred by a Plan Physician.

We cover substance use disorder Services, whether they are voluntary or are court-ordered as a result of contact with the criminal justice or juvenile justice system, when they are Medically Necessary and otherwise covered under the plan, and when rendered by a Plan Provider. We do not cover court-ordered treatment that exceeds the scope of coverage of this health benefit plan.

Mental health Services required in connection with treatment for substance use disorder are covered as provided in the “Mental Health Services” section.

4. Substance Use Disorder Services Exclusion

Counseling for a patient who is not responsive to therapeutic management, as determined by a Plan Physician.

**X. Transgender Services**

We cover transgender Services when Medically Necessary to treat gender dysphoria or gender identity disorder. Prior Authorization may be required. You must meet all medical criteria developed by Medical Group to be eligible for coverage. Coverage includes, but is not limited to: office Services, hormone therapy, outpatient surgery, and hospital inpatient care. You pay the applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. For example, see “Hospital Inpatient Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for the Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible that apply to hospital inpatient care.

**Y. Transplant Services**1. Coverage

Transplants are covered on a limited basis as follows:

- a. Covered transplants are limited to: kidney transplants; heart transplants; heart-lung transplants; liver transplants; liver transplants for children with biliary atresia and other rare congenital abnormalities; small bowel transplants; small bowel and liver transplants; lung transplants; cornea transplants; simultaneous kidney-pancreas transplants; and pancreas alone transplants.
- b. Bone marrow transplants (autologous stem cell or allogenic stem cell) associated with high dose chemotherapy for germ cell tumors and neuroblastoma in children; and bone marrow transplants for aplastic anemia, leukemia, severe combined immunodeficiency disease, and Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome.
- c. If all medical criteria developed by Medical Group are met, we cover: stem cell rescue; and transplants of organs, tissue, or bone marrow.

2. Related Prescription Drugs

Prescribed post-surgical immunosuppressive outpatient drugs required after a transplant are provided at the applicable outpatient prescription drug Copayment or Coinsurance and are subject to any pharmacy Deductible shown in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

3. Terms and Conditions

- a. Health Plan, Medical Group, and Plan Physicians do not undertake: to provide a donor or donor organ or bone marrow or cornea; or to assure the availability of a donor or donor organ or bone marrow or cornea; or to assure the availability or capacity of referral transplant facilities approved by Medical Group. In accordance with our guidelines for living transplant donors, we provide certain donation-related Services for a donor, or a person as a potential donor, even if the donor is not a Member. These Services must be directly related to a covered transplant for you. For information specific to your situation, please call your assigned Transplant Coordinator; or the **Transplant Administrative Offices**.
- b. Plan Physicians must determine that the Member satisfies Medical Group medical criteria before the Member receives Services.
- c. A Plan Physician must provide a written referral for care at a transplant facility. The transplant facility must be from a list of approved facilities selected by Medical Group. The referral may be to a transplant facility outside our Service Area. Transplants are covered only at the facility Medical Group selects for the particular transplant, even if another facility within the Service Area could also perform the transplant.
- d. After referral, if a Plan Physician or the medical staff of the referral facility determines the Member does not satisfy its respective criteria for the Service, Health Plan’s obligation is only to pay for covered Services provided prior to such determination.

4. Transplant Services Exclusions and Limitations

- a. Bone marrow transplants, associated with high dose chemotherapy for solid tissue tumors, (except bone marrow transplants covered under this EOC) are excluded.
- b. Non-human and artificial organs and their implantation are excluded.
- c. Pancreas alone transplants are limited to patients without renal problems who meet set criteria.
- d. Travel and lodging expenses are excluded, except that in some situations, when Medical Group or a Plan Physician refers you to a non-Plan Provider outside our Service Area for transplant Services, as described in “Access to Other Providers” in the “How to Access Your Services and Obtain Approval of Benefits” section, we may pay certain expenses we preauthorize under our internal travel and lodging guidelines. For information specific to your situation, please call your assigned Transplant Coordinator or the **Transplant Administrative Offices**.

**Z. Vision Services**1. Coverage

We cover routine and non-routine eye exams. Refraction tests to determine the need for vision correction and to provide a prescription for eyeglasses are covered unless specifically excluded in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. We also cover professional exams and the fitting of Medically Necessary contact lenses when a Plan Physician or Plan Optometrist prescribes them for a specific medical condition.

Professional Services for exams and fitting of contact lenses that are not Medically Necessary are provided at an additional Charge when obtained at Health Plan Medical Offices.

2. Vision Services Exclusions

- a. Eyeglass lenses and frames.
- b. Contact lenses.
- c. Professional exams for fittings and dispensing of contact lenses except when Medically Necessary as described above.
- d. All Services related to eye surgery for the purpose of correcting refractive defects such as myopia, hyperopia, or astigmatism (for example, radial keratotomy, photo-refractive keratectomy, and similar procedures).
- e. Orthoptic (eye training) therapy or low vision therapy.

Your Group may have purchased additional optical coverage. See “Additional Provisions.”

**AA. X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures**1. Coveragea. Outpatient

We cover the following Services:

- i. Diagnostic X-ray tests, Services, and materials, including but not limited to isotopes, mammograms, and ultrasounds.
- ii. Laboratory tests, Services, and materials, including but not limited to electrocardiograms.  
**Note:** We use a laboratory formulary. A laboratory formulary is a list of laboratory tests, Services, and other materials that have been approved by Health Plan for our Members. If you would like information about whether a particular test or Service is included in our laboratory formulary, please call **Member Services**.
- iii. Therapeutic X-ray Services and materials.
- iv. X-ray special procedures such as MRI, CT, PET, and nuclear medicine.  
**Note:** For X-ray special procedures, you will be billed for each individual procedure performed. A procedure is defined in accordance with the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) medical billing codes published annually by the American Medical Association. You are responsible for any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for X-ray special procedures performed as a part of or in conjunction with other outpatient Services, including but not limited to Emergency Services, urgent care, and outpatient surgery.

Diagnostic procedures include administered drugs. Therapeutic procedures may incur an additional charge for administered drugs.

b. Inpatient

During hospitalization, prescribed diagnostic X-ray and laboratory tests, Services and materials, including diagnostic and therapeutic X-rays and isotopes, electrocardiograms, electroencephalograms, MRI, CT, PET, and nuclear medicine are covered under your hospital inpatient care benefit.

2. X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures Exclusions

- a. Testing of a Member for a non-Member’s use and/or benefit.
- b. Testing of a non-Member for a Member’s use and/or benefit.

**IV. LIMITATIONS/EXCLUSIONS (WHAT IS NOT COVERED)****A. Exclusions**

The Services listed below are not covered. These exclusions apply to all covered Services under this EOC. Additional exclusions that apply only to a particular Service are listed in the description of that Service in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.

1. **Alternative Medical Services.** The following are not covered unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for these Services. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if your Group has purchased additional coverage.
  - a. Acupuncture Services;
  - b. Naturopathy Services;
  - c. Massage therapy;

- d. Chiropractic Services and supplies that are not provided by a Plan Provider under this Agreement.
- 2. **Behavioral Problems.** Any treatment or Service for a behavioral problem not associated with a manifest mental disorder or condition.
- 3. **Cosmetic Services.** Services that are intended: primarily to change or maintain your appearance; and that will not result in significant improvement in physical function. This includes cosmetic surgery related to bariatric surgery. Exception: Services covered under “Reconstructive Surgery” in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.
- 4. **Cryopreservation.** Any and all Services related to cryopreservation, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage. This excludes, but is not limited to, the procurement and/or storage of semen, sperm, eggs, reproductive materials, and/or embryos. See “Additional Provisions” for additional coverage or exclusions, if applicable to your Group.
- 5. **Custodial or Residential Care.** Assistance with activities of daily living or care that can be performed safely and effectively by people who, in order to provide the care, do not require medical licenses or certificates or the presence of a supervising licensed nurse. Assistance with activities of daily living include: walking; getting in and out of bed; bathing; dressing; feeding; toileting; and taking medicine.
- 6. **Dental Services.** Dental Services and dental X-rays, including: dental Services following injury to teeth; dental appliances; implants; orthodontia; TMJ; and dental Services as a result of and following medical treatment such as radiation treatment. This exclusion does not apply to: (a) Medically Necessary Services for the treatment of cleft lip or cleft palate when prescribed by a Plan Physician, unless the Member is covered for these Services under a dental insurance policy or contract, or (b) hospitalization and general anesthesia for dental Services, prescribed or directed by a Plan Physician for Dependent children who: (i) have a physical, mental, or medically compromising condition; or (ii) have dental needs for which local anesthesia is ineffective because of acute infection, anatomic variations, or allergy; or (iii) are extremely uncooperative, unmanageable, anxious, or uncommunicative with dental needs deemed sufficiently important that dental care cannot be deferred; or (iv) have sustained extensive orofacial and dental trauma. Unless otherwise specified herein, (a) and (b) must be received at a Plan Facility or Skilled Nursing Facility.

The following Services for TMJ may be covered if determined Medically Necessary: diagnostic X-rays; laboratory testing; physical therapy; and surgery.

- 7. **Directed Blood Donations.**
- 8. **Disposable Supplies.** Disposable supplies for home use such as:
  - a. Bandages;
  - b. Gauze;
  - c. Tape;
  - d. Antiseptics;
  - e. Dressings;
  - f. Ace-type bandages; and
  - g. Any other supplies, dressings, appliances, or devices not specifically listed as covered in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.
- 9. **Educational Services.** Educational services are not health care services and are not covered. Examples include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Items and services to increase academic knowledge or skills;
  - b. Special education or care for learning deficiencies, whether or not associated with a manifest mental disorder or condition, including but not limited to attention deficit disorder, learning disabilities, and developmental delays;
  - c. Teaching and support services to increase academic performance;
  - d. Academic coaching or tutoring for skills such as grammar, math, and time management;
  - e. Speech training that is not Medically Necessary, and not part of an approved treatment plan, and not provided by or under the direct supervision of a Plan Provider acting within the scope of his or her license under Colorado law that is intended to address speech impediments;
  - f. Teaching you how to read, whether or not you have dyslexia;
  - g. Educational testing;
  - h. Teaching (or any other items or services associated with) activities such as art, dance, horse riding, music, swimming, or teaching you how to play.
- 10. **Employer or Government Responsibility.** Financial responsibility for Services that an employer or a government agency is required by law to provide.
- 11. **Experimental or Investigational Services**
  - a. A Service is experimental or investigational for a Member’s condition if any of the following statements apply at the time the Service is or will be provided to the Member. The Service:

- i. Has not been approved or granted by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA); or
  - ii. Is the subject of a current new drug or new device application on file with the FDA; or
  - iii. Is provided as part of a Phase I or Phase II clinical trial, as the experimental or research arm of a Phase III clinical trial or in any other manner that is intended to determine the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of the Service; or
  - iv. Is provided pursuant to a written protocol or other document that lists an evaluation of the Service’s safety, toxicity, or efficacy as among its objectives; or
  - v. Is subject to the approval or review of an Institutional Review Board (IRB) or other body that approves or reviews research on the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of Services; or
  - vi. The Service has not been recommended for coverage by the Regional New Technology and Benefit Interpretation Committee, the Interregional New Technology Committee or the Medical Technology Assessment Unit based on analysis of clinical studies and literature for safety and appropriateness, unless otherwise covered by Health Plan; or,
  - vii. Is provided pursuant to informed consent documents that describe the Service as experimental or investigational or in other terms that indicate that the Service is being looked at for its safety, toxicity, or efficacy; or
  - viii. Is part of a prevailing opinion among experts as expressed in the published authoritative medical or scientific literature that (A) use of the Service should be substantially confined to research settings or (B) further research is needed to determine the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of the Service.
- b. In determining whether a Service is experimental or investigational, the following sources of information will be solely relied upon:
- i. The Member’s medical records; and
  - ii. The written protocol(s) or other document(s) under which the Service has been or will be provided; and
  - iii. Any consent document(s) the Member or the Member’s representative has executed or will be asked to execute to receive the Service; and
  - iv. 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; and
  - v. The published authoritative medical or scientific literature on the Service as applied to the Member’s illness or injury; and
  - vi. Regulations, records, applications and other documents or actions issued by, filed with, or taken by the FDA, or other agencies within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, or any state agency performing similar functions.
- c. If two (2) or more Services are part of the same plan of treatment or diagnosis, all of the Services are excluded if one of the Services is experimental or investigational.
- d. Health Plan consults Medical Group and then uses the criteria described above to decide if a particular Service is experimental or investigational.

**Note:** For non-grandfathered health plans only, this exclusion does not apply to Services covered under “Clinical Trials” in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.

- 12. **Genetic Testing.** Genetic testing unless determined to be: Medically Necessary; and meets Medical Group criteria.
- 13. **Infertility Services.** All Services related to the diagnosis or treatment of infertility unless your Group has purchased supplemental coverage.
- 14. **Intermediate Care.** Care in an intermediate care facility.
- 15. **Routine Foot Care Services.** Routine foot care Services that are not Medically Necessary.
- 16. **Services for Members in the Custody of Law Enforcement Officers.** Non-Plan Provider Services provided or arranged by criminal justice institutions for Members in the custody of law enforcement officers, unless the Services are covered as out-of-Plan Emergency Services or urgent care outside the Service Area.
- 17. **Services Not Available in our Service Area.** Services not generally and customarily available in our Service Area, except when it is a generally accepted medical practice in our Service Area to refer patients outside our Service Area for the Service.
- 18. **Services Related to a Non-Covered Service.** When a Service is not covered, all Services related to the non-covered Service are excluded. This does not include Services we would otherwise cover to treat complications as a result of the non-covered Service.
- 19. **Third Party Requests or Requirements.** Physical exams, tests, or other services that do not directly treat an actual illness, injury, or condition, and any related reports or paperwork in connection with third party requests or requirements, including but not limited to those for:

- a. Employment;
- b. Participation in employee programs;
- c. Insurance;
- d. Disability;
- e. Licensing;
- f. School events, sports, or camp;
- g. Governmental agencies;
- h. Court order, parole, or probation;
- i. Travel.

20. **Travel and Lodging Expenses.** Travel and lodging expenses are excluded. We may pay certain expenses we preauthorize in accordance with our internal travel and lodging guidelines in some situations, when Medical Group refers you to a non-Plan Provider outside our Service Area as described under “Access to Other Providers” in the “How to Access Your Services and Obtain Approval of Benefits” section.
21. **Unclassified Medical Technology Devices and Services.** Medical technology devices and Services which have not been classified as durable medical equipment or laboratory by a National Coverage Determination (NCD) issued by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), unless otherwise covered by Health Plan.
22. **Weight Management Facilities.** Services received in a weight management facility.
23. **Workers’ Compensation or Employer’s Liability.** Financial responsibility for Services for any illness, injury, or condition, to the extent a payment or any other benefit, including any amount received as a settlement (collectively referred to as “Financial Benefit”), is provided under any workers’ compensation or employer’s liability law. We will provide Services even if it is unclear whether you are entitled to a Financial Benefit, but we may recover Charges for any such Services from the following sources:
- a. Any source providing a Financial Benefit or from whom a Financial Benefit is due.
  - b. You, to the extent that a Financial Benefit is provided or payable or would have been required to be provided or payable if you had diligently sought to establish your rights to the Financial Benefit under any workers’ compensation or employer’s liability law.

**B. Limitations**

We will use our best efforts to provide or arrange covered Services in the event of unusual circumstances that delay or render impractical the provision of Services. Examples include: major disaster; epidemic; war; riot, civil insurrection; disability of a large share of personnel at a Plan Facility; complete or partial destruction of facilities; and labor disputes not involving Health Plan, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals or Medical Group. In these circumstances, Health Plan, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, Medical Group and Medical Group Plan Physicians will not have any liability for any delay or failure in providing covered Services. In the case of a labor dispute involving Health Plan, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, or Medical Group, we may postpone care until the dispute is resolved if delaying your care is safe and will not result in harmful health consequences.

**C. Reductions**

1. Coordination of Benefits (COB)  
 The Services covered under this EOC are subject to Coordination of Benefit (COB) rules. If you have health care coverage with another health plan or insurance company, we will coordinate benefits with the other coverage under the COB guidelines below.

This 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 govern 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% 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. However, 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.
  - i. **Plan** includes: group insurance contracts, health maintenance organization (HMO) contracts, closed panel plans or other forms of group or group-type coverage (whether insured or uninsured); medical care components of long-term care contracts, such as skilled nursing care; medical benefits under group or individual automobile contracts; and Medicare or any other federal governmental plan, as permitted by law.



- ii. **Plan** does not include: hospital indemnity coverage or other fixed indemnity coverage; accident only coverage; specified disease or specified accident coverage; limited benefit health coverage, as defined by state law; school accident type coverage; benefits for non-medical components of 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 i. or ii. 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 determine whether **This plan** is a **Primary plan** or **Secondary plan** when the person has health coverage under more than one **Plan**.

When **This plan** is primary, its benefits are determined before those of any other **Plan** and without considering any other **Plan's** benefits. When **This plan** is secondary, its benefits are determined after those of another **Plan** and may be reduced because of the **Primary plan's** benefits, so that all **Plan** benefits do not exceed 100% 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**:

- i. 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 or the patient's stay is medically necessary in terms of generally accepted medical practice or the hospital does not have a semi-private room.
- ii. 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**.
- iii. 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**.
- iv. 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.
- v. 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. **Claim determination period** is usually a calendar year, but a **Plan** may use some other period of time that fits the coverage of the group contract. A person is covered by a **Plan** during a portion of a **Claim determination period** if that person's coverage starts or ends during the **Claim determination period**. However, it does not include any part of a year during which a person has no coverage under **This plan**, or before the date this **COB** provision or a similar provision takes effect.
- f. **Closed panel plan** is a **Plan** that provides health benefits to covered persons primarily in the form of services through a panel of providers that have contracted with either directly or indirectly or are employed by the **Plan**, and that limits or excludes benefits for services provided by other providers, except in cases of emergency or referral by a panel member.
- g. **Custodial parent** means a parent awarded primary custody by a court decree. In the absence of a court decree, it is the parent with whom the child resides more than one half of the calendar year without regard to 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 payment are as follows:

- a. The **Primary plan** pays or provides its benefits according to its terms of coverage and without regard to the benefits under any other **Plan**.
- b.
  - i. Except as provided in paragraph ii, a **Plan** that does not contain a coordination of benefits provision that is consistent with these rules is always primary unless the provisions of both **Plans** state that the complying **Plan** is primary.
  - ii. Coverage that is obtained by virtue of being members in a group, and designed to supplement part of the basic package of benefits, may provide supplementary coverage that shall be in excess of 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 determining 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:
  - i. 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**.
  - ii. 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:
      1. The **Plan** of the parent whose birthday (month and day) falls earlier in the calendar year is the **Primary plan**; or
      2. 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:
      1. 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;
      2. 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;
      3. 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
      4. 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:
        - The **Plan** covering the **Custodial parent**;
        - The **Plan** covering the spouse of the **Custodial parent**;
        - The **Plan** covering the **non-custodial parent**; and then
        - 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.
  - iii. 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.

- iv. 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.
- v. Longer or Shorter Length of Coverage. The **Plan** that covered the person as an employee, member, policyholder, subscriber or retiree longer is the **Primary plan** and the **Plan** that covered the person the shorter period of time is the **Secondary plan**.
- vi. 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 Health Plan 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, Health Plan 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**. Health 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 reasonable cash value of the benefits provided in the form of services.

#### **RIGHT OF RECOVERY**

If the amount of the payments made by Health Plan is more than it should have paid under this **COB** provision, we may recover the excess from one or more of the persons we have paid or for whom we have 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.

If you have any questions about COB, please call or write **Patient Financial Services**.

#### **2. Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties**

You must ensure we receive the maximum reimbursement allowed by law for covered Services you receive for an injury or illness that is alleged to be caused by another party. You do not have to reimburse us more than you receive from or on behalf of any other party, insurance company or organization as a result of the injury or illness. Our right to reimbursement shall include all sources as allowed by law. This includes, but is not limited to, any recovery you receive from: (a) uninsured motorist coverage; or (b) underinsured motorist coverage; or (c) automobile medical payment coverage; or (d) workers’ compensation coverage; or (e) any other liability coverage; or (f) any responsible party or entity.

**Note:** This “Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties” section does not affect your obligation to pay your Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible for these Services. The amount of reimbursement due the Plan is not limited by or subject to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum provision.

To the extent allowed 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 the other 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.

We shall have a first priority lien on the proceeds of any judgment or settlement, whether by compromise or otherwise, you obtain against any or from other party, entity or insurer, regardless of whether the other party, entity or insurer admits fault. Proceeds of such judgment, award or settlement in your or your attorney's possession shall be held in trust for our benefit.

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

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

For us to determine the existence of any rights we may have and to satisfy those rights, you must complete and send to Equian: all consents; releases; authorizations; assignments; and other documents, including lien forms directing your attorney, any other party or entity and any respective insurer to pay us or our legal representatives directly. You must cooperate to protect our interests under this "Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties" provision and must not take any action prejudicial to our rights.

If your estate, parent, guardian or conservator asserts a claim against another party, entity or insurer based on your injury or illness, your estate, parent, guardian or conservator and any settlement 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. We may assign our rights to enforce our liens and other rights.

Some providers have contracted with Kaiser Permanente to provide certain Services to Members at rates that are typically less than the fees that the providers normally charge to the general public ("General Fees"). However, these contracts may allow providers to assert any independent lien rights they may have to recover their General Fees from a judgment or settlement that you receive from or on behalf of another party, entity or insurer. For Services the provider furnished, our recovery and the provider's recovery together will not exceed the provider's General Fees.

If you are entitled to Medicare, Medicare law may apply with respect to Services covered by Medicare.

3. Traditional or Gestational Surrogacy

In situations where you receive monetary compensation to act as either a traditional or gestational surrogate, Health Plan will seek reimbursement for covered Services you receive that are associated with conception, pregnancy and/or delivery of the child, except that we will recover no more than half of the monetary compensation you receive. A surrogate arrangement is one in which a woman agrees to become pregnant and to surrender the baby to another person or persons who intend to raise the child. 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 applies to both traditional surrogacy and gestational carriers.

**Note:** This "Traditional or Gestational Surrogacy" section does not affect your obligation to pay your Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible for these Services.

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) receives, including names, addresses, and telephone numbers for any health insurance that will cover Services that the baby (or babies) receives
- 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:

Equian, LLC  
Attn: Surrogacy Subrogation Operations  
PO Box 36380  
Louisville, KY 40233

Fax: 502-214-1291

## V. MEMBER PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITY

Information on Member payment responsibility, including applicable Deductibles, annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum, Copayments, and Coinsurance, is located in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)." Payment responsibility information for Emergency Services and urgent care is located in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section. For additional questions, contact **Member Services**.

Our contracts with Plan Providers provide that you are not liable for any amounts we owe them for covered Services. However, you may be liable for the cost of non-covered Services or Services you obtain from non-Plan Providers. If our contract with any Plan Provider terminates while you are under the care of that provider, we will retain financial responsibility for covered Services you receive from that provider, in excess of any applicable Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance amounts, until we make arrangements for the Services to be provided by another Plan Provider and so notify the Subscriber.

## VI. CLAIMS PROCEDURE (HOW TO FILE A CLAIM)

Plan Providers submit claims for payment for covered Services directly to Health Plan. For general information on claims, and how to submit pre-service claims, concurrent care claims, and post-service claims, see the "Appeals and Complaints" section. For covered Services by non-Plan Providers, you may need to submit a claim on your own. Contact **Member Services** for more information on how to submit such claims. Health Plan complies with the time frames for resolution and payment of filed claims as required by state law.

## VII. GENERAL POLICY PROVISIONS

### A. Access Plan

Colorado law requires that an Access Plan be available that describes Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado's network of provider Services. To obtain a copy, please call **Member Services**.

### B. Access to Services for Foreign Language Speakers

1. **Member Services** will provide a telephone interpreter to assist Members who speak limited or no English.
2. Plan Physicians have telephone access to interpreters in over 150 languages.
3. Plan Physicians can also request an onsite interpreter for an appointment, procedure, or Service.
4. Any interpreter assistance we arrange or provide will be at no Charge to the Member.

### C. Administration of Agreement

We may adopt reasonable policies, procedures, and interpretations to promote efficient administration of the Group Agreement and this EOC.

### D. Advance Directives

Federal law requires Kaiser Permanente to tell you about your right to make health care decisions.

Colorado law recognizes the right of an adult to accept or reject medical treatment, artificial nourishment and hydration, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Each adult has the right to establish, in advance of the need for medical treatment, any directives and instructions for the administration of medical treatment in the event the person lacks the decisional capacity to provide informed consent to or refusal of medical treatment. (Colorado Revised Statutes, Section 15-14-504).

Kaiser Permanente will not discriminate against you whether or not you have an advance directive. We will follow the requirements of Colorado law respecting advance directives. If you have an advance directive, please give a copy to the Kaiser Permanente medical records department or to your provider.

A health care provider or health care facility shall provide for the prompt transfer of the principal to another health care provider or health care facility if such health care provider or health care facility wishes not to comply with an agent's medical treatment decision on the basis of policies based on moral convictions or religious beliefs. (Colorado Revised Statutes, Section 15-14-507).

Two (2) brochures are available: *Your Right to Make Health Care Decisions* and *Making Health Care Decisions*. For copies of these brochures or for more information, please call **Member Services**.

### E. Agreement 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.

## **F. Amendment of Agreement**

Your Group's Agreement with us will change periodically. If these changes affect this EOC, your Group is required to notify you of them. If it is necessary to make revisions to this EOC, we will issue revised materials to you.

## **G. 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.

## **H. Assignment**

You may assign, in writing, payments due under the policy to a licensed hospital, other licensed health care provider, an occupational therapist, or a massage therapist, for covered Services provided to you. You may not assign this EOC or any other rights, interests, or obligations hereunder without our prior written consent.

## **I. Attorney Fees and Expenses**

In any dispute between a Member and Health Plan or Plan Providers, each party will bear its own attorneys' fees and other expenses.

## **J. Claims Review Authority**

We are responsible for determining whether you are entitled to benefits under this EOC. We have the authority to review and evaluate claims that arise under this EOC. We conduct this evaluation independently by interpreting the provisions of this EOC. If this EOC is part of a health benefit plan that is subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), then we are a "named fiduciary" to review claims under this EOC.

## **K. Contracts with Plan Providers**

Plan Providers are paid in a number of ways, including: salary; capitation; per diem rates; case rates; fee for service; and incentive payments. If you would like further information about the way Plan Providers are paid to provide or arrange medical and hospital care for Members, please call **Member Services**.

Our contracts with Plan Providers provide that you are not liable for any amounts we owe. However, you may be liable for the cost of non-covered Services or Services you obtain from non-Plan Providers. If our contract with any Plan Provider terminates while you are under the care of that provider, we will retain financial responsibility for covered Services you receive from that provider, in excess of any applicable Deductibles, Copayments and Coinsurance, until we make arrangements for the Services to be provided by another Plan Provider and so notify the Subscriber.

## **L. Deductible/Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit**

Deductible/Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit is a one-time event which occurs at the point of the initial open enrollment. It applies only to:

1. Members of new groups enrolling with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado for the first time. (In this situation, Members must have been covered under one of the group's other carriers at the time of the group's enrollment.)
2. Members of new or current groups who move from non-sole carrier status to sole-carrier status with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado. Non-sole carrier status refers to when an employee has the option of choosing a group health plan either through Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado or through another carrier. (In this situation, Members must have been covered under one of the group's other carriers at the time the group moved to sole-carrier status.)

A credit will be applied toward your Deductible with Health Plan for certain eligible expenses accumulated toward your deductible under your prior coverage. You may also be eligible for a credit to be applied toward your Out-of-Pocket Maximum accumulated under your prior coverage. In order for expenses to be eligible for this credit, you must submit an Explanation of Benefits ("EOB") issued by your prior carrier showing that the expense was applied toward your deductible and/or out-of-pocket maximum under your prior coverage. All such expenses must be for Services that are covered and subject to the Deductible and/or Out-of-Pocket Maximum under this EOC.

For groups with effective dates of coverage during the months of April through December, expenses incurred from January 1 of the current year through the effective date of coverage with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado may be eligible for credit.

For groups with effective dates of coverage during the months of January through March, expenses incurred up to 90 days prior to the effective date of coverage with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan may be eligible for credit.

You must submit all claims for Deductible/Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit within 90 days from the effective date of coverage with Health Plan. To submit a claim, send all EOBs along with a completed Prior Carrier Information Cover Form to the **Kaiser Permanente Claims Department**. To get a copy of the Prior Carrier Information Cover Form, please call the **Claims Department**.

## **M. Governing Law**

Except as preempted by federal law, this EOC will be governed in accordance with Colorado law. Any provision that is required to be in this EOC by state or federal law shall bind Members and Health Plan whether or not set forth in this EOC.

## **N. Group and Members are not Health Plan's Agents**

Neither your Group nor any Member is the agent or representative of Health Plan.

## **O. 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.

## **P. Nondiscrimination**

We do not discriminate in our employment practices or in the delivery of health care Services on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or physical or mental disability.

## **Q. Notices**

Our notices to you will be sent to the most recent address we have for the Subscriber. The Subscriber is responsible for notifying us of any change in address. Members who move should call **Member Services** as soon as possible to give us their new address.

## **R. Overpayment Recovery**

We may recover any overpayment we make for Services from anyone who receives such an overpayment, or from any person or organization obligated to pay for the Services.

## **S. Privacy Practices**

Kaiser Permanente will protect the privacy of your Protected Health Information (PHI). We also require contracting providers to protect your PHI. PHI is health information that includes your name, Social Security number or other information that reveals who you are. 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* (see below). Giving us authorization is at your discretion.

**This is only a brief summary of some of our key privacy practices. Our *Notice of Privacy Practices* explains our privacy practices in detail. To request a copy, please call Member Services. You can also find the notice at your local Plan Facility or on our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org).**

## **T. Value-Added Services**

In addition to the Services we cover under this EOC, we make available a variety of value-added services. Value-added services are not covered by your plan. They are intended to give you more options for a healthy lifestyle. Examples may include:

1. Certain health education classes not covered by your plan;
2. Certain health education publications;
3. Discounts for fitness club memberships;
4. Health promotion and wellness programs; and
5. Rewards for participating in those programs.

Some of these value-added services are available to all Members. Others may be available only to Members enrolled through certain groups or plans. To take advantage of these services, you may need to:

1. Show your Health Plan ID card, and
2. Pay the fee, if any,

to the company that provides the value-added service. Because these services are not covered by your plan, any fees you pay will not count toward any coverage calculations, such as Deductible or Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

To learn about value-added services and which ones are available to you, please check our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org).

These value-added services are neither offered nor guaranteed under your Health Plan coverage. Health Plan may change or discontinue some or all value-added services at any time and without notice to you. Value-added services are not offered as inducements to purchase a health care plan from us. Although value-added services are not covered by your plan, we may have included an estimate of their cost when we calculated Premiums.

Health Plan does not endorse or make any representations regarding the quality or medical efficacy of value-added services, or the financial integrity of the companies offering them. We expressly disclaim any liability for the value-added services provided by these companies. If you have a dispute regarding a value-added service, you must resolve it with the company offering such service. Although Health Plan has no obligation to assist with this resolution, you may call **Member Services**, and a representative may try to assist in getting the issue resolved.

**U. Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act**

In accordance with the “Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998,” as determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient, we provide the following coverage after a mastectomy:

1. Reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy was performed.
2. Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical (balanced) appearance.
3. Prostheses (artificial replacements).
4. Services for physical complications resulting from the mastectomy.

**VIII. TERMINATION/NONRENEWAL/CONTINUATION**

Your Group is required to inform the Subscriber of the date coverage terminates. If your membership terminates, all rights to benefits end at 11:59 p.m. on the termination date. Dependents’ memberships end at the same time the Subscriber’s membership ends. You will be billed as a non-Member for any Services you receive after your membership terminates. Health Plan and Plan Providers have no further responsibility under this EOC after your membership terminates, except as provided under “Termination of Group Agreement” in this “Termination of Membership” section.

This section describes: how your membership may end; and explains how you may maintain Health Plan coverage if your membership under this EOC ends.

**A. Termination Due to Loss of Eligibility**

If you no longer meet the eligibility requirements in the “Eligibility” section, we or your Group will provide 30 days’ advance written notice of termination.

**B. Termination of Group Agreement**

If your Group’s Agreement with us terminates for any reason, your membership ends on the same date.

If your Group’s Agreement terminates for reasons other than nonpayment of Premiums, fraud or abuse, while you are inpatient in a hospital or institution, your coverage will continue until your date of discharge.

**C. Termination for Cause**

We may terminate the memberships in your Family Unit if anyone in your Family Unit commits any of the following acts.

1. We will send written notice that will include the reason for termination to the Subscriber at least 30 days before the termination date if:
  - a. You are disruptive, unruly, or abusive so that Health Plan’s or a Plan Provider’s ability to provide Services to you, or to other Members, is seriously impaired; or
  - b. You fail to establish and maintain a satisfactory provider-patient relationship, after the Plan Provider has made reasonable efforts to promote such a relationship; or
2. We will send written notice that will include the reason for termination to the Subscriber at least 30 days before the termination date if:
  - a. You knowingly: (a) misrepresent membership status; (b) present an invalid prescription or physician order; (c) misuse (or let someone else misuse) a Health Plan ID card; or (d) commit any other type of fraud in connection with your membership (including your enrollment application), Health Plan or a Plan Provider; or
  - b. You knowingly: furnish incorrect or incomplete information to us; or fail to notify us of changes in your family status or Medicare coverage that may affect your eligibility or benefits.

Termination of membership for any one of these reasons applies to all members of your Family Unit. All rights to benefits cease on the date of termination. You will be billed as a non-Member for any Services received after the termination date. You have the right to appeal such a termination. To appeal, please call **Member Services**; or you can call the Colorado Division of Insurance.

We may report any member fraud to the authorities for prosecution. We may also pursue appropriate civil remedies.

**D. Termination for Nonpayment**

You are entitled to coverage only for the period for which we have received the appropriate Premiums from your Group. If your Group fails to pay us the appropriate Premiums for your Family Unit, we will terminate the memberships of everyone in your Family Unit.

After termination of your enrollment for nonpayment of Premiums, Health Plan may require payment of any outstanding Premiums for prior coverage if permitted by applicable law.

**E. Termination of a Product or all Products (applies to non-grandfathered health plans only)**

We may terminate a particular product or all products offered in the group market as permitted or required by law. If we discontinue offering a particular product in the group market, we will terminate just the particular product by sending you



written notice at least 90 days before the product terminates. If we discontinue offering all products in the group market, we may terminate your Group's Agreement by sending you written notice at least 180 days before the Agreement terminates.

#### **F. Rescission of Membership**

We may rescind your membership after it is effective if you or anyone on your behalf did one of the following with respect to your membership (or application) prior to your membership effective date:

1. Performed an act, practice, or omission that constitutes fraud; or
2. Misrepresented a material fact with intent, such as an omission on the application.

We will send written notice to the Subscriber in your Family at least 30 days before we rescind your membership. The rescission will cancel your membership so no coverage ever existed. You will be required to pay as a non-Member for any Services we covered. We will refund all applicable Premiums, less any amounts you owe us.

#### **G. Continuation of Group Coverage Under Federal Law, State Law or USERRA**

##### **1. Federal Law (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. Please contact your Group if you want to know how to elect COBRA coverage or how much you will have to pay your Group for it.

##### **2. State Law**

If you are not eligible to continue uninterrupted group coverage under federal law (COBRA), you may be eligible to continue group coverage under Colorado law. Colorado law states that if you have been a Member for at least six (6) consecutive months immediately prior to termination of employment, continue to meet the eligibility requirements of Group and Health Plan and continue to pay applicable monthly Premiums to your Group, you may continue uninterrupted group coverage. If loss of eligibility occurs because of the following reasons, you and/or your Dependents may continue group coverage subject to the terms below:

- a. Your coverage is through a Subscriber who dies, divorces or legally separates, or becomes entitled to Medicare or Medicaid benefits; or
- b. You are a Subscriber (or your coverage is through a Subscriber) whose employment terminates, including voluntary termination or layoff, or whose hours of employment have been reduced.

You may enroll children born or placed for adoption with you during the period of continuation coverage. The enrollment and effective date shall be as specified under the "Eligibility" section.

To continue coverage, you must request continuation of group coverage on a form furnished by and returned to your Group along with payment of applicable Premiums, no later than 30 days after the date on which your Group coverage would otherwise terminate.

**Termination of State Continuation Coverage.** Continuation of coverage under this provision continues upon payment of the applicable Premiums to your Group and terminates on the earlier of:

- a. 18 months after your coverage would have otherwise terminated because of termination of employment; or
- b. The date you become covered under another group medical plan; or
- c. The date Health Plan terminates its contract with the Group.

We may terminate your continuation coverage if payment is not received when due.

If you have chosen an alternate health care plan offered through your Group but elect during open enrollment to receive continuation coverage through Health Plan, you will only be entitled to continued coverage for the remainder of the 18-month maximum coverage period.

##### **3. 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 the federal USERRA law. You must submit a 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 or how much you will have to pay your Group for it.

#### **H. Moving to Another Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Area**

You must notify us immediately if you permanently move outside the Service Area. If you move to another Kaiser regional health plan service area, you should contact your Group's benefits administrator before you move to learn about your Group health care options. You will be terminated from this plan, but you may be able to transfer your group membership if there is an arrangement with your Group in the new service area. However, eligibility requirements, benefits, Premiums, Copayments and Coinsurance may not be the same in the other service area.

## IX. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

### A. Claims and Appeals

Health Plan will review claims and appeals, and we may use medical experts to help us review them. The following terms have the following meanings when used in this “Appeals and Complaints” section:

1. A **claim** is a request for us to:
  - a. provide or pay for a Service that you have not received (pre-service claim),
  - b. continue to provide or pay for a Service that you are currently receiving (concurrent care claim), or
  - c. pay for a Service that you have already received (post-service claim).
2. An **adverse benefit determination** is our decision to do any of the following:
  - a. deny your claim, in whole or in part, including (1) a denial, in whole or in part, of a pre-service claim (preauthorization for a Service), a concurrent care claim (continue to provide or pay for a Service that you are currently receiving) or a post-service claim (a request to pay for a Service) in whole or in part; (2) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is not Medically Necessary, appropriate, effective or efficient or is not provided in or at the appropriate health care setting or level of care; or, (3) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is experimental or investigational,
  - b. terminate your membership retroactively except as the result of non-payment of Premiums (also called rescission or cancellation retroactively),
  - c. deny your (or, if applicable, your dependent’s) application for individual plan coverage,
  - d. uphold our previous adverse benefit determination when you appeal.

In addition, when we deny a request for medical care because it is excluded under this EOC, and you present evidence from a Colorado medical professional that there is a reasonable medical basis that the contractual exclusion does not apply to the denied medical care, then our denial shall be considered an adverse benefit determination.

3. An **appeal** is a request for us to review our initial adverse benefit determination.

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

Except when simultaneous external review can occur, you must exhaust the internal claims and appeals procedure as described in this “Appeals and Complaints” section unless we fail to follow the claims and appeals process described in this Section IX.

#### Language and Translation Assistance

You may request language assistance with your claim and/or appeal by calling **Member Services**.

SPANISH (Español): Para obtener asistencia en Español, llame al 303-338-3800.

TAGALOG (Tagalog): Kung kailangan ninyo ang tulong sa Tagalog tumawag sa 303-338-3800.

CHINESE (中文): 如果需要中文的帮助, 请拨打这个号码 303-338-3800.

NAVAJO (Dine): Dinek'ehgo shika at'ohwol ninisingo, kwijigo holne' 303-338-3800.

#### Appointing a Representative

If you would like someone (including your provider (medical facility or health care professional)) to act on your behalf regarding your claim, you may appoint an authorized representative. You must make this appointment in writing. Please 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

You may contact the Colorado Division of Insurance at:

Colorado Division of Insurance  
1560 Broadway, Suite 850  
Denver, Colorado 80202  
(303) 894-7499

#### 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. You may request our Authorization for Release of Appeal Information form by calling the **Appeals Program**.

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 and/or Appeal

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, if you ask for one. Please send all additional information to the Department that issued the adverse benefit determination.

When you appeal, you may give testimony in writing or by telephone. Please send your written testimony to the **Appeals Program**. To arrange to give testimony by telephone, you should contact the **Appeals Program**.

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 our next 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 next decision, that decision will be based on the information already in your claim file.

### **Internal Claims and Appeals Procedures**

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:

1. Pre-service claims (urgent and non-urgent)
2. Concurrent care claims (urgent and non-urgent)
3. Post-service claims

In addition, there is a separate appeals procedure for adverse benefit determinations due to a retroactive termination of membership (rescission) or a denial of an application for individual plan coverage.

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 he/she be the subordinate of someone who did participate in our original decision.

#### **1. 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 or pre-certified in order to be a covered Service may be the basis for our denial of your pre-service claim. 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 pre-service claim, a non-urgent pre-service appeal, and an urgent pre-service appeal.

##### **a. Pre-Service Claim**

Tell Health Plan in writing that you want 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 must either mail or fax your claim to **Member Services**.

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 unless your attending health care provider tells us your claim is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, creates an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent claim and appeal, to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

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 not later than 15 days after we receive your claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, so long as we notify you prior to the expiration of the initial 15-day period and explain the circumstances for which we need the extra time and when we expect to make a decision. If we tell you we need more information, we will ask you for the information within 15 days of receiving your claim, and we will give you 45 days to send the information. We will make a decision within 15 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 all of the information that you send us when we make our decision. If we do not receive any of the requested information (including documents) within 45 days after we send our request, we will make a decision based on the information we have within 15 days following the end of the 45-day period.

We will send written notice of our decision to you and, if applicable to your provider. Please let us know if you wish to have our decision sent to your provider.

If your pre-service claim was considered on an urgent basis, we will notify you of our decision (whether adverse or not) orally or in writing within a timeframe appropriate to your clinical condition but not later than 72 hours after we receive your claim. Within 24 hours after we receive your claim, we may ask you for more information. We will notify you of our decision within 48 hours of receiving the first piece of requested information. If we do not receive any of the requested information, then we will notify you of our decision within 48 hours after making our request. If we notify you of our decision orally, we will send you written confirmation within three (3) days after that.

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.

b. Non-Urgent Pre-Service Appeal

Within 180 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 Medical 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 denial, and (5) all supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must either mail or fax your appeal to the **Appeals Program**.

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The members of the appeals committee who will review your appeal will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least 5 days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that 5 day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within a reasonable period of time that is appropriate given your medical condition but not more than 30 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, that may be available to you.

c. 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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 may submit your appeal orally, by mail or by fax to the **Appeals Program**.

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 “Appeals and Complaints” section), if our internal appeal decision is not in your favor.

We will decide whether your appeal is urgent or non-urgent unless your attending health care provider tells us your appeal is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, create an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent appeal to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

You do not have the right to attend or have counsel, advocates and health care professionals in attendance at the expedited review. You are, however, entitled to submit written comments, documents, records and other materials for the reviewer or reviewers to consider; and receive, upon request and free of charge, copies of all documents, records and other information regarding your request for benefits.

We will review your appeal and give you oral or written notice of our decision as soon as your clinical condition requires, but not 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 (3) days after that.

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, that may be available to you.

2. Concurrent Care Claims and Appeals.

Concurrent care claims are requests that Health Plan continue to provide, or pay for, an ongoing course of covered treatment or Services for a period of time or number of treatments or Services, when the course of treatment already being received will end. If you have any general questions about concurrent care claims or appeals, please call **Member Services**.

Unless you are appealing an urgent care concurrent 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 then appeal our decision (an adverse benefit determination), 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 we will only pay for the continuation of Services until we notify you of our appeal decision.

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

a. Concurrent Care Claim

Tell us in writing 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 either mail or fax your claim to **Member Services**.

If you want us to consider your claim on an urgent basis and you contact us at least 24 hours before your 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 unless your attending health care provider tells us your claim is 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, health or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, create an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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 extending your course of covered treatment. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent claim or an appeal thereof, to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

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 care is ending, we will make our decision before your authorized care actually ends (that is, within 24 hours of receipt of your claim). If your authorized care ended before you submitted your claim, we will make our decision within a reasonable period of time but no later than 15 days after we receive your claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, if we send you notice before the initial 15 days end and explain why we need the extra time and when we expect to make a decision. If we tell you we need more information, we will ask you for the information before the initial decision period ends, and we will give you until your care is ending or, if your care has ended, 45 days to send us the information. We will make our decision as soon as possible, if your care has not ended, or within 15 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 days following the end of the 45 days that we gave you for sending the additional information.

We will send written notice of our decision to you and, if applicable to your provider, upon request. Please let us know if you wish to have our decision sent to your provider.

If we consider your concurrent claim on an urgent basis, we will notify you of our decision orally or in writing as soon as your clinical condition requires, but not later than 24 hours after we received your appeal. If we notify you of our decision orally, we will send you written confirmation within three (3) days after receiving your claim.

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

b. Non-Urgent Concurrent Care Appeal

Within 180 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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 the **Appeals Program**.

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The members of the appeals committee who will review your appeal will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least 5 days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that 5 day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision as soon as possible if your care has not ended but not later than 30 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, that may be available to you.

c. 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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 may submit your appeal orally, by mail or by fax to the **Appeals Program**.

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 “Appeals and Complaints” section).

We will decide whether your appeal is urgent or non-urgent unless your attending health care provider tells us your appeal is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, create an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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 continuing your course of covered treatment. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent appeal to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

You do not have the right to attend or have counsel, advocates and health care professionals in attendance at the expedited review. You are, however, entitled to submit written comments, documents, records and other materials for the reviewer or reviewers to consider; and receive, upon request and free of charge, copies of all documents, records and other information regarding your request for benefits.

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 (3) days after that.

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.

3. Post-Service Claims and Appeals

Post-service claims are requests that we for 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:

a. Post-Service Claim

Within twelve (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, and (4) why you think we should pay for the Services. You must include a copy of the bill, your medical record(s) and any supporting documents. Your letter and the related documents constitute your claim. Or, you may contact **Member Services** to obtain a claims form. You must either mail or fax your claim to the **Claims Department**.

We will not accept or pay for claims received from you after twelve (12) months from the date of Services.

We will review your claim, and if we have all the information we need we will send you a written decision within 30 days after we receive your claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, if we notify you within 15 days after we receive your claim and explain the circumstances for which we need the extra time and when we expect to make a decision. If we tell you we need more information, we will ask you for the information, and we will give you 45 days to send us the information. We will make a decision within 15 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 days after we send our request, we will make a decision based on the information we have within 15 days following the end of the 45-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.

b. Post-Service Appeal

Within 180 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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) include all supporting documents such as medical records. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must either mail or fax your appeal to the **Appeals Program**.

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The appeals committee members who will review your appeal (who were not involved in our original decision regarding your claim) will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least 5 days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that 5 day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within 30 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.

Voluntary Second Level of Appeal

Within 60 days after you receive our adverse decision regarding your appeal, you may ask us to review our adverse benefit decisions again. We will schedule a review of your second appeal within 60 days of receiving your request, and we will notify you about the date and time of this review no less than 20 days before it occurs. You have the right to request a postponement. You have the right to appear in person or by telephone conference at the meeting. We will make our decision within 7 days of the completion of this meeting.

Appeals of Retroactive Membership Termination (rescission or cancellation retroactively)

We may terminate your membership retroactively (see “Rescission of Membership” under the “Termination/Nonrenewal/Continuation” section). We will send you written notice at least 30 days prior to the termination. If you have general questions about retroactive membership terminations or appeals, please call **Member Services**.

Here is the procedure for filing an appeal of a retroactive membership termination:

Within 180 days after you receive our adverse benefit determination that your membership will be terminated retroactively, you must tell us in writing that you want to appeal our termination of your membership retroactively. Please include the following: (1) your name and Medical Record Number, (2) all of the reasons why you disagree with our retroactive membership termination, and (3) all supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must mail your appeal to **Member Services**.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within 30 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, that may be available to you.

Appeals of Denial of Individual Plan Application

Here is the procedure for filing an appeal of our denial of an individual plan application:

Within 180 days after you receive our adverse benefit determination regarding your individual plan application, you must tell us in writing that you want to appeal our denial of an individual plan application. Please include the following: (1) your name and

application reference number, (2) all of the reasons why you disagree with our adverse benefit determination, and (3) all supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must mail your appeal to:

Member Services  
P.O. Box 203004  
Denver, CO 80220-9004

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within 30 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 that may be available to you.

### **External Review**

Following receipt of an adverse decision letter regarding your First Level Appeal or Voluntary Second Level Appeal, you may have a right to request an external review.

You have the right to request an independent external review of our decision, if our decision involves an adverse benefit determination regarding a denial of a claim, in whole or in part, that is (1) a denial of a preauthorization for a Service; (2) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is not Medically Necessary, appropriate, effective or efficient or is not provided in or at the appropriate health care setting or level of care; and/or (3) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is experimental or investigational. If our final adverse decision does not involve an adverse benefit determination described in the preceding sentence, then your claim is **not** eligible for external review provided, however, independent external review is available when we deny your appeal because you request medical care that is excluded under your Kaiser Permanente plan and you present evidence from a licensed Colorado professional that there is a reasonable medical basis that the exclusion does not apply.

You will not be responsible for the cost of the external review. There is no minimum dollar amount for a claim to be eligible for an external review.

To request external review, you must:

1. Submit a completed Independent External Review of Carrier's Final Adverse Determination form which will be included with the mandatory internal appeal decision letter and explanation of your appeal rights (you may call the **Appeals Program** to request a copy of this form) to the **Appeals Program** within four (4) months of the date of receipt of the mandatory internal appeal decision or Voluntary Second Level Appeal decision. We shall consider the date of receipt for our notice to be three (3) days after the date on which our notice was drafted, unless you can prove that you received our notice after the three (3) day period ends.
2. Include in your written request a statement authorizing us to release your claim file with your health information including your medical records; or, you may submit a completed Authorization for Release of Appeal Information form which is included with the mandatory internal appeal decision letter and explanation of your appeal rights (you may call **Appeals Program** to request a copy of this form).

If we do not receive your external review request form and/or authorization form to release your health information, then we will not be able to act on your request. We must receive all of this information prior to the end of the applicable timeframe for your request of external review.

### **Expedited External Review**

**You may request an expedited review if (1) you have a medical condition for which the timeframe for completion of a standard review would seriously jeopardize your life, health, or ability to regain maximum function, or, if you have a physical or mental disability, would create an imminent and substantial limitation to your existing ability to live independently, or (2) in the opinion of a physician with knowledge of your medical condition, the timeframe for completion of a standard review would subject you to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the medical services that you are seeking. A request for an expedited external review must be accompanied by a written statement from your physician that your condition meets the expedited criteria. You must include the physician's certification that you meet expedited external review criteria when you submit your request for external review along with the other required information (described, above).**

### **Additional Requirements for External Review regarding Experimental or Investigational Services**

**You may request external review or expedited external review involving an adverse benefit determination based upon the Service being experimental or investigational. Your request for external review or expedited external review must include a written statement from your physician that either (a) standard health care services or treatments have not been effective in improving your condition or are not medically appropriate for you, or (b) there is no available standard health care service or treatment covered under this EOC that is more beneficial than the recommended or requested health care service (the physician must certify that scientifically valid studies using accepted protocols demonstrate that the requested health care service or treatment is more likely to be more beneficial to you than an available standard health care services or**



treatments), and the physician is a licensed, board-certified, or board-eligible physician to practice in the area of medicine to treat your condition. If you are requesting expedited external review, then your physician must also certify that the requested health care service or treatment would be less effective if not promptly initiated. These certifications must be submitted with your request for external review.

No expedited external review is available when you have already received the medical care that is the subject of your request for external review. If you do not qualify for expedited external review, we will treat your request as a request for standard external review.

After we receive your request for external review, we shall notify you of the information regarding the independent external review entity that the Division of Insurance has selected to conduct the external review.

If we deny your request for standard or expedited external review, including any assertion that we have not complied with the applicable requirements related to our internal claims and appeals procedure, then we may notify you in writing and include the specific reasons for the denial. Our notice will include information about your right to appeal the denial to the Division of Insurance. At the same time that we send this denial notice to you, we will send a copy of it to the Division of Insurance.

**You will not be able to present your appeal in person to the independent external review organization. You may, however, send any additional information that is significantly different from information provided or considered during the internal claims and appeal procedure and, if applicable Voluntary Second Level of Appeal process. If you send new information, we may consider it and reverse our decision regarding your appeal.**

**You may submit your additional information to the independent external review organization for consideration during its review within five (5) working days of your receipt of our notice describing the independent review organization that has been selected to conduct the external review of your claim. Although it is not required to do so, the independent review organization may accept and consider additional information submitted after this five (5) working day period ends.**

The independent external review entity shall review information regarding your benefit claim and shall base its determination on an objective review of relevant medical and scientific evidence. Within 45 days of the independent external review entity's receipt of your request for standard external review, it shall provide written notice of its decision to you. If the independent external review entity is deciding your expedited external review request, then the independent external review entity shall make its decision as expeditiously as possible and no more than 72 hours after its receipt of your request for external review and within 48 hours of notifying you orally of its decision provide written confirmation of its decision. This notice shall explain the external review entity's decision and that the external review decision is the final appeal available under state insurance law. An external review decision is binding on Health Plan and you except to the extent Health Plan and you have other remedies available under federal or state law. You or your designated representative may not file a subsequent request for external review involving the same Health Plan adverse determination for which you have already received an external review decision.

**If the independent external review organization overturns our denial of payment for care you have already received, we will issue payment within five (5) working days. If the independent review organization overturns our decision not to authorize pre-service or concurrent care claims, Kaiser Permanente will authorize care within one (1) working day. Such covered services shall be provided subject to the terms and conditions applicable to benefits under your plan.**

Except when external review is permitted to occur simultaneously with your urgent pre-service appeal or urgent concurrent care appeal, you must exhaust our internal claims and appeals procedure (but not the Voluntary Second Level of Appeal) for your claim before you may request external review unless we have failed to substantially comply with federal and/or state law requirements regarding our claims and appeals procedures.

#### **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.

## **B. Complaints**

1. If you are not satisfied with the Services received at a particular Plan 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:
  - a. Sending your written complaint to **Member Services**;
  - b. Requesting to meet with a Member Services Liaison at the Health Plan Administrative Offices; or
  - c. Telephoning **Member Services**.
2. After you notify us of a complaint, this is what happens:
  - a. A Member Services Liaison reviews the complaint and conducts an investigation, verifying all the relevant facts.

- b. The Member Services Liaison or a Plan Physician evaluates the facts and makes a recommendation for corrective action, if any.
  - c. When you file a written complaint, we usually respond in writing within 30 calendar days, unless additional information is required.
  - d. When you make a verbal complaint, a verbal response is usually made within 30 calendar days.
3. If you are dissatisfied with the resolution, you have the right to request a second review. Please put your request in writing to **Member Services**. **Member Services** will respond to you in writing within 30 calendar days of receipt of your request.

We want you to be satisfied with our Plan Facilities, Services, and Plan Physicians. 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. Please call **Member Services**.

## X. INFORMATION ON POLICY AND RATE CHANGES

Your Group's Agreement with us will change periodically. If these changes affect this EOC or your Premiums, your Group is required to notify you of them. If it is necessary to make revisions to this EOC, we will issue revised materials to you.

## XI. DEFINITIONS

The following terms, when capitalized and used in any part of this EOC, have the following meaning:

**Accumulation Period:** As stated in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)," the period of time during which benefits are paid and are counted toward the maximum allowed for the specific benefit.

**Affiliated Physician:** Any doctor of medicine contracting with Medical Group to provide covered Services to Members under this EOC.

**Affiliated Provider:** A health care provider that we designate as an Affiliated Provider.

**Authorization:** A referral request that has received approval from Health Plan.

**Charge(s):**

1. For Services provided by Plan Providers or Medical Group, the charges in Health Plan's schedule of Medical Group and Health Plan charges for Services provided to Members; or
2. For Services for which a provider (other than Medical Group or Health Plan) is compensated on a capitation basis, the charges in the schedule of charges that Kaiser Permanente negotiates with the capitated provider; or
3. For items obtained at a Plan Pharmacy, the amount the Plan Pharmacy would charge a Member for the item if a Member's benefit plan did not cover the item (this amount is an estimate of: the cost of acquiring, storing, and dispensing drugs, the direct and indirect costs of providing Kaiser Permanente pharmacy Services to Members, and the Plan Pharmacy program's contribution to the net revenue requirements of Health Plan); or
4. For all other Services, the payments that Health Plan makes for the Services (or, if Health Plan subtracts a Copayment, Coinsurance or Deductible from its payment, the amount Health Plan would have paid if it did not subtract the Copayment, Coinsurance or Deductible).

**CMS:** The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the federal agency responsible for administering Medicare.

**Coinsurance:** A percentage of Charges that you must pay when you receive a covered Service, as listed in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)."

**Copayment:** The specific dollar amount you must pay for a covered Service, as listed in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)."

**Deductible:** The amount you must pay in an Accumulation Period for certain Services before we will cover those Services in that Accumulation Period. The "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" explains the amount of the Deductible and which Services are subject to the Deductible.

**Dependent:** A Member whose relationship to a Subscriber is the basis for membership eligibility and who meets the eligibility requirements as a Dependent. For Dependent eligibility requirements, see "Who Is Eligible" in the "Eligibility" section.

**Emergency Medical Condition:** A medical condition that manifests itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity, including severe pain, that a prudent layperson with an average knowledge of health and medicine could reasonably expect, in the absence of immediate medical attention, to result in:

1. Serious jeopardy to the health of the individual or, with respect to a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child;
2. Serious impairment to bodily functions; or
3. Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part.

**Emergency Services:** With respect to an Emergency Medical Condition:

1. A medical screening examination that is within the capability of the emergency department of a hospital, including ancillary services routinely available to the emergency department to evaluate the Emergency Medical Condition; and
2. Within the capabilities of the staff and facilities available at the hospital, further medical examination and treatment as required to Stabilize the patient 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 individual from a facility.

**Family Unit:** A Subscriber and all of his or her Dependents.

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

**Health Plan:** Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado, a Colorado nonprofit corporation.

**Health Savings Account (HSA):** A tax-exempt trust or custodial account established under Section 223(d) of the Internal Revenue Code exclusively for the purpose of paying qualified medical expenses of the account beneficiary. Contributions made to a Health Savings Account by an eligible individual are tax deductible under federal tax law whether or not the individual itemizes deductions. In order to make contributions to a Health Savings Account, you must be covered under a qualified High Deductible Health Plan and meet other tax law requirements. Kaiser Permanente does not provide tax advice. Consult with your financial or tax advisor for tax advice or more information about your eligibility for a Health Savings Account.

**High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP):** A health benefit plan that meets the requirements of Section 223 (c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code. The health care coverage under this EOC has been designed to be a High Deductible Health Plan compatible for use with a Health Savings Account.

**Kaiser Permanente:** Health Plan and Medical Group

**Life or Limb Threatening Emergency:** Any event that a prudent layperson would believe threatens his or her life or limb in such a manner that a need for immediate medical care is created to prevent death or serious impairment of health.

**Medical Group:** The Colorado Permanente Medical Group, P.C., a for-profit medical corporation.

**Medically Necessary** services or supplies are those that are determined by Health Plan to be all of the following:

- Required to prevent, diagnose, or treat your condition or clinical symptoms; and
- In accordance with generally accepted standards of medical practice; and
- Not solely for the convenience of you, your family, and/or your provider; and
- The most appropriate level of care that can safely be provided to you.

The fact that a Plan or non-Plan Provider prescribes, recommends, or refers you to a Service does not make that Service Medically Necessary or covered under this EOC.

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

**Member:** A person who is eligible and enrolled under this EOC, and for whom we have received applicable Premiums. This EOC sometimes refers to a Member as “you” or “your.”

**Out-of-Pocket Maximum:** The annual limit to the total amount of Deductible (if any), certain Copayments and certain Coinsurance you must pay in an Accumulation Period for covered Services, as described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**Plan Facility:** A Plan Medical Office or Plan Hospital.

**Plan Hospital:** Any hospital listed as a Plan Hospital in our provider directory. Plan Hospitals are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Plan Medical Office:** Any medical office listed in our provider directory, including any outpatient facility designated by Health Plan. Plan Medical Offices are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Plan Optometrist:** Any licensed optometrist who is an employee of Health Plan or any licensed optometrist who contracts to provide Services to Members.

**Plan Pharmacy:** A pharmacy owned and operated by Kaiser Permanente or another pharmacy that we designate. Plan Pharmacies are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Plan Physician:** Any licensed physician who is an employee of Medical Group, an Affiliated Physician or any licensed physician who contracts to provide Services to Members (but not including physicians who contract only to provide referral Services).

**Plan Provider:** A Plan Hospital, Plan Physician, or other health care provider that we designate as Plan Provider, except that Plan Providers are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Premiums:** Periodic membership charges paid by Group.

**Service Area:**

The **Denver/Boulder** Service Area is that portion of Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Clear Creek, Denver, Douglas, Elbert, Gilpin, Jefferson, Larimer, Park, Teller, and Weld counties within the following zip codes: 80001, 80002, 80003, 80004, 80005, 80006, 80007, 80010, 80011, 80012, 80013, 80014, 80015, 80016, 80017, 80018, 80019, 80020, 80021, 80022, 80023, 80024, 80025, 80026, 80027, 80030, 80031, 80033, 80034, 80035, 80036, 80037, 80038, 80040, 80041, 80042, 80044, 80045, 80046, 80047, 80102, 80104, 80107, 80108, 80109, 80110, 80111, 80112, 80113, 80116, 80117, 80120, 80121, 80122, 80123, 80124, 80125, 80126, 80127, 80128, 80129, 80130, 80131, 80134, 80135, 80137, 80138, 80150, 80151, 80155, 80160, 80161, 80162, 80163, 80165, 80166, 80201, 80202, 80203, 80204, 80205, 80206, 80207, 80208, 80209, 80210, 80211, 80212, 80214, 80215, 80216, 80217, 80218, 80219, 80220, 80221, 80222, 80223, 80224, 80225, 80226, 80227, 80228, 80229, 80230, 80231, 80232, 80233, 80234, 80235, 80236, 80237, 80238, 80239, 80241, 80243, 80244, 80246, 80247, 80248, 80249, 80250, 80251, 80256, 80257, 80259, 80260, 80261, 80262, 80263, 80264, 80265, 80266, 80271, 80273, 80274, 80281, 80290, 80291, 80293, 80294, 80299, 80301, 80302, 80303, 80304, 80305, 80306, 80307, 80308, 80309, 80310, 80314, 80401, 80402, 80403, 80419, 80421, 80422, 80425, 80427, 80433, 80436, 80437, 80439, 80444, 80452, 80453, 80454, 80455, 80457, 80465, 80466, 80470, 80471, 80474, 80481, 80501, 80502, 80503, 80504, 80510, 80514, 80516, 80520, 80530, 80533, 80540, 80544, 80601, 80602, 80603, 80614, 80621, 80640, 80642, 80643.

The **Northern Colorado** Service Area is that portion of Adams, Boulder, Larimer, Morgan, and Weld counties within the following zip codes: 69128, 69145, 80511, 80512, 80513, 80515, 80517, 80521, 80522, 80523, 80524, 80525, 80526, 80527, 80528, 80532, 80534, 80535, 80536, 80537, 80538, 80539, 80541, 80542, 80543, 80545, 80546, 80547, 80549, 80550, 80551, 80553, 80610, 80611, 80612, 80615, 80620, 80622, 80623, 80624, 80631, 80632, 80633, 80634, 80638, 80639, 80644, 80645, 80646, 80648, 80649, 80650, 80651, 80652, 80654, 80729, 80732, 80742, 80754, 82063, 82070, 82082.

The **Southern Colorado** Service Area is that portion of Crowley, Custer, Douglas, El Paso, Elbert, Fremont, Huerfano, Las Animas, Lincoln, Otero, Park, Pueblo, and Teller counties within the following zip codes: 80106, 80118, 80132, 80133, 80808, 80809, 80813, 80814, 80816, 80817, 80819, 80820, 80827, 80829, 80831, 80832, 80833, 80840, 80841, 80860, 80863, 80864, 80866, 80901, 80902, 80903, 80904, 80905, 80906, 80907, 80908, 80909, 80910, 80911, 80912, 80913, 80914, 80915, 80916, 80917, 80918, 80919, 80920, 80921, 80922, 80923, 80924, 80925, 80926, 80927, 80928, 80929, 80930, 80931, 80932, 80933, 80934, 80935, 80936, 80937, 80938, 80939, 80941, 80942, 80946, 80947, 80949, 80950, 80951, 80960, 80962, 80970, 80977, 80995, 80997, 81001, 81002, 81003, 81004, 81005, 81006, 81007, 81008, 81009, 81010, 81011, 81012, 81019, 81022, 81023, 81025, 81039, 81062, 81069, 81212, 81215, 81221, 81222, 81223, 81226, 81232, 81233, 81240, 81244, 81253, 81290.

**Services:** Health care services or items.

**Skilled Nursing Facility:** A facility that is licensed as such by the state of Colorado, certified by Medicare and approved by Health Plan. The facility's primary business must be the provision of 24-hour-a-day licensed skilled nursing care for patients who need skilled nursing or skilled rehabilitation care, or both, on a daily basis, as part of an ongoing medical treatment plan.

**Spouse:** Your partner in marriage or a civil union as determined by state law.

**Stabilize:** To provide the medical treatment of the Emergency Medical 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 (including the placenta).

**Step Therapy:** A protocol that requires a covered person to use a prescription drug or sequence of prescription drugs, other than the drug that the covered person's health care provider recommends for the covered person's treatment, before the carrier provides coverage for the recommended prescription drug.

**Subscriber:** A Member who is eligible for membership on his or her own behalf and not by virtue of Dependent status and who meets the eligibility requirements as a Subscriber (for Subscriber eligibility requirements, see "Who Is Eligible" in the "Eligibility" section).

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## ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

Please refer to the Summary Chart in this booklet for specific charges and other limitations that may apply to the coverage(s) described below.

### DOMESTIC PARTNER COVERAGE

Your Group coverage includes health benefits for same-sex domestic partners. To be covered they must meet:

- (1) the eligibility requirements as described in the “Eligibility” section of this EOC; and
- (2) the conditions for domestic partnership as described in the Affidavit of Domestic Partnership.

You are required to complete and submit an Affidavit of Domestic Partnership to Health Plan. Please check with your Group's benefit administrator for details.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for same-sex domestic partners. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

DOMP0AA (01-18)  
WOR0AA

### ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT

**(Does not apply to Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage HMO Plan)**

The following paragraph of your EOC is amended, as follows:

#### I. Eligibility

##### A. Who Is Eligible

###### 1. General

To be eligible to enroll and to remain enrolled in this health benefit plan, you must meet the following requirements:

- a. You must meet your Group's eligibility requirements that we have approved. Your Group is required to inform Subscribers of the Group's eligibility requirements; and
- b. You must also meet the Subscriber or Dependent eligibility requirements as described below; and
- c. The Subscriber must live, reside, or work in our Service Area. Our Service Area is described in the “Definitions” section.

This rider amends the general eligibility provision of the EOC. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

WOR0AA (01-20)

### CHIROPRACTIC CARE

#### 1. Coverage

Chiropractic Services are covered as shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” when provided by contracted providers. Coverage includes:

- a. Evaluation;
- b. Manual and manipulative therapy of the spinal and extraspinal regions.

You may self-refer for visits to contracted providers.

**Note:** The following are covered, but not under this section: X-ray and laboratory tests, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”.

#### 2. Exclusions

- a. Hypnotherapy.
- b. Behavior training.
- c. Sleep therapy.

- d. Weight loss programs.
- e. Services related to the treatment of the musculoskeletal system, except for the spinal and extraspinal regions.
- f. Vocational rehabilitation Services.
- g. Thermography.
- h. Air conditioners, air purifiers, therapeutic mattresses, supplies, or any other similar devices and appliances.
- i. Transportation costs. This includes local ambulance charges.
- j. Prescription drugs, vitamins, minerals, food supplements, or other similar products.
- k. Educational programs.
- l. Non-medical self-care or self-help training.
- m. All diagnostic testing related to these excluded Services.
- n. MRI and/or other types of diagnostic radiology.
- o. Physical or massage therapy that is not a part of the manual and manipulative therapy.
- p. Durable medical equipment (DME) and/or supplies for use in the home.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for Chiropractic Care. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

CHIR0AA (01-18)  
DMES0AB

### **DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT (DME) AND PROSTHETIC AND ORTHOTIC DEVICES**

When prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan on either a purchase or rental basis, as determined by Health Plan, DME, prosthetics and orthotics, including replacements other than those necessitated by misuse, theft, or loss, are provided as shown on the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" for your use during the period prescribed. Necessary fittings, repairs and adjustments, other than those necessitated by misuse, are covered. Health Plan may repair or replace a device at its option. Repair or replacement of defective equipment is covered at no additional charge.

Health Plan uses Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) and National Coverage Determinations (NCD) (hereinafter referred to as Medicare Guidelines) for our DME, prosthetic, and orthotic formulary guidelines. These are guidelines only. Health Plan reserves the right to exclude items listed in the Medicare Guidelines (does not apply to Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage plans). Please note that this EOC may contain some, but not all, of these exclusions.

**Limitations:** Coverage is limited to a standard item of DME, prosthetic device, or orthotic device that adequately meets your medical needs.

#### 1. Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

##### a. Coverage

- i. DME is equipment that is appropriate for use in the home, able to withstand repeated use, Medically Necessary, not of use to a person in the absence of illness or injury, and approved for coverage under Medicare. It includes, but is not limited to, infant apnea monitors, insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies, and oxygen and oxygen dispensing equipment.
- ii. Insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iii. When use is no longer prescribed by a Plan Physician, DME must be returned to Health Plan or its designee. If the equipment is not returned, you must pay Health Plan or its designee the fair market price, established by Health Plan, for the equipment.

b. Limitation: Coverage is limited to the lesser of the purchase or rental price, as determined by Health Plan.

##### c. Durable Medical Equipment Exclusions

- i. Electronic monitors of bodily functions, except infant apnea monitors are covered.
- ii. Devices to perform medical testing of body fluids, excretions or substances, except nitrate urine test strips for home use for pediatric patients are covered.
- iii. Non-medical items such as sauna baths or elevators.
- iv. Exercise or hygiene equipment.
- v. Comfort, convenience, or luxury equipment or features.
- vi. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze\*, tape, antiseptics, dressings, and ace-type bandages.  
\*Gauze not excluded in Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Part D plans.
- vii. Replacement of lost or stolen equipment.
- viii. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.
- ix. More than one piece of DME serving essentially the same function, except for replacements.
- x. Spare equipment or alternate use equipment is not covered.

#### 2. Prosthetic Devices

##### a. Coverage

Prosthetic devices are those rigid or semi-rigid external devices that are required to replace all or part of a body organ or extremity. Coverage of prosthetic devices includes:

- i. Internally implanted devices for functional purposes, such as pacemakers and hip joints.
- ii. Prosthetic devices for Members who have had a mastectomy. Medical Group or Health Plan will designate the source from which external prostheses can be obtained. Replacement will be made when a prosthesis is no longer functional. Custom-made prostheses will be provided when necessary.
- iii. Prosthetic devices, such as obturators and speech and feeding appliances, required for the treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate are covered when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iv. Prosthetic devices intended to replace, in whole or in part, an arm or leg when prescribed by a Plan Physician, as Medically Necessary and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.

b. Prosthetic Devices Exclusions

- i. Dental prostheses, except for Medically Necessary prosthodontic treatment for treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate, as described above.
- ii. Internally implanted devices, equipment, and prosthetics related to treatment of sexual dysfunction.
- iii. More than one prosthetic device for the same part of the body, except for replacements.
- iv. Spare devices or alternate use devices.
- v. Replacement of lost or stolen prosthetic devices.
- vi. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.

3. Orthotic Devices

a. Coverage

Orthotic devices are those rigid or semi-rigid external devices that are 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.

b. Orthotic Devices Exclusions

- i. Corrective shoes and orthotic devices for podiatric use and arch supports, except for diabetic shoes in accordance with clinical guidelines and therapeutic shoes for patients with a diagnosis of peripheral vascular disease or peripheral neuropathy.
- ii. Dental devices and appliances except that Medically Necessary treatment of cleft lip or cleft palate is covered when prescribed by a Plan Physician, unless you are covered for these Services under a dental insurance policy or contract.
- iii. Experimental and research braces.
- iv. More than one orthotic device for the same part of the body, except for covered replacements.
- v. Spare devices or alternate use devices.
- vi. Replacement of lost or stolen orthotic devices.
- vii. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and prosthetic and orthotic devices. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

DMES0AB (01-20)

## PREVENTIVE SERVICES RIDER

Preventive care services, as defined under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, are provided at no charge including those shown on the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" when prescribed by a Plan Physician. Please contact **Member Services** for a complete list of covered Preventive Services.

**Note:** If you receive any other covered Services before, during, or after a preventive care visit, you may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, and Coinsurance for those Services. For example:

- You schedule a routine physical maintenance exam. During your preventive exam your provider finds a problem with your health and orders non-preventive Services to diagnose your problem (such as laboratory or radiology tests). You may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance for these additional diagnostic Services.
- You schedule a routine preventive exam. Your provider orders laboratory tests that are not preventive care Services according to the guidelines below. You may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance for these additional non-preventive Services.
- You schedule a routine well-person exam. During your exam, you discuss new symptoms with your provider, or new health concerns are discovered. You may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance for this visit.

Coverage includes, but is not limited to, preventive health care Services for the following in accordance with the A or B recommendations of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, the Health Resources Services Administration women's preventive services guidelines, and those preventive services mandates required by state law, for the particular preventive health care Service:



1. Office visits for preventive care Services.
2. Alcohol misuse screening and behavioral counseling interventions for adults by your primary care provider.
3. Cervical cancer screening.
4. Breast cancer screening.
5. Blood pressure screening.
6. Cholesterol screening.
7. Colorectal cancer screening.
8. Prostate cancer screening.
9. Immunizations pursuant to the schedule established by the ACIP.
10. Tobacco use screening, counseling, cessation attempt services, FDA-approved tobacco cessation medications, and the Colorado QuitLine.
11. Type 2 diabetes screening for adults with high blood pressure.
12. Diet counseling for adults with hyperlipidemia and at higher risk for cardiovascular and diet-related chronic disease.
13. Cervical cancer vaccines.
14. Influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations.
15. Approved Affordable Care Act contraceptive categories.

“ACIP” means the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention in the federal Department of Health and Human Services, or any successor entity. Go to [cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/](http://cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/). For a list of preventive services that have a rating of A or B from the U.S. Preventive Task Force, go to [uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Name/uspstf-a-and-b-recommendations/](http://uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Name/uspstf-a-and-b-recommendations/). For the Health Resources and Services Administration women’s preventive services guidelines, go to [hrsa.gov/womensguidelines/](http://hrsa.gov/womensguidelines/).

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for preventive Services. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

PV0AD (01-20)

RX0BL

### **PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT**

**NOTE:** When used in this Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement, the term “preferred” refers to drugs that are included in the Health Plan drug formulary. The term “non-preferred” refers to drugs that are not included in the Health Plan drug formulary.

Please refer to the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” in this booklet for the specific Copayments, Coinsurance, Deductible, and supply limits that apply to the covered prescription drugs described below.

#### 1. Coverage

Prescribed covered drugs are provided at the applicable prescription drug Copayment or Coinsurance for each tier of drug coverage. This may include: a preferred generic drug tier; a tier for preferred brand-name drugs or medications not having a generic or a generic equivalent; a tier for prescribed non-preferred drugs authorized through the non-preferred drug process; and a tier for certain specialty drugs. **Note:** Some specialty drugs are available in other tiers. To learn more, please visit our website at [kp.org/formulary](http://kp.org/formulary).

#### Non-Formulary Drug Exception Process:

You, your designee, or your Plan Provider may request access to clinically appropriate drugs not otherwise covered by Health Plan (non-formulary drugs) through a special exception process. We will make a coverage determination within 72 hours of receipt for standard requests and within 24 hours of receipt for expedited requests. As long as you are an active Member and the exception request is granted, Health Plan will provide coverage of the non-formulary drug for the duration of the prescription. If the exception request is denied, you, your designee, or your Plan Provider may request an external review of the decision by an independent review organization. For additional information about the prescription drug exception processes for non-formulary drugs, please contact **Member Services**.

Prescribed supplies and accessories include, but may not be limited to:

- a. Home glucose monitoring supplies.
- b. Glucose test strips.
- c. Acetone test tablets.
- d. Nitrate urine test strips for pediatric patients.
- e. Disposable syringes for the administration of insulin.

Such items are provided when obtained at Plan Pharmacies or from sources designated by Health Plan.

For Copayment or Coinsurance information related to contraceptive drugs and certain devices please refer to your “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

For each drug, the amount covered will be the lesser of the quantity prescribed or the day supply limit. Any amount you receive that exceeds the day supply will not be covered. If you receive more than the day supply limit, you will be charged as a

non-Member for any prescribed amount exceeding the limit. Certain drugs have a significant potential for waste and diversion. Those drugs will be provided for up to a 30-day supply. Each prescription refill is provided on the same basis as the original prescription. Kaiser Permanente may, in its sole discretion, establish quantity limits for specific prescription drugs.

Generic drugs that are available in the United States only from a single manufacturer and that are not listed as generic in the then-current commercially available drug database(s) to which Health Plan subscribes are provided at the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance. The amount covered will be the lesser of the quantity prescribed or the day supply limit.

Prescription drugs are covered only when prescribed by a:

- a. Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies; or
- b. Physician to whom a Member has been referred by a Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies; or
- c. Dentist (when prescribed for acute conditions) and obtained at Plan Pharmacies.

Covered drugs include:

- a. Drugs for which a prescription is required by law. Plan Pharmacies may substitute a generic equivalent for a brand-name drug unless prohibited by the Plan Physician. If you request a brand-name drug when a generic equivalent drug is the preferred product, you must pay the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance, plus any difference in price between the preferred generic equivalent drug prescribed by the Plan Physician and the requested brand-name drug. If the brand-name drug is prescribed due to Medical Necessity, you pay only the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance.
- b. Insulin.
- c. Renewal of prescription eye drops and one additional bottle of prescription eye drops in accordance with state law.
- d. Compounded medications. **Note:** In all Service Areas, if you use a Kaiser Permanente pharmacy, compounded medications must be picked up or mailed from the pharmacy that is designated by Health Plan. Refills of compounded medications cannot be ordered on [kp.org](http://kp.org), by mail order, or through the automated refill line. Please call **303-764-4900 (TTY 711)** and press "0" to speak to the pharmacy staff for assistance. In the *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Service Areas, you may fill or refill compounded medications at a network pharmacy.

## 2. Limitations

- a. Some drugs may require prior authorization. You do not need prior authorization for any FDA-approved prescription drug listed on our formulary, for the treatment of substance use disorder.
- b. With the exception of substance use disorder drugs, we may apply Step Therapy to certain drugs. You or your Plan Provider may request an exception if you previously tried a drug and your use of the drug was discontinued due to lack of efficacy or effectiveness, diminished effect, or an adverse event.
- c. Coverage determinations for the off-label use of medications will be consistent with Medicare compendia, and coverage determinations for the off-label use of oncologic agents will be consistent with the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) of 2008.

### 3. Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements Exclusions

- a. Drugs for which a prescription is not required by law.
- b. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze, tape, antiseptics, dressing and ace-type bandages.
- c. Prescription drugs necessary for Services excluded in the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement.
- d. Non-preferred drugs, except those prescribed and authorized through the non-preferred drug process.
- e. Any drugs listed as not covered in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)".
- f. Drugs to shorten the length of the common cold.
- g. Drugs to enhance athletic performance.
- h. Drugs available over the counter and by prescription for the same strength.
- i. Individual drugs determined excluded by our Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.
- j. Drugs for the treatment of weight control.
- k. Any prescription drug packaging except the dispensing pharmacy's standard packaging.
- l. Replacement of prescription drugs for any reason. This includes spilled, lost, damaged, or stolen prescriptions.
- m. Drugs administered during a medical office visit.
- n. Medical Foods and Medical Devices.
- o. Unless approved by Health Plan, drugs not approved by the FDA.

This rider amends the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement to provide coverage for Prescription Drugs. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.



**Kaiser Foundation Health  
Plan of Colorado**  
2500 S. Havana St.  
Aurora, CO 80014-1622

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CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER



## Important plan information

# Evidence of Coverage

## Your Medicare Health Benefits and Services and Prescription Drug Coverage as a Member of Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Group Plan (HMO)

This booklet gives you the details about your Medicare health care and prescription drug coverage during your group's 2020 contract year. It explains how to get coverage for the health care services and prescription drugs you need. This is an important legal document. Please keep it in a safe place.

This plan, Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage, is offered by Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (Health Plan). When this Evidence of Coverage says "we," "us," or "our," it means Health Plan. When it says "plan" or "our plan," it means Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage (Senior Advantage).

This document is available for free in Spanish. Please contact our Member Services number at **1-800-476-2167** for additional information. (TTY users should call **711**.) Hours are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week.

Este documento está disponible de forma gratuita en español. Si desea información adicional, por favor llame al número de nuestro Servicio a los Miembros al **1-800-476-2167**. (Los usuarios de la línea TTY deben llamar al **711**). El horario es de 8 a. m. a 8 p. m., siete días a la semana.

This document is available in Braille, large print, or CD if you need it by calling Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

Benefits, premium, deductible, and/or copayments/coinsurance may change on January 1, 2021, and at other times in accordance with your group's agreement with us. The formulary, pharmacy network, and/or provider network may change at any time. You will receive notice when necessary.



**DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT  
MEDICARE EMPLOYEES  
EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE AMENDMENT - 2020**

- I. The following eligibility and enrollment requirements are *in addition* to those detailed in this Evidence of Coverage (EOC), Eligibility and Enrollment section:**

**ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT**

**Eligible Dependents**

Dependent is any spouse, including those defined as common-law under the state, Same Gender Domestic Partner (a.k.a. Spousal Equivalent), or child meeting the Dependent Age Limits, below (including a step-child, child for whom the Insured Employee, his/her spouse, or his/her Same Gender Domestic Partner (a.k.a. Spousal Equivalent) is required by a qualified medical child support order to provide health care coverage (even if the child does not reside at the same legal residence of the parent), or adopted child or child placed for adoption), or unmarried incapacitated and physically disabled children who are legal dependents of the Insured Employee or legal dependents of a Same Gender Domestic Partner (a.k.a. Spousal Equivalent), of an Insured Employee, who meet the eligibility requirements set forth in the Summary Plan Description and Disclosure Form and for whom applicable Dues are received.

Dependent Child Age Limits: A child shall be covered to the end of the month that he/she turns age 26 and unmarried legal dependents who are mentally or physically disabled shall be covered regardless of age, all of whom must also be legal dependents of the Insured Employee or of a Same Gender Domestic Partner (a.k.a. Spousal Equivalent).

Same Gender Domestic Partner (a.k.a. Spousal Equivalent) is defined as an adult of the same gender who shares an emotional, physical, and financial relationship with the employee, similar to that of a spouse. A Subscriber of the group may enroll a sole Same Gender Domestic Partner (a.k.a. Spousal Equivalent) of the same sex and children of the sole Same Gender Domestic Partner (a.k.a. Spousal Equivalent) as Eligible Dependents. A sole Same Gender Domestic Partner (a.k.a. Spousal Equivalent) is a person who meets the following requirements for eligibility:

- Is 18 years of age or older;
- Is mentally competent to consent to contract;
- Has an exclusive, committed relationship with the Subscriber with the intent for the relationship to last indefinitely;
- Shares basic living expenses with the Subscriber;
- Is unmarried; and
- Is not related by blood to the Subscriber such as a parent, brother, sister, half brother, half sister, niece, nephew, aunt, uncle, grandparent or grandchild.

- II. The following requirements regarding Domestic Partnership coverage supersede those detailed in the Domestic Partner rider found at the end of this Evidence of Coverage (EOC) booklet:**

The Subscriber and the sole Same Gender Domestic Partner (a.k.a. Spousal Equivalent) must complete an affidavit of Domestic Partnership confirming the following information:

- The partners have an exclusive, committed relationship and hold ourselves out as committed partners;
- Both partners share basic living expenses with the intent for the relationship to last indefinitely;
- Are both 18 years of age or older;
- Neither partner is married;
- Neither partner is related by blood to the other as described above; and
- Neither partner has had a different domestic partner within six (6) months of filing with the employer a statement of termination of domestic partnership.

**The Affidavit of Domestic Partnership is available through the Group's Benefit Manager and will be maintained by the employer. The Employee agrees to immediately notify the employer in writing if there is any change of circumstances attested to in the Affidavit.**

**III. The following information is added and becomes part of this Evidence of Coverage (EOC):**

**Employee Eligibility.** An Eligible Member is a retired classified member of the Denver Fire Department (Group), who is age 65 or older and who is eligible for Medicare ("Retiree"), and who meets any other eligibility requirements of the Group. Retirees must live in the Service Area.

The following conditions of enrollment and eligibility shall be applicable to subscribing Group in addition to the conditions specified above and in the attached Evidence of Coverage brochure. To the extent that any of the following conditions contradict those stated in the attached Evidence of Coverage brochure, the following shall prevail:


**Eligibility Rules:** No waiting period





**Please NOTE that while active Fire Fighters can live or work in the Service Area, Retirees MUST live in the Service Area.**








# Medical Benefits Chart: Kaiser Permanente Group Senior Advantage (HMO)



**DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**74 - 002**

<b>Services that are covered for you</b>	<b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b>
<b>Annual Deductible</b>	No Medical Deductible
<b>Annual out-of-pocket maximum</b>	\$2,500/Individual per year
 <b>Abdominal aortic aneurysm screening</b> A one-time screening ultrasound for people at risk. Our plan only covers this screening if you have certain risk factors and if you get a referral for it from your physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner, or clinical nurse specialist.	There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for members eligible for this preventive screening.
<b>Alternative therapies *</b>	
Acupuncture	Not Covered
<b>Ambulance services</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Covered ambulance services include fixed wing, rotary wing, and ground ambulance services, to the nearest appropriate facility that can provide care if they are furnished to a member whose medical condition is such that other means of transportation could endanger the person’s health or if authorized by our plan.</li> <li>• We also cover the services of a licensed ambulance anywhere in the world without prior authorization (including transportation through the 911 emergency response system where available) if you reasonably believe that you have an emergency medical condition and you reasonably believe that your condition requires the clinical support of ambulance transport services.</li> <li>• You may need to file a claim for reimbursement unless the provider agrees to bill us (see Chapter 7).</li> <li>• †Non-emergency transportation by ambulance is appropriate if it is documented that the member’s condition is such that other means of transportation could endanger the person’s health and that transportation by ambulance is medically required.</li> </ul>	20% Coinsurance Up to \$195 per trip


<p align="center"><b>Services that are covered for you</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b></p>
<p> <b>Annual routine physical exams</b></p> <p>Routine physical exams are covered if the exam is medically appropriate preventive care in accord with generally accepted professional standards of practice. This exam is covered once every 12 months.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for this preventive care.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p> <b>Annual wellness visit</b></p> <p>If you've had Part B for longer than 12 months, you can get an annual wellness visit to develop or update a personalized prevention plan based on your current health and risk factors. This is covered once every 12 months.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Your first annual wellness visit can't take place within 12 months of your "Welcome to Medicare" preventive visit. However, you don't need to have had a "Welcome to Medicare" visit to be covered for annual wellness visits after you've had Part B for 12 months.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the annual wellness visit.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p> <b>Bone-mass measurement</b></p> <p>For qualified individuals (generally, this means people at risk of losing bone mass or at risk of osteoporosis), the following services are covered every 24 months or more frequently if medically necessary: procedures to identify bone mass, detect bone loss, or determine bone quality, including a physician's interpretation of the results.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for Medicare-covered bone mass measurement.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p> <b>Breast cancer screening (mammograms)</b></p> <p>Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One baseline mammogram between the ages of 35 and 39.</li> <li>• One screening mammogram every 12 months for women age 40 and older.</li> <li>• Clinical breast exams once every 24 months.</li> </ul>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for covered screening mammograms.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p><b>Cardiac rehabilitation services†</b></p> <p>Comprehensive programs for cardiac rehabilitation services that include exercise, education, and counseling are covered for members who meet certain conditions with a doctor's order.</p> <p>Our plan also covers intensive cardiac rehabilitation programs that are typically more rigorous or more intense than cardiac rehabilitation programs.</p>	
<p>Individual therapy visits.</p>	<p>\$15 Copayment each visit or \$30 Copayment each visit Copayment dependent upon provider type</p>
<p>Group therapy visits.</p>	<p>Your primary care office visit copayment or \$10, whichever is less.</p>
<p> <b>Cardiovascular disease risk reduction visit (therapy for cardiovascular disease)</b></p> <p>We cover one visit per year with your primary care doctor to help lower your risk for cardiovascular disease. During this visit, your doctor may discuss aspirin use (if appropriate), check your blood pressure, and give you tips to make sure you're eating healthy.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the intensive behavioral therapy cardiovascular disease preventive benefit.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p> <b>Cardiovascular disease testing</b></p> <p>Blood tests for the detection of cardiovascular disease (or abnormalities associated with an elevated risk of cardiovascular disease) once every five years (60 months).</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for this cardiovascular disease testing that is covered once every five years.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p> <b>Cervical and vaginal cancer screening</b></p> <p>Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For all women: Pap tests and pelvic exams are covered once every 24 months.</li> <li>• If you are at high risk of cervical or vaginal cancer or you are of childbearing age and have had an abnormal Pap test within the past three years: one Pap test every 12 months.</li> </ul>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for Medicare-covered preventive Pap and pelvic exams.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>


<p align="center"><b>Services that are covered for you</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b></p>
<p><b>Chiropractic services</b> Covered services include: We cover only manual manipulation of the spine to correct subluxation. These Medicare-covered services are provided by a participating chiropractor. Please refer to your <b>Provider Directory</b> for participating chiropractors providing the Medicare-covered services.</p> <p>If purchased by your group, supplemental chiropractic services.</p> <p>Laboratory Services or X-rays required for Chiropractic care</p>	<p>Your primary care office visit copayment or \$20 whichever is less. Referral required.</p> <p>\$15 Copayment each visit Limited to 20 visits per Accumulation Period See Additional Provisions</p> <p>See Outpatient diagnostic tests and therapeutic services and supplies</p>
<p> <b>Colorectal cancer screening</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For people 50 and older, the following are covered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Flexible sigmoidoscopy (or screening barium enema as an alternative) every 48 months.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• One of the following every 12 months: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Guaiac-based fecal occult blood test (gFOBT).</li> <li>◆ Fecal immunochemical test (FIT).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• DNA-based colorectal screening every 3 years.</li> <li>• For people at high risk of colorectal cancer, we cover a screening colonoscopy (or screening barium enema as an alternative) every 24 months.</li> <li>• For people not at high risk of colorectal cancer, we cover a screening colonoscopy every 10 years (120 months), but not within 48 months of a screening sigmoidoscopy.</li> </ul>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for a Medicare-covered colorectal cancer screening exam.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p><b>Dental services (from designated providers)*</b></p>	<p>Please see the Additional Provisions in the back of this booklet to see if your group has purchased coverage for dental services.</p>
<p> <b>Depression screening</b></p> <p>We cover one screening for depression per year. The screening must be done in a primary care setting that can provide follow-up treatment and/or referrals.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for an annual depression screening visit.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p> <b>Diabetes screening</b></p> <p>We cover this screening (includes fasting glucose tests) if you have any of the following risk factors: high blood pressure (hypertension), history of abnormal cholesterol and triglyceride levels (dyslipidemia), obesity, or a history of high blood sugar (glucose). Tests may also be covered if you meet other requirements, like being overweight and having a family history of diabetes.</p> <p>Based on the results of these tests, you may be eligible for up to two diabetes screenings every 12 months.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the Medicare-covered diabetes screening tests.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p><b>Diabetes self-management, training and diabetic services and supplies</b></p> <p>For all people who have diabetes (insulin and non-insulin users), covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supplies to monitor your blood glucose: Blood glucose monitor, blood glucose test strips, lancet devices and lancets, and glucose-control solutions for checking the accuracy of test strips and monitors.</li> </ul>	<p>No charge</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For people with diabetes who have severe diabetic foot disease: One pair per calendar year of therapeutic custom-molded shoes (including inserts provided with such shoes) and two additional pairs of inserts, or one pair of depth shoes and three pairs of inserts (not including the non-customized removable inserts provided with such shoes). Coverage includes fitting.</li> </ul>	<p>20% Coinsurance</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Diabetes self-management training is covered under certain conditions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> You may choose to receive diabetes self-management training from a program outside our plan that is recognized by the American Diabetes Association and approved by Medicare. †</p>	<p>\$15 Copayment each visit or \$30 Copayment each visit copayment dependent upon provider</p>
<p><b>Durable medical equipment (DME) and related supplies</b> †</p> <p>(For a definition of “durable medical equipment,” see Chapter 12 of this booklet.)</p> <p>Covered items include, but are not limited to: wheelchairs, crutches, powered mattress systems, diabetic supplies, hospital beds ordered by a provider for use in the home, IV infusion pumps, speech generating devices, oxygen equipment, nebulizers, and walkers.</p> <p>We cover all medically necessary DME covered by Original Medicare. If our supplier in your area does not carry a particular brand or manufacturer, you may ask them if they</p>	<p>20% Coinsurance</p> <p>See Additional Provisions</p> <p>No Charge</p>

<p align="center"><b>Services that are covered for you</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b></p>
<p>can special order it for you. The most recent list of suppliers is available on our website at <a href="http://kp.org/directory">kp.org/directory</a>.</p>	
<p><b>Emergency care</b></p>	
<p>Emergency care refers to services that are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Furnished by a provider qualified to furnish emergency services, and</li> <li>• Needed to evaluate or stabilize an emergency medical condition.</li> </ul> <p>A medical emergency is when you, or any other prudent layperson with an average knowledge of health and medicine believe that you have medical symptoms that require immediate medical attention to prevent loss of life, loss of a limb, or loss of function of a limb. The medical symptoms may be an illness, injury, severe pain, or a medical condition that is quickly getting worse.</p> <p>Cost-sharing for necessary emergency services furnished out-of-network is the same as for such services furnished in-network.</p> <p><b>You have worldwide emergency care coverage.</b></p>	<p>\$65 Copayment each visit Includes X-ray special procedures.</p> <p>This copayment does not apply if you are immediately admitted directly to the hospital as an inpatient (it does apply if you are admitted to the hospital as an outpatient; for example, if you are admitted for observation).</p> <p>†If you receive emergency care at an out-of-network hospital and need inpatient care after your emergency condition is stabilized, you must return to a network hospital in order for your care to continue to be covered or you must have your inpatient care at the out-of-network hospital authorized by our plan and your cost is the cost-sharing you would pay at a network hospital.</p>


Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p><b>Fitness benefit*</b></p> <p>A health and fitness benefit is provided through SilverSneakers® Fitness Program that includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A basic fitness membership with access to all participating fitness locations and their basic amenities.</li> <li>• SilverSneakers® group fitness classes, taught by certified instructors that focus on cardiovascular health, muscle strengthening, flexibility, agility, balance, and coordination.</li> <li>• Health education events and social activities focused on overall well-being.</li> <li>• Access to <a href="http://www.silversneakers.com/member">www.silversneakers.com/member</a>, a secure online community for members only, with wellness advice and fitness support information.</li> <li>• You can enroll in SilverSneakers® Steps, a self-directed fitness program for members that includes one home kit to help you get fit at home or on the go.</li> </ul> <p>The following are not covered: programs, services, and facilities that carry additional charges, such as racquetball, tennis, and some court sports, massage therapy, lessons related to recreational sports, tournaments, and similar fee-based activities.</p> <p>For more information about SilverSneakers® and the list of participating fitness locations in your area, call toll-free <b>1-888-423-4632 (TTY 711)</b>, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (EST) or visit <a href="http://www.silversneakers.com">www.silversneakers.com</a>. Also, you can simply go to a participating fitness location and show your Senior Advantage membership card to enroll in the program.</p> <p>SilverSneakers is a registered trademark of Tivity Health, Inc.</p>	<p>No charge</p>
<p> <b>Health and wellness education programs</b></p> <p>Health and wellness programs include weight management, quitting tobacco, diabetes management, life care planning, prediabetes, and more. Registered dietitians, health coaches, certified diabetes educators, and other health professionals facilitate our classes. We offer in-person, online, and phone options to fit your learning style. Contact Member Services for more details. You can also view information online at <a href="http://kp.org">kp.org</a>.</p>	<p>No charge</p>
<p><b>Hearing services</b></p>	
<p>Diagnostic hearing and balance evaluations performed by your provider to determine if you need medical treatment</p>	<p>\$15 Copayment each visit</p>



Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
are covered as outpatient care when furnished by a physician, audiologist, or other qualified provider.	
Hearing aids.	Not Covered
Fitting & Recheck visits	\$15 Copayment each visit
 <b>HIV screening</b> For people who ask for an HIV screening test or who are at increased risk for HIV infection, we cover one screening exam every 12 months. For women who are pregnant, we cover up to three screening exams during a pregnancy.	There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for members eligible for Medicare-covered preventive HIV screening.
<b>Home health agency care†</b> Prior to receiving home health services, a doctor must certify that you need home health services and will order home health services to be provided by a home health agency. You must be homebound, which means leaving home is a major effort. Covered services include but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Part-time or intermittent skilled nursing and home health aide services. To be covered under the home health care benefit, your skilled nursing and home health aide services combined must total fewer than 8 hours per day and 35 hours per week.</li> <li>• Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy.</li> <li>• Medical and social services.</li> <li>• Medical equipment and supplies.</li> </ul>	No charge  Note: There is no cost-sharing for home health care services and items provided in accord with Medicare guidelines. However, the applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply if the item is covered under a different benefit; for example, durable medical equipment not provided by a home health agency.
<b>Home infusion therapy†</b> We cover home infusion supplies and drugs if all of the following are true: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your prescription drug is on our Medicare Part D formulary (or you have a formulary exception).</li> <li>• We approved your prescription drug for home infusion therapy.</li> <li>• Your prescription is written by a network provider and filled at a network home-infusion pharmacy.</li> </ul>	No charge






<p align="center"><b>Services that are covered for you</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b></p>
<p><b>Hospice care</b>            You may receive care from any Medicare-certified hospice program. You are eligible for the hospice benefit when your doctor and the hospice medical director have given you a terminal prognosis certifying that you're terminally ill and have six months or less to live if your illness runs its normal course. Your hospice doctor can be a network provider or an out-of-network provider.</p> <p>Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drugs for symptom control and pain relief.</li> <li>• Short-term respite care.</li> <li>• Home care.</li> </ul> <p><b>*For hospice services and services that are covered by Medicare Part A or B and are related to your terminal prognosis:</b> Original Medicare (rather than our plan) will pay for your hospice services and any Part A and Part B services related to your terminal prognosis. While you are in the hospice program, your hospice provider will bill Original Medicare for the services that Original Medicare pays for.</p> <p><b>For services that are covered by Medicare Part A or B and are not related to your terminal prognosis:</b> If you need non-emergency, non-urgently needed services that are covered under Medicare Part A or B and that are not related to your terminal prognosis, your cost for these services depends on whether you use a provider in our plan's network:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you obtain the covered services from a network provider, you only pay the plan cost-sharing amount for in-network services.</li> <li>• *If you obtain the covered services from an out-of-network provider, you pay the cost-sharing under Fee-for-Service Medicare (Original Medicare).</li> </ul> <p><b>For services that are covered by our plan but are not covered by Medicare Part A or B:</b> We will continue to cover plan-covered services that are not covered under Part A or B whether or not they are related to your terminal prognosis. You pay your plan cost-sharing amount for these services.</p> <p><b>For drugs that may be covered by our plan's Part D benefit:</b> Drugs are never covered by both hospice and our plan at the same time. For more information, please see Chapter 5, Section 9.4, "What if you're in Medicare-certified hospice."</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If you need non-hospice care (care that is not related to your terminal prognosis), you should contact us to arrange the services.</p>	<p>When you enroll in a Medicare-certified hospice program, your hospice services and your Part A and Part B services related to your terminal prognosis are paid for by Original Medicare, <b>not</b> our plan.</p>

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p><b>Hospice care for members without Part A</b></p> <p>For members without Part A, the hospice benefit described earlier in this section does not apply to members who are not enrolled in Medicare Part A. Our plan, rather than Original Medicare, covers hospice care for members who are not enrolled in Medicare Part A. Members must receive hospice services from network providers.</p>	<p>No charge</p>
<p> <b>Immunizations</b></p> <p>Covered Medicare Part B services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pneumonia vaccine.</li> <li>• Flu shots, once each flu season in the fall and winter, with additional flu shots if medically necessary.</li> <li>• Hepatitis B vaccine if you are at high or intermediate risk of getting Hepatitis B.</li> <li>• Other vaccines if you are at risk and they meet Medicare Part B coverage rules.</li> </ul> <p>We also cover some vaccines under our Part D prescription drug benefit.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the pneumonia, influenza, and Hepatitis B vaccines.</p>
<p><b>Inpatient hospital care†</b></p>	
<p>Includes inpatient acute, inpatient rehabilitation, long-term care hospitals, and other types of inpatient hospital services. Inpatient hospital care starts the day you are formally admitted to the hospital with a doctor's order. The day before you are discharged is your last inpatient day.</p> <p>There is no limit to the number of medically necessary hospital days or services that are generally and customarily provided by acute care general hospitals.</p> <p>Covered services include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Semiprivate room (or a private room if medically necessary).</li> <li>• Meals including special diets.</li> <li>• Regular nursing services.</li> <li>• Costs of special care units (such as intensive care or coronary care units).</li> <li>• Drugs and medications.</li> <li>• Lab tests.</li> <li>• X-rays and other radiology services.</li> <li>• Necessary surgical and medical supplies.</li> <li>• Use of appliances, such as wheelchairs.</li> <li>• Operating and recovery room costs.</li> <li>• Physical, occupational, and speech language therapy.</li> <li>• Inpatient substance abuse services for medical management of withdrawal symptoms associated with substance abuse (detoxification).</li> </ul>	<p>\$250 Copayment each day for days 1-2 Up to \$500 per admission</p> <p>If you get authorized inpatient care at an out-of-network hospital after your emergency condition is stabilized, your cost is the cost-sharing you would pay at a network hospital.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If you are admitted to the hospital in 2019 and are not discharged until sometime in 2020, the 2019 cost-sharing will apply to that admission until you are discharged from the hospital or transferred to a skilled nursing facility.</p>

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under certain conditions, the following types of transplants are covered: corneal, kidney, kidney-pancreatic, heart, liver, lung, heart/lung, bone marrow, stem cell, and intestinal/multivisceral. If you need a transplant, we will arrange to have your case reviewed by a Medicare-approved transplant center that will decide whether you are a candidate for a transplant. Transplant providers may be local or outside of the service area. If our in-network transplant services are outside the community pattern of care, you may choose to go locally as long as the local transplant providers are willing to accept the Original Medicare rate. If we provide transplant services at a location outside the pattern of care for transplants in your community, and you choose to obtain transplants at this distant location, we will arrange or pay for appropriate lodging and transportation costs for you and a companion. <b>Note:</b> Travel and lodging expenses must be authorized by Medical Group when a network physician refers you to an out-of-network provider outside our service area for transplant services. We will pay certain expenses that we preauthorize in accord with our travel and lodging guidelines. For information specific to your situation, please contact your assigned Transplant Coordinator or call the Transplant Administrative Offices at <b>1-877-895-2705</b> (TTY users may call <b>711</b>).</li> <li>• Blood - including storage and administration.</li> <li>• Physician services</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> To be an “inpatient,” your provider must write an order to admit you formally as an inpatient of the hospital. Even if you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an “outpatient.” If you are not sure if you are an “inpatient,” or an “outpatient,” you should ask the hospital staff. You can also find more information in a Medicare fact sheet called, “<i>Are You a Hospital Inpatient or Outpatient? If You Have Medicare – Ask!</i>” This fact sheet is available on the Web at <a href="https://www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/11435.pdf">https://www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/11435.pdf</a> or by calling <b>1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)</b>. TTY users call <b>1-877-486-2048</b>. You can call these numbers for free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p>	
<b>Inpatient substance abuse treatment†</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Substance abuse inpatient medical detoxification.</li> </ul>	\$250 Copayment per day up to \$500 per inpatient admission
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Substance abuse inpatient rehabilitation.</li> </ul>	\$250 Copayment per day Up to \$500 per inpatient admission

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<b>Inpatient mental health care†</b>	
<p>Covered services include mental health care services that require a hospital stay.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We cover up to 190-days per lifetime for inpatient stays in a Medicare-certified psychiatric hospital. The number of covered lifetime hospitalization days is reduced by the number of inpatient days for mental health treatment previously covered by Medicare in a psychiatric hospital.</li> <li>• The 190-day limit does not apply to mental health stays in a psychiatric unit of a general hospital.</li> </ul>	<p>\$250 Copayment each day for days 1-2 Up to \$500 per admission</p>
<b>Inpatient stay: Covered services received in a hospital or SNF during a non-covered inpatient stay†</b>	
<p>If you have exhausted your inpatient mental health or skilled nursing facility (SNF) benefits or if the inpatient stay is not reasonable and necessary, we will not cover your inpatient or SNF stay. However, in some cases, we will cover certain services you receive while you are in the the hospital or SNF. Covered services include but are not limited to:</p> <p>Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physician services.</li> <li>• Diagnostic tests (like lab tests).</li> <li>• X-ray, radium, and isotope therapy including technician materials and services.</li> <li>• Surgical dressings.</li> <li>• Splints, casts and other devices used to reduce fractures and dislocations.</li> <li>• Prosthetics and orthotics devices (other than dental) that replace all or part of an internal body organ (including contiguous tissue), or all or part of the function of a permanently inoperative or malfunctioning internal body organ, including replacement or repairs of such devices.</li> <li>• Leg, arm, back, and neck braces; trusses; and artificial legs, arms, and eyes (including adjustments, repairs, and replacements required because of breakage, wear, loss, or a change in the patient's physical condition).</li> <li>• Physical therapy, speech therapy, and occupational therapy.</li> </ul>	<p>Medicare Part B medical services, will be covered as described under their respective benefit headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physician services, including doctor office visits.</li> <li>• Outpatient diagnostic tests and therapeutic services and supplies.</li> <li>• Prosthetic devices and related supplies.</li> <li>• Outpatient rehabilitation services.</li> <li>• Physical therapy, speech therapy, and occupational therapy.</li> </ul>

<p align="center"><b>Services that are covered for you</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b></p>
<p> <b>Medical nutrition therapy</b></p> <p>This benefit is for people with diabetes, renal (kidney) disease (but not on dialysis), or after a kidney transplant when ordered by your doctor.</p> <p>We cover three hours of one-on-one counseling services during your first year that you receive medical nutrition therapy services under Medicare (this includes our plan, any other Medicare Advantage plan, or Original Medicare), and two hours each year after that. If your condition, treatment, or diagnosis changes, you may be able to receive more hours of treatment with a physician's order. A physician must prescribe these services and renew his or her order yearly if your treatment is needed into the next calendar year.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for members-eligible for Medicare-covered medical nutrition therapy services.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p> <b>Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program (MDPP)</b></p> <p>MDPP services will be covered for eligible Medicare beneficiaries under all Medicare health plans.</p> <p>MDPP is a structured health behavior change intervention that provides practical training in long-term dietary change, increased physical activity, and problem-solving strategies for overcoming challenges to sustaining weight loss and a healthy lifestyle.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the MDPP benefit.</p>

<b>Services that are covered for you</b>	<b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b>
<p><b>Medicare Part B prescription drugs†</b></p> <p>These drugs are covered under Part B of Original Medicare. Members of our plan receive coverage for these drugs through our plan. Covered drugs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drugs that usually are not self-administered by the patient and are injected or infused while you are getting physician, hospital outpatient, or ambulatory surgical center services.</li> <li>• Antigens.</li> <li>• Intravenous Immune Globulin for the home treatment of primary immune deficiency diseases.</li> </ul>	<p>No Charge</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clotting factors you give yourself by injection if you have hemophilia.</li> <li>• Drugs you take using durable medical equipment (such as nebulizers) that was authorized by the plan.</li> <li>• Immunosuppressive drugs, if you were enrolled in Medicare Part A at the time of the organ transplant.</li> <li>• Injectable osteoporosis drugs, if you are homebound, have a bone fracture that a doctor certifies was related to post-menopausal osteoporosis, and cannot self-administer the drug.</li> <li>• Certain oral anti-cancer drugs and anti-nausea drugs.</li> <li>• Certain drugs for home dialysis, including heparin, the antidote for heparin when medically necessary, topical anesthetics, and erythropoiesis-stimulating agents (such as Epogen®, Procrit®, Epoetin Alfa, Aranesp®, or Darbepoetin Alfa).</li> </ul> <p>Chapter 5 explains the Part D prescription drug benefit, including rules you must follow to have prescriptions covered. What you pay for your Part D prescription drugs through our plan is explained in Chapter 6.</p>	<p>You pay the same cost-sharing for these Part B drugs when dispensed through a network pharmacy as reflected in the prescription drug section below.</p>
<p> <b>Obesity screening and therapy to promote sustained weight loss</b></p> <p>If you have a body mass index of 30 or more, we cover intensive counseling to help you lose weight. This counseling is covered if you get it in a primary care setting, where it can be coordinated with your comprehensive prevention plan. Talk to your primary care doctor or practitioner to find out more.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for preventive obesity screening and therapy.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p><b>Opioid treatment program services†</b></p> <p>Opioid use disorder treatment services are covered under Part B of Original Medicare. Members of our plan receive coverage for these services through our plan. Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FDA-approved opioid agonist and antagonist treatment medications and the dispensing and administration of such medications, if applicable.</li>   <li>• Substance use counseling</li> <li>• Individual and group therapy.</li> <li>• Toxicology testing.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Office administered Medicare Part B treatment medications:</b> See “Medicare Part B prescription drugs”</p> <p><b>Dispensing and administration:</b> You will pay one Outpatient substance abuse services copayment per month</p> <p>See Specialty care visits under “Physician/practitioner services, including doctor’s office visits”</p>
<p><b>Outpatient diagnostic tests and therapeutic services and supplies</b></p> <p>Covered services include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laboratory tests.</li> <li>• †Blood -including storage and administration.</li> </ul>	<p>No charge</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• †Surgical supplies, such as dressings.</li> <li>• †Splints, casts, and other devices used to reduce fractures and dislocations.</li> </ul>	<p>20% Coinsurance</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• †X-rays.</li> </ul>	<p>No Charge, per x-ray</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• †Other outpatient diagnostic tests — special procedures such as MRI, CT, PET scans and nuclear medicine.</li> </ul>	<p>\$100 Copayment per procedure</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• †Radiation (radium and isotope) therapy, including technician, materials and supplies</li> </ul>	<p>\$30 Copayment</p>
<p><b>Note:</b> Unless the provider has written an order to admit you as an inpatient to the hospital, you are an outpatient and pay the cost-sharing amounts for outpatient hospital services. Even if you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an “outpatient.” If you are not sure if you are an outpatient, you should ask the hospital staff. You can also find more information in a Medicare fact sheet called, “Are You a Hospital Inpatient or Outpatient? If You Have Medicare – Ask!” This fact sheet is available on the Web at</p> <p><a href="https://www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/11435.pdf">https://www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/11435.pdf</a> or by calling <b>1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)</b>. TTY users call <b>1-877-486-2048</b>. You can call these numbers for free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p>	


Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p><b>Outpatient hospital observation</b></p> <p>Observation services are hospital outpatient services given to determine if you need to be admitted as an inpatient or can be discharged.</p> <p>For outpatient hospital observation services to be covered, they must meet the Medicare criteria and be considered reasonable and necessary. Observation services are covered only when provided by the order of a physician or another individual authorized by state licensure law and hospital staff bylaws to admit patients to the hospital or order outpatient tests.</p>	<p>No charge</p> <p>Note: There's no additional charge for outpatient observation stays when transferred for observation from an Emergency Department or outpatient surgery.</p>
<p>Note: Unless the provider has written an order to admit you as an inpatient to the hospital, you are an outpatient and pay the cost-sharing amounts for outpatient hospital services. Even if you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an "outpatient." If you are not sure if you are an outpatient, you should ask the hospital staff. You can also find more information in a Medicare fact sheet called "Are You a Hospital Inpatient or Outpatient? If You Have Medicare – Ask!" This fact sheet is available on the Web at <a href="https://www.medicare.gov/sites/default/files/2018-09/11435-Are-You-an-Inpatient-or-Outpatient.pdf">https://www.medicare.gov/sites/default/files/2018-09/11435-Are-You-an-Inpatient-or-Outpatient.pdf</a> or by calling <b>1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)</b>. TTY users call <b>1-877-486-2048</b>. You can call these numbers for free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p>	
<p><b>Outpatient hospital services†</b></p> <p>Outpatient hospital services at designated facilities, including but not limited to: electroencephalogram, sleep study, stress test, pulmonary function test, any treatment room.</p>	<p>See "Outpatient surgery at Plan Facilities" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance</p>
<p>Note: Unless the provider has written an order to admit you as an inpatient to the hospital, you are an outpatient and pay the cost-sharing amounts for outpatient hospital services. Even if you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an "outpatient." If you are not sure if you are an outpatient, you should ask the hospital staff. You can also find more information in a Medicare fact sheet called "Are You a Hospital Inpatient or Outpatient? If You Have Medicare – Ask!" This fact sheet is available on the Web at <a href="https://www.medicare.gov/sites/default/files/2018-09/11435-Are-You-an-Inpatient-or-Outpatient.pdf">https://www.medicare.gov/sites/default/files/2018-09/11435-Are-You-an-Inpatient-or-Outpatient.pdf</a> or by calling <b>1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)</b>. TTY users call <b>1-877-486-2048</b>. You can call these numbers for free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p>	





Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p><b>Outpatient mental health care</b> Covered services include:</p> <p>Mental health services provided by a state-licensed psychiatrist or doctor, clinical psychologist, clinical social worker, clinical nurse specialist, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or other Medicare-qualified mental health care professional as allowed under applicable state laws.</p>	
<p>Outpatient individual therapy (includes visits to monitor outpatient drug therapy).</p> <p>“Partial hospitalization” is a structured program of active psychiatric treatment, provided in a hospital outpatient setting or by a community mental health center that is more intense than the care received in your doctor’s or therapist’s office and is an alternative to inpatient hospitalization.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Because there are no community mental health centers in our network, we cover partial hospitalization only in a hospital outpatient setting.</p>	<p>\$15 Copayment each visit</p> <p>\$15 Copayment per partial hospitalization day</p>
<p>Outpatient group therapy.</p>	<p>50% of individual therapy Copayment</p>
<p><b>Outpatient rehabilitation services</b> Covered services include: physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech language therapy.</p> <p>Outpatient rehabilitation services are provided in various outpatient settings, such as hospital outpatient departments, independent therapist offices, and Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (CORFs)</p>	<p>\$15 Copayment each visit</p>
<p><b>Outpatient substance abuse services</b> We provide treatment and counseling services to diagnose and treat substance abuse (including individual and group therapy visits).</p>	
<p>Outpatient individual therapy</p>	<p>\$15 Copayment each visit</p> <p>\$15 Copayment per partial hospitalization day</p>
<p>Outpatient group therapy</p>	<p>50% of individual therapy Copayment</p>
<p><b>Outpatient surgery†, including services provided at hospital outpatient facilities and ambulatory surgical centers</b></p>	
<p><b>Note:</b> If you are having surgery in a hospital facility, you should check with your provider about whether you will be an inpatient or outpatient. Unless the provider writes an order to admit you as an inpatient to the hospital, you are an outpatient and pay the cost-sharing amounts for outpatient surgery. Even if you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an outpatient.</p>	<p>\$100 Copayment each surgery</p>

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<b>Prescription drugs</b>	
Deductible for Outpatient prescription drugs	Not Applicable
Initial Coverage Stage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outpatient prescription drugs and refills copayments/coinsurance (except as listed below)</li> <li>• Total Drug Costs</li> </ul>	\$5 Generic/\$5 Non-Preferred Generic/\$20 Brand name/\$20 Non-Preferred Brand name/\$40 Specialty/No Charge injectable Part D vaccines  Up to \$4,020
Coverage Gap Stage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outpatient prescription drugs and refills copayments/coinsurance (except as listed below)</li> <li>• Out-of-Pocket Costs</li> </ul>	\$5 Generic/\$5 Non-Preferred Generic/\$20 Brand name/\$20 Non-Preferred Brand name/\$40 Specialty/No Charge injectable Part D vaccines  Up to \$6,350
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prescribed supplies and accessories.</li> </ul>	No Charge
Infertility drugs.	Not Covered
Sexual dysfunction drugs.	Not Covered
	<u>Supply Limit</u>
Day supply limit.	30 days
Mail-order supply limit.	90 days @ 2 Copayments
<b>Physician/practitioner services, including doctor's office visits</b>	
<p>“Providers” include, but are not limited to, physicians, physician assistants and nurse practitioners.</p> <p>Covered services include:</p> <p>Medically necessary medical care or surgery services furnished in a physician’s office, certified ambulatory surgical center, hospital outpatient department, or any other location.</p>	
Primary care visits	\$15 Copayment each visit
Specialty care visits (doctor or nurse visit).	\$30 Copayment each visit
Second opinion by another network provider prior to surgery.	Your primary care office visit copayment or specialty care office visit copayment, as applicable.
Outpatient surgery services†	\$100 Copayment each surgery
Consultations with clinical pharmacists	\$15 Copayment each visit


<p align="center"><b>Services that are covered for you</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certain telehealth services, including for: primary and specialty care, which includes cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation, mental health care, substance abuse treatment, kidney disease, diabetes self-management, preparation for a hospital stay, and follow up visits after a hospital stay or Emergency Department visit. Services will only be provided via telehealth when deemed clinically appropriate by the network provider rendering the service. You have the option of receiving these services either through an in-person visit or via telehealth. If you choose to receive one of these services via telehealth, then you must use a network provider that currently offers the service via telehealth. We offer the following means of telehealth: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Interactive video visits for professional services when care can be provided in this format as determined by a network provider.</li> <li>◆ Scheduled telephone appointment visits for professional services when care can be provided in this format as determined by a network provider.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Telehealth services for monthly ESRD-related visits for home dialysis members in a hospital-based or critical access hospital-based renal dialysis center, renal dialysis facility, or the member's home.</li> <li>• Telehealth services for diagnosis, evaluation or treatment of symptoms of an acute stroke.</li> <li>• Brief virtual (for example, via telephone or video chat) 5- to 10-minute check-ins with your doctor, if you are an established patient and the virtual check-in is not related to an office visit within the previous 7 days, nor leads to an office visit within the next 24 hours or soonest available appointment.</li> <li>• Remote evaluation of prerecorded video and/or images you send to your doctor, including your doctor's interpretation and follow-up within 24 hours (except weekends and holidays)—if you are an established patient and the remote evaluation is not related to an office visit within the previous 7 days, nor leads to an office visit within the next 24 hours or soonest available appointment.</li> <li>• Consultation your doctor has with other physicians via telephone, internet, or electronic health record assessment—if you are an established patient.</li> </ul>	<p align="center">No Charge</p>
<p>Non-routine dental care † (covered services are limited to surgery of the jaw or related structures, setting fractures of the jaw or facial bones, extraction of teeth to prepare the jaw</p>	<p>See specialty care office visit and Outpatient surgery cost-sharing above.</p>

<b>Services that are covered for you</b>	<b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b>
for radiation treatments of neoplastic cancer disease, or services that would be covered when provided by a physician)	
Chemotherapy visits.	Your specialty care office visit copayment plus your copayment or coinsurance for office-administered drugs.
Allergy injections.	\$15 Copayment each visit Copayment may apply for allergy serum
Allergy evaluation and testing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary care visits</li> <li>• Specialty care visits</li> </ul>	\$15 Copayment each visit \$30 Copayment each visit
Group visits—Cooperative Health Care Clinic (CHCC), Drop in Group Medical Appointment (DIGMA) and group mental health and substance abuse treatments.	Your primary care office visit copayment or \$10 copayment each visit, whichever is less.
<b>Podiatry services</b>	
Covered services include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diagnosis and the medical or surgical treatment of injuries and diseases of the feet (such as hammer toe or heel spurs).</li> <li>• Routine foot care for members with certain medical conditions affecting the lower limbs.</li> </ul>	See primary care office visit, specialty care office visit, and † Outpatient surgery cost-sharing above.
 <b>Prostate cancer screening exams</b> For men age 50 and older, covered services include the following – once every 12 months: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digital rectal exam.</li> <li>• Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) test.</li> </ul>	There is no coinsurance, copayment or deductible for an annual digital rectal exam or PSA test. The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive care you receive during or subsequent to the visit.
<b>Prosthetic devices and related supplies†</b>	
Devices (other than dental) that replace all or part of a body part or function. These include, but are not limited to: colostomy bags and supplies directly related to colostomy care, pacemakers, braces, prosthetic shoes, artificial limbs, and breast prostheses (including a surgical brassiere after a mastectomy). Includes certain supplies related to prosthetic devices, and repair and/or replacement of prosthetic devices. Also includes some coverage following cataract removal or cataract surgery – see “Vision care” later in this section for more detail.	
Prosthetics	20% Coinsurance
Internally implanted prosthetic devices.	(See Hospital Inpatient Care and Outpatient Care for applicable cost-sharing)
Enteral and parenteral nutrition therapy covered under Medicare.	No Charge


Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
Prosthetic arm or leg.	20% Coinsurance
Orthotic devices and related supplies.	20% Coinsurance
Oxygen	No Charge
<p><b>Pulmonary rehabilitation services.</b> †</p> <p>Comprehensive programs for pulmonary rehabilitation are covered for members who have moderate to very severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and a referral for pulmonary rehabilitation from the doctor treating the chronic respiratory disease.</p>	\$5 Copayment each visit
<p> <b>Screening and counseling to reduce alcohol misuse</b></p> <p>We cover one alcohol misuse screening for adults with Medicare (including pregnant women) who misuse alcohol, but aren't alcohol dependent.</p> <p>If you screen positive for alcohol misuse, you can get up to four brief face-to-face counseling sessions per year (if you're competent and alert during counseling) provided by a qualified primary care doctor or practitioner in a primary care setting.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment or deductible for the Medicare-covered screening and counseling to reduce alcohol misuse preventive benefit.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p><b>Screening for lung cancer with low dose computed tomography (LDCT)</b></p> <p>For qualified individuals, a LDCT is covered every 12 months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eligible members are people aged 55–77 years who have no signs or symptoms of lung cancer, but who have a history of tobacco smoking of at least 30 pack-years or who currently smoke or have quit smoking within the last 15 years, who receive a written order for LDCT during a lung cancer screening counseling and shared decision-making visit that meets the Medicare criteria for such visits and be furnished by a physician or qualified non-physician practitioner.</li> <li>• For LDCT lung cancer screenings after the initial LDCT screening, the members must receive a written order for LDCT lung cancer screening, which may be furnished during any appropriate visit with a physician or qualified non-physician practitioner. If a physician or qualified non-physician practitioner elects to provide a lung cancer screening counseling and shared decision-making visit for subsequent lung cancer screenings with LDCT, the visit must meet the Medicare criteria for such visits.</li> </ul>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the Medicare-covered counseling and shared decision-making visit or for the LDCT.</p>


Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p> <b>Screening for sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and counseling to prevent STIs</b></p> <p>We cover sexually transmitted infection (STI) screenings for chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, and Hepatitis B. These screenings are covered for pregnant women and for certain people who are at increased risk for an STI when the tests are ordered by a primary care provider. We cover these tests once every 12 months or at certain times during pregnancy.</p> <p>We also cover up to two individual 20 to 30 minute, face-to-face high-intensity behavioral counseling sessions each year for sexually active adults at increased risk for STIs. We will only cover these counseling sessions as a preventive service if they are provided by a primary care provider and take place in a primary care setting, such as a doctor's office.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurances, copayment, or deductible for the Medicare-covered screening for STIs and counseling for STIs preventive benefit.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p><b>Services to treat kidney disease and conditions</b></p>	
<p>Covered services include:</p> <p>Kidney disease education services to teach kidney care and help members make informed decisions about their care.</p>	<p>\$15 Copayment each visit or \$30 Copayment each visit copayment dependent upon provider</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outpatient dialysis treatments (including dialysis treatments when temporarily out of the service area, as explained in Chapter 3).</li> <li>• Self-dialysis training (includes training for you and anyone helping you with your home dialysis treatments).</li> <li>• Home dialysis equipment and supplies.</li> <li>• Certain home support services (such as, when necessary, visits by trained dialysis workers to check on your home dialysis, to help in emergencies, and to check your dialysis equipment and water supply).</li> </ul> <p>Certain drugs for dialysis are covered under your Medicare Part B drug benefit. For information about coverage for Part B drugs, please go to the section called "Medicare Part B prescription drugs".</p>	<p>No Charge</p>

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p><b>Skilled nursing facility (SNF) care†</b></p> <p>(For a definition of “skilled nursing facility care,” see Chapter 12 of this booklet. Skilled nursing facilities are sometimes called “SNFs.”)</p> <p>We cover up to 100 days per benefit period of skilled inpatient services in a skilled nursing facility in accord with Medicare guidelines (a prior hospital stay is not required).</p> <p>Covered services include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Semiprivate room (or a private room if medically necessary)</li> <li>• Meals, including special diets</li> <li>• Skilled nursing services</li> <li>• Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy</li> <li>• Drugs administered to you as part of your plan of care (this includes substances that are naturally present in the body such as blood clotting factors.)</li> <li>• Blood – including storage and administration.</li> <li>• Medical and surgical supplies ordinarily provided by SNFs</li> <li>• Laboratory tests ordinarily provided by SNFs</li> <li>• X-rays and other radiology services ordinarily provided by SNFs</li> <li>• Use of appliances such as wheelchairs ordinarily provided by SNFs</li> <li>• Physician/practitioner services</li> </ul> <p>Generally, you will get your SNF care from network facilities. However, under certain conditions listed below, you may be able to pay in-network cost-sharing for a facility that isn’t a network provider, if the facility accepts our plan’s amounts for payment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A nursing home or continuing care retirement community where you were living right before you went to the hospital (as long as it provides skilled nursing facility care).</li> </ul> <p>A SNF where your spouse is living at the time you leave the hospital.</p>	<p>No Charge</p> <p>Limited to 100 days per benefit period</p> <p>A benefit period begins on the first day you go to a Medicare-covered inpatient hospital or skilled nursing facility (SNF). The benefit period ends when you haven’t been an inpatient at any hospital or SNF for 60 calendar days in a row.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If a benefit period begins in 2019 for you and does not end until sometime in 2020, the 2019 cost-sharing will continue until the benefit period ends.</p>

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p> <b>Smoking and tobacco use cessation (counseling to stop smoking or tobacco use)</b></p> <p><b>If you use tobacco, but do not have signs or symptoms of tobacco-related disease:</b> We cover two counseling quit attempts within a 12-month period as a preventive service with no cost to you. Each counseling attempt includes up to four face-to-face visits.</p> <p><b>If you use tobacco and have been diagnosed with a tobacco-related disease or are taking medicine that may be affected by tobacco:</b> We cover cessation counseling services. We cover two counseling quit attempts within a 12-month period, however, you will pay the applicable cost-sharing. Each counseling attempt includes up to four face-to-face visits.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the Medicare-covered smoking and tobacco use cessation preventive benefits.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p><b>Supervised Exercise Therapy (SET)</b></p> <p>SET is covered for members who have symptomatic peripheral artery disease (PAD) and a referral for PAD from the physician responsible for PAD treatment.</p> <p>Up to 36 sessions over a 12-week period are covered if the SET program requirements are met.</p> <p>The SET program must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consist of sessions lasting 30–60 minutes, comprising a therapeutic exercise-training program for PAD in patients with claudication.</li> <li>• Be conducted in a hospital outpatient setting or a physician's office.</li> <li>• Be delivered by qualified auxiliary personnel necessary to ensure benefits exceed harms, and who are trained in exercise therapy for PAD.</li> <li>• Be under the direct supervision of a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner/clinical nurse specialist who must be trained in both basic and advanced life support techniques.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> SET may be covered beyond 36 sessions over 12 weeks for an additional 36 sessions over an extended period of time, if deemed medically necessary by a health care provider.</p>	<p>\$30 Copayment each visit</p>
<p><b>Urgently needed services</b></p>	
<p>Urgently needed services are provided to treat a non-emergency, unforeseen medical illness, injury, or condition that requires immediate medical care. Urgently needed services may be furnished by network providers or</p>	<p>\$30 Copayment each visit</p>



Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p>by out-of-network providers when network providers are temporarily unavailable or inaccessible.</p> <p>Urgently needed services received in a network urgent care department (or facility) and covered out-of-network urgent care when you are temporarily outside our service area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Inside our service area:</b> You must obtain urgent care from network providers, unless our provider network is temporarily unavailable or inaccessible due to an unusual and extraordinary circumstance (for example, major disaster).</li> <li>• <b>Outside our service area:</b> You have worldwide urgent care coverage when you travel, if you need medical attention right away for an unforeseen illness or injury and you reasonably believed that your health would seriously deteriorate if you delayed treatment until you returned to our service area.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Vision care</b></p>	
<p>Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outpatient physician services for the diagnosis and treatment of diseases and injuries of the eye, including treatment for age-related macular degeneration.</li> <li>• For people with diabetes, screening for diabetic retinopathy is covered once per year.</li> </ul> <p>Original Medicare doesn't cover routine eye exams (eye refractions) for eyeglasses/contacts. However, our plan covers the following exams: Routine eye exams (eye refraction exams) to determine the need for vision correction and to provide a prescription for eyeglass lenses.</p>	
<p>Eye exams performed by an optometrist</p>	<p>\$15 Copayment each visit</p>
<p>Eye exams performed by an ophthalmologist.</p>	<p>\$30 Copayment each visit</p>
<p> For people who are at high risk of glaucoma, we will cover one glaucoma screening each year. People at high risk of glaucoma include people with a family history of glaucoma, people with diabetes, African Americans who are age 50 and older and Hispanic Americans who are 65 or older:</p> <p>Glaucoma screening once per year.</p>	<p>No charge, unless member receives the screening in conjunction with other services, such as a routine eye exam, then member will be charged the applicable copayment.</p>

<p align="center"><b>Services that are covered for you</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One pair of eyeglasses or contact lenses after each cataract surgery that includes insertion of an intraocular lens. (If you have two separate cataract operations, you cannot reserve the benefit after the first surgery and purchase two eyeglasses after the second surgery.)</li> <li>• Corrective lenses/frames (and replacements) needed after a cataract removal without a lens implant. Following Medicare-covered cataract surgery, the member may use their eyewear benefit (if purchased by your group) as described below to pay for upgrades to the Medicare covered eye wear benefit. The Medicare eyewear benefit following cataract surgery is covered per Medicare guidelines.</li> </ul>	<p>No charge, unless the cost exceeds the allowed Medicare fee schedule.</p>
<p>If purchased by your group, lenses, frames, medically necessary contact lenses, or cosmetic contact lenses every two years, purchased at a network optical facility. Any part of the eyewear benefit that is not exhausted at the first point of sale may not be used at a later date. This means that any benefit dollars remaining after the first point of sale are forfeited and cannot be applied to copayments for eye exams or contact lens professional fitting fees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eyeglasses and contact lenses must be prescribed by an optometrist or ophthalmologist and purchased at a network optical facility.</li> <li>• See exclusions for eye surgery to correct refractive defects and for cosmetic contact lenses that are not medically necessary later in this section.</li> </ul>	<p>\$100 Credit every 24 months See Additional Provisions *</p>
<p> <b>“Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit</b></p> <p>We cover the one-time “Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit. The visit includes a review of your health, as well as education and counseling about the preventive services you need (including certain screenings and shots), and referrals for other care if needed.</p> <p><b>Important:</b> We cover the “Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit only within the first 12 months you have Medicare Part B. When you make your appointment, let your doctor’s office know you would like to schedule your “Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the “Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>



## 2020 Evidence of Coverage

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## **SECTION 1. Introduction**

### **Section 1.1 You are enrolled in Senior Advantage, which is a Medicare HMO**

You are covered by Medicare, and you have chosen to get your Medicare health care and your prescription drug coverage through our plan, Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage.

There are different types of Medicare health plans. Senior Advantage is a Medicare Advantage HMO Plan (HMO stands for Health Maintenance Organization). approved by Medicare and run by a private company.

Coverage under this plan qualifies as Qualifying Health Coverage (QHC) and satisfies the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act's (ACA) individual shared responsibility requirement. Please visit the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) website at <https://www.irs.gov/Affordable-Care-Act/Individuals-and-Families> for more information.

### **Section 1.2 What is the Evidence of Coverage booklet about?**

This **Evidence of Coverage** booklet tells you how to get your Medicare medical care and prescription drugs covered through our plan. This booklet explains your rights and responsibilities, what is covered, and what you pay as a member of our plan.

If you are not certain which plan you are enrolled, please call Member Services or your group's benefit administrator.

This plan is offered by Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (Health Plan) and it includes Medicare part D prescription drug coverage. When this **Evidence of Coverage** says "we," "us," or "our," it means Health Plan. When it says "plan" or "our plan," it means Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage (Senior Advantage).

The words "coverage" and "covered services" refer to the medical care and services and the prescription drugs available to you as a member of our plan.

It's important for you to learn what our plan's rules are and what services are available to you. We encourage you to set aside some time to look through this **Evidence of Coverage** booklet.

If you are confused or concerned or just have a question, please contact Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **Section 1.3 Legal information about the Evidence of Coverage**

#### **It's part of our contract with you**

This **Evidence of Coverage** is part of our contract with you about how we cover your care. Other parts of this contract include your enrollment form, our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**, and any notices you receive from us about changes to your



coverage or conditions that affect your coverage. These notices are sometimes called "riders" or "amendments."

If your group renews on January 1<sup>st</sup>, the **Evidence of Coverage** is in effect for the months in which you are enrolled in Senior Advantage between January 1, 2020, and December 31, 2020, unless amended. If your group's agreement renews at a later date in 2020, the term of this **Evidence of Coverage** is during that contract period, unless amended. Your group can tell you the term of this **Evidence of Coverage** and whether this **Evidence of Coverage** is still in effect and give you a current one if this **Evidence of Coverage** has been amended.

Each calendar year, Medicare allows us to make changes to the plans that we offer. This means we can change the costs and benefits of our plan after December 31, 2020. We can also choose to stop offering the plan, or to offer it in a different service area, after December 31, 2020. In addition, your group can make changes to the plans and benefits it offers at any time.

### **Medicare must approve our plan each year**

Medicare (the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) must approve our plan each year. You can continue to get Medicare coverage as a member of our plan as long as we choose to continue to offer our plan and Medicare renews its approval of our plan.

## **SECTION 2. What makes you eligible to be a plan member?**

### **Section 2.1 Your eligibility requirements**

You are eligible for membership in our plan as long as:

- You have both Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B (or Medicare Part B) (Section 2.2 below tells you about Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B).
- *-and-* you live in our geographic service area (Section 2.3 below describes our service area).
- *-and-* you are a United States citizen or are lawfully present in the United States.
- *-and-* you do not have End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD), with limited exceptions, such as if you develop ESRD when you are already a member of a plan that we offer, or you were a member of a different plan that was terminated.

### **Section 2.2 What are Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B?**

When you first signed up for Medicare, you received information about what services are covered under Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B. Remember:

- Medicare Part A generally helps cover services provided by hospitals (for inpatient services), skilled nursing facilities, or home health agencies.
- Medicare Part B is for most other medical services (such as physician's services and other outpatient services) and certain items (such as durable medical equipment (DME) and supplies).

### **Section 2.3 Here is our plan service area for Senior Advantage**

Although Medicare is a federal program, our plan is available only to individuals who live in our plan service area. To remain a member of our plan, you must continue to reside in the plan service area. The service area is described below.

Our service area includes these counties in Colorado: **Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Clear Creek, Denver, Douglas, Elbert, Gilpin and Jefferson.**

**If you plan to move out of the service area, please contact Member Services** (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). When you move, you will have a special enrollment period that will allow you to switch to Original Medicare or enroll in a Medicare health or drug plan that is available in your new location.

It is also important to notify your group's benefits administrator and that you call Social Security if you move or change your mailing address. You can find phone numbers and contact information for Social Security in Chapter 2, Section 5.

### **Section 2.4 U.S. citizen or lawful presence**

A member of a Medicare health plan must be a U.S. citizen or lawfully present in the United States. Medicare (the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) will notify us if you are not eligible to remain a member on this basis. We must disenroll you if you do not meet this requirement.

### **Section 2.5 Group eligibility requirements**

You must meet your group's eligibility requirements that we have approved. Your group is required to inform subscribers of its eligibility requirements, such as dependent eligibility requirements (for example, your spouse).

Please note that your group might not allow enrollment to some persons who meet the requirements described under "Additional eligibility requirements" below.

#### **Additional eligibility requirements**

**Subscriber.** You may be eligible to enroll as a subscriber under this **Evidence of Coverage** if you are entitled to subscriber coverage under your Group's eligibility requirements. An example would be an employee of your Group who works at least the number of hours stated in those requirements.

If you are a subscriber under this Evidence of Coverage or a subscriber enrolled in a non-Medicare plan offered by your group, the following persons may be eligible to enroll as your dependents under this Evidence of Coverage if they meet all the other requirements described in this section 2.5:

- Your spouse. (Spouse includes a partner in a valid civil union under state law.)
- Your or your Spouse's children (including adopted children, children placed with you for adoption, and foster children) who are under the dependent limiting age. Check with your group to determine the age limit for dependents.

- Other dependent persons who meet all of the following requirements:
  - ◆ they are under the dependent limiting age as determined by your group
  - ◆ you or your spouse is the court-appointed permanent legal guardian (or was before the person reached age 18).
- Your or your spouse's unmarried children of any age who are medically certified as disabled and dependent upon you or your spouse are eligible to enroll or continue coverage as your dependents if the following requirements are met:
  - ◆ they are dependent on you or your spouse; and
  - ◆ you give us proof of the dependent's disability and dependency annually if we request it.
- Subscriber's designated beneficiaries as defined by Colorado law, if your employer elects to cover designated beneficiaries as dependents.

**Students on medical leave of absence.** Dependent children who lose dependent student status at a postsecondary educational institution due to a medically necessary leave of absence remain eligible for coverage until the earlier of (i) one year after the first day of the medically necessary leave of absence; or (ii) the date dependent coverage would otherwise terminate under the non-Medicare plan offered by your group. We must receive written certification by a treating physician of the dependent child which states 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.

**Note:** If you have dependents who do not have Medicare Part B coverage or for some other reason are not eligible to enroll under this Evidence of Coverage, you may be able to enroll them as your dependents under a non-Medicare plan offered by your group. Please contact your group for details, including eligibility and benefit information, and to request a copy of the non-Medicare plan document.

If your plan has different eligibility requirements, please see "Additional Provisions."

## **Section 2.5 When you can enroll and when coverage begins**

Your group is required to inform you when you are eligible to enroll and what your effective date of coverage is under this **Evidence of Coverage**. If you are eligible to enroll as described in this section, enrollment is permitted and membership begins at the beginning (12 a.m.) of the effective date of coverage, except that:

- Your group may have additional requirements that we have approved, which allow enrollment in other situations.
- The effective date of your Senior Advantage coverage under this **Evidence of Coverage** must be confirmed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, as described under "Effective date of Senior Advantage coverage" in this section.

If you are a subscriber under this **Evidence of Coverage** and you have dependents who do not have Medicare Part B coverage or for some other reason are not eligible to enroll under this **Evidence of Coverage**, you may be able to enroll them as your dependents under a non-

Medicare plan offered by your group. Please contact your group for details, including eligibility and benefit information, and to request a copy of the non-Medicare plan document.

If you are eligible to be a dependent under this **Evidence of Coverage** but the subscriber in your family is enrolled under a non-Medicare plan offered by your group, the subscriber must follow the rules applicable to subscribers who are enrolling dependents in this Section 2.5.

### **Effective date of Senior Advantage coverage**

After we receive your completed Senior Advantage enrollment form, we will submit your enrollment request to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services for confirmation and send you a notice indicating the proposed effective date of your Senior Advantage coverage under this **Evidence of Coverage**.

If CMS confirms your Senior Advantage enrollment and effective date, we will send you a notice that confirms your enrollment and effective date. If CMS tell us that you do not have Medicare Part B coverage, we will notify you that you will be disenrolled from Senior Advantage.

### **New subscribers**

When your group informs you that you are eligible to enroll as a subscriber, you may enroll yourself and any eligible dependent by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application and a Senior Advantage enrollment form for each person to your group within 31 days after you become eligible, or as otherwise specified by your group.

**Effective date of Senior Advantage coverage.** The effective date of Senior Advantage coverage for new subscribers and their eligible family dependents is determined by your group, subject to confirmation by CMS.

Employees who are not enrolled when newly eligible must wait until the next open enrollment period to become members of Health Plan, unless: (i) they enroll under special circumstances, as agreed to by your group and Health Plan or (ii) they enroll under the provisions described in "Special Enrollment Due to Loss of Other Coverage" below.

### **Adding new dependents to an existing account**

To enroll a dependent who first becomes eligible to enroll after you became a subscriber (such as a new spouse, a newborn child, or a newly adopted child), you must submit a Health Plan-approved enrollment form and a Senior Advantage enrollment form to your group within 31 days after the dependent first becomes eligible, or as otherwise specified by your group.

Dependents who are not enrolled when newly eligible must wait until the next open enrollment period to become members of Health Plan, unless: (i) they enroll under special circumstances, as agreed to by your group and Health Plan or (ii) they enroll under the provisions described in "Special Enrollment Due to Loss of Other Coverage" below.

**Effective date of Senior Advantage coverage.** The effective date of coverage for newly acquired dependents is determined by your group, subject to confirmation by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

### **Group open enrollment**

You may enroll as a subscriber (along with any eligible dependents), and existing subscribers may add eligible dependents, by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application and a Senior Advantage enrollment form for each person to your group during your group's open enrollment period. Your group will let you know when the open enrollment period begins and ends and the effective date of coverage, which is subject to confirmation by CMS.

### **Special enrollment**

If you do not enroll when you are first eligible and later want to enroll, you can enroll only during open enrollment unless you become eligible as described in this "Special enrollment" section.

### **Special enrollment events**

You may enroll as a subscriber (along with any eligible dependents), and existing subscribers may add eligible dependents, by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application and a Senior Advantage enrollment form for each person to your group within 31 days after the enrolling persons lose other coverage, if:

The enrolling persons had other coverage when you previously declined Health Plan coverage for them (some groups require you to have stated in writing when declining Health Plan coverage that other coverage was the reason); and the loss of the other coverage is due to one of the following: For a comprehensive list of qualifying events for special enrollment see your Group's administrator to obtain a copy of your Group's **Evidence of Coverage**.

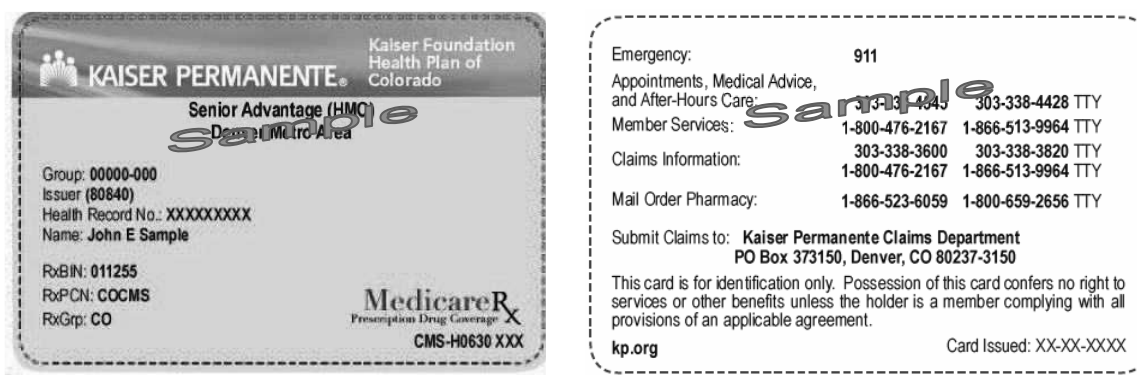
### **Open enrollment**

You may enroll as a subscriber (along with any eligible dependents), and existing subscribers may add eligible dependents, by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application and a Senior Advantage enrollment form for each person to your group during your group's open enrollment period. Your group will let you know when the open enrollment period begins and ends and the membership effective date, which is subject to confirmation by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

## **SECTION 3. What other materials will you get from us?**

### **Section 3.1 Your plan membership card—use it to get all covered care and prescription drugs**

While you are a member of our plan, you must use your membership card for our plan whenever you get any services covered by our plan and for prescription drugs you get at network pharmacies. You should also show the provider your Medicaid card, if applicable. Here's a sample membership card to show you what yours will look like:



As long as you are a member of our plan, in most cases, **you must not use your red, white, and blue Medicare card** to get covered medical services (with the exception of routine clinical research studies and hospice services). You may be asked to show your new Medicare card if you need hospital services. Keep your red, white, and blue Medicare card in a safe place in case you need it later.

**Here's why this is so important:** If you get covered services using your red, white, and blue Medicare card instead of using your Senior Advantage membership card while you are a plan member, you may have to pay the full cost yourself.

If your plan membership card is damaged, lost, or stolen, call Member Services right away and we will send you a new card. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

### Section 3.2 The Provider Directory: Your guide to all providers in our network

The **Provider Directory** lists our network providers and durable medical equipment suppliers.

#### What are "network providers"?

Network providers are the doctors and other health care professionals, medical groups, durable medical equipment suppliers, hospitals, and other health care facilities that have an agreement with us to accept our payment and any plan cost-sharing as payment in full. We have arranged for these providers to deliver covered services to members in our plan. The most recent list of providers and suppliers is available on our website at [kp.org/directory](http://kp.org/directory).

#### Why do you need to know which providers are part of our network?

It is important to know which providers are part of our network because, with limited exceptions, while you are a member of our plan you must use network providers to get your medical care and services. The only exceptions are emergencies, urgently needed services when the network is not available (generally, when you are out of the area), out-of-area dialysis services, and cases in which our plan authorizes use of out-of-network providers. See Chapter 3, "Using our plan's coverage for your medical services," for more specific information about emergency, out-of-network, and out-of-area coverage.

If you don't have your copy of the **Provider Directory**, you can request a copy from Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You may ask Member Services for more information about our network providers, including their qualifications. You

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**

can view or download the **Provider Directory** at [kp.org/directory](http://kp.org/directory). Both Member Services and our website can give you the most up-to-date information about our network providers.

### **Section 3.3 The Pharmacy Directory: Your guide to pharmacies in our network**

#### **What are "network pharmacies"?**

Network pharmacies are all of the pharmacies that have agreed to fill covered prescriptions for our plan members.

#### **Why do you need to know about network pharmacies?**

Our network has changed more than usual for 2020. An updated **Pharmacy Directory** is located on our website at [kp.org](http://kp.org). You may also call Member Services for updated provider information or to ask us to mail you a current **Pharmacy Directory**. We strongly suggest that you review our current **Pharmacy Directory** to see if your pharmacy is still in our network. This is important because, with few exceptions, you must get your prescriptions filled at a network pharmacy if you want our plan to cover (help pay for) them.

The **Pharmacy Directory** will also tell you which of the pharmacies in our network have preferred cost-sharing, which may be lower than the standard cost-sharing offered by other network pharmacies for some drugs.

If you don't have the **Pharmacy Directory**, you can get a copy from Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). At any time, you can call Member Services to get up-to-date information about changes in the pharmacy network. You can also find this information on our website at [kp.org/directory](http://kp.org/directory).

### **Section 3.4 Our plan's list of covered drugs (formulary)**

Our plan has a **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**. We call it the "Drug List" for short. It tells you which Part D prescription drugs are covered under the Part D benefit included in our plan. The drugs on this list are selected by our plan with the help of a team of doctors and pharmacists. The list must meet requirements set by Medicare. Medicare has approved our Drug List. The Drug List also tells you if there are any rules that restrict coverage for your drugs.

We will provide you a copy of our Drug List. To get the most complete and current information about which drugs are covered, you can visit our website ([kp.org](http://kp.org)) or call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **Section 3.5 The Part D Explanation of Benefits (the "Part D EOB"): Reports with a summary of payments made for your Part D prescription drugs**

When you use your Part D prescription drug benefits, we will send you a summary report to help you understand and keep track of payments for your Part D prescription drugs. This summary report is called the **Part D Explanation of Benefits** (or the "**Part D EOB**").

The **Part D EOB** tells you the total amount you, or others on your behalf, have spent on your Part D prescription drugs and the total amount we have paid for each of your Part D prescription drugs during the month. Chapter 6 ("What you pay for your Part D prescription drugs") gives you more information about the **Part D EOB** and how it can help you keep track of your drug coverage.

A **Part D EOB** summary is also available upon request. To get a copy, please contact Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You can also choose to get your **Part D EOB** online instead of by mail. Please visit [kp.org/goinggreen](http://kp.org/goinggreen) and sign on to learn more about choosing to view your **Part D EOB** securely online.

## **SECTION 4. Your monthly premium for our plan**

### **Section 4.1 How much is your plan premium?**

#### **Plan premiums**

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

## **SECTION 5. Do you have to pay the Part D "late enrollment penalty"?**

### **Section 5.1 What is the Part D "late enrollment penalty"?**

**Note:** If you receive "Extra Help" from Medicare to pay for your prescription drugs, you will not pay a late enrollment penalty.

The late enrollment penalty is an amount that is added to your Part D premium. You may owe a Part D late enrollment penalty if at any time after your initial enrollment period is over, there is a period of 63 days or more in a row when you did not have Part D or other creditable prescription drug coverage. "Creditable prescription drug coverage" is coverage that meets Medicare's minimum standards since it is expected to pay, on average, at least as much as Medicare's standard prescription drug coverage. The cost of the late enrollment penalty depends upon how



long you went without Part D or creditable prescription drug coverage. You will have to pay this penalty for as long as you have Part D coverage.

If you are required to pay a Part D late enrollment penalty, your group will inform you the amount that you will be required to pay your group.

If you do not pay your Part D late enrollment penalty, you could lose your prescription drug benefits for failure to pay your plan premium.

### **Section 5.2 How much is the Part D late enrollment penalty?**

Medicare determines the amount of the penalty. Here is how it works:

- First count the number of full months that you delayed enrolling in a Medicare drug plan, after you were eligible to enroll. Or count the number of full months in which you did not have creditable prescription drug coverage, if the break in coverage was 63 days or more. The penalty is 1% for every month that you didn't have creditable coverage. For example, if you go 14 months without coverage, the penalty will be 14%.
- Then Medicare determines the amount of the average monthly premium for Medicare drug plans in the nation from the previous year. For 2020, this average premium amount is \$32.74.
- To calculate your monthly penalty, you multiply the penalty percentage and the average monthly premium, and then round it to the nearest 10 cents. In the example here, it would be 14% times \$32.74, which equals \$4.58. This rounds to \$4.60. This amount would be added to the monthly premium for someone with a Part D late enrollment penalty.

There are three important things to note about this monthly Part D late enrollment penalty:

- First, the penalty may change each year because the average monthly premium can change each year. If the national average premium (as determined by Medicare) increases, your penalty will increase.
- Second, you will continue to pay a penalty every month for as long as you are enrolled in a plan that has Medicare Part D drug benefits, even if you change plans.
- Third, if you are under 65 and currently receiving Medicare benefits, the Part D late enrollment penalty will reset when you turn 65. After age 65, your Part D late enrollment penalty will be based only on the months that you don't have coverage after your initial enrollment period for aging into Medicare.

### **Section 5.3 In some situations, you can enroll late and not have to pay the penalty**

Even if you have delayed enrolling in a plan offering Medicare Part D coverage when you were first eligible, sometimes you do not have to pay the Part D late enrollment penalty.

**You will not have to pay a penalty for late enrollment if you are in any of these situations:**

- If you already have prescription drug coverage that is expected to pay, on average, at least as much as Medicare's standard prescription drug coverage. Medicare calls this "creditable drug coverage." **Please note:**
  - ◆ Creditable coverage could include drug coverage from a former employer or union, TRICARE, or the Department of Veterans Affairs. Your insurer or your human resources department will tell you each year if your drug coverage is creditable coverage. This information may be sent to you in a letter or included in a newsletter from the plan. Keep this information because you may need it if you join a Medicare drug plan later. Please note: If you receive a "certificate of creditable coverage" when your health coverage ends, it may not mean your prescription drug coverage was creditable. The notice must state that you had "creditable" prescription drug coverage that expected to pay as much as Medicare's standard prescription drug plan pays.
  - ◆ The following are not creditable prescription drug coverage: prescription drug discount cards, free clinics, and drug discount websites.
  - ◆ For additional information about creditable coverage, please look in your **Medicare & You 2020** handbook or call Medicare at **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**. TTY users call **1-877-486-2048**. You can call these numbers for free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- If you were without creditable coverage, but you were without it for less than 63 days in a row.
- If you are receiving "Extra Help" from Medicare.

**Section 5.4 What can you do if you disagree about your Part D late enrollment penalty?**

If you disagree about your Part D late enrollment penalty, you or your representative can ask for a review of the decision about your late enrollment penalty. Generally, you must request this review within 60 days from the date on the first letter you receive stating you have to pay a late enrollment penalty. If you were paying a penalty before joining our plan, you may not have another chance to request a review of that late enrollment penalty. Call Member Services to find out more about how to do this (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

**SECTION 6. Do you have to pay an extra Part D amount because of your income?**

**Section 6.1 Who pays an extra Part D amount because of income?**

Most people pay a standard monthly Part D premium. However, some people pay an extra amount because of their yearly income. If your income is \$85,000 or above for an individual (or married individuals filing separately) or \$170,000 or above for married couples, **you must pay an extra amount directly to the government** for your Medicare Part D coverage.

If you have to pay an extra amount, Social Security, not your Medicare plan, will send you a letter telling you what that extra amount will be and how to pay it. The extra amount will be withheld from your Social Security, Railroad Retirement Board, or Office of Personnel Management benefit check, no matter how you usually pay your plan premium, unless your monthly benefit isn't enough to cover the extra amount owed. If your benefit check isn't enough to cover the extra amount, you will get a bill from Medicare. You must pay the extra amount to the government. It cannot be paid with your monthly plan premium.

### **Section 6.2 How much is the extra Part D amount?**

If your modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) as reported on your IRS tax return is above a certain amount, you will pay an extra amount in addition to your monthly plan premium. For more information on the extra amount you may have to pay based on your income, visit <https://www.medicare.gov/part-d/costs/premiums/drug-plan-premiums.html>.

### **Section 6.3 What can you do if you disagree about paying an extra Part D amount?**

If you disagree about paying an extra amount because of your income, you can ask Social Security to review the decision. To find out more about how to do this, contact Social Security at **1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778)**.

### **Section 6.4 What happens if you do not pay the extra Part D amount?**

The extra amount is paid directly to the government (not your Medicare plan) for your Medicare Part D coverage. If you are required by law to pay the extra amount and you do not pay it, you will be disenrolled from the plan and lose prescription drug coverage.

## **SECTION 7. More information about your monthly premium**

### **Many members are required to pay other Medicare premiums**

In addition to paying the monthly plan premium, many members are required to pay other Medicare premiums. As explained in Section 2 of this chapter, in order to be eligible for our plan, you must be entitled to Medicare Part A and enrolled in Medicare Part B. For that reason, some plan members (those who aren't eligible for premium-free Part A) pay a premium for Medicare Part A. Most plan members pay a premium for Medicare Part B. You must continue paying your Medicare premiums to remain a member of our plan.

If your modified adjusted gross income as reported on your IRS tax return from two years ago is above a certain amount, you'll pay the standard premium amount and an Income Related

Monthly Adjustment Amount, also known as IRMAA. IRMAA is an extra charge added to your premium.

- **If you are required to pay the extra amount and you do not pay it, you will be disenrolled from our plan and lose prescription drug coverage.**
- If you have to pay an extra amount, Social Security, **not your Medicare plan**, will send you a letter telling you what that extra amount will be.
- For more information about Part D premiums based on income, go to Section 6 of this chapter. You can also visit <https://www.medicare.gov> on the Web or call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**. Or you may call Social Security at **1-800-772-1213**. TTY users should call **1-800-325-0778**.

Your copy of **Medicare & You 2020** gives you information about Medicare premiums in the section called "2020 Medicare Costs." This explains how the Medicare Part B and Part D premiums differ for people with different incomes. Everyone with Medicare receives a copy of **Medicare & You** each year in the fall. Those new to Medicare receive it within a month after first signing up. You can also download a copy of **Medicare & You 2020** from the Medicare website (<https://www.medicare.gov>) or you can order a printed copy by phone at **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users call **1-877-486-2048**.

### **Section 7.1 Paying your plan premium**

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

### **Section 7.2 Can we change your monthly plan premium during the year?**

**No.** We are not allowed to change the amount we charge for our plan's monthly plan premium during your group's contract year.

However, in some cases, the part of the premium that you have to pay can change during the year. This happens if you become eligible for the "Extra Help" program or if you lose your eligibility for the "Extra Help" program during the year. If a member qualifies for "Extra Help" with their prescription drug costs, the "Extra Help" program will pay part of the member's monthly plan premium. A member who loses their eligibility during the year will need to start paying their full monthly premium. You can find out more about the "Extra Help" program in Chapter 2, Section 7.

## **SECTION 8. Please keep your plan membership record up-to-date**

### **Section 8.1 How to help make sure that we have accurate information about you**

Your membership record has information from your enrollment form, including your address and telephone number. It shows your specific plan coverage, including your primary care provider.

The doctors, hospitals, pharmacists, and other providers in our network need to have correct information about you. **These network providers use your membership record to know what services and drugs are covered and the cost-sharing amounts for you.** Because of this, it is very important that you help us keep your information up-to-date.

#### **Let us know about these changes:**

- Changes to your name, your address, or your phone number.
- Changes in any other health insurance coverage you have (such as from your employer, your spouse's employer, workers' compensation, or Medicaid).
- If you have any liability claims, such as claims from an automobile accident.
- If you have been admitted to a nursing home.
- If you receive care in an out-of-area or out-of-network hospital or emergency room.
- If your designated responsible party (such as a caregiver) changes.
- If you are participating in a clinical research study.

If any of this information changes, please let us know by calling Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

It is also important to contact Social Security if you move or change your mailing address. You can find phone numbers and contact information for Social Security in Chapter 2, Section 5.

#### **Read over the information we send you about any other insurance coverage you have**

Medicare requires that we collect information from you about any other medical or drug insurance coverage that you have. That's because we must coordinate any other coverage you have with your benefits under our plan. (For more information about how our coverage works when you have other insurance, see Section 10 in this chapter.)

Once each year, we will send you a letter that lists any other medical or drug insurance coverage that we know about. Please read over this information carefully. If it is correct, you don't need to do anything. If the information is incorrect, or if you have other coverage that is not listed, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

## **SECTION 9. We protect the privacy of your personal health information**

### **Section 9.1 We make sure that your health information is protected**

Federal and state laws protect the privacy of your medical records and personal health information. We protect your personal health information as required by these laws.

For more information about how we protect your personal health information, please go to Chapter 8, Section 1.4, of this booklet.

## **SECTION 10. How other insurance works with our plan**

### **Section 10.1 Which plan pays first when you have other insurance?**

When you have other insurance (like employer group health coverage), there are rules set by Medicare that decide whether our plan or your other insurance pays first. The insurance that pays first is called the "primary payer" and pays up to the limits of its coverage. The one that pays second, called the "secondary payer," only pays if there are costs left uncovered by the primary coverage. The secondary payer may not pay all of the uncovered costs.

These rules apply for employer or union group health plan coverage:

- If you have retiree coverage, Medicare pays first.
- If your group health plan coverage is based on your or a family member's current employment, who pays first depends upon your age, the number of people employed by your employer, and whether you have Medicare based on age, disability, or End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD):
  - ◆ If you're under 65 and disabled and you or your family member is still working, your group health plan pays first if the employer has 100 or more employees or at least one employer in a multiple employer plan that has more than 100 employees.
  - ◆ If you're over 65 and you or your spouse is still working, your group health plan pays first if the employer has 20 or more employees or at least one employer in a multiple employer plan that has more than 20 employees.
- If you have Medicare because of ESRD, your group health plan will pay first for the first 30 months after you become eligible for Medicare.

These types of coverage usually pay first for services related to each type:

- No-fault insurance (including automobile insurance).
- Liability (including automobile insurance).
- Black lung benefits.
- Workers' compensation.

Medicaid and TRICARE never pay first for Medicare-covered services. They only pay after Medicare, employer group health plans, and/or Medigap have paid.

If you have other insurance, tell your doctor, hospital, and pharmacy. If you have questions about who pays first, or you need to update your other insurance information, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You may need to give your plan member ID number to your other insurers (once you have confirmed their identity) so your bills are paid correctly and on time.

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**CHAPTER 2. Important phone numbers and resources**

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**SECTION 1. Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage contacts**  
(how to contact us, including how to reach Member Services at our plan)

**How to contact our plan's Member Services**

For assistance with claims, billing, or membership card questions, please call or write to Senior Advantage Member Services. We will be happy to help you.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Member Services – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-800-476-2167</b> Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Member Services also has free language interpreter services available for non-English speakers.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
<b>FAX</b>	<b>303-214-6489</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado Customer Experience 2500 South Havana Street Aurora, CO 80014-1622
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>kp.org</b>

**How to contact us when you are asking for a coverage decision or making a complaint about your medical care**

A coverage decision is a decision we make about your benefits and coverage or about the amount we will pay for your medical services. You can make a complaint about us or one of our network providers, including a complaint about the quality of your care. This type of complaint does not involve coverage or payment disputes. (If your problem is about our plan's coverage or payment, you should look at the section about making an appeal.) For more information about asking for coverage decisions or making complaints about your medical care, see Chapter 9, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)." You may call us if you have questions about our coverage decision or complaint processes.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Coverage decisions or complaints about medical care – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-800-476-2167</b> Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
<b>FAX</b>	<b>1-866-466-4042</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado Customer Experience 2500 South Havana Street Aurora, CO 80014-1622
<b>MEDICARE WEBSITE</b>	You can submit a <b><u>complaint</u></b> about our plan directly to Medicare. To submit an online complaint to Medicare, go to <b><a href="https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx">https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx</a></b> .

**How to contact us when you are asking for a coverage decision or making a complaint about your Part D prescription drugs**

A coverage decision is a decision we make about your benefits and coverage or about the amount we will pay for your prescription drugs covered under the Part D benefit included in your plan. You can make a complaint about us or one of our network pharmacies, including a complaint about the quality of your care. This type of complaint does not involve coverage or payment disputes. (If your problem is about our plan's coverage or payment, you should look at the section below about making an appeal.)

For more information about asking for coverage decisions or making complaints about your Part D prescription drugs, see Chapter 9, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)." You may call us if you have questions about our coverage decision or complaint processes.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Coverage decisions or complaints about Part D prescription drugs – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1- 800-476-2167</b> Calls to this number are free. Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**

<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> Calls to this number are free. Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
<b>FAX</b>	<b>1-866-455-1053</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado Pharmacy Benefits and Compliance 16601 East Centretch Parkway Aurora, CO 80011
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>kp.org</b>
<b>MEDICARE WEBSITE</b>	You can submit a <b>complaint</b> about our plan directly to Medicare. To submit an online complaint to Medicare, go to <a href="https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx">https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx</a> .

**How to contact us when you are making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs**

An appeal is a formal way of asking us to review and change a coverage decision we have made. For more information about making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs, see Chapter 9, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)."

<b>Method</b>	<b>Appeals for medical care or Part D prescription drugs – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-888-370-9858</b> Calls to this number are free. Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> Calls to this number are free. Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
<b>FAX</b>	<b>1-866-466-4042</b>
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>kp.org</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	Appeals Program Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado P.O. Box 378066 Denver, CO 80237-8066

**Where to send a request asking us to pay for our share of the cost for medical care or a drug you have received**

For more information about situations in which you may need to ask us for reimbursement or to pay a bill you have received from a provider, see Chapter 7, "Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs."

**Please note:** If you send us a payment request and we deny any part of your request, you can appeal our decision. See Chapter 9, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)," for more information.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Payment requests – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-800-476-2167</b> Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
<b>WRITE</b>	Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado Claims Department P.O. Box 373150 Denver, CO 80237-3150
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>kp.org</b>

**SECTION 2. Medicare** (how to get help and information directly from the federal Medicare program)

Medicare is the federal health insurance program for people 65 years of age or older, some people under age 65 with disabilities, and people with End-Stage Renal Disease (permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a kidney transplant).

The federal agency in charge of Medicare is the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (sometimes called "CMS"). This agency contracts with Medicare Advantage organizations, including our plan.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Medicare – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-800-MEDICARE or 1-800-633-4227</b> Calls to this number are free. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>1-877-486-2048</b>

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**

<b>Method</b>	<b>Medicare – contact information</b>
	<p>This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.</p> <p>Calls to this number are free.</p>
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<p><b><a href="https://www.medicare.gov">https://www.medicare.gov</a></b></p> <p>This is the official government website for Medicare. It gives you up-to-date information about Medicare and current Medicare issues. It also has information about hospitals, nursing homes, physicians, home health agencies, and dialysis facilities. It includes booklets you can print directly from your computer. You can also find Medicare contacts in your state.</p> <p>The Medicare website also has detailed information about your Medicare eligibility and enrollment options, with the following tools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Medicare Eligibility Tool:</b> Provides Medicare eligibility status information.</li><li>• <b>Medicare Plan Finder:</b> Provides personalized information about available Medicare prescription drug plans, Medicare health plans, and Medigap (Medicare Supplement Insurance) policies in your area. These tools provide an estimate of what your out-of-pocket costs might be in different Medicare plans.</li></ul> <p>You can also use the website to tell Medicare about any complaints you have about our plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Tell Medicare about your complaint:</b> You can submit a complaint about our plan directly to Medicare. To submit a complaint to Medicare, go to <b><a href="https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx">https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx</a></b>. Medicare takes your complaints seriously and will use this information to help improve the quality of the Medicare program.</li></ul> <p>If you don't have a computer, your local library or senior center may be able to help you visit this website using its computer. Or you can call Medicare and tell them what information you are looking for. They will find the information on the website, print it out, and send it to you. (You can call Medicare at <b>1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)</b>, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call <b>1-877-486-2048</b>.)</p>

**SECTION 3. State Health Insurance Assistance Program** (free help, information, and answers to your questions about Medicare)

The State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) is a government program with trained counselors in every state. In Colorado, the SHIP is called Colorado State Health Insurance Assistance Program ("Colorado SHIP").

Colorado SHIP is independent (not connected with any insurance company or health plan). It is a state program that gets money from the federal government to give free local health insurance counseling to people with Medicare.

Colorado SHIP counselors can help you with your Medicare questions or problems. They can help you understand your Medicare rights, help you make complaints about your medical care or treatment, and help you straighten out problems with your Medicare bills. Colorado SHIP counselors can also help you understand your Medicare plan choices and answer questions about switching plans.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Colorado State Health Insurance Assistance Program – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-888-696-7213</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	SHIP, Colorado Division of Insurance 1560 Broadway St., Ste. 850 Denver, CO 80202
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b><a href="https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dora/senior-healthcare-medicare">https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dora/senior-healthcare-medicare</a></b>

**SECTION 4. Quality Improvement Organization** (paid by Medicare to check on the quality of care for people with Medicare)

There is a designated Quality Improvement Organization for serving Medicare beneficiaries in each state. For Colorado, the Quality Improvement Organization is called KEPRO.

KEPRO has a group of doctors and other health care professionals who are paid by the federal government. This organization is paid by Medicare to check on and help improve the quality of care for people with Medicare. KEPRO is an independent organization. It is not connected with our plan.

You should contact KEPRO in any of these situations:

- You have a complaint about the quality of care you have received.
- You think coverage for your hospital stay is ending too soon.
- You think coverage for your home health care, skilled nursing facility care, or Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services are ending too soon.

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**

<b>Method</b>	<b>KEPRO (Colorado’s Quality Improvement Organization) – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-888-317-0891</b> Calls to this number are free. Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Weekends and holidays, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>1-855-843-4776</b> This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
<b>WRITE</b>	KEPRO Rock Run Center, Suite 100 5700 Lombardo Center Drive Seven Hills, OH 44131 Attention: Beneficiary Complaints
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<a href="https://www.keproqio.com">https://www.keproqio.com</a>

## SECTION 5. Social Security

Social Security is responsible for determining eligibility and handling enrollment for Medicare. U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents who are 65 or older, or who have a disability or End-Stage Renal Disease and meet certain conditions, are eligible for Medicare. If you are already getting Social Security checks, enrollment into Medicare is automatic. If you are not getting Social Security checks, you have to enroll in Medicare. Social Security handles the enrollment process for Medicare. To apply for Medicare, you can call Social Security or visit your local Social Security office.

Social Security is also responsible for determining who has to pay an extra amount for their Part D drug coverage because they have a higher income. If you got a letter from Social Security telling you that you have to pay the extra amount and have questions about the amount or if your income went down because of a life-changing event, you can call Social Security to ask for a reconsideration.

If you move or change your mailing address, it is important that you contact Social Security to let them know.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Social Security – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-800-772-1213</b>

<b>Method</b>	<b>Social Security – contact information</b>
	Calls to this number are free. Available 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. You can use Social Security's automated telephone services to get recorded information and conduct some business 24 hours a day.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>1-800-325-0778</b>  This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking. Calls to this number are free. Available 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday.
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b><a href="https://www.ssa.gov">https://www.ssa.gov</a></b>

**SECTION 6. Medicaid** (a joint federal and state program that helps with medical costs for some people with limited income and resources)

Medicaid is a joint federal and state government program that helps with medical costs for certain people with limited incomes and resources. Some people with Medicare are also eligible for Medicaid.

In addition, there are programs offered through Medicaid that help people with Medicare pay their Medicare costs, such as their Medicare premiums. These "Medicare Savings Programs" help people with limited income and resources save money each year:

- **Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB):** Helps pay Medicare Part A and Part B premiums, and other cost-sharing (like deductibles, coinsurance, and copayments). Some people with QMB are also eligible for full Medicaid benefits (QMB+).
- **Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB):** Helps pay Part B premiums. Some people with SLMB are also eligible for full Medicaid benefits (SLMB+).
- **Qualified Individual (QI):** Helps pay Part B premiums.
- **Qualified Disabled & Working Individuals (QDWI):** Helps pay Part A premiums.

To find out more about Medicaid and its programs, contact Health First Colorado (Medicaid).

<b>Method</b>	<b>Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid program) – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-800-221-3943</b>  Calls to this number are free. Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b>

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**



<b>Method</b>	<b>Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid program) – contact information</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	Department of Health Care Policy and Financing 1570 Grant Street Denver, CO 80203
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<a href="https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com">https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com</a>

## **SECTION 7. Information about programs to help people pay for their prescription drugs**

### **Medicare's "Extra Help" Program**

Medicare provides "Extra Help" to pay prescription drug costs for people who have limited income and resources. Resources include your savings and stocks, but not your home or car. If you qualify, you get help paying for any Medicare drug plan's monthly premium, yearly deductible, and prescription copayments. This "Extra Help" also counts toward your out-of-pocket costs.

People with limited income and resources may qualify for "Extra Help." Some people automatically qualify for "Extra Help" and don't need to apply. Medicare mails a letter to people who automatically qualify for "Extra Help."

You may be able to get "Extra Help" to pay for your prescription drug premiums and costs. To see if you qualify for getting "Extra Help," call:

- **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**, 24 hours a day/7 days a week;
- The Social Security Office at **1-800-772-1213**, between 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. TTY users should call **1-800-325-0778** (applications); or
- Your state Medicaid office (applications) (see Section 6 in this chapter for contact information).

If you believe you have qualified for "Extra Help" and you believe that you are paying an incorrect cost-sharing amount when you get your prescription at a pharmacy, our plan has established a process that allows you either to request assistance in obtaining evidence of your proper copayment level, or, if you already have the evidence, to provide this evidence to us.

If you aren't sure what evidence to provide us, please contact a network pharmacy or Member Services. The evidence is often a letter from either the state Medicaid or Social Security office that confirms you are qualified for "Extra Help." The evidence may also be state-issued documentation with your eligibility information associated with Home and Community-Based Services.

You or your appointed representative may need to provide the evidence to a network pharmacy when obtaining covered Part D prescriptions so that we may charge you the appropriate cost-sharing amount until the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) updates its records to reflect your current status. Once CMS updates its records, you will no longer need to present the evidence to the pharmacy. Please provide your evidence in one of the following ways so we can forward it to CMS for updating:

- Write to Kaiser Permanente at:  
California Service Center  
Attn: Best Available Evidence  
P.O. Box 232407  
San Diego, CA 92193-2407
- Fax it to **1-877-528-8579**.
- Take it to a network pharmacy.

When we receive the evidence showing your copayment level, we will update our system so that you can pay the correct copayment when you get your next prescription at the pharmacy. If you overpay your copayment, we will reimburse you. Either we will forward a check to you in the amount of your overpayment or we will offset future copayments. If the pharmacy hasn't collected a copayment from you and is carrying your copayment as a debt owed by you, we may make the payment directly to the pharmacy. If a state paid on your behalf, we may make payment directly to the state. Please contact Member Services if you have questions (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **Medicare Coverage Gap Discount Program**

The Medicare Coverage Gap Discount Program provides manufacturer discounts on brand-name drugs to Part D members who have reached the coverage gap and are not receiving "Extra Help." For brand-name drugs, the 70% discount provided by manufacturers excludes any dispensing fee for costs in the gap. Members pay 25% of the negotiated price and a portion of the dispensing fee for brand-name drugs.

If you reach the coverage gap, we will automatically apply the discount when your pharmacy bills you for your prescription and your **Part D Explanation of Benefits (Part D EOB)** will show any discount provided. Both the amount you pay and the amount discounted by the manufacturer count toward your out-of-pocket costs as if you had paid them, and move you through the coverage gap. The amount paid by the plan (5%) does not count toward your out-of-pocket costs.

You also receive some coverage for generic drugs. If you reach the coverage gap, we pay 75% of the price for generic drugs and you pay the remaining 25% of the price. For generic drugs, the amount paid by our plan (75%) does not count toward your out-of-pocket costs. Only the amount you pay counts and moves you through the coverage gap. Also, the dispensing fee is included as part of the cost of the drug.

The Medicare Coverage Gap Discount Program is available nationwide. Because our plan offers additional gap coverage during the Coverage Gap Stage, your out-of-pocket costs will sometimes be lower than the costs described here. Please go to Chapter 6, Section 6, for more information about your coverage during the Coverage Gap Stage.

If you have any questions about the availability of discounts for the drugs you are taking or about the Medicare Coverage Gap Discount Program in general, please contact Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

*What if you have coverage from a State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program (SPAP)?*

If you are enrolled in a State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program (SPAP), or any other program that provides coverage for Part D drugs (other than "Extra Help"), you still get the 70% discount on covered brand-name drugs. Also, the plan pays 5% of the costs of brand-name drugs in the coverage gap. The 70% discount and the 5% paid by the plan are both applied to the price of the drug before any SPAP or other coverage.

*What if you have coverage from an AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)?*

*What is the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)?*

The AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) helps ADAP-eligible individuals living with HIV/AIDS have access to life-saving HIV medications. Medicare Part D prescription drugs that are also covered by ADAP qualify for prescription cost-sharing assistance through **Bridging the Gap Colorado**. Note: To be eligible for the ADAP operating in your state, individuals must meet certain criteria, including proof of state residence and HIV status, low income as defined by the state, and uninsured/underinsured status.

If you are currently enrolled in an ADAP, it can continue to provide you with Medicare Part D prescription cost-sharing assistance for drugs on the ADAP formulary. In order to be sure you continue receiving this assistance, please notify your local ADAP enrollment worker of any changes in your Medicare Part D plan name or policy number. Please call **Bridging the Gap Colorado** at 303-692-2716.

For information on eligibility criteria, covered drugs, or how to enroll in the program, please call **Bridging the Gap Colorado** at 303-692-2716.

*What if you get "Extra Help" from Medicare to help pay your prescription drug costs? Can you get the discounts?*

**No.** If you get "Extra Help," you already get coverage for your prescription drug costs during the coverage gap.

*What if you don't get a discount, and you think you should have?*

If you think that you have reached the coverage gap and did not get a discount when you paid for your brand-name drug, you should review your next *Part D Explanation of Benefits (Part D EOB)* notice. If the discount doesn't appear on your *Part D EOB*, you should contact us to make sure that your prescription records are correct and up-to-date. If we don't agree that you are owed a discount, you can appeal. You can get help filing an appeal from your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) (telephone numbers are in Section 3 of this chapter) or by calling **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.

### State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs

Many states have State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs that help some people pay for prescription drugs based on financial need, age, medical condition or disabilities. Each state has different rules to provide drug coverage to its members.

In Colorado, the name of the State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program is Bridging the Gap Colorado.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Bridging the Gap Colorado - contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>303-692-2716</b> Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
<b>WRITE</b>	Bridging the Gap Colorado C/O Colorado ADAP A3-3800 4300 Cherry Creek Drive South Denver, Colorado 80246-1530
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b><a href="https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/colorado-aids-drug-assistance-program-adap">https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/colorado-aids-drug-assistance-program-adap</a></b>

### SECTION 8. How to contact the Railroad Retirement Board

The Railroad Retirement Board is an independent federal agency that administers comprehensive benefit programs for the nation's railroad workers and their families. If you have questions regarding your benefits from the Railroad Retirement Board, contact the agency.

If you receive your Medicare through the Railroad Retirement Board, it is important that you let them know if you move or change your mailing address.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Railroad Retirement Board – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-877-772-5772</b> Calls to this number are free. If you press “0,” you may speak with an RRB representative from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, and from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Wednesday If you press “1,” you may access the automated RRB HelpLine and recorded information 24 hours a day, including weekends and holidays.

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**

**TTY**            **1-312-751-4701**

This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.  
Calls to this number are *not* free.

**WEBSITE**    **<https://www.secure.rrb.gov>**

### **SECTION 9. Do you have "group insurance" or other health insurance from an employer?**

If you (or your spouse) get benefits from your (or your spouse's) employer or retiree group as part of this plan, you may call the employer/union benefits administrator or Member Services if you have any questions. You can ask about your (or your spouse's) employer or retiree health benefits, premiums, or the enrollment period. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet. You may also call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227; TTY: 1-877-486-2048)** with questions related to your Medicare coverage under this plan.

If you have other prescription drug coverage through your (or your spouse's) employer or retiree group, please contact that group's benefits administrator. The benefits administrator can help you determine how your current prescription drug coverage will work with our plan.

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## **CHAPTER 3. Using our plan's coverage for your medical services**

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## **SECTION 1. Things to know about getting your medical care covered as a member of our plan**

This chapter explains what you need to know about using our plan to get your medical care covered. It gives you definitions of terms and explains the rules you will need to follow to get the medical treatments, services, and other medical care that are covered by our plan.

For the details on what medical care is covered by our plan and how much you pay when you get this care, use the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

### **Section 1.1 What are "network providers" and "covered services"?**

Here are some definitions that can help you understand how you get the care and services that are covered for you as a member of our plan:

- **"Providers"** are doctors and other health care professionals licensed by the state to provide medical services and care. The term "providers" also includes hospitals and other health care facilities.
- **"Network providers"** are the doctors and other health care professionals, medical groups, hospitals, and other health care facilities that have an agreement with us to accept our payment and your cost-sharing amount as payment in full. We have arranged for these providers to deliver covered services to members in our plan. The providers in our network bill us directly for care they give you. When you see a network provider, you pay only your share of the cost for their services.
- **"Covered services"** include all the medical care, health care services, supplies, and equipment that are covered by our plan. Your covered services for medical care are listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

### **Section 1.2 Basic rules for getting your medical care covered by our plan**

As a Medicare health plan, our plan must cover all services covered by Original Medicare and must follow Original Medicare's coverage rules.

We will generally cover your medical care as long as:

- **The care you receive is included in our plan's Medical Benefits Chart** (found at the front of this **EOC**).
- **The care you receive is considered medically necessary.** "Medically necessary" means that the services, supplies, or drugs are needed for the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of your medical condition and meet accepted standards of medical practice.

- **You have a network primary care provider (a PCP)** who is providing and overseeing your care. As a member of our plan, you must choose a network PCP (for more information about this, see Section 2.1 in this chapter).
  - ◆ In most situations, your network PCP must give you approval in advance before you can use other providers in our plan's network, such as specialists, hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, or home health care agencies. This is called giving you a "referral" (for more information about this, see Section 2.3 in this chapter).
  - ◆ Referrals from your PCP are not required for emergency care or urgently needed services. There are also some other kinds of care you can get without having approval in advance from your PCP (for more information about this, see Section 2.2 in this chapter).
- **You must receive your care from a network provider** (for more information about this, see Section 2 in this chapter). In most cases, care you receive from an out-of-network provider (a provider who is not part of our plan's network) will not be covered. Here are three exceptions:
  - ◆ We cover emergency care or urgently needed services that you get from an out-of-network provider. For more information about this, and to see what emergency or urgently needed services means, see Section 3 in this chapter.
  - ◆ If you need medical care that Medicare requires our plan to cover and the providers in our network cannot provide this care, you can get this care from an out-of-network provider if we authorize the services before you get the care. In this situation, you will pay the same as you would pay if you got the care from a network provider. For information about getting approval to see an out-of-network doctor, see Section 2.3 in this chapter.
  - ◆ We cover kidney dialysis services that you get at a Medicare-certified dialysis facility when you are temporarily outside our service area.

## **SECTION 2. Use providers in our network to get your medical care**

### **Section 2.1 You must choose a Primary Care Provider (PCP) to provide and oversee your medical care**

#### **What is a "PCP" and what does the PCP do for you?**

As a member of our plan, you must choose a network provider to be your primary care provider (PCP). Your PCP is a health care professional who meets state requirements and is trained to give you primary medical care.

Your PCP will provide most of your care and may help you arrange or coordinate the rest of the covered services you get as a member of our plan. This includes your X-rays, laboratory tests, therapies, care from doctors who are specialists, hospital admissions, and follow-up care. "Coordinating" your services includes checking or consulting with other network providers about your care and how it is going.

There are a few types of covered services you can get on your own without contacting your PCP first (see Section 2.2 in this chapter).



In some cases, your PCP will also need to get prior authorization (prior approval) from us. The services that require prior authorization from us are discussed in Section 2.3 of this chapter.

### **How do you choose your PCP?**

You may choose a primary care provider from any of our available network physicians who practice in these specialties: internal medicine, family medicine, and pediatrics. When you make a selection, it is effective immediately. To learn how to choose a primary care provider, please call our Personal Physician Selection Services at **1-855-208-7221 (TTY 711)**, weekdays 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. You can also make your selection at **kp.org**.

### **Changing your PCP**

You may change your PCP for any reason, at any time. Also, it's possible that your PCP might leave our network of providers and you would have to find a new PCP. To change your PCP, call our Personal Physician Selection Team at **1-855-208-7221** or **711 (TTY)**, weekdays 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., or make your selection at **kp.org**.

When you call, be sure to tell our Personal Physician Selection Team if you are seeing specialists or getting other covered services that need your PCP's approval (such as home health services and durable medical equipment). Our Personal Physician Selection Team will help make sure that you can continue with the specialty care and other services you have been getting when you change your PCP. They will also check to be sure the PCP you want to switch to is accepting new patients. When you make a new selection, the change is effective immediately.

## **Section 2.2 What kinds of medical care can you get without getting approval in advance from your PCP?**

You can get the services listed below without getting approval in advance from your PCP:

- Routine women's health care, which includes breast exams, screening mammograms (X-rays of the breast), Pap tests, and pelvic exams, as long as you get them from a network provider.
- Flu shots and pneumonia vaccinations, as long as you get them from a network provider.
- Emergency services from network providers or from out-of-network providers.
- Urgently needed services from network providers or from out-of-network providers when network providers are temporarily unavailable or inaccessible (for example, when you are temporarily outside of our service area).
- Kidney dialysis services that you get at a Medicare-certified dialysis facility when you are temporarily outside our service area. (If possible, please call Member Services before you leave the service area so we can help arrange for you to have maintenance dialysis while you are away.) Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.
- Consultation (routine office) visits to specialty-care departments within our plan, with the exception of the anesthesia clinical pain department.
- Second opinions from another network provider.
- Mental health care or substance abuse services, as long as you get them from a network provider.
- Preventive care except barium enemas, as long as you get them from a network provider.

- Chiropractic services as long as you get them from a network provider.
- Routine eye exams and hearing exams, as long as you get them from a network provider.
- Covered routine care from any Colorado Permanente Medical Group (CPMG) physician at any Kaiser Permanente medical office in our Southern Colorado or Northern Colorado service areas. Note: You cannot get routine care from affiliated network providers in the Southern Colorado or Northern Colorado service areas.

### **Section 2.3 How to get care from specialists and other network providers**

A specialist is a doctor who provides health care services for a specific disease or part of the body. There are many kinds of specialists. Here are a few examples:

- Oncologists care for patients with cancer.
- Cardiologists care for patients with heart conditions.
- Orthopedists care for patients with certain bone, joint, or muscle conditions.

#### **Referrals from your PCP**

You will usually see your PCP first for most of your routine health care needs. There are only a few types of covered services you may get on your own, without getting approval from your PCP first, which are described in Section 2.2 of this chapter.

When your PCP prescribes specialized treatment, he or she will give you a referral to see a network specialist or certain other network providers. However, for some types of specialty care referrals, your PCP may need to get approval in advance from our plan. If there is a particular network specialist or hospital that you want to use, check first to be sure your PCP makes referrals to that specialist, or uses that hospital.

#### **Prior authorization**

For the services and items listed below and in Chapter 4, Sections 2.1 and 2.2, your network provider will need to get approval in advance from our plan (this is called getting "prior authorization"). Decisions regarding requests for authorization will be made only by licensed physicians or other appropriately licensed medical professionals.

- For **certain specialty care**, your PCP will recommend to our plan that you be referred to a network specialist. The plan will authorize the services if it is determined that the covered services are medically necessary. Referrals to such specialist will be for a specific treatment plan, which may include a standing referral if ongoing care is prescribed. Please ask your network physician what services have been authorized. If the specialist wants you to come back for more care, be sure to check if the referral covers more visits to the specialist. If it doesn't, please contact your PCP. You must have an authorized referral for ongoing treatment from a network specialist except as described in Section 2.2. If you don't have a referral (approval in advance) before you get certain ongoing services, you may have to pay for these services yourself.
- If your network provider decides that you require **covered services not available from network providers**, he or she will recommend to our plan that you be referred to an out-of-

network provider inside or outside our service area. The plan will authorize the services if it is determined that the covered services are medically necessary and are not available from a network provider. Referrals to out-of-network providers will be for a specific treatment plan, which may include a standing referral if ongoing care is prescribed. Please ask your network provider what services have been authorized. If the out-of-network specialist wants you to come back for more care, be sure to check if the referral covers more visits to the specialist. If it doesn't, please contact your network provider.

- If your network physician makes a written referral for **bariatric surgery**, the service will be evaluated for medical necessity by our bariatric surgeon and the Metabolic Surgery and Weight Management Department.
- After we are notified that you need **post-stabilization care** from an out-of-network provider following emergency care, we will discuss your condition with the out-of-network provider. If we decide that you require post-stabilization care and that this care would be covered if you received it from a network provider, we will authorize your care from the out-of-network provider only if we cannot arrange to have a network provider (or other designated provider) provide the care. Please see Section 3.1 in this chapter for more information.
- Medically necessary **transgender surgery** and associated procedures.
- Care from a **religious nonmedical health care institution** described in Section 6 of this chapter.
- If your specialist makes a written referral for a **transplant**, the Medical Group's regional transplant advisory committee or board (if one exists) will authorize the services if it determines that they are medically necessary or covered in accord with Medicare guidelines. In cases where no transplant committee or board exists, the Medical Group will designate a specialist within the group to review and approve your transplant referral.

### **What if a specialist or another network provider leaves our plan?**

We may make changes to the hospitals, doctors, and specialists (providers) that are part of your plan during the year. There are a number of reasons why your provider might leave your plan, but if your doctor or specialist does leave your plan, you have certain rights and protections that are summarized below:

- Even though our network of providers may change during the year, Medicare requires that we furnish you with uninterrupted access to qualified doctors and specialists.
- We will make a good faith effort to provide you with at least 30 days' notice that your provider is leaving our plan so that you have time to select a new provider.
- We will assist you in selecting a new qualified provider to continue managing your health care needs.
- If you are undergoing medical treatment, you have the right to request, and we will work with you to ensure, that the medically necessary treatment you are receiving is not interrupted.
- If you believe we have not furnished you with a qualified provider to replace your previous provider or that your care is not being appropriately managed, you have the right to file an appeal of our decision.

- If you find out your doctor or specialist is leaving your plan, please contact us at **1-855-208-7221 (TTY 711)**, weekdays, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., so we can assist you in finding a new provider and managing your care.

## **Section 2.4 How to get care from out-of-network providers**

Care you receive from an out-of-network provider will not be covered except in the following situations:

- Emergency or urgently needed services that you get from an out-of-network provider. For more information about this, and to see what emergency or urgently needed services mean, see Section 3 in this chapter.
- We authorize a referral to an out-of-network provider described in Section 2.3 of this chapter.
- Kidney dialysis services that you get at a Medicare-certified dialysis facility when you are temporarily outside our service area.
- If you visit the service area of another Kaiser Permanente region, you can receive certain care covered under this **Evidence of Coverage** from designated providers in that service area. Please call Member Services or our away from home travel line at **1-951-268-3900** (24 hours a day, 7 days a week except holidays), **TTY 711**, for more information about getting care when visiting another Kaiser Permanente region's service area, including coverage information and facility locations in the District of Columbia and parts of California, Georgia, Hawaii, Maryland, Oregon, Virginia, and Washington.

## **SECTION 3. How to get covered services when you have an emergency or urgent need for care or during a disaster**

### **Section 3.1 Getting care if you have a medical emergency**

#### **What is a "medical emergency" and what should you do if you have one?**

A "medical emergency" is when you, or any other prudent layperson with an average knowledge of health and medicine, believe that you have medical symptoms that require immediate medical attention to prevent loss of life, loss of a limb, or loss of function of a limb. The medical symptoms may be an illness, injury, severe pain, or a medical condition that is quickly getting worse.

If you have a medical emergency:

- **Get help as quickly as possible.** Call **911** for help or go to the nearest emergency room or hospital. Call for an ambulance if you need it. You do not need to get approval or a referral first from your PCP.
- **As soon as possible, make sure that our plan has been told about your emergency.** We need to follow up on your emergency care. You or someone else should call to tell us about

your emergency care, usually within 48 hours. The number to call is listed on the back of your plan membership card.

### **What is covered if you have a medical emergency?**

You may get covered emergency medical care whenever you need it, anywhere inside or outside the United States. We cover ambulance services in situations where getting to the emergency room in any other way could endanger your health. For more information, see the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

You may get covered emergency medical care (including ambulance) when you need it anywhere in the world. However, you may have to pay for the services and file a claim for reimbursement (see Chapter 7 for more information).

If you have an emergency, we will talk with the doctors who are giving you emergency care to help manage and follow up on your care. The doctors who are giving you emergency care will decide when your condition is stable and the medical emergency is over.

After the emergency is over, you are entitled to follow-up care to be sure your condition continues to be stable. We will cover your follow-up post-stabilization care in accord with Medicare guidelines. If your emergency care is provided by out-of-network providers, we will try to arrange for network providers to take over your care as soon as your medical condition and the circumstances allow. It is very important that your provider call us to get authorization for post-stabilization care before you receive the care from the out-of-network provider. In most cases, you will only be held financially liable if you are notified by the out-of-network provider or us about your potential liability.

### **What if it wasn't a medical emergency?**

Sometimes it can be hard to know if you have a medical emergency. For example, you might go in for emergency care—thinking that your health is in serious danger—and the doctor may say that it wasn't a medical emergency after all. If it turns out that it was not an emergency, we will cover your care as long as you reasonably thought your health was in serious danger.

However, after the doctor has said that it was not an emergency, we will cover additional care only if you get the additional care in one of these two ways:

- You go to a network provider to get the additional care.
- Or the additional care you get is considered "urgently needed services" and you follow the rules for getting these urgently needed services (for more information about this, see Section 3.2 below).

## **Section 3.2 Getting care when you have an urgent need for services**

### **What are "urgently needed services"?**

"Urgently needed services" are a nonemergency, unforeseen medical illness, injury, or condition that requires immediate medical care. Urgently needed services may be furnished by network providers or by out-of-network providers when network providers are temporarily unavailable or

inaccessible. The unforeseen condition could, for example, be an unforeseen flare-up of a known condition that you have.

### **What if you are in our service area when you have an urgent need for care?**

You should always try to obtain urgently needed services from network providers. However, if providers are temporarily unavailable or inaccessible, and it is not reasonable to wait to obtain care from your network provider when the network becomes available, we will cover urgently needed services that you get from an out-of-network provider.

We know that sometimes it's difficult to know what type of care you need. That's why we have telephone advice nurses available to assist you. Our advice nurses are registered nurses specially trained to help assess medical symptoms and provide advice over the phone, when medically appropriate. Whether you are calling for advice or to make an appointment, you can speak to an advice nurse. They can often answer questions about a minor concern, tell you what to do if a network facility is closed, or advise you about what to do next, including making a same-day urgent care appointment for you if it's medically appropriate. To speak with an advice nurse 24 hours a day, seven days a week, or make an appointment, please call **1-800-218-1059 (TTY 711)**.

### **What if you are outside our service area when you have an urgent need for care?**

When you are outside the service area and cannot get care from a network provider, we will cover urgently needed services that you get from any provider. Our plan covers worldwide urgent care services outside the United States under the following circumstances:

- You are temporarily outside of our service area.
- The services were necessary to treat an unforeseen illness or injury to prevent serious deterioration of your health.
- It was not reasonable to delay treatment until you returned to our service area.
- The services would have been covered had you received them from a network provider.

## **Section 3.3 Getting care during a disaster**

If the governor of your state, the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, or the President of the United States declares a state of disaster or emergency in your geographic area, you are still entitled to care from us.

Please visit the following website—**kp.org**—for information on how to obtain needed care during a disaster.

Generally, if you cannot use a network provider during a disaster, we will allow you to obtain care from out-of-network providers at in-network cost-sharing. If you cannot use a network pharmacy during a disaster, you may be able to fill your prescription drugs at an out-of-network pharmacy. Please see Chapter 5, Section 2.5, for more information.

## **SECTION 4. What if you are billed directly for the full cost of your covered services?**

### **Section 4.1 You can ask us to pay our share of the cost for covered services**

If you have paid more than your share for covered services, or if you have received a bill for the full cost of covered medical services, go to Chapter 7, "Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs," for information about what to do.

### **Section 4.2 If services are not covered by our plan, you must pay the full cost**

We cover all medical services that are medically necessary, listed in the Medical Benefits Chart (this chart is found at the front of this **EOC**), and obtained consistent with plan rules. You are responsible for paying the full cost of services that aren't covered by our plan, either because they are not plan covered services or they were obtained out-of-network and were not authorized.

If you have any questions about whether we will pay for any medical service or care that you are considering, you have the right to ask us whether we will cover it before you get it. You also have the right to ask for this in writing. If we say we will not cover your services, you have the right to appeal our decision not to cover your care.

Chapter 9, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)," has more information about what to do if you want a coverage decision from us or want to appeal a decision we have already made. You may also call Member Services to get more information (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

For covered services that have a benefit limitation, you pay the full cost of any services you get after you have used up your benefit for that type of covered service. Any amounts you pay after the benefit has been exhausted will not count toward the out-of-pocket maximum. You can call Member Services when you want to know how much of your benefit limit you have already used.

## **SECTION 5. How are your medical services covered when you are in a "clinical research study"?**

### **Section 5.1 What is a "clinical research study"?**

A clinical research study (also called a "clinical trial") is a way that doctors and scientists test new types of medical care, like how well a new cancer drug works. They test new medical care procedures or drugs by asking for volunteers to help with the study. This kind of study is one of the final stages of a research process that helps doctors and scientists see if a new approach works and if it is safe.

Not all clinical research studies are open to members of our plan. Medicare first needs to approve the research study. If you participate in a study that Medicare has not approved, you will be responsible for paying all costs for your participation in the study.

Once Medicare approves the study, someone who works on the study will contact you to explain more about the study and see if you meet the requirements set by the scientists who are running the study. You can participate in the study as long as you meet the requirements for the study and you have a full understanding and acceptance of what is involved if you participate in the study.

If you participate in a Medicare-approved study, Original Medicare pays most of the costs for the covered services you receive as part of the study. When you are in a clinical research study, you may stay enrolled in our plan and continue to get the rest of your care (the care that is not related to the study) through our plan.

If you want to participate in a Medicare-approved clinical research study, you do not need to get approval from us or your PCP. The providers that deliver your care as part of the clinical research study do not need to be part of our plan's network of providers.

Although you do not need to get our plan's permission to be in a clinical research study, **you do need to tell us before you start participating in a clinical research study.**

If you plan on participating in a clinical research study, contact Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) to let them know that you will be participating in a clinical trial and to find out more specific details about what we will pay.

## **Section 5.2 When you participate in a clinical research study, who pays for what?**

Once you join a Medicare-approved clinical research study, you are covered for routine items and services you receive as part of the study, including:

- Room and board for a hospital stay that Medicare would pay for even if you weren't in a study.
- An operation or other medical procedure if it is part of the research study.
- Treatment of side effects and complications of the new care.

Original Medicare pays most of the cost of the covered services you receive as part of the study. After Medicare has paid its share of the cost for these services, our plan will also pay for part of the costs:

- We will pay the difference between the cost-sharing in Original Medicare and your cost-sharing as a member of our plan. This means you will pay the same amount for the services you receive as part of the study as you would if you received these services from our plan.
  - ◆ Here's an example of how the cost-sharing works: Let's say that you have a lab test that costs \$100 as part of the research study. Let's also say that your share of the costs for this test is \$20 under Original Medicare, but the test would be \$10 under our plan's benefits. In this case, Original Medicare would pay \$80 for the test and we would pay another \$10. This means that you would pay \$10, which is the same amount you would pay under our plan's benefits.



- In order for us to pay for our share of the costs, you will need to submit a request for payment. With your request, you will need to send us a copy of your Medicare Summary Notices or other documentation that shows what services you received as part of the study and how much you owe. Please see Chapter 7 for more information about submitting requests for payment.

When you are part of a clinical research study, **neither Medicare nor our plan will pay for any of the following:**

- Generally, Medicare will not pay for the new item or service that the study is testing, unless Medicare would cover the item or service even if you were not in a study.
- Items and services the study gives you or any participant for free.
- Items or services provided only to collect data, and not used in your direct health care. For example, Medicare would not pay for monthly CT scans done as part of the study if your medical condition would normally require only one CT scan.

### **Do you want to know more?**

You can get more information about joining a clinical research study by reading the publication "Medicare and Clinical Research Studies" on the Medicare website (<https://www.medicare.gov>). You can also call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.

## **SECTION 6. Rules for getting care covered in a "religious nonmedical health care institution"**

### **Section 6.1 What is a religious nonmedical health care institution?**

A religious nonmedical health care institution is a facility that provides care for a condition that would ordinarily be treated in a hospital or skilled nursing facility. If getting care in a hospital or a skilled nursing facility is against a member's religious beliefs, we will instead provide coverage for care in a religious nonmedical health care institution. You may choose to pursue medical care at any time for any reason. This benefit is provided only for Part A inpatient services (nonmedical health care services). Medicare will only pay for nonmedical health care services provided by religious nonmedical health care institutions.

### **Section 6.2 What care from a religious nonmedical health care institution is covered by our plan?**

To get care from a religious nonmedical health care institution, you must sign a legal document that says you are conscientiously opposed to getting medical treatment that is "non-excepted."

- "Non-excepted" medical care or treatment is any medical care or treatment that is voluntary and not required by any federal, state, or local law.
- "Excepted" medical treatment is medical care or treatment that you get that is not voluntary or is required under federal, state, or local law.

To be covered by our plan, the care you get from a religious nonmedical health care institution must meet the following conditions:

- The facility providing the care must be certified by Medicare.
- Our plan's coverage of services you receive is limited to nonreligious aspects of care.
- If you get services from this institution that are provided to you in a facility, the following conditions apply:
  - ◆ You must have a medical condition that would allow you to receive covered services for inpatient hospital care or skilled nursing facility care.
  - ◆ – and – you must get approval in advance from our plan before you are admitted to the facility or your stay will not be covered.

**Note:** Covered services are subject to the same limitations and cost-sharing required for services provided by network providers as described in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of the EOC, Chapters 4 and 12.

## **SECTION 7. Rules for ownership of durable medical equipment**

### **Section 7.1 Will you own the durable medical equipment after making a certain number of payments under our plan?**

Durable medical equipment (DME) includes items such as oxygen equipment and supplies, wheelchairs, walkers, powered mattress systems, crutches, diabetic supplies, speech-generating devices, IV infusion pumps, nebulizers, and hospital beds ordered by a provider for use in the home. The member always owns certain items, such as prosthetics. In this section, we discuss other types of DME that you must rent.

In Original Medicare, people who rent certain types of DME own the equipment after paying copayments for the item for 13 months. As a member of our plan, however, you will not acquire ownership of rented DME items no matter how many copayments you make for the item while a member of our plan. Even if you made up to 12 consecutive payments for the DME item under Original Medicare before you joined our plan, you will not acquire ownership no matter how many copayments you make for the item while a member of our plan.

#### **What happens to payments you made for durable medical equipment if you switch to Original Medicare?**

If you did not acquire ownership of the DME item while in our plan, you will have to make 13 new consecutive payments after you switch to Original Medicare in order to own the item. Payments you made while in our plan do not count toward these 13 consecutive payments.

If you made fewer than 13 payments for the DME item under Original Medicare before you joined our plan, your previous payments also do not count toward the 13 consecutive payments. You will have to make 13 new consecutive payments after you return to Original Medicare in

order to own the item. There are no exceptions to this case when you return to Original Medicare.

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**CHAPTER 4. Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

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## **SECTION 1. Understanding your out-of-pocket costs for covered services**

This chapter and the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this EOC focuses on your covered services and what you pay for your medical benefits. The Medical Benefits Chart lists your covered services and some limitations and shows how much you will pay for each covered service as a member of our plan. Later in this chapter, you can find information about medical services that are not covered. It also explains limits on certain services. In addition, please see Chapters 3, 11, and 12 for additional coverage information, including limitations (for example, coordination of benefits, durable medical equipment, home health care, skilled nursing facility care, and third party liability).

### **Section 1.1 Types of out-of-pocket costs you may pay for your covered services**

To understand the payment information we give you in this chapter, you need to know about the types of out-of-pocket costs you may pay for your covered services.

- A "**copayment**" is the fixed amount you pay each time you receive certain medical services. You pay a copayment at the time you get the medical service, unless we do not collect all cost-sharing at that time and send you a bill later. (The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this EOC tells you more about your copayments.)
- "**Coinsurance**" is the percentage you pay of the total cost of certain medical services. You pay a coinsurance at the time you get the medical service, unless we do not collect all cost-sharing at that time and send you a bill later. (The Medical Benefits Chart located found at the front of this EOC tells you more about your coinsurance.)
- The "**deductible**" is the amount you must pay for medical services before our plan begins to pay its share for your covered medical services. (**Note:** Not all plans have a deductible.) Until you have paid the deductible amount, you must pay the full cost of your covered services. Once you have paid your deductible, we will begin to pay our share of the costs for covered medical services and you will pay your share (your copayment or coinsurance). The deductible does not apply to some services. (The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this EOC tells you if your plan has a deductible, the deductible amount, and which services are subject to the deductible.)

Most people who qualify for Medicaid or for the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB) program should never pay deductibles, copayments or coinsurance. Be sure to show your proof of Medicaid or QMB eligibility to your provider, if applicable. If you think that you are being asked to pay improperly, contact Member Services.

### **Section 1.2 What is the most you will pay for Medicare Part A and Part B covered medical services?**

Because you are enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan, there is a limit to how much you have to pay out-of-pocket each year for in-network medical services that are covered under Medicare

Part A and Part B (see the Medical Benefits Chart located at the front of this **EOC**). This limit is called the maximum out-of-pocket amount for medical services.

As a member of our plan, the most you will have to pay out-of-pocket for in-network covered Part A and Part B services in 2020 is stated in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**. The amounts you pay for deductibles (if your plan has a deductible), copayments, and coinsurance for in-network covered services count toward this maximum out-of-pocket amount. The amounts you pay for your plan premiums and for your Part D prescription drugs do not count toward your maximum out-of-pocket amount. In addition, amounts you pay for some services do not count toward your maximum out-of-pocket amount. These services are marked with an asterisk (\*) in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

If you reach the maximum out-of-pocket amount stated in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**, you will not have to pay any out-of-pocket costs for the rest of the year for in-network covered Part A and Part B services. However, you must continue to pay your plan premium and the Medicare Part B premium (unless your Part B premium is paid for you by Medicaid or another third party).

### **Section 1.3 Our plan does not allow providers to "balance bill" you**

As a member of our plan, an important protection for you is that, after you meet any deductibles (if applicable to your plan), you only have to pay your cost-sharing amount when you get services covered by our plan. We do not allow providers to add additional separate charges, called "balance billing." This protection (that you never pay more than your cost-sharing amount) applies even if we pay the provider less than the provider charges for a service and even if there is a dispute and we don't pay certain provider charges.

Here is how this protection works:

- If your cost-sharing is a copayment (a set amount of dollars, for example, \$15.00), then you pay only that amount for any covered services from a network provider.
- If your cost-sharing is a coinsurance (a percentage of the total charges), then you never pay more than that percentage. However, your cost depends upon which type of provider you see:
  - ◆ If you receive the covered services from a network provider, you pay the coinsurance percentage multiplied by our plan's reimbursement rate (as determined in the contract between the provider and our plan).
  - ◆ If you receive the covered services from an out-of-network provider who participates with Medicare, you pay the coinsurance percentage multiplied by the Medicare payment rate for participating providers. (Remember, we cover services from out-of-network providers only in certain situations, such as when you get a referral.)
  - ◆ If you receive the covered services from an out-of-network provider who does not participate with Medicare, you pay the coinsurance percentage multiplied by the Medicare payment rate for nonparticipating providers. (Remember, we cover services from out-of-network providers only in certain situations, such as when you get a referral.)

- ◆ If you believe a provider has “balance billed” you, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

## **SECTION 2. Use the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this EOC to find out what is covered for you and how much you will pay**

### **Section 2.1 Your medical benefits and costs as a member of our plan**


The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** lists the services our plan covers and what you pay out-of-pocket for each service. The services listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** are covered only when the following coverage requirements are met:

- Your Medicare-covered services must be provided according to the coverage guidelines established by Medicare.
- Your services (including medical care, services, supplies, and equipment) must be medically necessary. "Medically necessary" means that the services, supplies, or drugs are needed for the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of your medical condition and meet accepted standards of medical practice.
- You receive your care from a network provider. In most cases, care you receive from an out-of-network provider will not be covered. Chapter 3 provides more information about requirements for using network providers and the situations when we will cover services from an out-of-network provider.
- You have a primary care provider (a PCP) who is providing and overseeing your care. In most situations, your PCP must give you approval in advance before you can see other providers in our plan's network. This is called giving you a "referral." Chapter 3 provides more information about getting a referral and the situations when you do not need a referral.
- Some of the services listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** are covered only if your doctor or other network provider gets approval in advance (sometimes called "prior authorization") from us. Covered services that need approval in advance are marked in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** with a footnote (†). In addition, see Section 2.2 in this chapter and Chapter 3, Section 2.3, for more information about prior authorization, including other services that require prior authorization that are not listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

Other important things to know about our coverage:

- Like all Medicare health plans, we cover everything that Original Medicare covers. For some of these benefits, you pay more in our plan than you would in Original Medicare. For others, you pay less. (If you want to know more about the coverage and costs of Original Medicare, look in your **Medicare & You 2020** handbook. View it online at <https://www.medicare.gov> or ask for a copy by calling **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.)

- For all preventive services that are covered at no cost under Original Medicare, we also cover the service at no cost to you. However, if you also are treated or monitored for an existing medical condition during the visit when you receive the preventive service, cost-sharing will apply for the care received for the existing medical condition.
- Sometimes Medicare adds coverage under Original Medicare for new services during the year. If Medicare adds coverage for any services during 2020, either Medicare or our plan will cover those services.

 You will see this apple next to the preventive services in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

### **SECTION 3. What services are not covered by our plan?**

#### **Section 3.1 Services we do *not* cover (exclusions)**

This section tells you what services are "excluded" from Medicare coverage and, therefore, are not covered by this plan. If a service is "excluded," it means that we don't cover the service.

The chart below lists services and items that either are not covered under any condition or are covered only under specific conditions.

If you get services that are excluded (not covered), you must pay for them yourself. We won't pay for the excluded medical services listed in the chart below except under the specific conditions listed. The only exception is we will pay if a service in the chart below is found upon appeal to be a medical service that we should have paid for or covered because of your specific situation. (For information about appealing a decision we have made to not cover a medical service, go to Chapter 9, Section 5.3, in this booklet.)

All exclusions or limitations on services are described in the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this **EOC** or in the chart below. Even if you receive the excluded services at an emergency facility, the excluded services are still not covered and our plan will not pay for them.

<b>Services not covered by Medicare</b>	<b>Not covered under any condition</b>	<b>Covered only under specific conditions</b>
Services considered not reasonable and necessary, according to the standards of Original Medicare		√ This exclusion doesn't apply to services or items that aren't covered by Original Medicare but are covered by our plan.
Experimental medical and surgical procedures, equipment and medications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experimental procedures and items are those items</li> </ul>		√ May be covered by Original Medicare under a Medicare-approved clinical research study.



Services not covered by Medicare	Not covered under any condition	Covered only under specific conditions
and procedures determined by our plan and Original Medicare to not be generally accepted by the medical community		(See Chapter 3, Section 5 for more information about clinical research studies.)
Private room in a hospital		√ Covered only when medically necessary.
Personal items in your room at a hospital or a skilled nursing facility, such as a telephone or a television	√	
Full-time nursing care in your home	√	
Custodial care is care provided in a nursing home, hospice, or other facility setting when you do not require skilled medical care or skilled nursing care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Custodial care is personal care that does not require the continuing attention of trained medical or paramedical personnel, such as care that helps you with activities of daily living, such as bathing or dressing</li> </ul>	√	
Homemaker services include basic household assistance, including light housekeeping or light meal preparation	√	
Fees charged by your immediate relatives or members of your household	√	
Cosmetic surgery or procedures		√

Services not covered by Medicare	Not covered under any condition	Covered only under specific conditions
		<p>Covered in cases of an accidental injury or for improvement of the functioning of a malformed body member.</p> <p>Covered for all stages of reconstruction for a breast after a mastectomy, as well as for the unaffected breast to produce a symmetrical appearance.</p>
Routine dental care, such as cleanings, fillings, or dentures		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> <p>Not covered unless your group has purchased coverage. Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this <b>EOC</b>.</p>
Nonroutine dental care		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> <p>Dental care required to treat illness or injury may be covered as inpatient or outpatient care.</p>
Routine chiropractic care		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> <p>Manual manipulation of the spine to correct a subluxation is covered.</p> <p>In addition, this exclusion does not apply if your employer purchased coverage for additional chiropractic care. Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this <b>EOC</b>.</p>
Routine foot care		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> <p>Some limited coverage provided according to Medicare guidelines, for example, if you have diabetes.</p>
Home-delivered meals	√	
Orthopedic shoes		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> <p>If shoes are part of a leg brace and are included in the cost of the brace, or the shoes are for a person with diabetic foot disease.</p>

Services not covered by Medicare	Not covered under any condition	Covered only under specific conditions
Supportive devices for the feet		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> Orthopedic or therapeutic footwear for people with diabetic foot disease.
Hearing aids		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> This exclusion does not apply if your group has purchased hearing aid coverage. Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart in the front of this <b>EOC</b> .  <b>Note:</b> For all members, this hearing aid exclusion does not apply to cochlear implants and osseointegrated external hearing devices covered by Medicare.
Industrial frames	√	
Lenses and sunglasses without refractive value		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> This exclusion does not apply to any of the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A clear balance lens if only one eye needs correction.</li> <li>• Tinted lenses when medically necessary to treat macular degeneration or retinitis pigmentosa.</li> </ul>
Replacement of lost, broken, or damaged lenses or frames	√	
Eyeglass or contact lens adornment, such as engraving, faceting, or jewelery	√	
Eyewear items that do not require a prescription by law (other than eyeglass frames), such as eyeglass holders, eyeglass cases, and repair kits	√	

Services not covered by Medicare	Not covered under any condition	Covered only under specific conditions
Radial keratotomy, LASIK surgery, and other low vision aids	√	
Reversal of sterilization procedures and non-prescription contraceptive supplies.	√	
Acupuncture		√ This exclusion does not apply if your employer has purchased coverage for acupuncture. Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of the <b>EOC</b> .
Naturopath services (uses natural or alternative treatments)	√	
Private duty nursing	√	
Elective or voluntary enhancement procedures or services (including weight loss, hair growth, sexual performance, athletic performance, cosmetic purposes, anti-aging, and mental performance)		√ Covered if medically necessary and covered under Original Medicare.
Services provided to veterans in Veterans Affairs (VA) facilities		√ When emergency services are received at a VA hospital and the VA cost-sharing is more than the cost-sharing under our plan, we will reimburse veterans for the difference. Members are still responsible for our plan's cost-sharing amounts.
Reconstructive surgery that offers only a minimal improvement in appearance or is performed to alter or		√ We cover reconstructive surgery to correct or repair abnormal structures of the body caused by congenital

Services not covered by Medicare	Not covered under any condition	Covered only under specific conditions
reshape normal structures of the body in order to improve appearance		defect, developmental abnormalities, accidental injury, trauma, infection, tumors, or disease, if a network physician determines that it is necessary to improve function, or create a normal appearance, to the extent possible.
Surgery that, in the judgment of a network physician specializing in reconstructive surgery, offers only a minimal improvement in appearance. Surgery that is performed to alter or reshape normal structures of the body in order to improve appearance	√	
Nonconventional intraocular lenses (IOLs) following cataract surgery (for example, a presbyopia-correcting IOL)		√ You may request and we may provide insertion of a presbyopia-correcting IOL or astigmatism-correcting IOL following cataract surgery in lieu of a conventional IOL. However, you must pay the difference between Plan Charges for a nonconventional IOL and associated services and Plan Charges for insertion of a conventional IOL following cataract surgery.
Directed blood donations	√	
Massage therapy		√ Covered when ordered as part of physical therapy program in accord with Medicare guidelines.
Transportation by air, car, taxi, bus, gurney van, wheelchair van, and any other type of transportation (other than a licensed ambulance),	√	

Services not covered by Medicare	Not covered under any condition	Covered only under specific conditions
even if it is the only way to travel to a network provider		
Licensed ambulance services without transport		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> Covered if the ambulance transports you or if covered by Medicare.
Physical exams and other services (1) required for obtaining or maintaining employment or participation in employee programs, (2) required for insurance or licensing, or (3) on court order or required for parole or probation		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> Covered if a network physician determines that the services are medically necessary or medically appropriate preventive care.
Services related to noncovered services or items		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> When a service or item is not covered, all services related to the noncovered service or item are excluded, (1) except for services or items we would otherwise cover to treat complications of the noncovered service or item, or (2) unless covered in accord with Medicare guidelines.
Services not approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration. Drugs, supplements, tests, vaccines, devices, radioactive materials, and any other services that by law require federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval in order to be sold in the U.S., but are not approved by the FDA		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> This exclusion applies to services provided anywhere, even outside the U.S. It doesn't apply to Medicare-covered clinical trials or covered emergency care you receive outside the U.S.

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**CHAPTER 5. Using our plan's coverage for your Part D prescription drugs**

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### **Did you know there are programs to help people pay for their drugs?**

There are programs to help people with limited resources pay for their drugs. These include "Extra Help" and State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs. For more information, see Chapter 2, Section 7.

### **Are you currently getting help to pay for your drugs?**

If you are in a program that helps pay for your drugs, **some information in this Evidence of Coverage about the costs for Part D prescription drugs does not apply to you.** We sent you a separate document, called the "**Evidence of Coverage Rider for People Who Get Extra Help Paying for Prescription Drugs**" (also known as the "Low Income Subsidy Rider" or the "LIS Rider"), which tells you about your drug coverage. If you don't have this rider, please call Member Services and ask for the "LIS Rider." Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

## **SECTION 1. Introduction**

### **Section 1.1 This chapter describes your coverage for Part D drugs**

This chapter explains rules for using your coverage for Part D drugs. The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** and the next chapter tell you what you pay for Part D drugs (Chapter 6, "What you pay for your Part D prescription drugs").

In addition to your coverage for Part D drugs, we also cover some drugs under our plan's medical benefits. Through our coverage of Medicare Part A benefits, we generally cover drugs you are given during covered stays in the hospital or in a skilled nursing facility. Through our coverage of Medicare Part B benefits, we cover drugs including certain chemotherapy drugs, certain drug injections you are given during an office visit, and drugs you are given at a dialysis facility. The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** tells you about the benefits and costs for drugs during a covered hospital or skilled nursing facility stay, as well as your benefits and costs for Part B drugs.

Your drugs may be covered by Original Medicare if you are in Medicare hospice. We only cover Medicare Parts A, B, and D services and drugs that are unrelated to your terminal prognosis and related conditions, and therefore not covered under the Medicare hospice benefit. For more information, please see Section 9.4 in this chapter, "What if you're in Medicare-certified hospice." For information on hospice coverage, see the hospice section of the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this **EOC**.

If your group has purchased enhanced Part D prescription drug coverage, we cover some drugs that are not covered by Medicare Part B and Part D in accord with our formulary for non-Part D

drugs. The Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this **EOC** tells you about your benefits and costs for these drugs.

The following sections discuss coverage of your drugs under our plan's Part D benefit rules. Section 9 in this chapter, "Part D drug coverage in special situations," includes more information about your Part D coverage and Original Medicare.

## **Section 1.2 Basic rules for our plan's Part D drug coverage**

Our plan will generally cover your drugs as long as you follow these basic rules:

- You must have a provider (a doctor, dentist, or other prescriber) write your prescription.
- Your prescriber must either accept Medicare or file documentation with CMS showing that he or she is qualified to write prescriptions, or your Part D claim will be denied. You should ask your prescribers the next time you call or visit if they meet this condition. If not, please be aware it takes time for your prescriber to submit the necessary paperwork to be processed.
- You generally must use a network pharmacy to fill your prescription. (See Section 2, "Fill your prescriptions at a network pharmacy or through our mail-order service.")
- Your drug must be on our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary** (we call it the "Drug List" for short). (See Section 3, "Your drugs need to be on our Drug List.")
- Your drug must be used for a medically accepted indication. A "medically accepted indication" is a use of the drug that is either approved by the Food and Drug Administration or supported by certain reference books. (See Section 3 for more information about a medically accepted indication.)

## **SECTION 2. Fill your prescription at a network pharmacy or through our mail-order service**

### **Section 2.1 To have your prescription covered, use a network pharmacy**

In most cases, your prescriptions are covered only if they are filled at our network pharmacies. (See Section 2.5 for information about when we would cover prescriptions filled at out-of-network pharmacies.)

A network pharmacy is a pharmacy that has a contract with our plan to provide your covered prescription drugs. The term "covered drugs" means all of the Part D prescription drugs that are covered on our plan's Drug List.

Our network includes pharmacies that offer standard cost-sharing and pharmacies that offer preferred cost-sharing. You may go to either type of network pharmacy to receive your covered prescription drugs. Your cost-sharing may be less at pharmacies with preferred cost-sharing.

## Section 2.2 Finding network pharmacies

### How do you find a network pharmacy in your area?

To find a network pharmacy, you can look in your **Pharmacy Directory**, visit our website ([kp.org/directory](http://kp.org/directory)), or call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

You may go to any of our network pharmacies. However, your costs may be even less for your covered drugs if you use a network pharmacy that offers preferred cost-sharing rather than a network pharmacy that offers standard cost-sharing. The **Pharmacy Directory** will tell you which of the network pharmacies offer preferred cost-sharing. You can find out more about how your out-of-pocket costs could be different for different drugs by contacting us. If you switch from one network pharmacy. If you switch from one network pharmacy to another, and you need a refill of a drug you have been taking, you can ask to have your prescription transferred to your new network pharmacy.

### What if the pharmacy you have been using leaves the network?

If the pharmacy you have been using leaves our plan's network, you will have to find a new pharmacy that is in our network. Or if the pharmacy you have been using stays within the network but is no longer offering preferred cost-sharing, you may switch to a different pharmacy. To find another network pharmacy in your area, you can get help from Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) or use the **Pharmacy Directory**. You can also find information on our website at [kp.org/directory](http://kp.org/directory).

### What if you need a specialized pharmacy?

Sometimes prescriptions must be filled at a specialized pharmacy. Specialized pharmacies include:

- Pharmacies that supply drugs for home infusion therapy.
- Pharmacies that supply drugs for residents of a long-term care (LTC) facility. Usually, an LTC facility (such as a nursing home) has its own pharmacy. If you are in an LTC facility, we must ensure that you are able to routinely receive your Part D benefits through our network of LTC pharmacies, which is typically the pharmacy that the LTC facility uses. If you have any difficulty accessing your Part D benefits in an LTC facility, please contact Member Services.
- Pharmacies that serve the Indian Health Service / Tribal / Urban Indian Health Program (not available in Puerto Rico). Except in emergencies, only Native Americans or Alaska Natives have access to these pharmacies in our network. I/T/U pharmacies must be within our service area.
- Pharmacies that dispense drugs that are restricted by the FDA to certain locations or that require special handling, provider coordination, or education on their use.

**Note: This scenario should happen rarely.**

To locate a specialized pharmacy, look in your **Pharmacy Directory** or call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **Section 2.3 Using our mail-order services**

For certain kinds of drugs, you can use our plan's network mail-order services. Generally, the drugs provided through mail-order are drugs that you take on a regular basis for a chronic or long-term medical condition. The drugs available through our mail-order service are marked as "mail-order" drugs on our Drug List.

Our mail-order service requires you to order at least a 30-day supply of the drug and no more than a 90-day supply.

To get information about filling your prescriptions by mail, call Member Services. You can conveniently order your prescription refills in the following ways:

- Register and order online securely at [kp.org/refill](https://kp.org/refill).
- Call our mail-order service at **1-866-523-6059 (TTY 711)**, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Call the highlighted number listed on your prescription label and follow the prompts. Be sure to select the mail delivery option when prompted.
- Mail your prescription or refill request on a mail-order form available at any Kaiser Permanente network pharmacy.

When you order refills for home delivery online, by phone, or in writing, you must pay your cost-sharing when you place your order (there are no shipping charges for regular mail-order service). If you prefer, you may designate a network pharmacy where you want to pick up and pay for your prescription. Please contact a network pharmacy if you have a question about whether your prescription can be mailed or see our *Drug List* for information about the drugs that can be mailed.

Usually a mail-order pharmacy order will get to you in no more than 5 days. If your mail-order prescription is delayed, please call the number listed above or on your prescription bottle's label for assistance. Also, if you cannot wait for your prescription to arrive from our mail-order pharmacy, you can get an urgent supply by calling your local preferred network retail pharmacy listed in your **Pharmacy Directory** or at [kp.org/directory](https://kp.org/directory). Please be aware that you may pay more if you get a 90-day supply from a network retail pharmacy instead of from our preferred mail-order pharmacy.

**Refills on mail-order prescriptions.** For refills, please contact your pharmacy at least 5 days before you think the drugs you have on hand will run out to make sure your next order is shipped to you in time.

So the pharmacy can reach you to confirm your order before shipping, please make sure to let the pharmacy know the best ways to contact you. When you place your order, please provide your current contact information in case we need to reach you.

## **Section 2.4 How can you get a long-term supply of drugs?**

When you get a long-term supply of drugs, your cost-sharing may be lower. Our plan offers two ways to get a long-term supply (also called an "extended supply") of "maintenance" drugs on our plan's Drug List. Maintenance drugs are drugs that you take on a regular basis for a chronic or long-term medical condition. You may order this supply through mail order (see Section 2.3 in this chapter) or you may go to a retail pharmacy.

1. Some retail pharmacies in our network allow you to get a long-term supply of maintenance drugs. Your Pharmacy Directory tells you which pharmacies in our network can give you a long-term supply of maintenance drugs. You can also call Member Services for more information (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
2. For certain kinds of drugs, you can use our plan's network mail-order services. The drugs available through our mail-order service are marked as "mail-order" drugs on our Drug List. Our mail-order service requires you to order at least a 30-day supply of the drug and no more than a 90-day supply. See Section 2.3 for more information about using our mail-order services.

## **Section 2.5 When can you use a pharmacy that is not in our network?**

### **Your prescription may be covered in certain situations**

Generally, we cover drugs filled at an out-of-network pharmacy only when you are not able to use a network pharmacy. To help you, we have network pharmacies outside of our service area where you can get your prescriptions filled as a member of our plan. If you cannot use a network pharmacy, here are the circumstances when we would cover prescriptions filled at an out-of-network pharmacy:

- If you are traveling within the United States and its territories but outside the service area and you become ill or run out of your covered Part D prescription drugs, we will cover prescriptions that are filled at an out-of-network pharmacy in limited, nonroutine circumstances according to our Medicare Part D formulary guidelines.
- If you need a Medicare Part D prescription drug in conjunction with covered out-of-network emergency care or out-of-area urgent care, we will cover up to a 30-day supply from an out-of-network pharmacy. **Note:** Prescription drugs prescribed and provided outside of the United States and its territories as part of covered emergency or urgent care are covered up to a 30-day supply in a 30-day period. These drugs are not covered under Medicare Part D; therefore, payments for these drugs do not count toward reaching the catastrophic coverage stage.
- If you are unable to obtain a covered drug in a timely manner within our service area because there is no network pharmacy within a reasonable driving distance that provides 24-hour service. We may not cover your prescription if a reasonable person could have purchased the drug at a network pharmacy during normal business hours.
- If you are trying to fill a prescription for a drug that is not regularly stocked at an accessible network pharmacy or available through our mail-order pharmacy (including high-cost drugs).

- If you are not able to get your prescriptions from a network pharmacy during a disaster.

**In these situations, please check first with Member Services to see if there is a network pharmacy nearby.** Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet. You may be required to pay the difference between what you pay for the drug at the out-of-network pharmacy and the cost that we would cover at an in-network pharmacy.

### **How do you ask for reimbursement from our plan?**

If you must use an out-of-network pharmacy, you will generally have to pay the full cost (rather than your normal share of the cost) at the time you fill your prescription. You can ask us to reimburse you for our share of the cost. (Chapter 7, Section 2.1, explains how to ask us to pay you back.)

## **SECTION 3. Your drugs need to be on our "Drug List"**

### **Section 3.1 The "Drug List" tells which Part D drugs are covered**

Our plan has a **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**. In this **Evidence of Coverage**, we call it the "Drug List" for short.

The drugs on this list are selected by our plan with the help of a team of doctors and pharmacists. The list must meet requirements set by Medicare. Medicare has approved our plan's Drug List.

The drugs on the Drug List are only those covered under Medicare Part D (earlier in this chapter, Section 1.1 explains about Part D drugs).

We will generally cover a drug on our plan's Drug List as long as you follow the other coverage rules explained in this chapter and the use of the drug is a medically accepted indication. A "medically accepted indication" is a use of the drug that is either:

- Approved by the Food and Drug Administration. (That is, the Food and Drug Administration has approved the drug for the diagnosis or condition for which it is being prescribed.)
- Or supported by certain reference books. (These reference books are the American Hospital Formulary Service Drug Information; the DRUGDEX Information System; and, for cancer, the National Comprehensive Cancer Network and Clinical Pharmacology or their successors.)

### **Our Drug List includes both brand-name and generic drugs**

A generic drug is a prescription drug that has the same active ingredients as the brand-name drug. Generally, it works just as well as the brand-name drug and usually costs less. There are generic drug substitutes available for many brand-name drugs.

### **What is not on our Drug List?**

Our plan does not cover all prescription drugs.

- In some cases, the law does not allow any Medicare plan to cover certain types of drugs (for more information about this, see Section 7.1 in this chapter).
- In other cases, we have decided not to include a particular drug on our Drug List.

### **Section 3.2 There are six "cost-sharing" tiers" for drugs on our *Drug List***

Every drug on our plan's Drug List is in one of six cost-sharing tiers. Depending upon the plan your group has selected, cost-sharing may vary from one tier to the next. In general, the higher the cost-sharing tier, the higher your cost for the drug:

- Cost-sharing **Tier 1** for preferred generic drugs.
- Cost-sharing **Tier 2** for generic drugs (this tier includes some brand-name drugs).
- Cost-sharing **Tier 3** for preferred brand-name drugs.
- Cost-sharing **Tier 4** for nonpreferred brand-name drugs (this tier includes some generic drugs).
- Cost-sharing **Tier 5** for specialty-tier drugs (this tier includes both generic and brand-name drugs).
- Cost-sharing **Tier 6** for injectable Part D vaccines (this tier includes only brand-name drugs).

To find out which cost-sharing tier your drug is in, look it up on our Drug List. The amount you pay for drugs in each cost-sharing tier is shown in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this EOC.

### **Section 3.3 How can you find out if a specific drug is on our Drug List?**

**You have three ways to find out:**

1. Check the most recent Drug List we provided electronically at **kp.org**.
2. Visit our website (**kp.org/seniorrx**). Our Drug List (**Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**) on the website is always the most current.
3. Call Member Services to find out if a particular drug is on our plan's Drug List (**Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**) or to ask for a copy of the list. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

## **SECTION 4. There are restrictions on coverage for some drugs**

### **Section 4.1 Why do some drugs have restrictions?**

For certain prescription drugs, special rules restrict how and when we cover them. A team of doctors and pharmacists developed these rules to help our members use drugs in the most effective ways. These special rules also help control overall drug costs, which keeps your drug coverage more affordable.

In general, our rules encourage you to get a drug that works for your medical condition and is safe and effective. Whenever a safe, lower-cost drug will work just as well medically as a higher-

cost drug, our plan's rules are designed to encourage you and your provider to use that lower-cost option. We also need to comply with Medicare's rules and regulations for drug coverage and cost-sharing.

If there is a restriction for your drug, it usually means that you or your provider will have to take extra steps in order for us to cover the drug. If you want us to waive the restriction for you, you will need to use the coverage decision process and ask us to make an exception. We may or may not agree to waive the restriction for you. (See Chapter 9, Section 6.2, for information about asking for exceptions.)

Please note that sometimes a drug may appear more than once on our Drug List (**Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**). This is because different restrictions or cost-sharing may apply based on factors such as the strength, amount, or form of the drug prescribed by your health care provider (for instance, 10 mg versus 100 mg; one per day versus two per day; tablet versus liquid).

## **Section 4.2 What kinds of restrictions?**

Our plan uses different types of restrictions to help our members use drugs in the most effective ways. The sections below tell you more about the types of restrictions we use for certain drugs.

### **Restricting brand-name drugs when a generic version is available**

Generally, a "generic" drug works the same as a brand-name drug and usually costs less. When a generic version of a brand-name drug is available, our network pharmacies will provide you the generic version. We usually will not cover the brand-name drug when a generic version is available. However, if your provider has told us the medical reason that neither the generic drug nor other covered drugs that treat the same condition will work for you, then we will cover the brand-name drug. (Your share of the cost may be greater for the brand-name drug than for the generic drug.)

### **Getting plan approval in advance**

For certain drugs, you or your provider need to get approval from our plan before we will agree to cover the drug for you. This is called "**prior authorization.**" Sometimes the requirement for getting approval in advance helps guide appropriate use of certain drugs. If you do not get this approval, your drug might not be covered by our plan.

## **Section 4.3 Do any of these restrictions apply to your drugs?**

Our plan's Drug List includes information about the restrictions described above. To find out if any of these restrictions apply to a drug you take or want to take, check our Drug List. For the most up-to-date information, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) or check our website ([kp.org/seniorrx](http://kp.org/seniorrx)).

If there is a restriction for your drug, it usually means that you or your provider will have to take extra steps in order for us to cover the drug. If there is a restriction on the drug you want to take, you should contact Member Services to learn what you or your provider would need to do to get



coverage for the drug. If you want us to waive the restriction for you, you will need to use the coverage decision process and ask us to make an exception. We may or may not agree to waive the restriction for you. (See Chapter 9, Section 6.2, for information about asking for exceptions.)

## **SECTION 5. What if one of your drugs is not covered in the way you'd like it to be covered?**

### **Section 5.1 There are things you can do if your drug is not covered in the way you'd like it to be covered**

We hope that your drug coverage will work well for you. But it's possible that there could be a prescription drug you are currently taking, or one that you and your provider think you should be taking that is not on our formulary or is on our formulary with restrictions. For example:

- The drug might not be covered at all. Or maybe a generic version of the drug is covered but the brand-name version you want to take is not covered.
- The drug is covered, but there are extra rules or restrictions on coverage for that drug. As explained in Section 4, some of the drugs covered by our plan have extra rules to restrict their use. In some cases, you may want us to waive the restriction for you.
- The drug is covered, but it is in a cost-sharing tier that makes your cost-sharing more expensive than you think it should be. Our plan puts each covered drug into one of six different cost-sharing tiers. How much you pay for your prescription depends in part on which cost-sharing tier your drug is in.

There are things you can do if your drug is not covered in the way that you'd like it to be covered. Your options depend upon what type of problem you have:

- If your drug is not on our Drug List or if your drug is restricted, go to Section 5.2 to learn what you can do.
- If your drug is in a cost-sharing tier that makes your cost more expensive than you think it should be, go to Section 5.3 to learn what you can do.

### **Section 5.2 What can you do if your drug is not on our Drug List or if the drug is restricted in some way?**

If your drug is not on our Drug List or is restricted, here are things you can do:

- You may be able to get a temporary supply of the drug (only members in certain situations can get a temporary supply). This will give you and your provider time to change to another drug or to file a request to have the drug covered.
- You can change to another drug.
- You can request an exception and ask us to cover the drug or remove restrictions from the drug.

## **You may be able to get a temporary supply**

Under certain circumstances, we can offer a temporary supply of a drug to you when your drug is not on our Drug List or when it is restricted in some way. Doing this gives you time to talk with your provider about the change in coverage and figure out what to do.

To be eligible for a temporary supply, you must meet the two requirements below:

### **1. The change to your drug coverage must be one of the following types of changes:**

- ◆ The drug you have been taking is no longer on our plan's Drug List.
- ◆ Or the drug you have been taking is now restricted in some way (Section 4 in this chapter tells you about restrictions).

### **2. You must be in one of the situations described below:**

- ◆ **For those members who are new or who were in our plan last year:** We will cover a temporary supply of your drug during the first 90 days of your membership in our plan if you are new and during the first 90 days of the calendar year if you were in our plan last year. This temporary supply will be for a maximum of a 30-day supply. If your prescription is written for fewer days, we will allow multiple fills to provide up to a maximum of a 30-day supply of medication. The prescription must be filled at a network pharmacy. (Please note that the long-term care pharmacy may provide the drug in smaller amounts at a time to prevent waste.)
- ◆ **For those members who have been in our plan for more than 90 days and reside in a long-term care (LTC) facility and need a supply right away:** We will cover one 31-day supply of a particular drug, or less if your prescription is written for fewer days. This is in addition to the above temporary supply situation.
- ◆ **For current members with level of care changes,** if you enter into or are discharged from a hospital, skilled nursing facility, or long-term care facility to a different care setting or home, this is what is known as a level of care change. When your level of care changes, you may require an additional fill of your medication. We will generally cover up to a one-month supply of your Part D drugs during this level of care transition period even if the drug is not on our Drug List.

To ask for a temporary supply, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

During the time when you are getting a temporary supply of a drug, you should talk with your provider to decide what to do when your temporary supply runs out. You can either switch to a different drug covered by our plan or ask us to make an exception for you and cover your current drug. The sections below tell you more about these options.

## **You can change to another drug**

Start by talking with your provider. Perhaps there is a different drug covered by our plan that might work just as well for you. You can call Member Services to ask for a list of covered drugs that treat the same medical condition. This list can help your provider find a covered drug that might work for you. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

### **You can ask for an exception**

You and your provider can ask us to make an exception for you and cover the drug in the way you would like it to be covered. If your provider says that you have medical reasons that justify asking us for an exception, your provider can help you request an exception to the rule. For example, you can ask us to cover a drug even though it is not on our plan's Drug List. Or you can ask us to make an exception and cover the drug without restrictions.

If you and your provider want to ask for an exception, Chapter 9, Section 6.4, tells you what to do. It explains the procedures and deadlines that have been set by Medicare to make sure your request is handled promptly and fairly.

### **Section 5.3 What can you do if your drug is in a cost-sharing tier you think is too high?**

**If your drug is in a cost-sharing tier you think is too high, here are things you can do:**

#### **You can change to another drug**

If your drug is in a cost-sharing tier you think is too high, start by talking with your provider. Perhaps there is a different drug in a lower cost-sharing tier that might work just as well for you. You can call Member Services to ask for a list of covered drugs that treat the same medical condition. This list can help your provider find a covered drug that might work for you. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

#### **You can ask for an exception**

You and your provider can ask us to make an exception to the cost-sharing tier for the drug so that you pay less for it. If your provider says that you have medical reasons that justify asking us for an exception, your provider can help you request an exception to the rule.

If you and your provider want to ask for an exception, Chapter 9, Section 6.4, tells you what to do. It explains the procedures and deadlines that have been set by Medicare to make sure your request is handled promptly and fairly.

Drugs in our specialty tier (Tier 5) are not eligible for this type of exception. We do not lower the cost-sharing amount for drugs in this tier.

## **SECTION 6. What if your coverage changes for one of your drugs?**

### **Section 6.1 The Drug List can change during the year**

Most of the changes in drug coverage happen at the beginning of each year (January 1). However, during the year, we might make changes to the Drug List. For example, we might:

- Add or remove drugs from the Drug List. New drugs become available, including new generic drugs. Perhaps the government has given approval to a new use for

an existing drug. Sometimes, a drug gets recalled and we decide not to cover it. Or we might remove a drug from the list because it has been found to be ineffective.

- Move a drug to a higher or lower cost-sharing tier.
- Add or remove a restriction on coverage for a drug (for more information about restrictions to coverage, see Section 4 in this chapter).
- Replace a brand-name drug with a generic drug.

We must follow Medicare requirements before we change our Drug List.

## **Section 6.2 What happens if coverage changes for a drug you are taking?**

### **Information on changes to drug coverage**

When changes to the Drug List occur during the year, we post information on our website about those changes. We will update our online Drug List on a regularly scheduled basis to include any changes that have occurred after the last update. Below we point out the times that you would get direct notice if changes are made to a drug that you are then taking. You can also call Member Services for more information (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **Do changes to your drug coverage affect you right away?**

Changes that can affect you this year: In the below cases, you will be affected by the coverage changes during the current year:

- **A new generic drug replaces a brand-name drug on the Drug List (or we change the cost-sharing tier or add new restrictions to the brand-name drug)**
  - ◆ We may immediately remove a brand-name drug on our Drug List if we are replacing it with a newly approved generic version of the same drug that will appear on the same or lower cost-sharing tier and with the same or fewer restrictions. Also, when adding the new generic drug, we may decide to keep the brand-name drug on our Drug List, but immediately move it to a higher cost-sharing tier or add new restrictions.
  - ◆ We may not tell you in advance before we make that change—even if you are currently taking the brand-name drug.
  - ◆ You or your prescriber can ask us to make an exception and continue to cover the brand-name drug for you. For information on how to ask for an exception, see Chapter 9, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)."
  - ◆ If you are taking the brand-name drug at the time we make the change, we will provide you with information about the specific change(s) we made. This will also include information on the steps you may take to request an exception to cover the brand-name drug. You may not get this notice before we make the change.
- **Unsafe drugs and other drugs on the Drug List that are withdrawn from the market.**
  - ◆ Once in a while, a drug may be suddenly withdrawn because it has been found to be unsafe or removed from the market for another reason. If this happens, we will immediately remove the drug from the Drug List. If you are taking that drug, we will let you know of this change right away.

- ◆ Your prescriber will also know about this change, and can work with you to find another drug for your condition.
- **Other changes to drugs on the Drug List.**
  - ◆ We may make other changes once the year has started that affect drugs you are taking. For instance, we might add a generic drug that is not new to the market to replace a brand-name drug or change the cost-sharing tier or add new restrictions to the brand-name drug. We also might make changes based on FDA boxed warnings or new clinical guidelines recognized by Medicare. We must give you at least 30 days' advance notice of the change or give you notice of the change and a 30-day refill of the drug you are taking at a network pharmacy
  - ◆ After you receive notice of the change, you should be working with your prescriber to switch to a different drug that we cover.
  - ◆ Or you or your prescriber can ask us to make an exception and continue to cover the drug for you. For information on how to ask for an exception, see Chapter 9, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)."
- **Changes to drugs on the Drug List that will not affect people currently taking the drug:** For changes to the Drug List that are not described above, if you are currently taking the drug, the following types of changes will not affect you until January 1 of the next year if you stay in our plan:
  - ◆ If we move your drug into a higher cost-sharing tier.
  - ◆ If we put a new restriction on your use of the drug.
  - ◆ If we remove your drug from the Drug List.

If any of these changes happen to a drug you are taking (but not because of a market withdrawal, a generic drug replacing a brand-name drug, or other change noted in the sections above), then the change won't affect your use or what you pay as your share of the cost until January 1 of the next year. Until that date, you probably won't see any increase in your payments or any added restriction to your use of the drug. You will not get direct notice this year about changes that do not affect you. However, on January 1 of the next year, the changes will affect you, and it is important to check the new year's Drug List for any changes to drugs.

## **SECTION 7. What types of drugs are not covered by our plan?**

### **Section 7.1 Types of drugs we do not cover**

This section tells you what kinds of prescription drugs are "excluded." This means Medicare does not pay for these drugs.

If you get drugs that are excluded, you must pay for them yourself. We won't pay for the drugs that are listed in this section; the only exception is if the requested drug is found upon appeal to be a drug that is not excluded under Part D and we should have paid for or covered it because of

your specific situation. (For information about appealing a decision we have made to not cover a drug, go to Chapter 9, Section 6.5, in this booklet.)

Here are three general rules about drugs that Medicare drug plans will not cover under Part D:

- Our plan's Part D drug coverage cannot cover a drug that would be covered under Medicare Part A or Part B.
- Our plan cannot cover a drug purchased outside the United States and its territories.
- Our plan usually cannot cover off-label use. "Off-label use" is any use of the drug other than those indicated on a drug's label as approved by the Food and Drug Administration.
  - ◆ Generally, coverage for "off-label use" is allowed only when the use is supported by certain reference books. These reference books are the American Hospital Formulary Service Drug Information; the DRUGDEX Information System; and for cancer, the National Comprehensive Cancer Network and Clinical Pharmacology; or their successors. If the use is not supported by any of these reference books, then our plan cannot cover its "off-label use."

Also, by law, these categories of drugs are not covered by Medicare drug plans:

- Nonprescription drugs (also called over-the-counter drugs).
- Drugs when used to promote fertility.
- Drugs when used for the relief of cough or cold symptoms.
- Drugs when used for cosmetic purposes or to promote hair growth.
- Prescription vitamins and mineral products, except prenatal vitamins and fluoride preparations.
- Drugs when used for the treatment of sexual or erectile dysfunction.
- Drugs when used for treatment of anorexia, weight loss, or weight gain.
- Outpatient drugs for which the manufacturer seeks to require that associated tests or monitoring services be purchased exclusively from the manufacturer as a condition of sale.

**If you receive "Extra Help" paying for your drugs**, your state Medicaid program may cover some prescription drugs not normally covered in a Medicare drug plan. Please contact your state Medicaid program to determine what drug coverage may be available to you. (You can find phone numbers and contact information for Medicaid in Chapter 2, Section 6.)

## **SECTION 8. Show your plan membership card when you fill a prescription**

### **Section 8.1 Show your membership card**

To fill your prescription, show your plan membership card at the network pharmacy you choose. When you show your plan membership card, the network pharmacy will automatically bill our plan for our share of your covered prescription drug cost. You will need to pay the pharmacy your share of the cost when you pick up your prescription.

## **Section 8.2 What if you don't have your membership card with you?**

If you don't have your plan membership card with you when you fill your prescription, ask the pharmacy to call our plan to get the necessary information.

If the pharmacy is not able to get the necessary information, you may have to pay the full cost of the prescription when you pick it up. You can then ask us to reimburse you for our share. See Chapter 7, Section 2.1, for information about how to ask us for reimbursement.

## **SECTION 9. Part D drug coverage in special situations**

### **Section 9.1 What if you're in a hospital or a skilled nursing facility for a stay that is covered by our plan?**

If you are admitted to a hospital or to a skilled nursing facility for a stay covered by our plan, we will generally cover the cost of your prescription drugs during your stay. Once you leave the hospital or skilled nursing facility, we will cover your drugs as long as the drugs meet all of our rules for coverage. See the previous parts of this section that tell you about the rules for getting drug coverage. The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** gives you more information about drug coverage and what you pay.

**Please note:** When you enter, live in, or leave a skilled nursing facility, you are entitled to a special enrollment period. During this time period, you can switch plans or change your coverage. (Chapter 10, "Ending your membership in our plan," tells you when you can leave our plan and join a different Medicare plan.)

### **Section 9.2 What if you're a resident in a long-term care (LTC) facility?**

Usually, a long-term care (LTC) facility (such as a nursing home) has its own pharmacy, or a pharmacy that supplies drugs for all of its residents. If you are a resident of a long-term care facility, you may get your prescription drugs through the facility's pharmacy as long as it is part of our network.

Check your **Pharmacy Directory** to find out if your long-term care facility's pharmacy is part of our network. If it isn't, or if you need more information, please contact Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **What if you're a resident in a long-term care (LTC) facility and become a new member of our plan?**

If you need a drug that is not on our Drug List or is restricted in some way, we will cover a **temporary supply** of your drug during the first 90 days of your membership. The total supply will be for a maximum of up to a 31-day supply, or less if your prescription is written for fewer days. (Please note that the long-term care (LTC) pharmacy may provide the drug in smaller amounts at a time to prevent waste.)

If you have been a member of our plan for more than 90 days and need a drug that is not on our Drug List or if our plan has any restriction on the drug's coverage, we will cover one 31-day supply, or less if your prescription is written for fewer days.

During the time when you are getting a temporary supply of a drug, you should talk with your provider to decide what to do when your temporary supply runs out. Perhaps there is a different drug covered by our plan that might work just as well for you. Or you and your provider can ask us to make an exception for you and cover the drug in the way you would like it to be covered. If you and your provider want to ask for an exception, Chapter 9, Section 6.4, tells you what to do.

### **Section 9.3 Special note about "creditable coverage"**

Each year your employer or retiree group should send you a notice that tells you if your prescription drug coverage for the next calendar year is "creditable" and the choices you have for drug coverage.

If the coverage from the group plan is "**creditable**," it means that the plan has drug coverage that is expected to pay, on average, at least as much as Medicare's standard prescription drug coverage.

Keep these notices about creditable coverage because you may need them later. If you enroll in a Medicare plan that includes Part D drug coverage, you may need these notices to show that you have maintained creditable coverage. If you didn't get a notice about creditable coverage, from your employer or retiree group plan, you can get a copy from your employer or retiree group's benefits administrator or the employer or union.

### **Section 9.4 What if you're in Medicare-certified hospice?**

Drugs are never covered by both hospice and our plan at the same time. If you are enrolled in Medicare hospice and require an anti-nausea, laxative, pain medication, or antianxiety drug that is not covered by your hospice because it is unrelated to your terminal illness and related conditions, our plan must receive notification from either the prescriber or your hospice provider that the drug is unrelated before our plan can cover the drug. To prevent delays in receiving any unrelated drugs that should be covered by our plan, you can ask your hospice provider or prescriber to make sure we have the notification that the drug is unrelated before you ask a pharmacy to fill your prescription.

In the event you either revoke your hospice election or are discharged from hospice, our plan should cover all your drugs. To prevent any delays at a pharmacy when your Medicare hospice benefit ends, you should bring documentation to the pharmacy to verify your revocation or discharge. See the previous parts of this chapter that tell about the rules for getting drug coverage under Part D. Chapter 6, "What you pay for your Part D prescription drugs," gives more information about drug coverage and what you pay.



## **SECTION 10. Programs on drug safety and managing medications**

### **Section 10.1 Programs to help members use drugs safely**

We conduct drug use reviews for our members to help make sure that they are getting safe and appropriate care. These reviews are especially important for members who have more than one provider who prescribes their drugs.

We do a review each time you fill a prescription. We also review our records on a regular basis. During these reviews, we look for potential problems such as:

- Possible medication errors.
- Drugs that may not be necessary because you are taking another drug to treat the same medical condition.
- Drugs that may not be safe or appropriate because of your age or gender.
- Certain combinations of drugs that could harm you if taken at the same time.
- Prescriptions written for drugs that have ingredients you are allergic to.
- Possible errors in the amount (dosage) of a drug you are taking.
- Unsafe amounts of opioid pain medications.

If we see a possible problem in your use of medications, we will work with your provider to correct the problem.

### **Section 10.2 Drug Management Program (DMP) to help members safely use their opioid medications**

We have a program that can help make sure our members safely use their prescription opioid medications, or other medications that are frequently abused. This program is called a Drug Management Program (DMP). If you use opioid medications that you get from several doctors or pharmacies, we may talk to your doctors to make sure your use is appropriate and medically necessary. Working with your doctors, if we decide you are at risk for misusing or abusing your opioid or benzodiazepine medications, we may limit how you can get those medications. The limitations may be:

- Requiring you to get all your prescriptions for opioid or benzodiazepine medications from one pharmacy.
- Requiring you to get all your prescriptions for opioid or benzodiazepine medications from one doctor.
- Limiting the amount of opioid or benzodiazepine medications we will cover for you.

If we decide that one or more of these limitations should apply to you, we will send you a letter in advance. The letter will have information explaining the terms of the limitations we think

should apply to you. You will also have an opportunity to tell us which doctors or pharmacies you prefer to use. If you think we made a mistake or you disagree with our determination that you are at-risk for prescription drug abuse or the limitation, you and your prescriber have the right to ask us for an appeal. See Chapter 9 for information about how to ask for an appeal.

The DMP may not apply to you if you have certain medical conditions, such as cancer, you are receiving hospice, palliative, or end-of-life care, or you live in a long-term care facility.

### **Section 10.3 Medication Therapy Management (MTM) program to help members manage their medications**

We have a program that can help our members with complex health needs. For example, some members have several medical conditions, take different drugs at the same time, and have high drug costs.

This program is voluntary and free to members. A team of pharmacists and doctors developed the program for us. This program can help make sure that our members get the most benefit from the drugs they take.

Our program is called a Medication Therapy Management (MTM) program. Some members who take medications for different medical conditions may be able to get services through an MTM program. A pharmacist or other health professional will give you a comprehensive review of all your medications. You can talk about how best to take your medications, your costs, and any problems or questions you have about your prescription and over-the-counter medications. You'll get a written summary of this discussion. The summary has a medication action plan that recommends what you can do to make the best use of your medications, with space for you to take notes or write down any follow-up questions. You'll also get a personal medication list that will include all the medications you're taking and why you take them.

It's a good idea to have your medication review before your yearly "Wellness" visit, so you can talk to your doctor about your action plan and medication list. Bring your action plan and medication list with you to your visit or anytime you talk with your doctors, pharmacists, and other health care providers. Also, keep your medication list with you (for example, with your ID) in case you go to the hospital or emergency room.

If we have a program that fits your needs, we will automatically enroll you in the program and send you information. If you decide not to participate, please notify us and we will withdraw you from the program. If you have any questions about these programs, please contact Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

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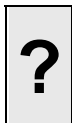
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### **Did you know there are programs to help people pay for their drugs?**

There are programs to help people with limited resources pay for their drugs. These include "Extra Help" and State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs. For more information, see Chapter 2, Section 7.

### **Are you currently getting help to pay for your drugs?**

If you are in a program that helps pay for your drugs, **some information in this Evidence of Coverage about the costs for Part D prescription drugs does not apply to you.** We sent you a separate document, called the "**Evidence of Coverage Rider for People Who Get Extra Help Paying for Prescription Drugs**" (also known as the "Low Income Subsidy Rider" or the "LIS Rider"), which tells you about your drug coverage. If you don't have this rider, please call Member Services and ask for the "LIS Rider." Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

## **SECTION 1. Introduction**

### **Section 1.1 Use this chapter together with other materials that explain your drug coverage**

This chapter focuses on what you pay for your Part D prescription drugs. To keep things simple, we use "drug" in this chapter to mean a Part D prescription drug. As explained in Chapter 5, not all drugs are Part D drugs—some drugs are covered under Medicare Part A or Part B and other drugs are excluded from Medicare coverage by law. Some excluded drugs may be covered under your group's plan.

To understand the payment information we give you in this chapter, you need to know the basics of what drugs are covered, where to fill your prescriptions, and what rules to follow when you get your covered drugs. Here are materials that explain these basics:

- Our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**. To keep things simple, we call this the "**Drug List**."
  - ◆ This Drug List tells you which drugs are covered for you.
  - ◆ It also tells you which of the six "cost-sharing tiers" the drug is in and whether there are any restrictions on your coverage for the drug.
  - ◆ If you need a copy of the Drug List, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You can also find the Drug List on our website at [kp.org/seniorrx](http://kp.org/seniorrx). The Drug List on the website is always the most current.
- **Chapter 5 of this booklet**. Chapter 5 gives you the details about your prescription drug coverage, including rules you need to follow when you get your covered drugs. Chapter 5 also tells you which types of prescription drugs are not covered by our plan.

- **Our plan's Pharmacy Directory.** In most situations, you must use a network pharmacy to get your covered drugs (see Chapter 5 for the details). The **Pharmacy Directory** has a list of pharmacies in our plan's network. It also tells you which pharmacies in our network can give you a long-term supply of a drug (such as filling a prescription for a three-month supply).

## **Section 1.2 Types of out-of-pocket costs you may pay for covered drugs**

To understand the payment information we give you in this chapter, you need to know about the types of out-of-pocket costs you may pay for your covered services. The amount that you pay for a drug is called "cost-sharing," and there are three ways you may be asked to pay.

- The "deductible" is the amount you must pay for drugs before our plan begins to pay its share.
- "Copayment" means that you pay a fixed amount each time you fill a prescription.
- "Coinsurance" means that you pay a percent of the total cost of the drug each time you fill a prescription.

## **SECTION 2. What you pay for a drug depends upon which "drug payment stage" you are in when you get the drug**

### **Section 2.1 What are the drug payment stages for Senior Advantage members?**

As shown in the table below, there are "drug payment stages" for your prescription drug coverage under our plan. How much you pay for a drug depends upon which of these stages you are in at the time you get a prescription filled or refilled. Stage 4 applies to everyone, but your group plan may not include a Deductible Stage (Stage 1) or a Coverage Gap Stage (Stage 3). Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** to find out which stages apply to you. Keep in mind you are always responsible for our plan's monthly premium regardless of the drug payment stage.

Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4
<p><b>Yearly Deductible Stage</b></p> <p>See the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of the EOC to find out if this payment stage applies to you. (This stage does not apply to most members.)</p> <p>If your plan has a deductible, during this stage, you pay the full cost of your drugs. You stay in this stage until you have paid your deductible.</p> <p>(Details are in Section 4 of this chapter.)</p>	<p><b>Initial Coverage Stage</b></p> <p><b>If your plan has a deductible, you begin in this stage after you end the Deductible Stage.</b></p> <p><b>If your plan does not have a deductible, you begin in this stage when you fill your first prescription of the year.</b></p> <p>During this stage, we pay our share of the cost of your drugs and you pay your share of the cost.</p> <p>If your plan has a Coverage Gap Stage, you stay in this stage until your year-to-date "<b>total drug costs</b>" (your payments plus any Part D plan's payments) total <b>\$4,020</b>.</p> <p>If your plan does not have a Coverage Gap Stage, you stay in this stage until your year-to-date "<b>out-of-pocket costs</b>" (your payments) total <b>\$6,350</b>.</p> <p>(Details are in Section 5 of this chapter.)</p>	<p><b>Coverage Gap Stage</b></p> <p>See the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this EOC to find out if this stage applies to you (this stage does not apply to most members).</p> <p>If there is no coverage gap for your plan, this payment stage does not apply to you.</p> <p>If this stage applies to you, coverage during the gap stage varies depending on the plan your group has selected.</p> <p><b>For generic drugs, you pay either the copayment listed in the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this EOC, or 25% of the price, whichever is lower.</b></p> <p><b>For brand-name drugs, you pay 25% of the price</b> (plus a portion of the dispensing fee).</p> <p>You stay in this stage until your year-to-date "out-of-pocket costs" (your payments) reach a total of <b>\$6,350</b>. This amount and rules for counting costs toward this amount have been set by Medicare.</p> <p>(Details are in Section 6 of this chapter.)</p>	<p><b>Catastrophic Coverage Stage</b></p> <p>During this stage, <b>we will pay most of the cost of your drugs</b> for the rest of the calendar year (through December 31, 2020).</p> <p>(Details are in Section 7 of this chapter.)</p>

### **SECTION 3. We send you reports that explain payments for your drugs and which payment stage you are in**

#### **Section 3.1 We send you a monthly report called the "Part D Explanation of Benefits" (the "Part D EOB")**

Our plan keeps track of the costs of your prescription drugs and the payments you have made when you get your prescriptions filled or refilled at the pharmacy. This way, we can tell you when you have moved from one drug payment stage to the next. In particular, there are two types of costs we keep track of:

- We keep track of how much you have paid. This is called your **"out-of-pocket"** cost.
- We keep track of your **"total drug costs."** This is the amount you pay out-of-pocket or others pay on your behalf plus the amount paid by the plan.

Our plan will prepare a written report called the **Part D Explanation of Benefits** (it is sometimes called the **"Part D EOB"**) when you have had one or more prescriptions filled through our plan during the previous month. It includes:

- **Information for that month.** This report gives you the payment details about the prescriptions you have filled during the previous month. It shows the total drug costs, what the plan paid, and what you and others on your behalf paid.
- **Totals for the year since January 1.** This is called "year-to-date" information. It shows you the total drug costs and total payments for your drugs since the year began.

#### **Section 3.2 Help us keep our information about your drug payments up-to-date**

To keep track of your drug costs and the payments you make for drugs, we use records we get from pharmacies. Here is how you can help us keep your information correct and up-to-date:

- **Show your membership card when you get a prescription filled.** To make sure we know about the prescriptions you are filling and what you are paying, show your plan membership card every time you get a prescription filled.
- **Make sure we have the information we need.** There are times you may pay for prescription drugs when we will not automatically get the information we need to keep track of your out-of-pocket costs. To help us keep track of your out-of-pocket costs, you may give us copies of receipts for drugs that you have purchased. (If you are billed for a covered drug, you can ask us to pay our share of the cost. For instructions about how to do this, go to Chapter 7, Section 2, of this booklet.) Here are some types of situations when you may want to give us copies of your drug receipts to be sure we have a complete record of what you have spent for your drugs:
  - ♦ When you purchase a covered drug at a network pharmacy at a special price or using a discount card that is not part of our plan's benefit.



- ◆ When you made a copayment for drugs that are provided under a drug manufacturer patient assistance program.
- ◆ Anytime you have purchased covered drugs at out-of-network pharmacies or other times you have paid the full price for a covered drug under special circumstances.
- **Send us information about the payments others have made for you.** Payments made by certain other individuals and organizations also count toward your out-of-pocket costs and help qualify you for catastrophic coverage. For example, payments made by a State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program, an AIDS drug assistance program, (ADAP), the Indian Health Service, and most charities count toward your out-of-pocket costs. You should keep a record of these payments and send them to us so we can track your costs.
- **Check the written report we send you.** When you receive a **Part D Explanation of Benefits** (a **Part D EOB**) in the mail, please look it over to be sure the information is complete and correct. If you think something is missing from the report, or you have any questions, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You can also choose to view your **Part D EOB** online instead of by mail. Please visit [kp.org/goinggreen](http://kp.org/goinggreen) and sign on to learn more about choosing to view your **Part D EOB** securely online. Be sure to keep these reports. They are an important record of your drug expenses.

#### **SECTION 4. During the Deductible Stage, if applicable, you pay the full cost of your drugs**

See the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** to find out if this stage applies to you (this stage does not apply to most members).

##### **Section 4.1 If your plan includes a deductible for your Part D drugs**

The Deductible Stage is the first payment stage for your drug coverage. This stage begins when you fill your first prescription in the year. When you are in this payment stage, **you must pay the full cost of your drugs** until you reach our plan's deductible amount. Please refer to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** for the deductible amount.

- ◆ Your "**full cost**" is usually lower than the normal full price of the drug, since our plan has negotiated lower costs for most drugs.
- ◆ The "**deductible**" is the amount you must pay for your Part D prescription drugs before our plan begins to pay its share.

Once you have paid the deductible amount shown in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**, you leave the Deductible Stage and move on to the next drug payment stage, which is the Initial Coverage Stage.

## **SECTION 5. During the Initial Coverage Stage, we pay our share of your drug costs and you pay your share**

### **Section 5.1 What you pay for a drug depends upon the drug and where you fill your prescription**

During the Initial Coverage Stage, we pay our share of the cost of your covered prescription drugs, and you pay your share (your copayment or coinsurance amount). Your share of the cost will vary depending upon the drug and where you fill your prescription.

#### **Our plan has six cost-sharing tiers**

Every drug on our plan's Drug List is in one of six cost-sharing tiers. Depending upon the plan your group has selected, cost-sharing may vary from one tier to the next. In general, the higher the cost-sharing tier number, the higher your cost for the drug:

- Cost-sharing **Tier 1** for preferred generic drugs.
- Cost-sharing **Tier 2** for generic drugs (this tier includes some brand-name drugs).
- Cost-sharing **Tier 3** for preferred brand-name drugs.
- Cost-sharing **Tier 4** for nonpreferred brand-name drugs (this tier includes some generic drugs).
- Cost-sharing **Tier 5** for specialty-tier drugs (this tier includes both generic and brand-name drugs).
- Cost-sharing **Tier 6** for injectable Part D vaccines (this tier includes only brand-name drugs).

To find out which cost-sharing tier your drug is in, look it up in our plan's Drug List.

#### **Your pharmacy choices**

How much you pay for a drug depends upon whether you get the drug from:

- A network retail pharmacy that offers a standard cost-sharing.
- A network retail pharmacy that offers preferred cost-sharing.
- A pharmacy that is not in our plan's network.
- Our plan's mail-order pharmacy.

For more information about these pharmacy choices and filling your prescriptions, see Chapter 5 in this booklet and our plan's **Pharmacy Directory**.

Generally, we will cover your prescriptions only if they are filled at one of our network pharmacies. Some of our network pharmacies also offer preferred cost-sharing. You may go to either network pharmacies that offer preferred cost-sharing or other network pharmacies that offer standard cost-sharing to receive your covered prescription drugs. Your costs may be less at pharmacies that offer preferred cost-sharing.

### Section 5.2 Your costs for a one-month supply of a drug

During the Initial Coverage Stage, your share of the cost of a covered drug will be either a copayment or coinsurance.

- **"Copayment"** means that you pay a fixed amount each time you fill a prescription.
- **"Coinsurance"** means that you pay a percent of the total cost of the drug each time you fill a prescription.

As shown in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this EOC, the amount of the copayment or coinsurance depends upon which cost-sharing tier your drug is in. **Please note:**

- If your covered drug costs less than the copayment amount listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this EOC, you will pay that lower price for the drug. You pay either the full price of the drug or the copayment amount, whichever is lower.
- We cover prescriptions filled at out-of-network pharmacies in only limited situations. Please see Chapter 5, Section 2.5, for information about when we will cover a prescription filled at an out-of-network pharmacy.

Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this EOC for your cost-sharing amounts and day supply limit in the Initial Coverage Stage.

### Section 5.3 If your doctor prescribes less than a full month's supply, you may not have to pay the cost of the entire month's supply

Typically, the amount you pay for a prescription drug covers a full month's supply of a covered drug. However, your doctor can prescribe less than a month's supply of drugs. There may be times when you want to ask your doctor about prescribing less than a month's supply of a drug (for example, when you are trying a medication for the first time that is known to have serious side effects). If your doctor prescribes less than a full month's supply, you will not have to pay for the full month's supply for certain drugs.

The amount you pay when you get less than a full month's supply will depend on whether you are responsible for paying coinsurance (a percentage of the total cost) or a copayment (a flat dollar amount).

- If you are responsible for coinsurance, you pay a percentage of the total cost of the drug. You pay the same percentage regardless of whether the prescription is for a full month's supply or for fewer days. However, because the entire drug cost will be lower if you get less than a full month's supply, the amount you pay will be less.
- If you are responsible for a copayment for the drug, your copayment will be based on the number of days of the drug that you receive. We will calculate the amount you pay per day for your drug (the "daily cost-sharing rate") and multiply it by the number of days of the drug you receive.

- ◆ Here's an example: Let's say the copayment for your drug for a full month's supply (a 30-day supply) is \$30. This means that the amount you pay per day for your drug is \$1. If you receive a 7 days' supply of the drug, your payment will be \$1 per day multiplied by 7 days, for a total payment of \$7.

Daily cost-sharing allows you to make sure a drug works for you before you have to pay for an entire month's supply. You can also ask your doctor to prescribe, and your pharmacist to dispense, less than a full month's supply of a drug or drugs, if this will help you better plan refill dates for different prescriptions so that you can take fewer trips to the pharmacy. The amount you pay will depend upon the days' supply you receive.

#### **Section 5.4 Your costs for a long-term (up to a 90-day) supply of a drug**

For some drugs, you can get a long-term supply (also called an "extended supply") when you fill your prescription. A long-term supply is up to a 90-day supply. (For details on where and how to get a long-term supply of a drug, see Chapter 5, Section 2.4.)

Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** for your cost-sharing amounts when you get a long-term (up to a 90-day) supply of a drug.

- **Please note:** If your covered drug costs less than the copayment amount listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**, you will pay that lower price for the drug. You pay either the full price of the drug or the copayment amount, whichever is lower.

#### **Section 5.5 You stay in the Initial Coverage Stage until you reach the next stage**

If your group plan does not include a Coverage Gap Stage, you stay in the Initial Coverage Stage until your total out-of-pocket costs reach **\$6,350**. When you reach an out-of-pocket limit of **\$6,350**, you leave the Initial Coverage Stage and move on to the Catastrophic Coverage Stage. Most group plans do not include a Coverage Gap Stage.

If your group plan includes a Coverage Gap Stage, you stay in the Initial Coverage Stage until the total amount for the prescription drugs you have filled and refilled reaches the **\$4,020 limit for the Initial Coverage Stage**.

Your total drug cost is based on adding together what you have paid and what any Part D plan has paid:

- **What you have paid** for all the covered drugs you have gotten since you started with your first drug purchase of the year. (See Section 6.2 for more information about how Medicare calculates your out-of-pocket costs.) This includes:
  - ◆ The total you paid as your share of the cost for your drugs during the Initial Coverage Stage.
- **What our plan has paid** as its share of the cost for your drugs during the Initial Coverage Stage. (If you were enrolled in a different Part D plan at any time during 2020, the amount that plan paid during the Initial Coverage Stage also counts toward your total drug costs.)

The **Part D Explanation of Benefits (Part D EOB)** that we send to you will help you keep track of how much you and our plan, as well as third parties have spent on your behalf during the year. Many people do not reach the **\$4,020** limit in a year.

We will let you know if you reach this **\$4,020** amount. If you do reach this amount, you will leave the Initial Coverage Stage and move on to the Coverage Gap Stage.

Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** for the amount you will pay for drugs in the Coverage Gap Stage.

## **SECTION 6. During the Coverage Gap Stage, if applicable, we provide some drug coverage**

### **Section 6.1 You stay in the Coverage Gap Stage until your out-of-pocket costs reach \$6,350**

The benefit coverage you receive during the Coverage Gap Stage will depend on the benefits your group selected. See the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** to find out if this stage applies to you (this stage does not apply to most members).

When you are in the Coverage Gap Stage, the Medicare Coverage Gap Discount Program provides manufacturer discounts on brand-name drugs. You pay either the copayments listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** or 25% of the negotiated price and a portion of the dispensing fee for **brand-name drugs**. If you pay 25% of the negotiated price, both the amount you pay and the amount discounted by the manufacturer count toward your out-of-pocket costs as if you had paid them, and move you through the coverage gap.

You also receive some coverage of generic drugs and injectable Part D vaccines during the Coverage Gap Stage. You pay either the copayments listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** or 25% of the costs of generic drugs, whichever is lower. Only the amount you pay counts and moves you through the coverage gap.

You continue paying the applicable cost sharing until your yearly out-of-pocket payments reach a maximum amount that Medicare has set. In 2020, that amount is **\$6,350**.

Medicare has rules about what counts and what does not count as your out-of-pocket costs. When you reach an out-of-pocket limit of **\$6,350**, you leave the Coverage Gap Stage and move on to the Catastrophic Coverage Stage.

### **Section 6.2 How Medicare calculates your out-of-pocket costs for prescription drugs**

Here are Medicare's rules that we must follow when we keep track of your out-of-pocket costs for your drugs.

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### **These payments are included in your out-of-pocket costs**

When you add up your out-of-pocket costs, you can include the payments listed below (as long as they are for Part D covered drugs and you followed the rules for drug coverage that are explained in Chapter 5 of this booklet):

- The amount you pay for drugs when you are in any of the following drug payment stages:
  - ◆ The Deductible Stage (if this stage applies to you).
  - ◆ The Initial Coverage Stage.
  - ◆ The Coverage Gap Stage (if this stage applies to you).
- Any payments you made during this calendar year as a member of a different Medicare prescription drug plan before you joined our plan.

#### **It matters who pays:**

- If you make these payments yourself, they are included in your out-of-pocket costs.
- These payments are also included if they are made on your behalf by certain other individuals or organizations. This includes payments for your drugs made by a friend or relative, by most charities, by AIDS drug assistance programs, by a State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program that is qualified by Medicare, or by the Indian Health Service. Payments made by Medicare's "Extra Help" Program are also included.
- Some of the payments made by the Medicare Coverage Gap Discount Program are included. The amount the manufacturer pays for your brand-name drugs is included. But the amount we pay for your generic drugs is not included.

#### **Moving on to the Catastrophic Coverage Stage:**

When you (or those paying on your behalf) have spent a total of **\$6,350** in out-of-pocket costs within the calendar year, you will move from either the Initial Coverage Stage (if this stage applies to you) or the Coverage Gap Stage (if this stage applies to you) to the Catastrophic Coverage Stage.

### **These payments are not included in your out-of-pocket costs**

When you add up your out-of-pocket costs, you are **not** allowed to include any of these types of payments for prescription drugs:

- The amount you contribute, if any, toward your group's premium.
- Drugs you buy outside the United States and its territories.
- Drugs that are not covered by our plan.
- Drugs you get at an out-of-network pharmacy that do not meet our plan's requirements for out-of-network coverage.
- Non-Part D drugs, including prescription drugs covered by Part A or Part B and other drugs excluded from coverage by Medicare.
- Payments you make toward drugs covered under our additional coverage but not normally covered in a Medicare prescription drug plan.

- Payments you make toward prescription drugs not normally covered in a Medicare prescription drug plan.
- Payments made by our plan for your brand or generic drugs while in the Coverage Gap, if this stage applies to you.
- Payments for your drugs that are made by group health plans, including employer health plans.
- Payments for your drugs that are made by certain insurance plans and government-funded health programs, such as TRICARE and Veterans Affairs.
- Payments for your drugs made by a third party with a legal obligation to pay for prescription costs (for example, Workers' Compensation).

**Reminder:** If any other organization such as the ones listed above pays part or all of your out-of-pocket costs for drugs, you are required to tell our plan. Call Member Services to let us know (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **How can you keep track of your out-of-pocket total?**

- **We will help you.** The **Part D Explanation of Benefits (Part D EOB)** report we send to you includes the current amount of your out-of-pocket costs (Section 3 in this chapter tells you about this report). When you reach a total of **\$6,350** in out-of-pocket costs for the year, this report will tell you that you have left the Coverage Gap Stage and have moved on to the Catastrophic Coverage Stage.
- **Make sure we have the information we need.** Section 3.2 tells you what you can do to help make sure that our records of what you have spent are complete and up-to-date.

## **SECTION 7. During the Catastrophic Coverage Stage, we pay most of the cost for your drugs**

### **Section 7.1 Once you are in the Catastrophic Coverage Stage, you will stay in this stage for the rest of the year**

You qualify for the Catastrophic Coverage Stage when your out-of-pocket costs have reached the **\$6,350** limit for the calendar year. Once you are in the Catastrophic Coverage Stage, you will stay in this payment stage until the end of the calendar year. During this stage, we will pay most of the cost for your drugs.

Your share of the cost for a covered drug will be either coinsurance or a copayment, whichever is larger amount:

- Either, you pay a coinsurance of **5%** of the cost of the drug,
- Or, **\$3.60** for a generic drug or a drug that is treated like a generic, and **\$8.95** for all other drugs.

We will pay the rest of the cost.

## **SECTION 8. What you pay for vaccinations covered by Part D depends upon how and where you get them**

### **Section 8.1 Our plan may have separate coverage for the Part D vaccine medication itself and for the cost of giving you the vaccine**

We provide coverage for a number of Part D vaccines. We also cover vaccines that are considered medical benefits. You can find out about coverage of these vaccines by going to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

There are two parts to our coverage of Part D vaccinations:

- The first part of coverage is the cost of the vaccine medication itself. The vaccine is a prescription medication.
- The second part of coverage is for the cost of giving you the vaccine. (This is sometimes called the "administration" of the vaccine.)

#### **What do you pay for a Part D vaccination?**

What you pay for a Part D vaccination depends upon three things:

- 1. The type of vaccine** (what you are being vaccinated for).
  - ◆ Some vaccines are considered medical benefits. You can find out about your coverage of these vaccines by going to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.
  - ◆ Other vaccines are considered Part D drugs. You can find these vaccines listed in our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**.
- 2. Where you get the vaccine medication.**
- 3. Who gives you the vaccine.**

What you pay at the time you get the Part D vaccination can vary depending upon the circumstances. For example:

- ◆ Sometimes when you get your vaccine, you will have to pay the entire cost for both the vaccine medication and for getting the vaccine. You can ask us to pay you back for our share of the cost.
- ◆ Other times, when you get the vaccine medication or the vaccine, you will pay only your share of the cost.

To show how this works, here are three common ways you might get a Part D vaccine.

If your plan has a Deductible Stage, remember you are responsible for all of the costs associated with Part D vaccines (including their administration) during the Deductible Stage of your benefit.



***Situation 1:***

- You buy the Part D vaccine at the pharmacy and you get your vaccine at the network pharmacy. (Whether you have this choice depends upon where you live. Some states do not allow pharmacies to administer a vaccination.)
  - ◆ You will have to pay the pharmacy the amount of your copayment for the vaccine and the cost of giving you the vaccine.
  - ◆ Our plan will pay the remainder of the costs.

***Situation 2:***

- You get the Part D vaccination at your doctor's office.
  - ◆ When you get the vaccination, you will pay for the entire cost of the vaccine and its administration.
  - ◆ You can then ask us to pay our share of the cost by using the procedures that are described in Chapter 7 of this booklet ("Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs").
  - ◆ You will be reimbursed the amount you paid less your normal copayment for the vaccine (including administration).

***Situation 3:***

- You buy the Part D vaccine at your pharmacy, and then take it to your doctor's office where they give you the vaccine.
  - ◆ You will have to pay the pharmacy the amount of your copayment for the vaccine itself.
  - ◆ When your doctor gives you the vaccine, you will pay the entire cost for this service. You can then ask us to pay our share of the cost by using the procedures described in Chapter 7 of this booklet.
  - ◆ You will be reimbursed the amount charged by the doctor for administering the vaccine.

**Section 8.2 You may want to call Member Services  
before you get a vaccination**

The rules for coverage of vaccinations are complicated. We are here to help. We recommend that you first call Member Services whenever you are planning to get a vaccination. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

- We can tell you about how your vaccination is covered by our plan and explain your share of the cost.
- We can tell you how to keep your own cost down by using providers and pharmacies in our network.
- If you are not able to use a network provider and pharmacy, we can tell you what you need to do to get payment from us for our share of the cost.

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**CHAPTER 7. Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received  
for covered medical services or drugs**

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## **SECTION 1. Situations in which you should ask us to pay our share of the cost of your covered services or drugs**

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### **Section 1.1 If you pay our share of the cost of your covered services or drugs, or if you receive a bill, you can ask us for payment**

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Sometimes when you get medical care or a prescription drug, you may need to pay the full cost right away. Other times, you may find that you have paid more than you expected under the coverage rules of our plan. In either case, you can ask us to pay you back (paying you back is often called "reimbursing" you). It is your right to be paid back by our plan whenever you've paid more than your share of the cost for medical services or drugs that are covered by our plan.

There may also be times when you get a bill from a provider for the full cost of medical care you have received. In many cases, you should send this bill to us instead of paying it. We will look at the bill and decide whether the services should be covered. If we decide they should be covered, we will pay the provider directly.

**Here are examples of situations in which you may need to ask us to pay you back or to pay a bill you have received:**

#### **When you've received emergency or urgently needed medical care from a provider who is not in our network**

You can receive emergency services from any provider, whether or not the provider is a part of our network. When you receive emergency or urgently needed services from a provider who is not part of our network, you are only responsible for paying your share of the cost, not for the entire cost. You should ask the provider to bill our plan for our share of the cost.

- If you pay the entire amount yourself at the time you receive the care, you need to ask us to pay you back for our share of the cost. Send us the bill, along with documentation of any payments you have made.
- At times you may get a bill from the provider asking for payment that you think you do not owe. Send us this bill, along with documentation of any payments you have already made.
  - ◆ If the provider is owed anything, we will pay the provider directly.
  - ◆ If you have already paid more than your share of the cost of the service, we will determine how much you owed and pay you back for our share of the cost.

#### **When a network provider sends you a bill you think you should not pay**

Network providers should always bill us directly, and ask you only for your share of the cost. But sometimes they make mistakes, and ask you to pay more than your share.

- You only have to pay your cost-sharing amount when you get services covered by our plan. We do not allow providers to add additional separate charges, called "balance billing." This protection (that you never pay more than your cost-sharing amount) applies even if we pay the provider less than the provider charges for a service, and even if there is a dispute and we

don't pay certain provider charges. For more information about "balance billing," go to Chapter 4, Section 1.3.

- Whenever you get a bill from a network provider that you think is more than you should pay, send us the bill. We will contact the provider directly and resolve the billing problem.
- If you have already paid a bill to a network provider, but you feel that you paid too much, send us the bill along with documentation of any payment you have made and ask us to pay you back the difference between the amount you paid and the amount you owed under our plan.

### **If you are retroactively enrolled in our plan**

Sometimes a person's enrollment in our plan is retroactive. ("Retroactive" means that the first day of their enrollment has already passed. The enrollment date may even have occurred last year.)

If you were retroactively enrolled in our plan and you paid out-of-pocket for any of your covered services or drugs after your enrollment date, you can ask us to pay you back for our share of the costs. You will need to submit paperwork for us to handle the reimbursement.

- Please call Member Services for additional information about how to ask us to pay you back and deadlines for making your request. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

### **When you use an out-of-network pharmacy to get a prescription filled**

If you go to an out-of-network pharmacy and try to use your membership card to fill a prescription, the pharmacy may not be able to submit the claim directly to us. When that happens, you will have to pay the full cost of your prescription. We cover prescriptions filled at out-of-network pharmacies only in a few special situations. Please go to Chapter 5, Section 2.5, to learn more.

- Save your receipt and send a copy to us when you ask us to pay you back for our share of the cost.

### **When you pay the full cost for a prescription because you don't have your plan membership card with you**

If you do not have your plan membership card with you, you can ask the pharmacy to call us or to look up your plan enrollment information. However, if the pharmacy cannot get the enrollment information they need right away, you may need to pay the full cost of the prescription yourself.

- Save your receipt and send a copy to us when you ask us to pay you back for our share of the cost.

### **When you pay the full cost for a prescription in other situations**

You may pay the full cost of the prescription because you find that the drug is not covered for some reason.

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- For example, the drug may not be on our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**; or it could have a requirement or restriction that you didn't know about or don't think should apply to you. If you decide to get the drug immediately, you may need to pay the full cost for it.
  - Save your receipt and send a copy to us when you ask us to pay you back. In some situations, we may need to get more information from your doctor in order to pay you back for our share of the cost.

All of the examples above are types of coverage decisions. This means that if we deny your request for payment, you can appeal our decision. Chapter 9 of this booklet, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)," has information about how to make an appeal.

## **SECTION 2. How to ask us to pay you back or to pay a bill you have received**

### **Section 2.1 How and where to send us your request for payment**

Send us your request for payment, along with your bill and documentation of any payment you have made. It's a good idea to make a copy of your bill and receipts for your records.

To make sure you are giving us all the information we need to make a decision, you can fill out our claim form to make your request for payment.

- You don't have to use the form, but it will help us process the information faster.
- Either download a copy of the form from our website (**kp.org**) or call Member Services and ask for the form. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

Mail your request for payment together with any bills or receipts to us at this address:

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado  
Claims Department  
P.O. Box 373150  
Denver, CO 80237-3150

You must submit your claim to us within 365 days of the date you received the service, item, or drug.

Contact Member Services if you have any questions (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). If you don't know what you should have paid, or you receive bills and you don't know what to do about those bills, we can help. You can also call if you want to give us more information about a request for payment you have already sent to us.

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## **SECTION 3. We will consider your request for payment and say yes or no**

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### **Section 3.1 We check to see whether we should cover the service or drug and how much we owe**

When we receive your request for payment, we will let you know if we need any additional information from you. Otherwise, we will consider your request and make a coverage decision.

- If we decide that the medical care or drug is covered and you followed all the rules for getting the care or drug, we will pay for our share of the cost. If you have already paid for the service or drug, we will mail your reimbursement of our share of the cost to you. If you have not paid for the service or drug yet, we will mail the payment directly to the provider. (Chapter 3 explains the rules you need to follow for getting your medical services covered. Chapter 5 explains the rules you need to follow for getting your Part D prescription drugs covered.)
- If we decide that the medical care or drug is not covered, or you did not follow all the rules, we will not pay for our share of the cost. Instead, we will send you a letter that explains the reasons why we are not sending the payment you have requested and your rights to appeal that decision.

### **Section 3.2 If we tell you that we will not pay for all or part of the medical care or drug, you can make an appeal**

If you think we have made a mistake in turning down your request for payment or you don't agree with the amount we are paying, you can make an appeal. If you make an appeal, it means you are asking us to change the decision we made when we turned down your request for payment.

For the details about how to make this appeal, go to Chapter 9 of this booklet, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)." The appeals process is a formal process with detailed procedures and important deadlines. If making an appeal is new to you, you will find it helpful to start by reading Section 4 of Chapter 9. Section 4 is an introductory section that explains the process for coverage decisions and appeals and gives you definitions of terms such as "appeal." Then, after you have read Section 4, you can go to the section in Chapter 9 that tells you what to do for your situation:

- If you want to make an appeal about getting paid back for a medical service, go to Section 5.3 in Chapter 9.
- If you want to make an appeal about getting paid back for a drug, go to Section 6.5 of Chapter 9.

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**SECTION 4. Other situations in which you should save your receipts and send copies to us****Section 4.1 In some cases, you should send copies of your receipts to us to help us track your out-of-pocket drug costs**

There are some situations when you should let us know about payments you have made for your drugs. In these cases, you are not asking us for payment. Instead, you are telling us about your payments so that we can calculate your out-of-pocket costs correctly. This may help you to qualify for the Catastrophic Coverage Stage more quickly.

Here are two situations when you should send us copies of receipts to let us know about payments you have made for your drugs:

**1. When you buy the drug for a price that is lower than our price**

Sometimes when you are in the Deductible Stage or Coverage Gap Stage (if your plan has one or both—refer to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**), you can buy your drug at a network pharmacy for a price that is lower than our price.

- For example, a pharmacy might offer a special price on the drug. Or you may have a discount card that is outside our benefit that offers a lower price.
- Unless special conditions apply, you must use a network pharmacy in these situations and your drug must be on our Drug List.
- Save your receipt and send a copy to us so that we can have your out-of-pocket expenses count toward qualifying you for the Catastrophic Coverage Stage.
- **Please note:** If you are in the Deductible or Coverage Gap Stage, we will not pay for any share of these drug costs. But sending a copy of the receipt allows us to calculate your out-of-pocket costs correctly and may help you qualify for the Catastrophic Coverage Stage more quickly.

**2. When you get a drug through a patient assistance program offered by a drug manufacturer**

Some members are enrolled in a patient assistance program offered by a drug manufacturer that is outside our plan benefits. If you get any drugs through a program offered by a drug manufacturer, you may pay a copayment to the patient assistance program.

- Save your receipt and send a copy to us so that we can have your out-of-pocket expenses count toward qualifying you for the Catastrophic Coverage Stage.
- **Please note:** Because you are getting your drug through the patient assistance program and not through our plan's benefits, we will not pay for any share of these drug costs. But sending a copy of the receipt allows us to calculate your out-of-pocket costs correctly and may help you qualify for the Catastrophic Coverage Stage more quickly.

Since you are not asking for payment in the two cases described above, these situations are not considered coverage decisions. Therefore, you cannot make an appeal if you disagree with our decision.



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## **CHAPTER 8. Your rights and responsibilities**

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## **SECTION 1. We must honor your rights as a member of our plan**

### **Section 1.1 We must provide information in a way that works for you (in languages other than English, in Braille, in large print, or CD)**

To get information from us in a way that works for you, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

Our plan has people and free interpreter services available to answer questions from disabled and non-English-speaking members. This booklet is available in Spanish by calling Member Services (phone numbers are on the back cover of this booklet). We can also give you information in Braille, large print, or CD at no cost if you need it. We are required to give you information about our plan's benefits in a format that is accessible and appropriate for you. To get information from us in a way that works for you, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) or contact our Civil Rights Coordinator.

If you have any trouble getting information from our plan in a format that is accessible and appropriate for you, please call to file a grievance with Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You may also file a complaint with Medicare by calling **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)** or directly with the Office for Civil Rights. Contact information is included in this **Evidence of Coverage** or with this mailing, or you may contact Member Services for additional information.

### **Sección 1.1 Debemos proporcionar la información de un modo adecuado para usted (en idiomas distintos al inglés, en Braille, en letra grande o en CD)**

Para obtener información de una forma que se adapte a sus necesidades, por favor llame a Servicio a los Miembros (los números de teléfono están impresos en la contraportada de este folleto).

Nuestro plan cuenta con personas y servicios de interpretación disponibles sin costo para responder las preguntas de los miembros discapacitados y que no hablan inglés. Este folleto está disponible en español o chino; llame a Servicio a los Miembros (los números de teléfono están en la contraportada de este folleto). Si la necesita, también podemos darle, sin costo, información en Braille, letra grande o CD. Tenemos la obligación de darle información acerca de los beneficios de nuestro plan en un formato que sea accesible y adecuado para usted. Para obtener nuestra información de una forma que se adapte a sus necesidades, por favor llame a Servicio a los Miembros (los números de teléfono están impresos en la contraportada de este folleto) o comuníquese con nuestro Coordinador de Derechos Civiles.

Si tiene algún problema para obtener información de nuestro plan en un formato que sea accesible y adecuado para usted, por favor llame para presentar una queja a Servicio a los Miembros (los números de teléfono están impresos en la contraportada de este folleto). También puede presentar una queja en Medicare llamando al **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)** o directamente en la Oficina de Derechos Civiles. En esta Evidence of Coverage (**Evidencia de**

**Cobertura)** o en esta carta se incluye la información de contacto, o bien puede comunicarse con Servicio a los Miembros para obtener información adicional.

### **Section 1.2 We must ensure that you get timely access to your covered services and drugs**

As a member of our plan, you have the right to choose a primary care provider (PCP) in our network to provide and arrange for your covered services (Chapter 3 explains more about this). Call Member Services to learn which doctors are accepting new patients (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You also have the right to go to a women's health specialist (such as a gynecologist), a mental health services provider, and a provider for routine eye exams without a referral, as well as other providers described in Chapter 3, Section 2.2.

As a plan member, you have the right to get appointments and covered services from our network of providers within a reasonable amount of time. This includes the right to get timely services from specialists when you need that care. You also have the right to get your prescriptions filled or refilled at any of our network pharmacies without long delays.

If you think that you are not getting your medical care or Part D drugs within a reasonable amount of time, Chapter 9, Section 10, of this booklet tells you what you can do. (If we have denied coverage for your medical care or drugs and you don't agree with our decision, Chapter 9, Section 4, tells you what you can do.)

### **Section 1.3 We must protect the privacy of your personal health information**

Federal and state laws protect the privacy of your medical records and personal health information. We protect your personal health information as required by these laws.

- Your "personal health information" includes the personal information you gave us when you enrolled in our plan as well as your medical records and other medical and health information.
- The laws that protect your privacy give you rights related to getting information and controlling how your health information is used. We give you a written notice, called a "Notice of Privacy Practices," that tells you about these rights and explains how we protect the privacy of your health information.

#### **How do we protect the privacy of your health information?**

- We make sure that unauthorized people don't see or change your records.
- In most situations, if we give your health information to anyone who isn't providing your care or paying for your care, we are required to get written permission from you first. Written permission can be given by you or by someone you have given legal power to make decisions for you.
- Your health information is shared with your Group only with your authorization or as otherwise permitted by law.

- There are certain exceptions that do not require us to get your written permission first. These exceptions are allowed or required by law.
  - ◆ For example, we are required to release health information to government agencies that are checking on quality of care.
  - ◆ Because you are a member of our plan through Medicare, we are required to give Medicare your health information, including information about your Part D prescription drugs. If Medicare releases your information for research or other uses, this will be done according to federal statutes and regulations.

### **You can see the information in your records and know how it has been shared with others**

You have the right to look at your medical records held by our plan, and to get a copy of your records. We are allowed to charge you a fee for making copies. You also have the right to ask us to make additions or corrections to your medical records. If you ask us to do this, we will work with your health care provider to decide whether the changes should be made.

You have the right to know how your health information has been shared with others for any purposes that are not routine.

If you have questions or concerns about the privacy of your personal health information, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **Section 1.4 We must give you information about our plan, our network of providers, and your covered services**

As a member of our plan, you have the right to get several kinds of information from us. (As explained above in Section 1.1, you have the right to get information from us in a way that works for you. This includes getting the information in Spanish and in Braille, large print or CD.

If you want any of the following kinds of information, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet):

- **Information about our plan.** This includes, for example, information about our plan's financial condition. It also includes information about the number of appeals made by members and our plan's performance ratings, including how it has been rated by plan members and how it compares to other Medicare health plans.
- **Information about our network providers, including our network pharmacies.**
  - ◆ For example, you have the right to get information from us about the qualifications of the providers and pharmacies in our network and how we pay the providers in our network.
  - ◆ For a list of the providers in our network, see the **Provider Directory**.
  - ◆ For a list of the pharmacies in our network, see the **Pharmacy Directory**.
  - ◆ For more detailed information about our providers or pharmacies, you can call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) or visit our website at [kp.org/directory](http://kp.org/directory).

- **Information about your coverage and the rules you must follow when using your coverage.**
  - ◆ In Chapters 3 and 4 of this booklet, we explain what medical services are covered for you, any restrictions to your coverage, and what rules you must follow to get your covered medical services.
  - ◆ To get the details about your Part D prescription drug coverage, see Chapters 5 and 6 of this booklet plus our plan's Drug List. These chapters, together with the Drug List, tell you what drugs are covered and explain the rules you must follow and the restrictions to your coverage for certain drugs.
  - ◆ If you have questions about the rules or restrictions, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
- **Information about why something is not covered and what you can do about it.**
  - ◆ If a medical service or Part D drug is not covered for you, or if your coverage is restricted in some way, you can ask us for a written explanation. You have the right to this explanation even if you received the medical service or drug from an out-of-network provider or pharmacy.
  - ◆ If you are not happy or if you disagree with a decision we make about what medical care or Part D drug is covered for you, you have the right to ask us to change the decision. You can ask us to change the decision by making an appeal. For details on what to do if something is not covered for you in the way you think it should be covered, see Chapter 9 of this booklet. It gives you the details about how to make an appeal if you want us to change our decision. (Chapter 9 also tells you about how to make a complaint about quality of care, waiting times, and other concerns.)
  - ◆ If you want to ask us to pay our share of a bill you have received for medical care or a Part D prescription drug, see Chapter 7 of this booklet.

**Section 1.5 We must treat you with dignity and respect and support your right to make decisions about your care**

**You have the right to know your treatment options and participate in decisions about your health care**

You have the right to get full information from your doctors and other health care providers when you go for medical care. Your providers must explain your medical condition and your treatment choices in a way that you can understand.

You also have the right to participate fully in decisions about your health care. To help you make decisions with your doctors about what treatment is best for you, your rights include the following:

- **To know about all of your choices.** This means that you have the right to be told about all of the treatment options that are recommended for your condition, no matter what they cost or whether they are covered by our plan. It also includes being told about programs our plan offers to help members manage their medications and use drugs safely.

- **To know about the risks.** You have the right to be told about any risks involved in your care. You must be told in advance if any proposed medical care or treatment is part of a research experiment. You always have the choice to refuse any experimental treatments.
- **The right to say "no."** You have the right to refuse any recommended treatment. This includes the right to leave a hospital or other medical facility, even if your doctor advises you not to leave. You also have the right to stop taking your medication. Of course, if you refuse treatment or stop taking a medication, you accept full responsibility for what happens to your body as a result.
- **To receive an explanation if you are denied coverage for care.** You have the right to receive an explanation from us if a provider has denied care that you believe you should receive. To receive this explanation, you will need to ask us for a coverage decision. Chapter 9 of this booklet tells you how to ask us for a coverage decision.

### **You have the right to give instructions about what is to be done if you are not able to make medical decisions for yourself**

Sometimes people become unable to make health care decisions for themselves due to accidents or serious illness. You have the right to say what you want to happen if you are in this situation. This means that, if you want to, you can:

- Fill out a written form to give someone the legal authority to make medical decisions for you if you ever become unable to make decisions for yourself.
- Give your doctors written instructions about how you want them to handle your medical care if you become unable to make decisions for yourself.

The legal documents that you can use to give your directions in advance in these situations are called "**advance directives.**" There are different types of advance directives and different names for them. Documents called "**living will**" and "**power of attorney for health care**" are examples of advance directives.

If you want to use an "advance directive" to give your instructions, here is what to do:

- **Get the form.** If you want to have an advance directive, you can get a form from your lawyer, from a social worker, or from some office supply stores. You can sometimes get advance directive forms from organizations that give people information about Medicare. You can also contact Member Services to ask for the forms (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
- **Fill it out and sign it.** Regardless of where you get this form, keep in mind that it is a legal document. You should consider having a lawyer help you prepare it.
- **Give copies to appropriate people.** You should give a copy of the form to your doctor and to the person you name on the form as the one to make decisions for you if you can't. You may want to give copies to close friends or family members as well. Be sure to keep a copy at home.

If you know ahead of time that you are going to be hospitalized, and you have signed an advance directive, take a copy with you to the hospital.

- If you are admitted to the hospital, they will ask you whether you have signed an advance directive form and whether you have it with you.
- If you have not signed an advance directive form, the hospital has forms available and will ask if you want to sign one.

**Remember, it is your choice whether you want to fill out an advance directive** (including whether you want to sign one if you are in the hospital). According to law, no one can deny you care or discriminate against you based on whether or not you have signed an advance directive.

### **What if your instructions are not followed?**

If you have signed an advance directive, and you believe that a doctor or hospital did not follow the instructions in it, you may file a complaint with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

## **Section 1.6 You have the right to make complaints and to ask us to reconsider decisions we have made**

If you have any problems or concerns about your covered services or care, Chapter 9 of this booklet tells you what you can do. It gives you the details about how to deal with all types of problems and complaints.

What you need to do to follow up on a problem or concern depends upon the situation. You might need to ask us to make a coverage decision for you, make an appeal to us to change a coverage decision, or make a complaint. Whatever you do—ask for a coverage decision, make an appeal, or make a complaint—we are required to treat you fairly.

You have the right to get a summary of information about the appeals and complaints that other members have filed against our plan in the past. To get this information, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

## **Section 1.7 What can you do if you believe you are being treated unfairly or your rights are not being respected?**

### **If it is about discrimination, call the Office for Civil Rights**

If you believe you have been treated unfairly or your rights have not been respected due to your race, disability, religion, sex, health, ethnicity, creed (beliefs), age, or national origin, you should call the Department of Health and Human Services' Office for Civil Rights at **1-800-368-1019** or TTY **1-800-537-7697**, or call your local Office for Civil Rights.

### **Is it about something else?**

If you believe you have been treated unfairly or your rights have not been respected, and it's not about discrimination, you can get help dealing with the problem you are having:

- You can call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
- You can call the State Health Insurance Assistance Program. For details about this organization and how to contact it, go to Chapter 2, Section 3.

- Or you can call Medicare at **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.

### **Section 1.8 How to get more information about your rights**

There are several places where you can get more information about your rights:

- You can call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
- You can call the SHIP. For details about this organization and how to contact it, go to Chapter 2, Section 3.
- You can contact Medicare:
  - ♦ You can visit the Medicare website to read or download the publication "Your Medicare Rights & Protections." (The publication is available at <https://www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/11534-Medicare-Rights-and-Protections.pdf>.)
  - ♦ Or you can call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.

### **Section 1.9 Information about new technology assessments**

Rapidly changing technology affects health care and medicine as much as any other industry. To determine whether a new drug or other medical development has long-term benefits, our plan carefully monitors and evaluates new technologies for inclusion as covered benefits. These technologies include medical procedures, medical devices, and new drugs.

### **Section 1.10 You can make suggestions about rights and responsibilities**

As a member of our plan, you have the right to make recommendations about the rights and responsibilities included in this chapter. Please call Member Services with any suggestions (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

## **SECTION 2. You have some responsibilities as a member of our plan**

### **Section 2.1 What are your responsibilities?**

Things you need to do as a member of our plan are listed below. If you have any questions, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). We're here to help.

- **Get familiar with your covered services and the rules you must follow to get these covered services.** Use this **Evidence of Coverage** booklet to learn what is covered for you and the rules you need to follow to get your covered services.



- ◆ Chapters 3 and 4 give the details about your medical services, including what is covered, what is not covered, rules to follow, and what you pay.
- ◆ Chapters 5 and 6 give the details about your coverage for Part D prescription drugs.
- **If you have any other health insurance coverage or prescription drug coverage in addition to our plan, you are required to tell us.** Please call Member Services to let us know (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
  - ◆ We are required to follow rules set by Medicare to make sure that you are using all of your coverage in combination when you get your covered services from our plan. This is called "coordination of benefits" because it involves coordinating the health and drug benefits you get from us with any other health and drug benefits available to you. We'll help you coordinate your benefits. (For more information about coordination of benefits, go to Chapter 1, Section 10.)
- **Tell your doctor and other health care providers that you are enrolled in our plan.** Show your plan membership card whenever you get your medical care or Part D prescription drugs.
- **Help your doctors and other providers help you by giving them information, asking questions, and following through on your care.**
  - ◆ To help your doctors and other health care providers give you the best care, learn as much as you are able to about your health problems and give them the information they need about you and your health. Follow the treatment plans and instructions that you and your doctors agree upon.
  - ◆ Make sure you understand your health problems and participate in developing mutually agreed upon treatment goals with your providers whenever possible.
  - ◆ Make sure your doctors know all of the drugs you are taking, including over-the-counter drugs, vitamins, and supplements.
  - ◆ If you have any questions, be sure to ask. Your doctors and other health care providers are supposed to explain things in a way you can understand. If you ask a question and you don't understand the answer you are given, ask again.
- **Be considerate.** We expect all our members to respect the rights of other patients. We also expect you to act in a way that helps the smooth running of your doctor's office, hospitals, and other offices.
- **Pay what you owe.** As a plan member, you are responsible for these payments:
  - ◆ In order to be eligible for our plan, you must have Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B (or Medicare Part B). Some plan members must pay a premium for Medicare Part A. Most plan members must pay a premium for Medicare Part B to remain a member of our plan.
  - ◆ For most of your medical services or drugs covered by our plan, you must pay your share of the cost when you get the service or drug. This will be a copayment (a fixed amount) or coinsurance (a percentage of the total cost). The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** tells you what you must pay for your medical services. The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** tells you what you must pay for your Part D prescription drugs.

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- ◆ If you get any medical services or drugs that are not covered by our plan or by other insurance you may have, you must pay the full cost.
  - ◆ If you disagree with our decision to deny coverage for a service or drug, you can make an appeal. Please see Chapter 9 of this booklet for information about how to make an appeal.
  - ◆ If you are required to pay a late enrollment penalty, you must pay the penalty to keep your prescription drug coverage.
  - **Tell us if you move.** If you are going to move, it's important to tell us right away. Call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
    - ◆ If you move outside of our plan service area, you cannot remain a member of our plan. (Chapter 1 tells you about our service area.) We can help you figure out whether you are moving outside our service area. If you are leaving our service area, you will have a special enrollment period when you can join any Medicare plan available in your new area. We can let you know if we have a plan in your new area.
    - ◆ If you move within our service area, we still need to know so we can keep your membership record up-to-date and know how to contact you.
    - ◆ If you move, it is also important to tell Social Security (or the Railroad Retirement Board). You can find phone numbers and contact information for these organizations in Chapter 2.
  - **Call Member Services for help if you have questions or concerns.** We also welcome any suggestions you may have for improving our plan.
    - ◆ Phone numbers and calling hours for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.
    - ◆ For more information about how to reach us, including our mailing address, please see Chapter 2.

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## Background

### SECTION 1. Introduction

#### Section 1.1 What to do if you have a problem or concern

This chapter explains two types of processes for handling problems and concerns:

- For some types of problems, you need to use the process for coverage decisions and appeals.
- For other types of problems, you need to use the process for making complaints.

Both of these processes have been approved by Medicare. To ensure fairness and prompt handling of your problems, each process has a set of rules, procedures, and deadlines that must be followed by you and us.

#### Which one do you use?

That depends upon the type of problem you are having. The guide in Section 3 will help you identify the right process to use.

#### Section 1.2 What about the legal terms?

There are technical legal terms for some of the rules, procedures, and types of deadlines explained in this chapter. Many of these terms are unfamiliar to most people and can be hard to understand.

To keep things simple, this chapter explains the legal rules and procedures using simpler words in place of certain legal terms. For example, this chapter generally says "making a complaint" rather than "filing a grievance," "coverage decision" rather than "organization determination" or "coverage determination," or "at-risk determination," and "Independent Review Organization" instead of "Independent Review Entity." It also uses abbreviations as little as possible.

However, it can be helpful, and sometimes quite important, for you to know the correct legal terms for the situation you are in. Knowing which terms to use will help you communicate more clearly and accurately when you are dealing with your problem and get the right help or information for your situation. To help you know which terms to use, we include legal terms when we give the details for handling specific types of situations.

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## **SECTION 2. You can get help from government organizations that are not connected with us**

### **Section 2.1 Where to get more information and personalized assistance**

Sometimes it can be confusing to start or follow through the process for dealing with a problem. This can be especially true if you do not feel well or have limited energy. Other times, you may not have the knowledge you need to take the next step.

#### **Get help from an independent government organization**

We are always available to help you. But in some situations, you may also want help or guidance from someone who is not connected with us. You can always contact your **State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)**. This government program has trained counselors in every state. The program is not connected with us or with any insurance company or health plan. The counselors at this program can help you understand which process you should use to handle a problem you are having. They can also answer your questions, give you more information, and offer guidance on what to do.

The services of SHIP counselors are free. You will find phone numbers in Chapter 2, Section 3, of this booklet.

#### **You can also get help and information from Medicare**

For more information and help in handling a problem, you can also contact Medicare. Here are two ways to get information directly from Medicare:

- You can call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.
- You can visit the Medicare website (<https://www.medicare.gov>).

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## **SECTION 3. To deal with your problem, which process should you use?**

### **Section 3.1 Should you use the process for coverage decisions and appeals? Or should you use the process for making complaints?**

If you have a problem or concern, you only need to read the parts of this chapter that apply to your situation. The guide that follows will help.

---

**To figure out which part of this chapter will help you with your specific problem or concern, *START HERE*:**

**Is your problem or concern about your benefits or coverage?**

(This includes problems about whether particular medical care or prescription drugs are covered or not, the way in which they are covered, and problems related to payment for medical care or prescription drugs.)

- **Yes, my problem is about benefits or coverage:**

**Go to the next section in this chapter, Section 4:** "A guide to the basics of coverage decisions and appeals."

- **No, my problem is not about benefits or coverage:**

**Skip ahead to Section 10 at the end of this chapter:** "How to make a complaint about quality of care, waiting times, customer service, or other concerns."

## Coverage decisions and appeals

### SECTION 4. A guide to the basics of coverage decisions and appeals

#### Section 4.1 Asking for coverage decisions and making appeals—*The big picture*

The process for coverage decisions and appeals deals with problems related to your benefits and coverage for medical services and prescription drugs, including problems related to payment. This is the process you use for issues such as whether something is covered or not, and the way in which something is covered.

#### **Asking for coverage decisions**

A coverage decision is a decision we make about your benefits and coverage or about the amount we will pay for your medical services or drugs. For example, your network doctor makes a (favorable) coverage decision for you whenever you receive medical care from him or her or if your network doctor refers you to a medical specialist. You or your doctor can also contact us and ask for a coverage decision, if your doctor is unsure whether we will cover a particular medical service or refuses to provide medical care you think that you need. In other words, if you want to know if we will cover a medical service before you receive it, you can ask us to make a coverage decision for you.

We are making a coverage decision for you whenever we decide what is covered for you and how much we pay. In some cases, we might decide a service or drug is not covered or is no longer covered by Medicare for you. If you disagree with this coverage decision, you can make an appeal.



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## Making an appeal

If we make a coverage decision and you are not satisfied with this decision, you can "appeal" the decision. An appeal is a formal way of asking us to review and change a coverage decision we have made.

When you appeal a decision for the first time, this is called a Level 1 Appeal. In this appeal, we review the coverage decision we made to check to see if we were following all of the rules properly. Your appeal is handled by different reviewers than those who made the original unfavorable decision. When we have completed the review, we give you our decision. Under certain circumstances, which we discuss later, you can request an expedited or "fast coverage decision" or fast appeal of a coverage decision.

If we say *no* to all or part of your Level 1 Appeal, you can go on to a Level 2 Appeal. The Level 2 Appeal is conducted by an independent organization that is not connected to us. (In some situations, your case will be automatically sent to the independent organization for a Level 2 Appeal. In other situations, you will need to ask for a Level 2 Appeal.) If you are not satisfied with the decision at the Level 2 Appeal, you may be able to continue through additional levels of appeal.

### Section 4.2 How to get help when you are asking for a coverage decision or making an appeal

Would you like some help? Here are resources you may wish to use if you decide to ask for any kind of coverage decision or appeal a decision:

- **You can call Member Services** (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
- To get free help from an independent organization that is not connected with our plan, **contact your State Health Insurance Assistance Program** (see Section 2 in this chapter).
- **Your doctor can make a request for you.**
  - ◆ For medical care, your doctor can request a coverage decision or a Level 1 Appeal on your behalf. If your appeal is denied at Level 1, it will be automatically forwarded to Level 2. To request any appeal after Level 2, your doctor must be appointed as your representative.
  - ◆ For Part D prescription drugs, your doctor or other prescriber can request a coverage decision or a Level 1 or Level 2 Appeal on your behalf. To request any appeal after Level 2, your doctor or other prescriber must be appointed as your representative.
- **You can ask someone to act on your behalf.** If you want to, you can name another person to act for you as your "representative" to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal.
  - ◆ There may be someone who is already legally authorized to act as your representative under state law.
  - ◆ If you want a friend, relative, your doctor or other provider, or other person to be your representative, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) and ask for the "Appointment of Representative" form. (The form is also available on Medicare's website at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/CMS-Forms/CMS->

**Forms/downloads/cms1696.pdf** or on our website at **kp.org**.) The form gives that person permission to act on your behalf. It must be signed by you and by the person whom you would like to act on your behalf. You must give us a copy of the signed form.

- **You also have the right to hire a lawyer to act for you.** You may contact your own lawyer, or get the name of a lawyer from your local bar association or other referral service. There are also groups that will give you free legal services if you qualify. However, you are not required to hire a lawyer to ask for any kind of coverage decision or appeal a decision.

### **Section 4.3 Which section of this chapter gives the details for your situation?**

There are four different types of situations that involve coverage decisions and appeals. Since each situation has different rules and deadlines, we give the details for each one in a separate section:

- **Section 5** in this chapter: "Your medical care: How to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal."
- **Section 6** in this chapter: "Your Part D prescription drugs: How to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal."
- **Section 7** in this chapter: "How to ask us to cover a longer inpatient hospital stay if you think the doctor is discharging you too soon."
- **Section 8** in this chapter: "How to ask us to keep covering certain medical services if you think your coverage is ending too soon" (applies to these services only: home health care, skilled nursing facility care, and Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services).

If you're not sure which section you should be using, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You can also get help or information from government organizations such as your SHIP (Chapter 2, Section 3, of this booklet has the phone numbers for this program).

## **SECTION 5. Your medical care: How to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal**



Have you read Section 4 in this chapter ("A guide to the basics of coverage decisions and appeals")? If not, you may want to read it before you start this section.

**Section 5.1 This section tells what to do if you have problems getting coverage for medical care or if you want us to pay you back for our share of the cost of your care**

This section is about your benefits for medical care and services. These benefits are described in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**. To keep things simple, we generally refer to "medical care coverage" or "medical care" in the rest of this section, instead of repeating "medical care or treatment or services" every time. The term "medical care" includes medical items and services as well as Medicare Part B prescription drugs. In some cases, different rules apply to a request for a Part B prescription drug. In those cases, we will explain how the rules for Part B prescription drugs are different from the rules for medical items and services.

This section tells you what you can do if you are in any of the five following situations:

1. You are not getting certain medical care you want, and you believe that this care is covered by our plan.
2. We will not approve the medical care your doctor or other medical provider wants to give you, and you believe that this care is covered by our plan.
3. You have received medical care or services that you believe should be covered by our plan, but we have said we will not pay for this care.
4. You have received and paid for medical care or services that you believe should be covered by our plan, and you want to ask us to reimburse you for this care.
5. You are being told that coverage for certain medical care you have been getting that we previously approved will be reduced or stopped, and you believe that reducing or stopping this care could harm your health.

**Note:** If the coverage that will be stopped is for hospital care, home health care, skilled nursing facility care, or Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services, you need to read a separate section of this chapter because special rules apply to these types of care. Here's what to read in those situations:

- **Chapter 9, Section 7:** "How to ask us to cover a longer inpatient hospital stay if you think the doctor is discharging you too soon."
- **Chapter 9, Section 8:** "How to ask us to keep covering certain medical services if you think your coverage is ending too soon." This section is about three services only: home health care, skilled nursing facility care, and (CORF) services.

For all other situations that involve being told that medical care you have been getting will be stopped, use this section (Section 5) as your guide for what to do.

---

**Which of these situations are you in?**

<b>If you are in this situation:</b>	<b>This is what you can do:</b>
Do you want to find out whether we will cover the medical care or services you want?	You can ask us to make a coverage decision for you. Go to the next section in this chapter, <b>Section 5.2</b> .
Have we already told you that we will not cover or pay for a medical service in the way that you want it to be covered or paid for?	You can make an appeal. (This means you are asking us to reconsider.) Skip ahead to <b>Section 5.3</b> in this chapter.
Do you want to ask us to pay you back for medical care or services you have already received and paid for?	You can send us the bill. Skip ahead to <b>Section 5.5</b> in this chapter.

**Section 5.2 Step-by-step: How to ask for a coverage decision**  
(how to ask us to authorize or provide the medical care coverage you want)

**Legal Terms**

When a coverage decision involves your medical care, it is called an **"organization determination."**

**Step 1: You ask us to make a coverage decision on the medical care you are requesting.** If your health requires a quick response, you should ask us to make a "fast coverage decision."

**Legal Terms**

A "fast coverage decision" is called an **"expedited determination."**

*How to request coverage for the medical care you want*

- Start by calling, writing, or faxing us to make your request for us to authorize or provide coverage for the medical care you want. You, your doctor, or your representative can do this.
- For the details about how to contact us, go to Chapter 2, Section 1, and look for the section called "How to contact us when you are asking for a coverage decision or making a complaint about your medical care."

---

*Generally we use the standard deadlines for giving you our decision*

When we give you our decision, we will use the "standard" deadlines unless we have agreed to use the "fast" deadlines. A standard coverage decision means we will give you an answer **within 14 calendar days** after we receive your request for a medical item or service. If your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug, we will give you an answer **within 72 hours** after we receive your request.

- However, for a request for a medical item or service, we can take up to 14 more calendar days if you ask for more time, or if we need information (such as medical records from out-of-network providers) that may benefit you. If we decide to take extra days to make the decision, we will tell you in writing. We can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.
- If you believe we should not take extra days, you can file a "fast complaint" about our decision to take extra days. When you file a fast complaint, we will give you an answer to your complaint **within 24 hours**. (The process for making a complaint is different from the process for coverage decisions and appeals. For more information about the process for making complaints, including fast complaints, see Section 10 in this chapter.)

*If your health requires it, ask us to give you a "fast coverage decision"*

- A fast coverage decision means we will answer **within 72 hours** if your request is for a medical item or service. If your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug, we will answer **within 24 hours**.
  - ♦ However, for a request for a medical item or service, we can take up to 14 more calendar days if we find that some information that may benefit you is missing (such as medical records from out-of-network providers), or if you need time to get information to us for the review. If we decide to take extra days, we will tell you in writing. We can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.
  - ♦ If you believe we should not take extra days, you can file a "fast complaint" about our decision to take extra days. (For more information about the process for making complaints, including fast complaints, see Section 10 in this chapter.) We will call you as soon as we make the decision.
- **To get a fast coverage decision, you must meet two requirements:**
  - ♦ You can get a fast coverage decision only if you are asking for coverage for medical care you have not yet received. (You cannot get a fast coverage decision if your request is about payment for medical care you have already received.)
  - ♦ You can get a fast coverage decision only if using the standard deadlines could cause serious harm to your health or hurt your ability to function.
- **If your doctor tells us that your health requires a "fast coverage decision,"** we will automatically agree to give you a fast coverage decision.
- **If you ask for a fast coverage decision on your own, without your doctor's support,** we will decide whether your health requires that we give you a fast coverage decision.

- ◆ If we decide that your medical condition does not meet the requirements for a fast coverage decision, we will send you a letter that says so (and we will use the standard deadlines instead).
- ◆ This letter will tell you that if your doctor asks for the fast coverage decision, we will automatically give a fast coverage decision.
- ◆ The letter will also tell how you can file a "fast complaint" about our decision to give you a standard coverage decision instead of the fast coverage decision you requested. (For more information about the process for making complaints, including fast complaints, see Section 10 in this chapter.)

### **Step 2: We consider your request for medical care coverage and give you our answer.**

#### *Deadlines for a "fast coverage decision"*

- Generally, for a fast coverage decision on a request for a medical item or service, we will give you our answer **within 72 hours**. If your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug, we will answer **within 24 hours**.
  - ◆ As explained above, we can take up to 14 more calendar days under certain circumstances. If we decide to take extra days to make the coverage decision, we will tell you in writing. We can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.
  - ◆ If you believe we should not take extra days, you can file a "fast complaint" about our decision to take extra days. When you file a fast complaint, we will give you an answer to your complaint **within 24 hours**. (For more information about the process for making complaints, including fast complaints, see Section 10 in this chapter.)
  - ◆ If we do not give you our answer **within 72 hours** (or if there is an extended time period, by the end of that period), or **24 hours** if your request is for a Part B prescription drug, you have the right to appeal. Section 5.3 below tells you how to make an appeal.
- **If our answer is yes to part or all of what you requested**, we must authorize or provide the medical care coverage we have agreed to provide **within 72 hours** after we received your request. If we extended the time needed to make our coverage decision on your request for a medical item or service, we will authorize or provide the coverage by the end of that extended period.
- **If our answer is no to part or all of what you requested**, we will send you a detailed written explanation as to why we said no.

#### *Deadlines for a "standard" coverage decision*

- Generally, for a standard coverage decision on a request for a medical item or service, we will give you our answer **within 14 calendar days** of receiving your request. If your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug, we will give you an answer **within 72 hours** of receiving your request.
  - ◆ For a request for a medical item or service, we can take up to 14 more calendar days ("an extended time period") under certain circumstances. If we decide to take extra days to make

the coverage decision, we will tell you in writing. We can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.

- ◆ If you believe we should not take extra days, you can file a "fast complaint" about our decision to take extra days. When you file a fast complaint, we will give you an answer to your complaint within 24 hours. (For more information about the process for making complaints, including fast complaints, see Section 10 in this chapter.)
- ◆ If we do not give you our answer **within 14 calendar days** (or if there is an extended time period, by the end of that period) or **72 hours** if your request is for a Part B prescription drug, you have the right to appeal. Section 5.3 below tells you how to make an appeal.
- **If our answer is *yes* to part or all of what you requested**, we must authorize or provide the coverage we have agreed to provide **within 14 calendar days**, or **72 hours** if your request is for a Part B prescription drug, after we received your request. If we extended the time needed to make our coverage decision on your request for a medical item or service, we will authorize or provide the coverage by the end of that extended period.
- **If our answer is *no* to part or all of what you requested**, we will send you a written statement that explains why we said no.

**Step 3: If we say *no* to your request for coverage for medical care, you decide if you want to make an appeal.**

- If we say *no*, you have the right to ask us to reconsider, and perhaps change this decision by making an appeal. Making an appeal means making another try to get the medical care coverage you want.
- If you decide to make an appeal, it means you are going on to Level 1 of the appeals process (see Section 5.3 below).

<p><b>Section 5.3 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 Appeal</b> (how to ask for a review of a medical care coverage decision made by our plan)</p>
---

<p><b>Legal Terms</b></p>
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<p>An appeal to our plan about a medical care coverage decision is called a plan "<b>reconsideration</b>."</p>
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**Step 1: You contact us and make your appeal. If your health requires a quick response, you must ask for a "fast appeal."**

*What to do:*

- **To start an appeal, you, your doctor, or your representative must contact us.** For details about how to reach us for any purpose related to your appeal, go to Chapter 2, Section 1, and look for the section called "How to contact us when you are making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs."

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- **If you are asking for a standard appeal, make your standard appeal in writing by submitting a request.**
    - ◆ If you have someone appealing our decision for you other than your doctor, your appeal must include an "Appointment of Representative" form authorizing this person to represent you. To get the form, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) and ask for the "Appointment of Representative" form. It is also available on Medicare's website at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/CMS-Forms/CMS-Forms/downloads/cms1696.pdf> or on our website at [kp.org](http://kp.org). While we can accept an appeal request without the form, we cannot begin or complete our review until we receive it. If we do not receive the form within 44 calendar days after receiving your appeal request (our deadline for making a decision on your appeal), your appeal request will be dismissed. If this happens, we will send you a written notice explaining your right to ask the Independent Review Organization to review our decision to dismiss your appeal.
  - **If you are asking for a fast appeal, make your appeal in writing or call us** at the phone number shown in Chapter 2, Section 1, "How to contact us when you are making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs."
  - **You must make your appeal request within 60 calendar days from the date on the written notice** we sent to tell you our answer to your request for a coverage decision. If you miss this deadline and have a good reason for missing it, we may give you more time to make your appeal. Examples of good cause for missing the deadline may include if you had a serious illness that prevented you from contacting us or if we provided you with incorrect or incomplete information about the deadline for requesting an appeal.
  - **You can ask for a copy of the information regarding your medical decision and add more information to support your appeal.**
    - ◆ You have the right to ask us for a copy of the information regarding your appeal. We are allowed to charge a fee for copying and sending this information to you.
    - ◆ If you wish, you and your doctor may give us additional information to support your appeal.

*If your health requires it, ask for a "fast appeal" (you can make a request by calling us)*

<b>Legal Terms</b>
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A "fast appeal" is also called an <b>"expedited reconsideration."</b>
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- If you are appealing a decision we made about coverage for care you have not yet received, you and/or your doctor will need to decide if you need a "fast appeal."
- The requirements and procedures for getting a "fast appeal" are the same as those for getting a "fast coverage decision." To ask for a fast appeal, follow the instructions for asking for a fast coverage decision. (These instructions are given earlier in this section.)
- If your doctor tells us that your health requires a "fast appeal," we will give you a fast appeal.



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**Step 2: We consider your appeal and we give you our answer.**

- When we are reviewing your appeal, we take another careful look at all of the information about your request for coverage of medical care. We check to see if we were following all the rules when we said *no* to your request.
- We will gather more information if we need it. We may contact you or your doctor to get more information.

***Deadlines for a "fast appeal"***

- When we are using the fast deadlines, we must give you our answer **within 72 hours** after we receive your appeal. We will give you our answer sooner if your health requires us to do so.
  - ◆ However, if you ask for more time, or if we need to gather more information that may benefit you, we can take up to 14 more calendar days if your request is for a medical item or service. If we decide to take extra days to make the decision, we will tell you in writing.
  - ◆ If we do not give you an answer **within 72 hours** (or by the end of the extended time period if we took extra days), we are required to automatically send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent organization. Later in this section, we tell you about this organization and explain what happens at Level 2 of the appeals process.
- **If our answer is *yes* to part or all of what you requested**, we must authorize or provide the coverage we have agreed to provide **within 72 hours** after we receive your appeal.
- **If our answer is *no* to part or all of what you requested**, we will automatically send your appeal to the Independent Review Organization for a Level 2 Appeal.

***Deadlines for a "standard appeal"***

- If we are using the standard deadlines, we must give you our answer **within 30 calendar days** after we receive your appeal if your appeal is about coverage for services you have not yet received. If your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug, we will give you our answer **within 7 calendar days** after we receive your appeal if your appeal is about coverage for a Part B prescription drug you have not yet received. We will give you our decision sooner if your health condition requires us to.
  - ◆ However, if you ask for more time, or if we need to gather more information that may benefit you, we can take up to 14 more calendar days if your request is for a medical item or service. If we decide to take extra days to make the decision, we will tell you in writing. We can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.
  - ◆ If you believe we should not take extra days, you can file a "fast complaint" about our decision to take extra days. When you file a fast complaint, we will give you an answer to your complaint **within 24 hours**. (For more information about the process for making complaints, including fast complaints, see Section 10 in this chapter.)
  - ◆ If we do not give you an answer by the applicable deadline above (or by the end of the extended time period if we took extra days for your request for a medical item or service), we are required to send your request on to Level 2

of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent, outside organization. Later in this section, we talk about this review organization and explain what happens at Level 2 of the appeals process.

- **If our answer is *yes* to part or all of what you requested**, we must authorize or provide the coverage we have agreed to provide **within 30 calendar days**, or **within 7 calendar days** if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug after we receive your appeal
- **If our answer is *no* to part or all of what you requested**, we will automatically send your appeal to the Independent Review Organization for a Level 2 Appeal.

**Step 3: If our plan says *no* to part or all of your appeal, your case will automatically be sent on to the next level of the appeals process.**

- To make sure we were following all the rules when we said ***no*** to your appeal, we are required to send your appeal to the Independent Review Organization. When we do this, it means that your appeal is going on to the next level of the appeals process, which is Level 2.

#### **Section 5.4 Step-by-step: How a Level 2 Appeal is done**

If we say ***no*** to your Level 1 Appeal, your case will automatically be sent on to the next level of the appeals process. During the Level 2 Appeal, the **Independent Review Organization** reviews our decision for your first appeal. This organization decides whether the decision we made should be changed.

#### **Legal Terms**

The formal name for the "Independent Review Organization" is the "**Independent Review Entity**." It is sometimes called the "**IRE**."

**Step 1: The Independent Review Organization reviews your appeal.**

- **The Independent Review Organization is an independent organization that is hired by Medicare.** This organization is not connected with us and it is not a government agency. This organization is a company chosen by Medicare to handle the job of being the Independent Review Organization. Medicare oversees its work.
- We will send the information about your appeal to this organization. This information is called your "case file." **You have the right to ask us for a copy of your case file.** We are allowed to charge you a fee for copying and sending this information to you.
- You have a right to give the Independent Review Organization additional information to support your appeal.
- Reviewers at the Independent Review Organization will take a careful look at all of the information related to your appeal.

*If you had a "fast" appeal at Level 1, you will also have a "fast" appeal at Level 2*

- If you had a fast appeal to our plan at Level 1, you will automatically receive a fast appeal at Level 2. The review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 Appeal **within 72 hours of when it receives your appeal**.
- However, if your request is for a medical item or service and the Independent Review Organization needs to gather more information that may benefit you, it can take up to 14 more calendar days. The Independent Review Organization can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.

*If you had a "standard" appeal at Level 1, you will also have a "standard" appeal at Level 2*

- If you had a standard appeal to our plan at Level 1, you will automatically receive a standard appeal at Level 2. If your request is for a medical item or service, the review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 Appeal **within 30 calendar days** of when it receives your appeal. If your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug, the review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 Appeal **within 7 calendar days** of when it receives your appeal.
- However, if your request is for a medical item or service and the Independent Review Organization needs to gather more information that may benefit you, it can take up to 14 more calendar days. The Independent Review Organization can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.

## **Step 2: The Independent Review Organization gives you their answer.**

The Independent Review Organization will tell you its decision in writing and explain the reasons for it.

- If the review organization says **yes** to part or all of a request for a medical item or service, we must authorize the medical care coverage **within 72 hours** or provide the service **within 14 calendar days** after we receive the decision from the review organization for standard requests or **within 72 hours** from the date we receive the decision from the review organization for expedited requests.
- If this organization says **no** to part or all of your appeal, it means they agree with us that your request (or part of your request) for coverage for medical care should not be approved. (This is called "upholding the decision." It is also called "turning down your appeal.")
  - ♦ If the Independent Review Organization "upholds the decision," you have the right to a Level 3 Appeal. However, to make another appeal at Level 3, the dollar value of the medical care coverage you are requesting must meet a certain minimum. If the dollar value of the coverage you are requesting is too low, you cannot make another appeal, which means that the decision at Level 2 is final. The written notice you get from the Independent Review Organization will tell you how to find out the dollar amount to continue the appeals process.

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**Step 3: If your case meets the requirements, you choose whether you want to take your appeal further.**

- There are three additional levels in the appeals process after Level 2 (for a total of five levels of appeal).
- If your Level 2 Appeal is turned down and you meet the requirements to continue with the appeals process, you must decide whether you want to go on to Level 3 and make a third appeal. The details about how to do this are in the written notice you got after your Level 2 Appeal.
- The Level 3 Appeal is handled by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator. Section 9 in this chapter tells you more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

**Section 5.5 What if you are asking us to pay you for our share of a bill you have received for medical care?**

If you want to ask us for payment for medical care, start by reading Chapter 7 of this booklet: "Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs." Chapter 7 describes the situations in which you may need to ask for reimbursement or to pay a bill you have received from a provider. It also tells you how to send us the paperwork that asks us for payment.

**Asking for reimbursement is asking for a coverage decision from us**

If you send us the paperwork that asks for reimbursement, you are asking us to make a coverage decision (for more information about coverage decisions, see Section 4.1 in this chapter). To make this coverage decision, we will check to see if the medical care you paid for is a covered service; see the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**. We will also check to see if you followed all the rules for using your coverage for medical care (these rules are given in Chapter 3 of this booklet: "Using our plan's coverage for your medical services").

**We will say *yes* or *no* to your request**

- If the medical care you paid for is covered and you followed all the rules, we will send you the payment for our share of the cost of your medical care within 60 calendar days after we receive your request. Or if you haven't paid for the services, we will send the payment directly to the provider. (When we send the payment, it's the same as saying *yes* to your request for a coverage decision.)
- If the medical care is not covered, or you did not follow all the rules, we will not send payment. Instead, we will send you a letter that says we will not pay for the services and the reasons why in detail. (When we turn down your request for payment, it's the same as saying *no* to your request for a coverage decision.)

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### What if you ask for payment and we say that we will not pay?

If you do not agree with our decision to turn you down, **you can make an appeal**. If you make an appeal, it means you are asking us to change the coverage decision we made when we turned down your request for payment.

To make this appeal, follow the process for appeals that we describe in Section 5.3. Go to this section for step-by-step instructions. When you are following these instructions, please note:

- If you make an appeal for reimbursement, we must give you our answer within 60 calendar days after we receive your appeal. (If you are asking us to pay you back for medical care you have already received and paid for yourself, you are not allowed to ask for a fast appeal.)
- If the Independent Review Organization reverses our decision to deny payment, we must send the payment you have requested to you or to the provider within 30 calendar days. If the answer to your appeal is *yes* at any stage of the appeals process after Level 2, we must send the payment you requested to you or to the provider within 60 calendar days.

## SECTION 6. Your Part D prescription drugs: How to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal



Have you read Section 4 in this chapter ("A guide to the basics of coverage decisions and appeals")? If not, you may want to read it before you start this section.

### Section 6.1 This section tells what to do if you have problems getting a Part D drug or you want us to pay you back for a Part D drug

Your benefits as a member of our plan include coverage for many prescription drugs. Please refer to our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**. To be covered, the drug must be used for a medically accepted indication. (A "medically accepted indication" is a use of the drug that is either approved by the Food and Drug Administration or supported by certain reference books. See Chapter 5, Section 3, for more information about a medically accepted indication.)

- **This section is about your Part D drugs only.** To keep things simple, we generally say "drug" in the rest of this section, instead of repeating "covered outpatient prescription drug" or "Part D drug" every time.
- For details about what we mean by Part D drugs, the **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**, rules and restrictions on coverage, and cost information, see Chapter 5 ("Using our plan's coverage for your Part D prescription drugs") and Chapter 6

("What you pay for your Part D prescription drugs") or the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this EOC.

### Part D coverage decisions and appeals

As discussed in Section 4 of this chapter, a coverage decision is a decision we make about your benefits and coverage or about the amount we will pay for your drugs.

<b>Legal Terms</b>
An initial coverage decision about your Part D drugs is called a " <b>coverage determination.</b> "

Here are examples of coverage decisions you ask us to make about your Part D drugs:

- You ask us to make an exception, including:
  - ◆ Asking us to cover a Part D drug that is not on our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**.
  - ◆ Asking us to waive a restriction on our plan's coverage for a drug (such as limits on the amount of the drug you can get).
  - ◆ Asking to pay a lower cost-sharing amount for a covered drug on a higher cost-sharing tier.
- You ask us whether a drug is covered for you and whether you satisfy any applicable coverage rules. For example, when your drug is on our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**, but we require you to get approval from us before we will cover it for you.
  - ◆ **Please note:** If your pharmacy tells you that your prescription cannot be filled as written, you will get a written notice explaining how to contact us to ask for a coverage decision.
- You ask us to pay for a prescription drug you already bought. This is a request for a coverage decision about payment.

If you disagree with a coverage decision we have made, you can appeal our decision.

This section tells you both how to ask for coverage decisions and how to request an appeal. Use the chart below to help you determine which part has information for your situation:

### Which of these situations are you in?

<b>If you are in this situation:</b>	<b>This is what you can do:</b>
Do you need a drug that isn't on our Drug List or need us to waive a rule or restriction on a drug we cover?	You can ask us to make an exception. (This is a type of coverage decision.) <b>Start with Section 6.2 in this chapter.</b>
Do you want us to cover a drug on our Drug List and you believe you meet any plan	You can ask us for a coverage decision. <b>Skip ahead to Section 6.4 in this chapter.</b>

rules or restrictions (such as getting approval in advance) for the drug you need?	
Do you want to ask us to pay you back for a drug you have already received and paid for?	You can ask us to pay you back. (This is a type of coverage decision.) <b>Skip ahead to Section 6.4 in this chapter.</b>
Have we already told you that we will not cover or pay for a drug in the way that you want it to be covered or paid for?	You can make an appeal. (This means you are asking us to reconsider.) <b>Skip ahead to Section 6.5 in this chapter.</b>

## Section 6.2 What is an exception?

If a drug is not covered in the way you would like it to be covered, you can ask us to make an **"exception."** An exception is a type of coverage decision. Similar to other types of coverage decisions, if we turn down your request for an exception, you can appeal our decision.

When you ask for an exception, your doctor or other prescriber will need to explain the medical reasons why you need the exception approved. We will then consider your request. Here are three examples of exceptions that you or your doctor or other prescriber can ask us to make:

### 1. Covering a Part D drug for you that is not on our Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary. (We call it the "Drug List" for short.)

#### Legal Terms

Asking for coverage of a drug that is not on the Drug List is sometimes called asking for a **"formulary exception."**

- If we agree to make an exception and cover a drug that is not on the Drug List, you will need to pay the cost-sharing amount that applies to drugs in Tier 4 (nonpreferred brand-name drugs). You cannot ask for an exception to the copayment or coinsurance amount we require you to pay for the drug.
2. **Removing a restriction on our coverage for a covered drug.** There are extra rules or restrictions that apply to certain drugs on our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary** (for more information, go to Chapter 5 and look for Section 4).

<b>Legal Terms</b>
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Asking for removal of a restriction on coverage for a drug is sometimes called asking for a <b>"formulary exception."</b>
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- The extra rules and restrictions on coverage for certain drugs include:
  - ♦ Being required to use the generic version of a drug instead of the brand-name drug.
  - ♦ Getting **plan approval in advance** before we will agree to cover the drug for you. (This is sometimes called "prior authorization.")
- If we agree to make an exception and waive a restriction for you, you can ask for an exception to the copayment or coinsurance amount we require you to pay for the drug.
- 3. **Changing coverage of a drug to a lower cost-sharing tier.** Every drug on our Drug List is in one of six cost-sharing tiers. In general, the lower the cost-sharing tier number, the less you will pay as your share of the cost of the drug.

<b>Legal Terms</b>
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Asking to pay a lower price for a covered nonpreferred drug is sometimes called asking for a <b>"tiering exception."</b>
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- If our Drug List contains alternative drug(s) for treating your medical condition that are in a lower cost-sharing tier than your drug, you can ask us to cover your drug at the cost-sharing amount that applies to the alternative drug(s). This would lower your share of the cost for the drug.
  - ♦ If the drug you're taking is a brand-name drug you can ask us to cover your drug at the cost-sharing amount that applies to the lowest tier that contains brand-name alternatives for treating your condition.
- If the drug you're taking is a generic drug you can ask us to cover your drug at the cost-sharing amount that applies to the lowest tier that contains either brand or generic alternatives for treating your condition.
- You cannot ask us to change the cost-sharing tier for any drug in Tier 5 (specialty-tier drugs).
- If we approve your request for a tiering exception and there is more than one lower cost-sharing tier with alternative drugs you can't take, you will usually pay the lowest amount.

<b>Section 6.3 Important things to know about asking for exceptions</b>
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### **Your doctor must tell us the medical reasons**

Your doctor or other prescriber must give us a statement that explains the medical reasons for requesting an exception. For a faster decision, include this medical information from your doctor or other prescriber when you ask for the exception.



Typically, our Drug List includes more than one drug for treating a particular condition. These different possibilities are called "**alternative**" drugs. If an alternative drug would be just as effective as the drug you are requesting and would not cause more side effects or other health problems, we will generally not approve your request for an exception. If you ask us for a tiering exception, we will generally not approve your request for an exception unless all the alternative drugs in the lower cost-sharing tier(s) won't work as well for you.

### **We can say *yes* or *no* to your request**

- If we approve your request for an exception, our approval usually is valid until the end of the plan year. This is true as long as your doctor continues to prescribe the drug for you and that drug continues to be safe and effective for treating your condition.
- If we say *no* to your request for an exception, you can ask for a review of our decision by making an appeal. Section 6.5 tells you how to make an appeal if we say no.

The next section tells you how to ask for a coverage decision, including an exception.

### **Section 6.4 Step-by-step: How to ask for a coverage decision, including an exception**

**Step 1: You ask us to make a coverage decision about the drug(s) or payment you need.** If your health requires a quick response, you must ask us to make a "fast coverage decision." You cannot ask for a fast coverage decision if you are asking us to pay you back for a drug you already bought.

*What to do:*

- **Request the type of coverage decision you want.** Start by calling, writing, or faxing us to make your request. You, your representative, or your doctor (or other prescriber) can do this. You can also access the coverage decision process through our website. For the details, go to Chapter 2, Section 1, and look for the section called "How to contact us when you are asking for a coverage decision or making a complaint about your Part D prescription drugs." Or if you are asking us to pay you back for a drug, go to the section called "Where to send a request asking us to pay for our share of the cost for medical care or a drug you have received."
- **You or your doctor or someone else who is acting on your behalf** can ask for a coverage decision. Section 4 in this chapter tells you how you can give written permission to someone else to act as your representative. You can also have a lawyer act on your behalf.
- **If you want to ask us to pay you back for a drug,** start by reading Chapter 7 of this booklet: "Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs." Chapter 7 describes the situations in which you may need to ask for reimbursement. It also tells you how to send us the paperwork that asks us to pay you back for our share of the cost of a drug you have paid for.
- **If you are requesting an exception, provide the "supporting statement."** Your doctor or other prescriber must give us the medical reasons for the drug exception you are requesting. (We call this the "supporting statement.") Your doctor or other prescriber can fax or mail the

statement to us. Or your doctor or other prescriber can tell us on the phone and follow up by faxing or mailing a written statement if necessary. See Sections 6.2 and 6.3 for more information about exception requests.

- **We must accept any written request**, including a request submitted on the CMS Model Coverage Determination Request Form, which is available on our website.

<b>Legal Terms</b>
A "fast coverage decision" is called an " <b>expedited coverage determination.</b> "

If your health requires it, ask us to give you a "fast coverage decision"

- When we give you our decision, we will use the "standard" deadlines unless we have agreed to use the "fast" deadlines. A standard coverage decision means we will give you an answer **within 72 hours after we receive your doctor's statement**. A fast coverage decision means we will answer within 24 hours after we receive your doctor's statement.
- **To get a fast coverage decision, you must meet two requirements:**
  - ◆ You can get a fast coverage decision only if you are asking for a drug you have not yet received. (You cannot get a fast coverage decision if you are asking us to pay you back for a drug you have already bought.)
  - ◆ You can get a fast coverage decision only if using the standard deadlines could cause serious harm to your health or hurt your ability to function.
- **If your doctor or other prescriber tells us that your health requires a "fast coverage decision,"** we will automatically agree to give you a fast coverage decision.
- **If you ask for a fast coverage decision on your own** (without your doctor's or other prescriber's support), we will decide whether your health requires that we give you a fast coverage decision.
  - ◆ If we decide that your medical condition does not meet the requirements for a fast coverage decision, we will send you a letter that says so (and we will use the standard deadlines instead).
  - ◆ This letter will tell you that if your doctor or other prescriber asks for the fast coverage decision, we will automatically give a fast coverage decision.
  - ◆ The letter will also tell you how you can file a complaint about our decision to give you a standard coverage decision instead of the fast coverage decision you requested. It tells you how to file a "fast complaint," which means you would get our answer to your complaint within 24 hours of receiving the complaint. (The process for making a complaint is different from the process for coverage decisions and appeals. For more information about the process for making complaints, see Section 10 in this chapter.)

**Step 2: We consider your request and we give you our answer.**

*Deadlines for a "fast coverage decision"*

- If we are using the fast deadlines, we must give you our answer **within 24 hours**.

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- ◆ Generally, this means within 24 hours after we receive your request. If you are requesting an exception, we will give you our answer within 24 hours after we receive your doctor's statement supporting your request. We will give you our answer sooner if your health requires us to.
  - ◆ If we do not meet this deadline, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent, outside organization. Later in this section, we talk about this review organization and explain what happens at Appeal Level 2.
  - **If our answer is *yes to part or all of what you requested***, we must provide the coverage we have agreed to provide within 24 hours after we receive your request or doctor's statement supporting your request.
  - **If our answer is *no to part or all of what you requested***, we will send you a written statement that explains why we said no. We will also tell you how to appeal.

*Deadlines for a "standard coverage decision" about a drug you have not yet received*

- If we are using the standard deadlines, we must give you our answer **within 72 hours**.
  - ◆ Generally, this means within 72 hours after we receive your request. If you are requesting an exception, we will give you our answer within 72 hours after we receive your doctor's statement supporting your request. We will give you our answer sooner if your health requires us to.
  - ◆ If we do not meet this deadline, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent organization. Later in this section, we talk about this review organization and explain what happens at Appeal Level 2.
- **If our answer is *yes to part or all of what you requested***:
  - ◆ If we approve your request for coverage, we must provide the coverage we have agreed to provide within 72 hours after we receive your request or doctor's statement supporting your request.
- **If our answer is *no to part or all of what you requested***, we will send you a written statement that explains why we said no. We will also tell you how to appeal.

*Deadlines for a "standard coverage decision" about payment for a drug you have already bought*

- We must give you our answer **within 14 calendar days** after we receive your request.
  - ◆ If we do not meet this deadline, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent organization. Later in this section, we talk about this review organization and explain what happens at Appeal Level 2.
- **If our answer is *yes to part or all of what you requested***, we are also required to make payment to you within 14 calendar days after we receive your request.

- **If our answer is *no* to part or all of what you requested**, we will send you a written statement that explains why we said no. We will also tell you how to appeal.

**Step 3: If we say *no* to your coverage request, you decide if you want to make an appeal.**

- If we say no, you have the right to request an appeal. Requesting an appeal means asking us to reconsider—and possibly change—the decision we made.

**Section 6.5 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 Appeal**  
(how to ask for a review of a coverage decision made by our plan)

**Legal Terms**

An appeal to our plan about a Part D drug coverage decision is called a plan "**redetermination**."

**Step 1: You contact us and make your Level 1 Appeal. If your health requires a quick response, you must ask for a "fast appeal."**

*What to do:*

- **To start your appeal, you (or your representative or your doctor or other prescriber) must contact us.**
  - ♦ For details about how to reach us by phone, fax, or mail, or on our website for any purpose related to your appeal, go to Chapter 2, Section 1, and look for the section called "How to contact us when you are making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs."
- **If you are asking for a standard appeal, make your appeal by submitting a written request.**
- **If you are asking for a fast appeal, you may make your appeal in writing or you may call us at the phone number shown in Chapter 2, Section 1, "How to contact us when you are making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs."**
- We must accept any written request, including a request submitted on the CMS Model Coverage Determination Request Form, which is available on our website.
- **You must make your appeal request within 60 calendar days from the date on the written notice** we sent to tell you our answer to your request for a coverage decision. If you miss this deadline and have a good reason for missing it, we may give you more time to make your appeal. Examples of good cause for missing the deadline may include if you had a serious illness that prevented you from contacting us or if we provided you with incorrect or incomplete information about the deadline for requesting an appeal.
- **You can ask for a copy of the information in your appeal and add more information.**
  - ♦ You have the right to ask us for a copy of the information regarding your appeal. We are allowed to charge a fee for copying and sending this information to you.

- ◆ If you wish, you and your doctor or other prescriber may give us additional information to support your appeal.

<b>Legal Terms</b>
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A "fast appeal" is also called an " <b>expedited redetermination.</b> "
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*If your health requires it, ask for a "fast appeal"*

- If you are appealing a decision we made about a drug you have not yet received, you and your doctor or other prescriber will need to decide if you need a "fast appeal."
- The requirements for getting a "fast appeal" are the same as those for getting a "fast coverage decision" in Section 6.4 of this chapter.

**Step 2: We consider your appeal and we give you our answer.**

- When we are reviewing your appeal, we take another careful look at all of the information about your coverage request. We check to see if we were following all the rules when we said **no** to your request. We may contact you or your doctor or other prescriber to get more information.

*Deadlines for a "fast appeal"*

- If we are using the fast deadlines, we must give you our answer **within 72 hours after we receive your appeal**. We will give you our answer sooner if your health requires it.
  - ◆ If we do not give you an answer within 72 hours, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an Independent Review Organization. Later in this section, we talk about this review organization and explain what happens at Level 2 of the appeals process.
- **If our answer is yes to part or all of what you requested**, we must provide the coverage we have agreed to provide within 72 hours after we receive your appeal.
- **If our answer is no to part or all of what you requested**, we will send you a written statement that explains why we said **no** and how to appeal our decision.

*Deadlines for a "standard appeal"*

- If we are using the standard deadlines, we must give you our answer **within 7 calendar days after we receive your appeal for a drug you have not received yet**. We will give you our decision sooner if you have not received the drug yet and your health condition requires us to do so. If you believe your health requires it, you should ask for a "fast appeal".
- If we do not give you a decision within 7 calendar days, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an Independent Review Organization. Later in this section, we tell you about this review organization and explain what happens at Level 2 of the appeals process.
- **If our answer is yes to part or all of what you requested:**

- ◆ If we approve a request for coverage, we must provide the coverage we have agreed to provide as quickly as your health requires, but no later than 7 calendar days after we receive your appeal.
- ◆ If we approve a request to pay you back for a drug you already bought, we are required to send payment to you within 30 calendar days after we receive your appeal request.
- **If our answer is *no* to part or all of what you requested**, we will send you a written statement that explains why we said *no* and how to appeal our decision.
- If you are requesting that we pay you back for a drug you have already bought, we must give you our answer **within 14 calendar days** after we receive your request.
  - ◆ If we do not give you a decision within 14 calendar days, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent organization. Later in this section, we talk about this review organization and explain what happens at Appeal Level 2.
- **If our answer is *yes* to part or all of what you requested**, we are also required to make payment to you within 30 calendar days after we receive your request.
- **If our answer is *no* to part or all of what you requested**, we will send you a written statement that explains why we said no. We will also tell you how to appeal.

**Step 3: If we say *no* to your appeal, you decide if you want to continue with the appeals process and make *another* appeal.**

- If we say *no* to your appeal, you then choose whether to accept this decision or continue by making another appeal.

If you decide to make another appeal, it means your appeal is going on to Level 2 of the appeals process (see below).

<b>Section 6.6 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 2 Appeal</b>
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If we say *no* to your appeal, you then choose whether to accept this decision or continue by making another appeal. If you decide to go on to a Level 2 Appeal, the **Independent Review Organization** reviews the decision we made when we said *no* to your first appeal. This organization decides whether the decision we made should be changed.

<b>Legal Terms</b>
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The formal name for the "Independent Review Organization" is the " <b>Independent Review Entity</b> ." It is sometimes called the " <b>IRE</b> ."
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**Step 1: To make a Level 2 Appeal, you (or your representative or your doctor or other prescriber) must contact the Independent Review Organization and ask for a review of your case.**

- If we say *no* to your Level 1 Appeal, the written notice we send you will include instructions about how to make a Level 2 Appeal with the Independent Review Organization. These

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**

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instructions will tell you who can make this Level 2 Appeal, what deadlines you must follow, and how to reach the review organization.

- When you make an appeal to the Independent Review Organization, we will send the information we have about your appeal to this organization. This information is called your "case file." You have the right to ask us for a copy of your case file. We are allowed to charge you a fee for copying and sending this information to you.
- You have a right to give the Independent Review Organization additional information to support your appeal.

### **Step 2: The Independent Review Organization does a review of your appeal and gives you an answer.**

- **The Independent Review Organization is an independent organization that is hired by Medicare.** This organization is not connected with us and it is not a government agency. This organization is a company chosen by Medicare to review our decisions about your Part D benefits with us.
- Reviewers at the Independent Review Organization will take a careful look at all of the information related to your appeal. The organization will tell you its decision in writing and explain the reasons for it.

#### *Deadlines for "fast appeal" at Level 2*

- If your health requires it, ask the Independent Review Organization for a "fast appeal."
- If the review organization agrees to give you a fast appeal, the review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 Appeal **within 72 hours after it receives your appeal request.**
- If the Independent Review Organization says *yes* to part or all of what you requested, we must provide the drug coverage that was approved by the review organization within 24 hours after we receive the decision from the review organization.

#### *Deadlines for "standard appeal" at Level 2*

- If you have a standard appeal at Level 2, the review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 Appeal **within 7 calendar days after it receives your appeal** if it is for a drug you have not received yet. If you are requesting that we pay you back for a drug you have already bought, the review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 appeal within 14 calendar days after it receives your request.
- If the Independent Review Organization says *yes* to part or all of what you requested:
  - ♦ If the Independent Review Organization approves a request for coverage, we must provide the drug coverage that was approved by the review organization within 72 hours after we receive the decision from the review organization.
  - ♦ If the Independent Review Organization approves a request to pay you back for a drug you already bought, we are required to send payment to you within 30 calendar days after we receive the decision from the review organization.

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### **What if the review organization says *no* to your appeal?**

If this organization says *no* to your appeal, it means the organization agrees with our decision not to approve your request. (This is called "upholding the decision." It is also called "turning down your appeal.")

If the Independent Review Organization "upholds the decision," you have the right to a Level 3 Appeal. However, to make another appeal at Level 3, the dollar value of the drug coverage you are requesting must meet a minimum amount. If the dollar value of the drug coverage you are requesting is too low, you cannot make another appeal and the decision at Level 2 is final. The notice you get from the Independent Review Organization will tell you the dollar value that must be in dispute to continue with the appeals process.

### **Step 3: If the dollar value of the coverage you are requesting meets the requirement, you choose whether you want to take your appeal further.**

- There are three additional levels in the appeals process after Level 2 (for a total of five levels of appeal).
- If your Level 2 Appeal is turned down and you meet the requirements to continue with the appeals process, you must decide whether you want to go on to Level 3 and make a third appeal. If you decide to make a third appeal, the details about how to do this are in the written notice you got after your second appeal.
- The Level 3 Appeal is handled by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator. Section 9 in this chapter tells you more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

## **SECTION 7. How to ask us to cover a longer inpatient hospital stay if you think the doctor is discharging you too soon**

When you are admitted to a hospital, you have the right to get all of your covered hospital services that are necessary to diagnose and treat your illness or injury. For more information about our coverage for your hospital care, including any limitations on this coverage, see the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

During your covered hospital stay, your doctor and the hospital staff will be working with you to prepare for the day when you will leave the hospital. They will also help arrange for care you may need after you leave.

- The day you leave the hospital is called your "**discharge date**."
- When your discharge date has been decided, your doctor or the hospital staff will let you know.
- If you think you are being asked to leave the hospital too soon, you can ask for a longer hospital stay and your request will be considered. This section tells you how to ask.



### **Section 7.1 During your inpatient hospital stay, you will get a written notice from Medicare that tells about your rights**

During your covered hospital stay, you will be given a written notice called **An Important Message from Medicare about Your Rights**. Everyone with Medicare gets a copy of this notice whenever they are admitted to a hospital. Someone at the hospital (for example, a caseworker or nurse) must give it to you within two days after you are admitted. If you do not get the notice, ask any hospital employee for it. If you need help, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You can also call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.

- Read this notice carefully and ask questions if you don't understand it. It tells you about your rights as a hospital patient, including:
  - ◆ Your right to receive Medicare-covered services during and after your hospital stay, as ordered by your doctor. This includes the right to know what these services are, who will pay for them, and where you can get them.
  - ◆ Your right to be involved in any decisions about your hospital stay, and know who will pay for it.
  - ◆ Where to report any concerns you have about quality of your hospital care.
  - ◆ Your right to appeal your discharge decision if you think you are being discharged from the hospital too soon.

#### **Legal Terms**

The written notice from Medicare tells you how you can "**request an immediate review**." Requesting an immediate review is a formal, legal way to ask for a delay in your discharge date so that we will cover your hospital care for a longer time. (Section 7.2 below tells you how you can request an immediate review.)

- **You must sign the written notice** to show that you received it and understand your rights.
  - ◆ You or someone who is acting on your behalf must sign the notice. (Section 4 in this chapter tells you how you can give written permission to someone else to act as your representative.)
  - ◆ Signing the notice shows **only** that you have received the information about your rights. The notice does not give your discharge date (your doctor or hospital staff will tell you your discharge date). Signing the notice does not mean you are agreeing on a discharge date.
- **Keep your copy** of the signed notice so you will have the information about making an appeal (or reporting a concern about quality of care) handy if you need it.

- ◆ If you sign the notice more than two days before the day you leave the hospital, you will get another copy before you are scheduled to be discharged.
- ◆ To look at a copy of this notice in advance, you can call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) or **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**. You can also see it online at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/BNI/HospitalDischargeAppealNotices.html>.

## **Section 7.2 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 Appeal to change your hospital discharge date**

If you want to ask for your inpatient hospital services to be covered by us for a longer time, you will need to use the appeals process to make this request. Before you start, understand what you need to do and what the deadlines are.

- **Follow the process.** Each step in the first two levels of the appeals process is explained below.
- **Meet the deadlines.** The deadlines are important. Be sure that you understand and follow the deadlines that apply to things you must do.
- **Ask for help if you need it.** If you have questions or need help at any time, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). Or call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program, a government organization that provides personalized assistance (see Section 2 in this chapter).

**During a Level 1 Appeal, the Quality Improvement Organization reviews your appeal.** It checks to see if your planned discharge date is medically appropriate for you.

**Step 1: Contact the Quality Improvement Organization for your state and ask for a "fast review" of your hospital discharge. You must act quickly.**

*What is the Quality Improvement Organization?*

- This organization is a group of doctors and other health care professionals who are paid by the federal government. These experts are not part of our plan. This organization is paid by Medicare to check on and help improve the quality of care for people with Medicare. This includes reviewing hospital discharge dates for people with Medicare.

*How can you contact this organization?*

- The written notice you received (**An Important Message from Medicare About Your Rights**) tells you how to reach this organization. (Or find the name, address, and phone number of the Quality Improvement Organization for your state in Chapter 2, Section 4, of this booklet.)

*Act quickly:*

- To make your appeal, you must contact the Quality Improvement Organization **before** you leave the hospital and **no later than your planned discharge date**. (Your "planned discharge date" is the date that has been set for you to leave the hospital.)
  - ◆ **If you meet this deadline**, you are allowed to stay in the hospital after your discharge date without paying for it while you wait to get the decision on your appeal from the Quality Improvement Organization.
  - ◆ **If you do not meet this deadline**, and you decide to stay in the hospital after your planned discharge date, you may have to pay all of the costs for hospital care you receive after your planned discharge date.
- If you miss the deadline for contacting the Quality Improvement Organization about your appeal, you can make your appeal directly to our plan instead. For details about this other way to make your appeal, see Section 7.4.

*Ask for a "fast review":*

- You must ask the Quality Improvement Organization for a "fast review" of your discharge. Asking for a "fast review" means you are asking for the organization to use the "fast" deadlines for an appeal instead of using the standard deadlines.

Legal Terms
A "fast review" is also called an <b>"immediate review"</b> or an <b>"expedited review."</b>

**Step 2: The Quality Improvement Organization conducts an independent review of your case.***What happens during this review?*

- Health professionals at the Quality Improvement Organization (we will call them "the reviewers" for short) will ask you (or your representative) why you believe coverage for the services should continue. You don't have to prepare anything in writing, but you may do so if you wish.
- The reviewers will also look at your medical information, talk with your doctor, and review information that the hospital and we have given to them.
- By noon of the day after the reviewers informed our plan of your appeal, you will also get a written notice that gives you your planned discharge date and explains in detail the reasons

why your doctor, the hospital, and we think it is right (medically appropriate) for you to be discharged on that date.

### Legal Terms

This written explanation is called the "**Detailed Notice of Discharge**." You can get a sample of this notice by calling Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) or **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. (TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.) Or you can see a sample notice online at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/BNI/HospitalDischargeAppealNotices.html>.

**Step 3: Within one full day after it has all the needed information, the Quality Improvement Organization will give you its answer to your appeal.**

*What happens if the answer is yes?*

- If the review organization says *yes* to your appeal, **we must keep providing your covered inpatient hospital services for as long as these services are medically necessary.**
- You will have to keep paying your share of the costs (such as deductibles or copayments, if these apply). In addition, there may be limitations on your covered hospital services. (See the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this EOC.)

*What happens if the answer is no?*

- If the review organization says *no* to your appeal, they are saying that your planned discharge date is medically appropriate. If this happens, our coverage for your **inpatient hospital services will end** at noon on the day after the Quality Improvement Organization gives you its answer to your appeal.
- If the review organization says *no* to your appeal and you decide to stay in the hospital, then **you may have to pay the full cost of hospital care** you receive after noon on the day after the Quality Improvement Organization gives you its answer to your appeal.

**Step 4: If the answer to your Level 1 Appeal is *no*, you decide if you want to make another appeal.**

- If the Quality Improvement Organization has turned down your appeal, and you stay in the hospital after your planned discharge date, then you can make another appeal. Making another appeal means you are going on to "Level 2" of the appeals process.

### Section 7.3 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 2 Appeal to change your hospital discharge date

If the Quality Improvement Organization has turned down your appeal, and you stay in the hospital after your planned discharge date, then you can make a Level 2 Appeal. During a Level 2 Appeal, you ask the Quality Improvement Organization to take another look at the decision they made on your first appeal. If the Quality Improvement Organization turns down

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your Level 2 Appeal, you may have to pay the full cost for your stay after your planned discharge date.

Here are the steps for Level 2 of the appeals process:

**Step 1: You contact the Quality Improvement Organization again and ask for another review.**

- **You must ask for this review within 60 calendar days** after the day the Quality Improvement Organization said *no* to your Level 1 Appeal. You can ask for this review only if you stayed in the hospital after the date that your coverage for the care ended.

**Step 2: The Quality Improvement Organization does a second review of your situation.**

- Reviewers at the Quality Improvement Organization will take another careful look at all of the information related to your appeal.

**Step 3: Within 14 calendar days of receipt of your request for a second review, the Quality Improvement Organization reviewers will decide on your appeal and tell you their decision.**

*If the review organization says yes:*

- We must reimburse you for our share of the costs of hospital care you have received since noon on the day after the date your first appeal was turned down by the Quality Improvement Organization. We must continue providing coverage for your inpatient hospital care for as long as it is medically necessary.
- You must continue to pay your share of the costs and coverage limitations may apply.

*If the review organization says no:*

- It means they agree with the decision they made on your Level 1 Appeal and will not change it. This is called "upholding the decision."
- The notice you get will tell you in writing what you can do if you wish to continue with the review process. It will give you the details about how to go on to the next level of appeal, which is handled by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator.

**Step 4: If the answer is no, you will need to decide whether you want to take your appeal further by going on to Level 3.**

- There are three additional levels in the appeals process after Level 2 (for a total of five levels of appeal). If the review organization turns down your Level 2 Appeal, you can choose whether to accept that decision or whether to go on to Level 3 and make another appeal. At Level 3, your appeal is reviewed by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator.
- Section 9 in this chapter tells you more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

## **Section 7.4 What if you miss the deadline for making your Level 1 Appeal?**

### **You can appeal to us instead**

As explained above in Section 7.2, you must act quickly to contact the Quality Improvement Organization to start your first appeal of your hospital discharge. ("Quickly" means before you leave the hospital and no later than your planned discharge date.) If you miss the deadline for contacting this organization, there is another way to make your appeal.

If you use this other way of making your appeal, the first two levels of appeal are different.

### **Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 Alternate Appeal**

If you miss the deadline for contacting the Quality Improvement Organization, you can make an appeal to us, asking for a "fast review." A fast review is an appeal that uses the fast deadlines instead of the standard deadlines.

#### **Legal Terms**

A "fast review" (or "fast appeal") is also called an "**expedited appeal.**"

*Step 1: Contact us and ask for a "fast review."*

- For details about how to contact us, **go to Chapter 2**, Section 1, and look for the section called "How to contact us when you are making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs."
- **Be sure to ask for a "fast review."** This means you are asking us to give you an answer using the "fast" deadlines rather than the "standard" deadlines.

*Step 2: We do a "fast review" of your planned discharge date, checking to see if it was medically appropriate.*

- During this review, we take a look at all of the information about your hospital stay. We check to see if your planned discharge date was medically appropriate. We will check to see if the decision about when you should leave the hospital was fair and followed all the rules.
- In this situation, we will use the "fast" deadlines rather than the standard deadlines for giving you the answer to this review.

*Step 3: We give you our decision within 72 hours after you ask for a "fast review" ("fast appeal").*

- **If we say yes to your fast appeal**, it means we have agreed with you that you still need to be in the hospital after the discharge date, and will keep providing your covered inpatient hospital services for as long as it is medically necessary. It also means that we have agreed to reimburse you for our share of the costs of care you have received since the date when we said your coverage would end. (You must pay your share of the costs and there may be coverage limitations that apply.)

- **If we say *no* to your fast appeal**, we are saying that your planned discharge date was medically appropriate. Our coverage for your inpatient hospital services ends as of the day we said coverage would end.
- **If you stayed in the hospital after your planned discharge date, then you may have to pay the full cost of hospital care you received after the planned discharge date.**

*Step 4: If we say no to your fast appeal, your case will automatically be sent on to the next level of the appeals process.*

- To make sure we were following all the rules when we said ***no*** to your fast appeal, we are required to send your appeal to the Independent Review Organization. When we do this, it means that you are **automatically** going on to Level 2 of the appeals process.

### **Step-by-step: Level 2 Alternate Appeal Process**

If we say ***no*** to your Level 1 Appeal, your case will automatically be sent on to the next level of the appeals process. During the Level 2 Appeal, an **Independent Review Organization** reviews the decision we made when we said ***no*** to your "fast appeal." This organization decides whether the decision we made should be changed.

<b>Legal Terms</b>
The formal name for the "Independent Review Organization" is the <b>"Independent Review Entity."</b> It is sometimes called the <b>"IRE."</b>

*Step 1: We will automatically forward your case to the Independent Review Organization.*

- We are required to send the information for your Level 2 Appeal to the Independent Review Organization within 24 hours of when we tell you that we are saying ***no*** to your first appeal. (If you think we are not meeting this deadline or other deadlines, you can make a complaint. The complaint process is different from the appeals process. Section 10 in this chapter tells you how to make a complaint.)

*Step 2: The Independent Review Organization does a "fast review" of your appeal. The reviewers give you an answer within 72 hours.*

- The Independent Review Organization is an independent organization that is hired by Medicare. This organization is not connected with our plan and it is not a government agency. This organization is a company chosen by Medicare to handle the job of being the Independent Review Organization. Medicare oversees its work.
- Reviewers at the Independent Review Organization will take a careful look at all of the information related to your appeal of your hospital discharge.
- If this **organization says yes** to your appeal, then we must reimburse you (pay you back) for our share of the costs of hospital care you have received since the date of your planned discharge. We must also continue our plan's coverage of your inpatient hospital services for as long as it is medically necessary. You must continue to pay your share of the costs. If there are

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coverage limitations, these could limit how much we would reimburse or how long we would continue to cover your services.

- **If this organization says *no* to your appeal**, it means they agree with us that your planned hospital discharge date was medically appropriate.
  - ◆ The notice you get from the Independent Review Organization will tell you in writing what you can do if you wish to continue with the review process. It will give you the details about how to go on to a Level 3 Appeal, which is handled by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator.

*Step 3: If the Independent Review Organization turns down your appeal, you choose whether you want to take your appeal further.*

- There are three additional levels in the appeals process after Level 2 (for a total of five levels of appeal). If reviewers say ***no*** to your Level 2 Appeal, you decide whether to accept their decision or go on to Level 3 and make a third appeal.
- Section 9 in this chapter tells you more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

## **SECTION 8. How to ask us to keep covering certain medical services if you think your coverage is ending too soon**

### **Section 8.1 This section is about three services only: Home health care, skilled nursing facility care, and Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services**

This section is **only** about the following types of care:

- **Home health care services** you are getting.
- **Skilled nursing care** you are getting as a patient in a skilled nursing facility. (To learn about requirements for being considered a "skilled nursing facility," see Chapter 12, "Definitions of important words.")
- **Rehabilitation care** you are getting as an outpatient at a Medicare-approved Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF). Usually this means you are getting treatment for an illness or accident, or you are recovering from a major operation. (For more information about this type of facility, see Chapter 12, "Definitions of important words.")

When you are getting any of these types of care, you have the right to keep getting your covered services for that type of care for as long as the care is needed to diagnose and treat your illness or injury. For more information about your covered services, including your share of the cost and any limitations to coverage that may apply, see the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this EOC.



When we decide it is time to stop covering any of the three types of care for you, we are required to tell you in advance. When your coverage for that care ends, **we will stop paying our share of the cost for your care.**

If you think we are ending the coverage of your care too soon, you can appeal our decision. This section tells you how to ask for an appeal.

### **Section 8.2 We will tell you in advance when your coverage will be ending**

- **You receive a notice in writing.** At least two days before our plan is going to stop covering your care, you will receive a notice.
  - ◆ The written notice tells you the date when we will stop covering the care for you.
  - ◆ The written notice also tells you what you can do if you want to ask us to change this decision about when to end your care, and keep covering it for a longer period of time.

#### **Legal Terms**

In telling you what you can do, the written notice is telling how you can request a "**fast-track appeal.**" Requesting a fast-track appeal is a formal, legal way to request a change to our coverage decision about when to stop your care. (Section 8.3 below tells you how you can request a fast-track appeal.)

The written notice is called the "**Notice of Medicare Non-Coverage.**" To get a sample copy, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) or **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. (TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.) Or see a copy online at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/BNI/MAEDNotices.html>.

- You must sign the written notice to show that you received it.
  - ◆ You or someone who is acting on your behalf must sign the notice. (Section 4 tells you how you can give written permission to someone else to act as your representative.)
  - ◆ Signing the notice shows **only** that you have received the information about when your coverage will stop. **Signing it does not mean you agree** with us that it's time to stop getting the care.

### **Section 8.3 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 Appeal to have our plan cover your care for a longer time**

If you want to ask us to cover your care for a longer period of time, you will need to use the appeals process to make this request. Before you start, understand what you need to do and what the deadlines are.

- **Follow the process.** Each step in the first two levels of the appeals process is explained below.

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- **Meet the deadlines.** The deadlines are important. Be sure that you understand and follow the deadlines that apply to things you must do. There are also deadlines our plan must follow. (If you think we are not meeting our deadlines, you can file a complaint. Section 10 in this chapter tells you how to file a complaint.)
  - **Ask for help if you need it.** If you have questions or need help at any time, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). Or call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program, a government organization that provides personalized assistance (see Section 2 in this chapter).

**If you ask for a Level 1 Appeal on time, the Quality Improvement Organization reviews your appeal and decides whether to change the decision made by our plan.**

**Step 1: Make your Level 1 Appeal: Contact the Quality Improvement Organization for your state and ask for a review. You must act quickly.**

*What is the Quality Improvement Organization?*

- This organization is a group of doctors and other health care experts who are paid by the federal government. These experts are not part of our plan. They check on the quality of care received by people with Medicare and review plan decisions about when it's time to stop covering certain kinds of medical care.

*How can you contact this organization?*

- The written notice you received tells you how to reach this organization. (Or find the name, address, and phone number of the Quality Improvement Organization for your state in Chapter 2, Section 4, of this booklet.)

*What should you ask for?*

- Ask this organization for a "fast-track appeal" (to do an independent review) of whether it is medically appropriate for us to end coverage for your medical services.

*Your deadline for contacting this organization.*

- You must contact the Quality Improvement Organization to start your appeal no later than noon of the day after you receive the written notice telling you when we will stop covering your care.
- If you miss the deadline for contacting the Quality Improvement Organization about your appeal, you can make your appeal directly to us instead. For details about this other way to make your appeal, see Section 8.5 in this chapter.

**Step 2: The Quality Improvement Organization conducts an independent review of your case.**

*What happens during this review?*

- Health professionals at the Quality Improvement Organization (we will call them "the reviewers" for short) will ask you (or your representative) why you believe coverage

for the services should continue. You don't have to prepare anything in writing, but you may do so if you wish.

- The review organization will also look at your medical information, talk with your doctor, and review information that our plan has given to them.
- By the end of the day the reviewers inform us of your appeal, you will also get a written notice from us that explains in detail our reasons for ending our coverage for your services.

### Legal Terms

This notice of explanation is called the "**Detailed Explanation of Non-Coverage.**"

**Step 3: Within one full day after they have all the information they need, the reviewers will tell you their decision.**

*What happens if the reviewers say **yes** to your appeal?*

- If the reviewers say **yes** to your appeal, then **we must keep providing your covered services for as long as it is medically necessary.**
- You will have to keep paying your share of the costs (such as deductibles or copayments, if these apply). In addition, there may be limitations on your covered services (see the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**).

*What happens if the reviewers say **no** to your appeal?*

- If the reviewers say **no** to your appeal, then **your coverage will end** on the date we have told you. We will stop paying our share of the costs of this care on the date listed on the notice.
- If you decide to keep getting the home health care, or skilled nursing facility care, or Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services after this date when your coverage ends, **then you will have to pay the full cost of this care yourself.**

**Step 4: If the answer to your Level 1 Appeal is *no*, you decide if you want to make another appeal.**

- This first appeal you make is "Level 1" of the appeals process. If reviewers say **no** to your Level 1 Appeal, and you choose to continue getting care after your coverage for the care has ended, then you can make another appeal.
- Making another appeal means you are going on to "Level 2" of the appeals process.

### **Section 8.4 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 2 Appeal to have our plan cover your care for a longer time**

If the Quality Improvement Organization has turned down your appeal and you choose to continue getting care after your coverage for the care has ended, then you can make a Level 2 Appeal. During a Level 2 Appeal, you ask the Quality Improvement Organization to take another

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look at the decision they made on your first appeal. If the Quality Improvement Organization turns down your Level 2 Appeal, you may have to pay the full cost for your home health care, or skilled nursing facility care, or Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services after the date when we said your coverage would end.

Here are the steps for Level 2 of the appeals process:

**Step 1: You contact the Quality Improvement Organization again and ask for another review.**

- **You must ask for this review within 60 days** after the day when the Quality Improvement Organization said *no* to your Level 1 Appeal. You can ask for this review only if you continued getting care after the date that your coverage for the care ended.

**Step 2: The Quality Improvement Organization does a second review of your situation.**

- Reviewers at the Quality Improvement Organization will take another careful look at all of the information related to your appeal.

**Step 3: Within 14 days of receipt of your appeal request reviewers will decide on your appeal and tell you their decision.**

*What happens if the review organization says **yes** to your appeal?*

- **We must reimburse you** for our share of the costs of care you have received since the date when we said your coverage would end. **We must continue providing coverage** for the care for as long as it is medically necessary.
- You must continue to pay your share of the costs and there may be coverage limitations that apply.

*What happens if the review organization says **no**?*

- It means they agree with the decision we made to your Level 1 Appeal and will not change it.
- The notice you get will tell you in writing what you can do if you wish to continue with the review process. It will give you the details about how to go on to the next level of appeal, which is handled by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator.

**Step 4: If the answer is *no*, you will need to decide whether you want to take your appeal further.**

- There are three additional levels of appeal after Level 2, for a total of five levels of appeal. If reviewers turn down your Level 2 Appeal, you can choose whether to accept that decision or to go on to Level 3 and make another appeal. At Level 3, your appeal is reviewed by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator.
- Section 9 in this chapter tells you more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

## **Section 8.5 What if you miss the deadline for making your Level 1 Appeal?**

### **You can appeal to us instead**

As explained above in Section 8.3, you must act quickly to contact the Quality Improvement Organization to start your first appeal (within a day or two, at the most). If you miss the deadline for contacting this organization, there is another way to make your appeal. If you use this other way of making your appeal, the first two levels of appeal are different.

### **Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 Alternate Appeal**

If you miss the deadline for contacting the Quality Improvement Organization, you can make an appeal to us, asking for a "fast review." A fast review is an appeal that uses the fast deadlines instead of the standard deadlines.

Here are the steps for a Level 1 Alternate Appeal:

#### **Legal Terms**

A "fast review" (or "fast appeal") is also called an "**expedited appeal**."

#### *Step 1: Contact us and ask for a "fast review."*

- For details about how to contact us, go to Chapter 2, Section 1, and look for the section called "How to contact us when you are making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs."
- **Be sure to ask for a "fast review."** This means you are asking us to give you an answer using the "fast" deadlines rather than the "standard" deadlines.

#### *Step 2: We do a "fast review" of the decision we made about when to end coverage for your services.*

- During this review, we take another look at all of the information about your case. We check to see if we were following all the rules when we set the date for ending our plan's coverage for services you were receiving.
- We will use the "fast" deadlines rather than the standard deadlines for giving you the answer to this review.

#### *Step 3: We give you our decision within 72 hours after you ask for a "fast review" ("fast appeal").*

- **If we say yes to your fast appeal,** it means we have agreed with you that you need services longer, and will keep providing your covered services for as long as it is medically necessary. It also means that we have agreed to reimburse you for our share of the costs of care you have received since the date when we said your coverage would end. (You must pay your share of the costs and there may be coverage limitations that apply.)

- If we say **no** to your fast appeal, then your coverage will end on the date we told you and we will not pay any share of the costs after this date.
- If you continued to get home health care, or skilled nursing facility care, or Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services after the date when we said your coverage would end, **then you will have to pay the full cost of this care yourself.**

*Step 4: If we say **no** to your fast appeal, your case will automatically go on to the next level of the appeals process.*

- To make sure we were following all the rules when we said **no** to your fast appeal, **we are required to send your appeal to the Independent Review Organization.** When we do this, it means that you are automatically going on to Level 2 of the appeals process.

### **Step-by-step: Level 2 Alternate Appeal Process**

If we say **no** to your Level 1 Appeal, your case will automatically be sent on to the next level of the appeals process. During the Level 2 Appeal, the **Independent Review Organization** reviews the decision we made when we said **no** to your "fast appeal." This organization decides whether the decision we made should be changed.

<b>Legal Terms</b>
The formal name for the "Independent Review Organization" is the " <b>Independent Review Entity.</b> " It is sometimes called the " <b>IRE.</b> "

*Step 1: We will automatically forward your case to the Independent Review Organization.*

- We are required to send the information for your Level 2 Appeal to the Independent Review Organization within 24 hours of when we tell you that we are saying **no** to your first appeal. (If you think we are not meeting this deadline or other deadlines, you can make a complaint. The complaint process is different from the appeals process. Section 10 in this chapter tells you how to make a complaint.)

*Step 2: The Independent Review Organization does a "fast review" of your appeal. The reviewers give you an answer within 72 hours.*

- The **Independent Review Organization** is an independent organization that is hired by Medicare. This organization is not connected with our plan and it is not a government agency. This organization is a company chosen by Medicare to handle the job of being the Independent Review Organization. Medicare oversees its work.
- Reviewers at the Independent Review Organization will take a careful look at all of the information related to your appeal.
- **If this organization says yes** to your appeal, then we must reimburse you (pay you back) for our share of the costs of care you have received since the date when we said your coverage would end. We must also continue to cover the care for as long as it is medically necessary.

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You must continue to pay your share of the costs. If there are coverage limitations, these could limit how much we would reimburse or how long we would continue to cover your services.

- **If this organization says *no* to your appeal**, it means they agree with the decision our plan made to your first appeal and will not change it.
  - ◆ The notice you get from the Independent Review Organization will tell you in writing what you can do if you wish to continue with the review process. It will give you the details about how to go on to a Level 3 Appeal.

*Step 3: If the Independent Review Organization turns down your appeal, you choose whether you want to take your appeal further.*

- There are three additional levels of appeal after Level 2, for a total of five levels of appeal. If reviewers say ***no*** to your Level 2 Appeal, you can choose whether to accept that decision or whether to go on to Level 3 and make another appeal. At Level 3, your appeal is reviewed by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator.
- Section 9 in this chapter tells you more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

## **SECTION 9. Taking your appeal to Level 3 and beyond**

### **Section 9.1 Levels of Appeal 3, 4, and 5 for Medical Service Appeals**

This section may be appropriate for you if you have made a Level 1 Appeal and a Level 2 Appeal, and both of your appeals have been turned down.

If the dollar value of the item or medical service you have appealed meets certain minimum levels, you may be able to go on to additional levels of appeal. If the dollar value is less than the minimum level, you cannot appeal any further. If the dollar value is high enough, the written response you receive to your Level 2 Appeal will explain whom to contact and what to do to ask for a Level 3 Appeal.

For most situations that involve appeals, the last three levels of appeal work in much the same way. Here is who handles the review of your appeal at each of these levels.

**Level 3 Appeal: A judge (called an administrative law judge) or attorney adjudicator who works for the federal government will review your appeal and give you an answer.**

- **If the administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator says *yes* to your appeal, the appeals process may or may not be over.** We will decide whether to appeal this decision to Level 4. Unlike a decision at Level 2 (Independent Review Organization), we have the right to appeal a Level 3 decision that is favorable to you.

- 
- ◆ If we decide **not** to appeal the decision, we must authorize or provide you with the service **within 60 calendar days** after receiving the administrative law judge's or attorney adjudicator's decision.
  - ◆ If we decide to appeal the decision, we will send you a copy of the Level 4 Appeal request with any accompanying documents. We may wait for the Level 4 Appeal decision before authorizing or providing the service in dispute.
  - **If the administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator says *no* to your appeal, the appeals process may or may not be over.**
    - ◆ If you decide to accept this decision that turns down your appeal, the appeals process is over.
    - ◆ If you do not want to accept the decision, you can continue to the next level of the review process. If the administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator says ***no*** to your appeal, the notice you get will tell you what to do next if you choose to continue with your appeal.

**Level 4 Appeal:** The Medicare **Appeals Council** (Council) will review your appeal and give you an answer. The Council is part of the federal government.

- **If the answer is *yes*, or if the Council denies our request to review a favorable Level 3 Appeal decision, the appeals process may or may not be over.** We will decide whether to appeal this decision to Level 5. Unlike a decision at Level 2 (Independent Review Organization), we have the right to appeal a Level 4 decision that is favorable to you.
  - ◆ If we decide **not** to appeal the decision, we must authorize or provide you with the service **within 60 calendar days** after receiving the Council's decision.
  - ◆ If we decide to appeal the decision, we will let you know in writing.
- **If the answer is *no* or if the Council denies the review request, the appeals process may or may not be over.**
  - ◆ If you decide to accept this decision that turns down your appeal, the appeals process is over.
  - ◆ If you do not want to accept the decision, you might be able to continue to the next level of the review process. If the Council says ***no*** to your appeal, the notice you get will tell you whether the rules allow you to go on to a Level 5 Appeal. If the rules allow you to go on, the written notice will also tell you whom to contact and what to do next if you choose to continue with your appeal.

**Level 5 Appeal:** A judge at the **Federal District Court** will review your appeal.

- This is the last step of the appeals process.



**Section 9.2 Levels of Appeal 3, 4, and 5 for Part D Drug Appeals**

This section may be appropriate for you if you have made a Level 1 Appeal and a Level 2 Appeal, and both of your appeals have been turned down.

If the value of the drug you have appealed meets a certain dollar amount, you may be able to go on to additional levels of appeal. If the dollar amount is less, you cannot appeal any further. The written response you receive to your Level 2 Appeal will explain whom to contact and what to do to ask for a Level 3 Appeal.

For most situations that involve appeals, the last three levels of appeal work in much the same way. Here is who handles the review of your appeal at each of these levels.

**Level 3 Appeal:** A judge (called an administrative law judge or an attorney adjudicator who works for the federal government) will review your appeal and give you an answer.

- **If the answer is *yes*, the appeals process is over.** What you asked for in the appeal has been approved. We must authorize or provide the drug coverage that was approved by the administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator **within 72 hours (24 hours for expedited appeals)** or make payment no later than **30 calendar days** after we receive the decision.
- **If the answer is *no*, the appeals process may or may not be over.**
  - ◆ If you decide to accept this decision that turns down your appeal, the appeals process is over.
  - ◆ If you do not want to accept the decision, you can continue to the next level of the review process. If the administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator says ***no*** to your appeal, the notice you get will tell you what to do next if you choose to continue with your appeal.

**Level 4 Appeal:** The Medicare Appeals Council (Council) will review your appeal and give you an answer. The Council is part of the federal government.

- **If the answer is *yes*, the appeals process is over.** What you asked for in the appeal has been approved. We must authorize or provide the drug coverage that was approved by the Council **within 72 hours (24 hours for expedited appeals)** or make payment no later than 30 calendar days after we receive the decision.
- **If the answer is *no*, the appeals process may or may not be over.**
  - ◆ If you decide to accept this decision that turns down your appeal, the appeals process is over.
  - ◆ If you do not want to accept the decision, you might be able to continue to the next level of the review process. If the Council says ***no*** to your appeal or denies your request to review the appeal, the notice you get will tell you whether the rules allow you to go on to a Level 5 Appeal. If the rules allow you to go on, the written notice will also tell you whom to contact and what to do next if you choose to continue with your appeal.

**Level 5 Appeal:** A judge at the **Federal District Court** will review your appeal.

- This is the last step of the appeals process.

## Making complaints

### SECTION 10. How to make a complaint about quality of care, waiting times, customer service, or other concerns



If your problem is about decisions related to benefits, coverage, or payment, then this section is not for you. Instead, you need to use the process for coverage decisions and appeals. Go to Section 4 in this chapter.

#### Section 10.1 What kinds of problems are handled by the complaint process?

This section explains how to use the process for making complaints. The complaint process is **only** used for certain types of problems. This includes problems related to quality of care, waiting times, and the customer service you receive. Here are examples of the kinds of problems handled by the complaint process.

#### If you have any of these kinds of problems, you can "make a complaint":

- **Quality of your medical care**
  - ◆ Are you unhappy with the quality of care you have received (including care in the hospital)?
- **Respecting your privacy**
  - ◆ Do you believe that someone did not respect your right to privacy or shared information about you that you feel should be confidential?
- **Disrespect, poor customer service, or other negative behaviors**
  - ◆ Has someone been rude or disrespectful to you?
  - ◆ Are you unhappy with how our Member Services has treated you?
  - ◆ Do you feel you are being encouraged to leave our plan?
- **Waiting times**
  - ◆ Are you having trouble getting an appointment, or waiting too long to get it?
  - ◆ Have you been kept waiting too long by doctors, pharmacists, or other health professionals? Or by Member Services or other staff at our plan?
  - ◆ Examples include waiting too long on the phone, in the waiting room, when getting a prescription, or in the exam room.
- **Cleanliness**

- ◆ Are you unhappy with the cleanliness or condition of a clinic, hospital, or doctor's office?
- **Information you get from our plan**
  - ◆ Do you believe we have not given you a notice that we are required to give?
  - ◆ Do you think written information we have given you is hard to understand?

### **Timeliness (these types of complaints are all related to the timeliness of our actions related to coverage decisions and appeals)**

The process of asking for a coverage decision and making appeals is explained in Sections 4–9 of this chapter. If you are asking for a decision or making an appeal, you use that process, not the complaint process.

However, if you have already asked for a coverage decision or made an appeal, and you think that we are not responding quickly enough, you can also make a complaint about our slowness. Here are examples:

- If you have asked us to give you a "fast coverage decision" or a "fast appeal," and we have said we will not, you can make a complaint.
- If you believe our plan is not meeting the deadlines for giving you a coverage decision or an answer to an appeal you have made, you can make a complaint.
- When a coverage decision we made is reviewed and our plan is told that we must cover or reimburse you for certain medical services or drugs, there are deadlines that apply. If you think we are not meeting these deadlines, you can make a complaint.
- When we do not give you a decision on time, we are required to forward your case to the Independent Review Organization. If we do not do that within the required deadline, you can make a complaint.

### **Section 10.2 The formal name for "making a complaint" is "filing a grievance"**

#### **Legal Terms**

- What this section calls a "complaint" is also called a "grievance."
- Another term for "making a complaint" is "filing a grievance."
- Another way to say "using the process for complaints" is "using the process for filing a grievance."

### **Section 10.3 Step-by-step: Making a complaint**

**Step 1: Contact us promptly—either by phone or in writing.**

- **Usually calling Member Services is the first step.** If there is anything else you need to do, Member Services will let you know. Call toll-free **1-800-476-2167 (TTY 711)**, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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- **If you do not wish to call (or you called and were not satisfied), you can put your complaint in writing and send it to us.** If you put your complaint in writing, we will respond to you in writing. We will also respond in writing when you make a complaint by phone if you request a written response or your complaint is related to quality of care.
  - **If you have a complaint, we will try to resolve your complaint over the phone.** If we cannot resolve your complaint over the phone, we have a formal procedure to review your complaints. Your grievance must explain your concern, such as why you are dissatisfied with the services you received. Please see Chapter 2 for whom you should contact if you have a complaint.
    - ◆ You must submit your grievance to us (orally or in writing) within 60 calendar days of the event or incident. We must address your grievance as quickly as your health requires, but no later than 30 calendar days after receiving your complaint. We may extend the time frame to make our decision by up to 14 calendar days if you ask for an extension, or if we justify a need for additional information and the delay is in your best interest.
    - ◆ You can file a fast grievance about our decision not to expedite a coverage decision or appeal, or if we extend the time we need to make a decision about a coverage decision or appeal. We must respond to your fast grievance within 24 hours.
  - **Whether you call or write, you should contact Member Services right away.** The complaint must be made within 60 calendar days after you had the problem you want to complain about.
  - **If you are making a complaint because we denied your request for a "fast coverage decision" or a "fast appeal," we will automatically give you a "fast complaint."** If you have a "fast complaint," it means we will give you an answer **within 24 hours.**

<b>Legal Terms</b>
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What this section calls a " <b>fast complaint</b> " is also called an " <b>expedited grievance.</b> "
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**Step 2: We look into your complaint and give you our answer.**

- **If possible, we will answer you right away.** If you call us with a complaint, we may be able to give you an answer on the same phone call. If your health condition requires us to answer quickly, we will do that.
- **Most complaints are answered in 30 calendar days.** If we need more information and the delay is in your best interest or if you ask for more time, we can take up to 14 more calendar days (44 calendar days total) to answer your complaint. If we decide to take extra days, we will tell you in writing.
- **If we do not agree** with some or all of your complaint or don't take responsibility for the problem you are complaining about, we will let you know. Our response will include our reasons for this answer. We must respond whether we agree with the complaint or not.

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### **Section 10.4 You can also make complaints about quality of care to the Quality Improvement Organization**

You can make your complaint about the quality of care you received to us by using the step-by-step process outlined above.

When your complaint is about quality of care, you also have two extra options:

- **You can make your complaint to the Quality Improvement Organization.** If you prefer, you can make your complaint about the quality of care you received directly to this organization (without making the complaint to us).
  - ◆ The Quality Improvement Organization is a group of practicing doctors and other health care experts paid by the federal government to check and improve the care given to Medicare patients.
  - ◆ To find the name, address, and phone number of the Quality Improvement Organization for your state, look in Chapter 2, Section 4, of this booklet. If you make a complaint to this organization, we will work with them to resolve your complaint.
- **Or you can make your complaint to both at the same time.** If you wish, you can make your complaint about quality of care to us and also to the Quality Improvement Organization.

### **Section 10.5 You can also tell Medicare about your complaint**

You can submit a complaint about our plan directly to Medicare. To submit a complaint to Medicare, go to <https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx>. Medicare takes your complaints seriously and will use this information to help improve the quality of the Medicare program.

If you have any other feedback or concerns, or if you feel the plan is not addressing your issue, please call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**. TTY/TDD users can call **1-877-486-2048**.

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## **CHAPTER 10. Ending your membership in our plan**

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## **SECTION 1. Introduction**

### **Section 1.1 This chapter focuses on ending your membership in our plan**

Ending your membership in our plan may be **voluntary** (your own choice) or **involuntary** (not your own choice):

- **You might leave our plan because you have decided that you want to leave.**
  - ◆ There are only certain times during the year, or certain situations, when you may voluntarily end your membership in our plan. Section 2 tells you when you can end your membership in our plan.
  - ◆ The process for voluntarily ending your membership varies depending upon what type of new coverage you are choosing. Section 3 tells you how to end your membership in each situation.
- There are also limited situations where you do not choose to leave, but we are required to end your membership. Section 5 tells you about situations when we must end your membership.

If you are leaving our plan, you must continue to get your medical care through our plan until your membership ends.

## **SECTION 2. When can you end your membership in our plan?**

You may end your membership in our plan only during certain times of the year, known as enrollment periods. All members have the opportunity to leave our plan during your group's open enrollment period. In certain situations, you may also be eligible to leave our plan at other times of the year. Before you request disenrollment, please check with your group to determine if you are able to continue your group membership.

If you request disenrollment during your group's open enrollment, your disenrollment effective date is determined by the date your written request is received by us and the date your group coverage ends. The effective date will not be earlier than the first day of the following month after we receive your written request, and no later than three months after we receive your request.

If you request disenrollment at a time other than your group's open enrollment, your disenrollment effective date will be the first day of the month following our receipt of your disenrollment request.

## **Section 2.1 Where can you get more information about when you can end your group membership?**

If you have any questions or would like more information about when you can end your group membership:

- Contact your group's benefits administrator.
- You can **call Member Services** (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
- You can find the information in the **Medicare & You 2020** handbook.
  - ◆ Everyone with Medicare receives a copy of **Medicare & You** each fall. Those new to Medicare receive it within a month after first signing up.
  - ◆ You can also download a copy from the Medicare website (<https://www.medicare.gov>). Or you can order a printed copy by calling Medicare at the number below.

You can contact **Medicare** at **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.

## **SECTION 3. How do you end your membership in our plan?**

### **Section 3.1 There are several ways to end your Senior Advantage membership**

You may request disenrollment by:

- Requesting disenrollment with your group's benefits administrator. You should always consult them before taking any action because it can affect your eligibility for group benefits.
- Calling toll-free **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**, or
- Sending written notice to the following address:  
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc.  
California Service Center  
P.O. Box 232407  
San Diego, CA 92193-2400



## **SECTION 4. Until your membership ends, you must keep getting your medical services and drugs through our plan**

### **Section 4.1 Until your membership ends, you are still a member of our plan**

If you leave our plan, it may take time before your membership ends and your new Medicare coverage goes into effect. (See Section 2 for information about when your new coverage begins.) During this time, you must continue to get your medical care and prescription drugs through our plan.

- **You should continue to use our network pharmacies to get your prescriptions filled until your membership in our plan ends.** Usually, your prescription drugs are only covered if they are filled at a network pharmacy, including through our mail-order pharmacy services.
- If you are hospitalized on the day that your membership ends, your hospital stay will usually be covered by our plan until you are discharged (even if you are discharged after your new health coverage begins).

## **SECTION 5. We must end your membership in our plan in certain situations**

### **Section 5.1 When must we end your membership in our plan?**

**We must end your membership in our plan if any of the following happen:**

- If you no longer have Medicare Part A and/or Part B.
- If you move out of our service area.
- If you are away from our service area for more than six months.
  - ♦ If you move or take a long trip, you need to call Member Services to find out if the place you are moving or traveling to is in our plan's area. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.
- If you become incarcerated (go to prison).
- If you are not a United States citizen or lawfully present in the United States.
- If you lie about or withhold information about other insurance you have that provides prescription drug coverage.
- If you intentionally give us incorrect information when you are enrolling in our plan and that information affects your eligibility for our plan. We cannot make you leave our plan for this reason unless we get permission from Medicare first.
- If you continuously behave in a way that is disruptive and makes it difficult for us to provide medical care for you and other members of our plan. We cannot make you leave our plan for this reason unless we get permission from Medicare first.

- If you let someone else use your membership card to get medical care. We cannot make you leave our plan for this reason unless we get permission from Medicare first.
  - ◆ If we end your membership because of this reason, Medicare may have your case investigated by the Inspector General.
- If you are required to pay the extra Part D amount because of your income and you do not pay it, Medicare will disenroll you from our plan and you will lose prescription drug coverage.

### **Where can you get more information?**

If you have questions or would like more information about when we can end your membership:

- You can call Member Services for more information (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **Section 5.2 We cannot ask you to leave our plan for any reason related to your health**

We are not allowed to ask you to leave our plan for any reason related to your health.

### **What should you do if this happens?**

If you feel that you are being asked to leave our plan because of a health-related reason, you should call Medicare at **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**. You may call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

### **Section 5.3 You have the right to make a complaint if we end your membership in our plan**

If we end your membership in our plan, we must tell you our reasons in writing for ending your membership. We must also explain how you can file a grievance or make a complaint about our decision to end your membership. You can look in Chapter 9, Section 10, for information about how to make a complaint.

### **Section 5.4 What happens if you are no longer eligible for group coverage?**

After your group notifies us to terminate your group 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 Health Plan member.

- If you are no longer eligible for group membership, you can request enrollment in our Senior Advantage Individual Plan if you still meet the eligibility requirements for Senior Advantage. The premiums and coverage under our individual plan will differ from those under this **Evidence of Coverage** and will include Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage.
- You may not be eligible to enroll in our Senior Advantage individual plan if your membership ends for the reasons stated under Section 5.1. For more information or

information about other individual plans, call Member Services. Phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

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## **SECTION 1. Notice about governing law**

Many laws apply to this **Evidence of Coverage** and some additional provisions may apply because they are required by law. This may affect your rights and responsibilities even if the laws are not included or explained in this document. The principal law that applies to this document is Title XVIII of the Social Security Act and the regulations created under the Social Security Act by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, or CMS. In addition, other federal laws may apply and, under certain circumstances, the laws of the state you live in.

## **SECTION 2. Notice about nondiscrimination**

Our plan must obey laws that protect you from discrimination or unfair treatment. We don't discriminate based on race, ethnicity, national origin, color, religion, sex, gender, age, mental or physical disability, health status, claims experience, medical history, genetic information, evidence of insurability, or geographic location within the service area. All organizations that provide Medicare Advantage plans, like our plan, must obey federal laws against discrimination, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, all other laws that apply to organizations that get federal funding, and any other laws and rules that apply for any other reason.

If you want more information or have concerns about discrimination or unfair treatment, please call the Department of Health and Human Services' **Office for Civil Rights** at **1-800-368-1019** (TTY **1-800-537-7697**) or your local Office for Civil Rights.

If you have a disability and need help with access to care, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). If you have a complaint, such as a problem with wheelchair access, Member Services can help.

## **SECTION 3. Notice about Medicare Secondary Payer subrogation rights**

We have the right and responsibility to collect for covered Medicare services for which Medicare is not the primary payer. According to CMS regulations at 42 CFR sections 422.108 and 423.462, Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage, as a Medicare Advantage Organization, will exercise the same rights of recovery that the Secretary exercises under CMS regulations in subparts B through D of part 411 of 42 CFR and the rules established in this section supersede any state laws.

#### **SECTION 4 Administration of this Evidence of Coverage**

We may adopt reasonable policies, procedures, and interpretations to promote orderly and efficient administration of this **Evidence of Coverage**.

#### **SECTION 5. Amendment of this Agreement**

Your group's Agreement with us will change periodically. If these changes affect this **Evidence of Coverage**, your group is required to inform you in accord with applicable law and your group's Agreement.

#### **SECTION 6. 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 **Evidence of Coverage**.

#### **SECTION 7. Assignment**

You may not assign this **Evidence of Coverage** or any of the rights, interests, claims for money due, benefits, or obligations hereunder without our prior written consent.

#### **SECTION 8. Attorney and advocate fees and expenses**

In any dispute between a member and Health Plan, the Medical Group, or Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, each party will bear its own fees and expenses, including attorneys' fees, advocates' fees, and other expenses except as otherwise required by law.

#### **SECTION 9. Coordination of benefits**

As described in Chapter 1 (Section 10) "How other insurance works with our plan," if you have other insurance, you are required to use your other coverage in combination with your coverage as a Senior Advantage member to pay for the care you receive. This is called "coordination of benefits" because it involves coordinating all of the health benefits that are available to you. You will get your covered care as usual from network providers, and the other coverage you have will simply help pay for the care you receive.

If your other coverage is the primary payer, it will often settle its share of payment directly with us, and you will not have to be involved. However, if payment owed to us by a primary payer is sent directly to you, you are required by Medicare law to give this primary payment to us. For

more information about primary payments in third party liability situations, see Section 18, and for primary payments in workers' compensation cases, see Section 20.

You must tell us if you have other health care coverage, and let us know whenever there are any changes in your additional coverage.

### **SECTION 10. Employer responsibility**

For any services that the law requires an employer to provide, we will not pay the employer, and when we cover any such services, we may recover the value of the services from the employer.

### **SECTION 11. Evidence of Coverage binding on members**

By electing coverage or accepting benefits under this **Evidence of Coverage**, all members legally capable of contracting, and the legal representatives of all members incapable of contracting, agree to all provisions of this **Evidence of Coverage**.

### **SECTION 12. 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 such services we may recover the value of the services from the government agency.

### **SECTION 13. Member nonliability**

Our contracts with network providers provide that you are not liable for any amounts we owe. However, you are liable for the cost of noncovered services you obtain from network providers or out-of-network providers.

### **SECTION 14. No waiver**

Our failure to enforce any provision of this **Evidence of Coverage** will not constitute a waiver of that or any other provision, or impair our right thereafter to require your strict performance of any provision.

### **SECTION 15. Notices**

Our notices to you will be sent to the most recent address we have. You are responsible for notifying us of any change in your address. If you move, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back of this booklet) and Social Security at **1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778)** as soon as possible to report your address change.

**Note:** When we tell your group about changes to this **Evidence of Coverage** or provide your group other information that affects you, your group is required to notify the subscriber within 30 calendar days (or five days if we terminate your group's Agreement) after receiving the information from us.

### **SECTION 16. Overpayment recovery**

We may recover any overpayment we make for services from anyone who receives such an overpayment or from any person or organization obligated to pay for the services.

### **SECTION 17. Surrogacy**

In situations where a member receives monetary compensation to act as a surrogate, our plan will seek reimbursement of all Plan Charges for covered services the member receives that are associated with conception, pregnancy and/or delivery of the child. A surrogate arrangement is one in which a woman agrees to become pregnant and to surrender the baby to another person or persons who intend to raise the child.

### **SECTION 18. Third party liability**

As stated in Chapter 1, Section 10, third parties who cause you injury or illness (and/or their insurance companies) usually must pay first before Medicare or our plan. Therefore, we are entitled to pursue these primary payments. If you obtain a judgment or settlement from or on behalf of a third party who allegedly caused an injury or illness for which you received covered services, you must ensure we receive reimbursement for those services. Note: This Section 18 does not affect your obligation to pay cost-sharing for these services.

To the extent permitted or required by law, we shall be subrogated to all claims, causes of action, and other rights you may have against a third 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 the third 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.

To secure our rights, we will have a lien and reimbursement rights to the proceeds of any judgment or settlement you or we obtain against a third party that results in any settlement proceeds or judgment, from other types of coverage that include but are not limited to: liability, uninsured motorist, underinsured motorist, personal umbrella, worker's compensation, personal injury, medical payments and all other first party types. The proceeds of any judgment or settlement that you or we obtain shall first be applied to satisfy our lien, regardless of whether you are made whole and regardless of whether the total amount of the proceeds is less than the actual losses and damages you incurred. We are not required to pay attorney fees or costs to any attorney hired by you to pursue your damages claim.

Within 30 days after submitting or filing a claim or legal action against a third party, you must send written notice of the claim or legal action to:

Patient Business Services

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**



Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado  
2500 South Havana Street  
Aurora, CO 80014-1622

Please contact our Patient Business Services Department at **303-743-5900**, or TTY users may call **711**.

In order for us to determine the existence of any rights we may have and to satisfy those rights, you must complete and send us all consents, releases, authorizations, assignments, and other documents, including lien forms directing your attorney, the third party, and the third party's liability insurer to pay us directly. You may not agree to waive, release, or reduce our rights under this provision without our prior, written consent.

If your estate, parent, guardian, or conservator asserts a claim against a third party based on your injury or illness, your estate, parent, guardian, or conservator and any settlement 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 the third party. We may assign our rights to enforce our liens and other rights.

### **SECTION 19. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**

For any services for conditions arising from military service that the law requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide, we will not pay the Department of Veterans Affairs, and when we cover any such services we may recover the value of the services from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

### **SECTION 20. Workers' compensation or employer's liability benefits**

As stated in Chapter 1, Section 10, workers' compensation usually must pay first before Medicare or our plan. Therefore, we are entitled to pursue primary payments under workers' compensation or employer's liability law. You may be eligible for payments or other benefits, including amounts received as a settlement (collectively referred to as "Financial Benefit"), under workers' compensation or employer's liability law. We will provide covered services even if it is unclear whether you are entitled to a Financial Benefit, but we may recover the value of any covered services from the following sources:

- From any source providing a Financial Benefit or from whom a Financial Benefit is due.

From you, to the extent that a Financial Benefit is provided or payable or would have been required to be provided or payable if you had diligently sought to establish your rights to the Financial Benefit under any workers' compensation or employer's liability law.

## **CHAPTER 12. Definitions of important words**

**Allowance** – A specified credit amount that you can use toward the cost of an item. If the cost of the item(s) you select exceeds the allowance, you will pay the amount in excess of the allowance, which does not apply to the annual out-of-pocket maximum.

**Ambulatory Surgical Center** – An Ambulatory Surgical Center is an entity that operates exclusively for the purpose of furnishing outpatient surgical services to patients not requiring hospitalization and whose expected stay in the center does not exceed 24 hours.

**Appeal** – An appeal is something you do if you disagree with our decision to deny a request for coverage of health care services or prescription drugs or payment for services or drugs you already received. You may also make an appeal if you disagree with our decision to stop services that you are receiving. For example, you may ask for an appeal if we don't pay for a drug, item, or service you think you should be able to receive. Chapter 9 explains appeals, including the process involved in making an appeal.

**Balance Billing** – When a provider (such as a doctor or hospital) bills a patient more than the plan's allowed cost-sharing amount. As a member of our plan, you only have to pay our plan's cost-sharing amounts when you get services covered by our plan. We do not allow providers to "balance bill" or otherwise charge you more than the amount of cost-sharing your plan says you must pay.

**Benefit Period** – The way that both our plan and Original Medicare measure your use of skilled nursing facility (SNF) services. A benefit period begins the day you go into a hospital or skilled nursing facility. The benefit period ends when you haven't received any inpatient hospital care (or skilled care in a SNF) for 60 days in a row. If you go into a hospital or a skilled nursing facility after one benefit period has ended, a new benefit period begins. There is no limit to the number of benefit periods.

**Brand-Name Drug** – A prescription drug that is manufactured and sold by the pharmaceutical company that originally researched and developed the drug. Brand-name drugs have the same active-ingredient formula as the generic version of the drug. However, generic drugs are manufactured and sold by other drug manufacturers and are generally not available until after the patent on the brand-name drug has expired.

**Catastrophic Coverage Stage** – The stage in the Part D Drug Benefit when you pay a low copayment or coinsurance for your drugs after you or other qualified parties on your behalf have spent **\$6,350** in covered drugs during the covered year.

**Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)** – The federal agency that administers Medicare. Chapter 2 explains how to contact CMS.

**Coinsurance** – An amount you may be required to pay as your share of the cost for services or prescription drugs after you pay any deductibles, if applicable. Coinsurance is usually a percentage (for example, 20%) of Plan Charges.

**Complaint** – The formal name for "making a complaint" is "filing a grievance." The complaint process is used for certain types of problems only. This includes problems related to quality of

care, waiting times, and the customer service you receive. See also "Grievance," in this list of definitions.

**Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF)** – A facility that mainly provides rehabilitation services after an illness or injury, and provides a variety of services, including physical therapy, social or psychological services, respiratory therapy, occupational therapy and speech-language pathology services, and home environment evaluation services.

**Coordination of Benefits (COB)** – Coordination of Benefits is a provision used to establish the order in which claims are paid when you have other insurance. If you have Medicare and other health insurance or coverage, each type of coverage is called a "payer." When there is more than one payer, there are "coordination of benefits" rules that decide which one pays first. The "primary payer" pays what it owes on your bills first, and then sends the rest to the "secondary payer" to pay. If payment owed to us is sent directly to you, you are required under Medicare law to give the payment to us. In some cases, there may also be a third payer. See Chapter 1 (Section 10) and Chapter 11 (Section 9) for more information.

**Copayment (or "copay")** – An amount you may be required to pay as your share of the cost for a medical service or supply, like a doctor's visit, hospital outpatient visit, or a prescription drug. A copayment is a set amount, rather than a percentage. For example, you might pay \$10 or \$20 for a doctor's visit or prescription drug.

**Cost-Sharing** – Cost-sharing refers to amounts that a member has to pay when services or drugs are received. (This is in addition to our plan's monthly premium.) Cost-sharing includes any combination of the following three types of payments: (1) any deductible amount a plan may impose before services or drugs are covered; (2) any fixed "copayment" amount that a plan requires when a specific service or drug is received; or (3) any "coinsurance" amount, a percentage of the total amount paid for a service or drug that a plan requires when a specific service or drug is received. A "daily cost-sharing rate" may apply when your doctor prescribes less than a full month's supply of certain drugs for you and you are required to pay a copayment. Note: In some cases, you may not pay all applicable cost-sharing at the time you receive the services, and we will send you a bill later for the cost-sharing. For example, if you receive nonpreventive care during a scheduled preventive care visit, we may bill you later for the cost-sharing applicable to the nonpreventive care. For items ordered in advance, you may pay the cost-sharing in effect on the order date (although we will not cover the item unless you still have coverage for it on the date you receive it) and you may be required to pay the copayment when the item is ordered. For outpatient prescription drugs, the order date is the date that the pharmacy processes the order after receiving all of the information they need to fill the prescription.

**Cost-Sharing Tier** – Every drug on the list of covered drugs is in one of six cost-sharing tiers. In general, the higher the cost-sharing tier, the higher your cost for the drug.

**Coverage Determination** – A decision about whether a drug prescribed for you is covered by our plan and the amount, if any, you are required to pay for the prescription. In general, if you take your prescription to a pharmacy and the pharmacy tells you the prescription isn't covered under your plan, that isn't a coverage determination. You need to call or write to your plan to ask for a formal decision about the coverage. Coverage determinations are called "coverage decisions" in this booklet. Chapter 9 explains how to ask us for a coverage decision.

**Covered Drugs** – The term we use to mean all of the prescription drugs covered by our plan.

**Covered Services** – The general term we use to mean all of the health care services and items that are covered by our plan.

**Creditable Prescription Drug Coverage** – Prescription drug coverage (for example, from an employer or union) that is expected to pay, on average, at least as much as Medicare's standard prescription drug coverage. People who have this kind of coverage when they become eligible for Medicare can generally keep that coverage without paying a penalty, if they decide to enroll in Medicare prescription drug coverage later.

**Custodial Care** – Custodial care is personal care provided in a nursing home, hospice, or other facility setting when you do not need skilled medical care or skilled nursing care. Custodial care is personal care that can be provided by people who don't have professional skills or training, such as help with activities of daily living like bathing, dressing, eating, getting in or out of a bed or chair, moving around, and using the bathroom. It may also include the kind of health-related care that most people do themselves, like using eye drops. Medicare doesn't pay for custodial care.

**Daily Cost-Sharing Rate** – A "daily cost-sharing rate" may apply when your doctor prescribes less than a full month's supply of certain drugs for you and you are required to pay a copayment. A daily cost-sharing rate is the copayment divided by the number of days in a month's supply. Here is an example: If your copayment for a one-month supply of a drug is \$30, and a one-month's supply in your plan is 30 days, then your "daily cost-sharing rate" is \$1 per day. This means you pay \$1 for each day's supply when you fill your prescription.

**Deductible** – The amount you must pay for health care or prescriptions before our plan begins to pay.

**Dependent** – A member who meets the eligibility requirements as a dependent (for dependent eligibility requirements, see Chapter 1, Section 2).

**Disenroll or Disenrollment** – The process of ending your membership in our plan. Disenrollment may be voluntary (your own choice) or involuntary (not your own choice).

**Dispensing Fee** – A fee charged each time a covered drug is dispensed to pay for the cost of filling a prescription. The dispensing fee covers costs such as the pharmacist's time to prepare and package the prescription.

**Durable Medical Equipment (DME)** – Certain medical equipment that is ordered by your doctor for medical reasons. Examples include walkers, wheelchairs, crutches, powered mattress systems, diabetic supplies, IV infusion pumps, speech-generating devices, oxygen equipment, nebulizers, or hospital beds ordered by a provider for use in the home.

**Emergency** – A medical emergency is when you, or any other prudent layperson with an average knowledge of health and medicine, believe that you have medical symptoms that require immediate medical attention to prevent loss of life, loss of a limb, or loss of function of a limb. The medical symptoms may be an illness, injury, severe pain, or a medical condition that is quickly getting worse.

**Emergency Care** – Covered services that are (1) rendered by a provider qualified to furnish emergency services; and (2) needed to treat, evaluate, or stabilize an emergency medical condition.

**Emergency Medical Condition** – Either: (1) a medical or psychiatric condition that manifests itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) such that you could reasonably expect the absence of immediate medical attention to result in serious jeopardy to your health or body functions or organs, or (2) active labor when there isn't enough time for safe transfer to a plan hospital (or designated hospital) before delivery or if transfer poses a threat to your (or your unborn child's) health and safety.

**Evidence of Coverage (EOC) and Disclosure Information** – This document, along with your enrollment form and any other attachments, riders, or other optional coverage selected, which explains your coverage, what we must do, your rights, and what you have to do as a member of our plan.

**Exception** – A type of coverage determination that, if approved, allows you to get a drug that is not on your plan sponsor's formulary (a formulary exception), or get a nonpreferred drug at a lower cost-sharing level (a tiering exception). You may also request an exception if we limit the quantity or dosage of the drug you are requesting (a formulary exception).

**Excluded Drug** – A drug that is not a "covered Part D drug," as defined under 42 U.S.C. Section 1395w-102(e).

**Extra Help** – A Medicare program to help people with limited income and resources pay Medicare prescription drug program costs, such as premiums, deductibles, and coinsurance.

**Family** – A subscriber and all of his or her dependents.

**Formulary** – A list of Medicare Part D drugs covered by our plan.

**Generic Drug** – A prescription drug that is approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as having the same active ingredient(s) as the brand-name drug. Generally, a "generic" drug works the same as a brand-name drug and usually costs less.

**Grievance** – A type of complaint you make about us, including a complaint concerning the quality of your care. This type of complaint does not involve coverage or payment disputes.

**Group** – The entity with which we have entered into the *Agreement* that includes this **Evidence of Coverage**.

**Home Health Aide** – A home health aide provides services that don't need the skills of a licensed nurse or therapist, such as help with personal care (for example, bathing, using the toilet, dressing, or carrying out the prescribed exercises). Home health aides do not have a nursing license or provide therapy.

**Home Health Care** – Skilled nursing care and certain other health care services that you get in your home for the treatment of an illness or injury. Covered services are listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**. We cover home health care in accord with Medicare guidelines. Home health care can include services from a **home health aide** if the services are part of the home health plan of care for your illness or injury. They aren't covered unless you are also getting a covered skilled service. Home health services do not include the services of housekeepers, food service arrangements, or full-time nursing care at home.

**Hospice** – A member who has six months or less to live has the right to elect hospice. We, your plan, must provide you with a list of hospices in your geographic area. If you elect hospice and continue to pay premiums, you are still a member of our plan. You can still obtain all medically

necessary services as well as the supplemental benefits we offer. The hospice will provide special treatment for your state.

**Hospital Inpatient Stay** – A hospital stay when you have been formally admitted to the hospital for skilled medical services. Even if you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an "outpatient."

**Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount (IRMAA)** – If your modified adjusted gross income as reported on your IRS tax return from two years ago is above a certain amount, you'll pay the standard premium amount and an Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount, also known as IRMAA. IRMAA is an extra charge added to your premium. Less than 5 % of people with Medicare are affected, so most people will not pay a higher premium.

**Initial Coverage Limit** – The maximum limit of coverage under the Initial Coverage Stage.

**Initial Coverage Stage** – This is the stage after you have met your deductible, if applicable, and before your total drug costs, including amounts you have paid and what your plan has paid on your behalf, for the year have reached **\$4,020**.

**Initial Enrollment Period** – When you are first eligible for Medicare, the period of time when you can sign up for Medicare Part A and Part B. For example, if you're eligible for Medicare when you turn 65, your Initial Enrollment Period is the seven month period that begins three months before the month you turn 65, includes the month you turn 65, and ends three months after the month you turn 65.

**Inpatient Hospital Care** – Health care that you get during an inpatient stay in an acute care general hospital.

**Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (Health Plan)** – Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado is a Colorado nonprofit corporation and a Medicare Advantage organization. This **Evidence of Coverage** sometimes refers to Health Plan as "we" or "us."

**Kaiser Permanente** – Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado and the Medical Group.

**Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary (Formulary or "Drug List")** – A list of prescription drugs covered by our plan. The drugs on this list are selected by us with the help of doctors and pharmacists. The list includes both brand-name and generic drugs.

**Kaiser Permanente Region** – A Kaiser Foundation Health Plan organization that conducts a direct-service health care program. When you are outside our service area, you can get medically necessary health care and ongoing care for chronic conditions from designated providers in another Kaiser Permanente region's service area. For more information, please refer to Chapter 3, Section 2.2.

**Long-Term Care Hospital** – A Medicare-certified acute-care hospital that typically provide Medicare covered services such as comprehensive rehabilitation, respiratory therapy, head trauma treatment, and pain management. They are not long-term care facilities such as convalescent or assisted living facilities.

**Low Income Subsidy (LIS)** – See "Extra Help."

**Maximum Out-of-Pocket Amount** – The most that you pay out-of-pocket during the calendar year for in-network covered Part A and Part B services. Amounts you pay for any contributions

toward your group's monthly premium, your Medicare Part A and Part B premiums, and Part D prescription drugs do not count toward the maximum out-of-pocket amount. See Chapter 4, Section 1.2, for information about your maximum out-of-pocket amount.

**Medicaid (or Medical Assistance)** – A joint federal and state program that helps with medical costs for some people with low incomes and limited resources. Medicaid programs vary from state to state, but most health care costs are covered if you qualify for both Medicare and Medicaid. See Chapter 2, Section 6, for information about how to contact Medicaid in your state.

**Medical Care or Services** – Health care services or items. Some examples of health care items include durable medical equipment, eyeglasses, and drugs covered by Medicare Part A or Part B, but not drugs covered under Medicare Part D.

**Medical Group** – It is the network of plan providers that our plan contracts with to provide covered services to you. The name of our medical group is Colorado Permanente Medical Group, P.C., a for-profit professional corporation.

**Medically Accepted Indication** – A use of a drug that is either approved by the Food and Drug Administration or supported by certain reference books. See Chapter 5, Section 3, for more information about a medically accepted indication.

**Medically Necessary** – Services, supplies, or drugs that are needed for the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of your medical condition and meet accepted standards of medical practice.

**Medicare** – The federal health insurance program for people 65 years of age or older, some people under age 65 with certain disabilities, and people with End-Stage Renal Disease (generally those with permanent kidney failure who need dialysis or a kidney transplant). People with Medicare can get their Medicare health coverage through Original Medicare, PACE plan, or a Medicare Advantage Plan.

**Medicare Advantage (MA) Plan** – Sometimes called Medicare Part C. A plan offered by a private company that contracts with Medicare to provide you with all your Medicare Part A and Part B benefits. A Medicare Advantage Plan can be an HMO, a PPO, a Private Fee-for-Service (PFFS) plan, or a Medicare Medical Savings Account (MSA) plan. When you are enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan, Medicare services are covered through the plan and are not paid for under Original Medicare. In most cases, Medicare Advantage Plans also offer Medicare Part D (prescription drug coverage). These plans are called **Medicare Advantage Plans with Prescription Drug Coverage**. Everyone who has Medicare Part A and Part B is eligible to join any Medicare health plan that is offered in their area, except people with End-Stage Renal Disease (unless certain exceptions apply).

**Medicare Coverage Gap Discount Program** – A program that provides discounts on most covered Part D brand-name drugs to Part D members who have reached the Coverage Gap Stage and who are not already receiving "Extra Help." Discounts are based on agreements between the federal government and certain drug manufacturers. For this reason, most, but not all, brand-name drugs are discounted.

**Medicare-Covered Services** – Services covered by Medicare Part A and Part B. All Medicare health plans, including our plan, must cover all of the services that are covered by Medicare Part A and B.

**Medicare Health Plan** – A Medicare health plan is offered by a private company that contracts with Medicare to provide Part A and Part B benefits to people with Medicare who enroll in the plan. This term includes all Medicare Advantage Plans, Medicare Cost Plans, Demonstration/Pilot Programs, and Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE).

**Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage (Medicare Part D)** – Insurance to help pay for outpatient prescription drugs, vaccines, biologicals, and some supplies not covered by Medicare Part A or Part B.

**"Medigap" (Medicare Supplement Insurance) Policy** – Medicare supplement insurance sold by private insurance companies to fill "gaps" in Original Medicare. Medigap policies only work with Original Medicare. (A Medicare Advantage Plan is not a Medigap policy.)

**Member (Member of our Plan, or "Plan Member")** – A person with Medicare who is eligible to get covered services, who has enrolled in our plan, and whose enrollment has been confirmed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

**Member Services and Customer Experience** – Departments within our plan responsible for answering your questions about your membership, benefits, grievances, and appeals. See Chapter 2 for information about how to contact Member Services and Customer Experience.

**Network Pharmacy** – A network pharmacy is a pharmacy where members of our plan can get their prescription drug benefits. We call them "network pharmacies" because they contract with our plan. In most cases, your prescriptions are covered only if they are filled at one of our network pharmacies.

**Network Physician** – Any licensed physician who is a partner or employee of the Medical Group, or any licensed physician who contracts to provide services to our members (but not including physicians who contract only to provide referral services).

**Network Provider** – "Provider" is the general term we use for doctors, other health care professionals, (including but not limited to, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and nurses), hospitals, and other health care facilities that are licensed or certified by Medicare and by the state to provide health care services. We call them "**network providers**" when they have an agreement with our plan to accept our payment as payment in full, and in some cases, to coordinate as well as provide covered services to members of our plan. We pay network providers based on the agreements it has with the providers or if the providers agree to provide you with plan-covered services. Network providers may also be referred to as "plan providers."

**Organization Determination** – The Medicare Advantage plan has made an organization determination when it makes a decision about whether items or services are covered or how much you have to pay for covered items or services. Organization determinations are called "coverage decisions" in this booklet. Chapter 9 explains how to ask us for a coverage decision.

**Original Medicare** ("Traditional Medicare" or "Fee-for-Service" Medicare) – Original Medicare is offered by the government, and not a private health plan like Medicare Advantage Plans and prescription drug plans. Under Original Medicare, Medicare services are covered by paying doctors, hospitals, and other health care providers payment amounts established by Congress. You can see any doctor, hospital, or other health care provider that accepts Medicare. You must pay the deductible. Medicare pays its share of the Medicare-approved amount, and you pay your



share. Original Medicare has two parts: Part A (Hospital Insurance) and Part B (Medical Insurance) and is available everywhere in the United States.

**Out-of-Network Pharmacy** – A pharmacy that doesn't have a contract with our plan to coordinate or provide covered drugs to members of our plan. As explained in this **Evidence of Coverage**, *most drugs you get from out-of-network pharmacies are not covered* by our plan unless certain conditions apply (see Chapter 5, Section 2.5, for more information).

**Out-of-Network Provider or Out-of-Network Facility** – A provider or facility with which we have not arranged to coordinate or provide covered services to members of our plan. Out-of-network providers are providers that are not employed, owned, or operated by our plan or are not under contract to deliver covered services to you. Using out-of-network providers or facilities is explained in this booklet in Chapter 3.

**Out-of-Pocket Costs** – See the definition for "Cost-Sharing" above. A member's cost-sharing requirement to pay for a portion of services or drugs received is also referred to as the member's "out-of-pocket" cost requirement.

**PACE Plan** – A PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly) plan combines medical, social, and long-term care (LTC) services for frail people to help people stay independent and living in their community (instead of moving to a nursing home) for as long as possible, while getting the high-quality care they need. People enrolled in PACE plans receive both their Medicare and Medicaid benefits through the plan.

**Part C** – See "**Medicare Advantage (MA) Plan.**"

**Part D** – The voluntary Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Program. (For ease of reference, we will refer to the prescription drug benefit program as Part D.)

**Part D Drugs** – Drugs that can be covered under Part D. We may or may not offer all Part D drugs. (See your formulary for a specific list of covered drugs.) Certain categories of drugs were specifically excluded by Congress from being covered as Part D drugs.

**Part D Late Enrollment Penalty** – An amount added to your monthly premium for Medicare drug coverage if you go without creditable coverage (coverage that is expected to pay, on average, at least as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage) for a continuous period of 63 days or more. You pay this higher amount as long as you have a Medicare drug plan. There are some exceptions. For example, if you receive "Extra Help" from Medicare to pay your prescription drug plan costs, you will not pay a late enrollment penalty.

**Plan** – Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage.

**Plan Charges** – Plan Charges means the following:

- For services provided by the Medical Group or Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, the charges in Health Plan's schedule of Medical Group and Kaiser Foundation Hospitals charges for services provided to members.
- For services for which a provider (other than the Medical Group or Kaiser Foundation Hospitals) is compensated on a capitation basis, the charges in the schedule of charges that Kaiser Permanente negotiates with the capitated provider.

- For items obtained at a pharmacy owned and operated by Kaiser Permanente, the amount the pharmacy would charge a member for the item if a member's benefit plan did not cover the item (this amount is an estimate of: the cost of acquiring, storing, and dispensing drugs; the direct and indirect costs of providing Kaiser Permanente pharmacy services to members; and the pharmacy program's contribution to the net revenue requirements of Health Plan).
- For all other services, the payments that Kaiser Permanente makes for the services or, if Kaiser Permanente subtracts cost-sharing from its payment, the amount Kaiser Permanente would have paid if it did not subtract cost-sharing.

**Post-Stabilization Care** – Medically necessary services related to your emergency medical condition that you receive after your treating physician determines that this condition is clinically stable. You are considered clinically stable when your treating physician believes, within a reasonable medical probability and in accordance with recognized medical standards, that you are safe for discharge or transfer and that your condition is not expected to get materially worse during or as a result of the discharge or transfer.

**Preferred Cost-Sharing** – Preferred cost-sharing means lower cost-sharing for certain covered Part D drugs at certain network pharmacies.

**Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) Plan** – A Preferred Provider Organization plan is a Medicare Advantage Plan that has a network of contracted providers that have agreed to treat plan members for a specified payment amount. A PPO plan must cover all plan benefits whether they are received from network or out-of-network providers. Member cost-sharing will generally be higher when plan benefits are received from out-of-network providers. PPO plans have an annual limit on your out-of-pocket costs for services received from network (preferred) providers and a higher limit on your total combined out-of-pocket costs for services from both network (preferred) and out-of-network (nonpreferred) providers.

**Premium** – The periodic payment to Medicare, an insurance company, or a health care plan for health care or prescription drug coverage.

**Primary Care Provider (PCP)** – Your primary care provider is the doctor or other provider you see first for most health problems. He or she makes sure you get the care you need to keep you healthy. He or she also may talk with other doctors and health care providers about your care and refer you to them. In many Medicare health plans, you must see your primary care provider before you see any other health care provider. See Chapter 3, Section 2.1, for information about primary care providers.

**Prior Authorization** – Approval in advance to get services or certain drugs that may or may not be on our formulary. Some in-network medical services are covered only if your doctor or other network provider gets "prior authorization" from our plan. Covered services that need prior authorization are marked in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this EOC and described in Chapter 3, Section 2.3. Some drugs are covered only if your doctor or other network provider gets "prior authorization" from us. Covered drugs that need prior authorization are marked in the formulary.

**Prosthetics and Orthotics** – These are medical devices ordered by your doctor or other health care provider. Covered items include, but are not limited to, arm, back, and neck braces; artificial

limbs; artificial eyes; and devices needed to replace an internal body part or function, including ostomy supplies and enteral and parenteral nutrition therapy.

**Quality Improvement Organization (QIO)** – A group of practicing doctors and other health care experts paid by the federal government to check and improve the care given to Medicare patients. See Chapter 2, Section 4, for information about how to contact the QIO for your state.

**Quantity Limits** – A management tool that is designed to limit the use of selected drugs for quality, safety, or utilization reasons. Limits may be on the amount of the drug that we cover per prescription or for a defined period of time.

**Rehabilitation Services** – These services include physical therapy, speech and language therapy, and occupational therapy.

**Service Area** – A geographic area where a health plan accepts members if it limits membership based on where people live. For plans that limit which doctors and hospitals you may use, it's also generally the area where you can get routine (nonemergency) services. Our plan may disenroll you if you permanently move out of our plan's service area.

**Services** – Health care services or items.

**Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Care** – Skilled nursing care and rehabilitation services provided on a continuous, daily basis, in a skilled nursing facility. Examples of skilled nursing facility care include physical therapy or intravenous injections that can only be given by a registered nurse or doctor.

**Specialty-Tier Drugs** – Very high-cost drugs approved by the FDA that are on our formulary.

**Spouse** – Your legal husband or wife.

**Standard Cost-Sharing** – Standard cost-sharing is cost-sharing other than preferred cost-sharing offered at a network pharmacy.

**Subscriber** – A member who is eligible for membership on his or her own behalf and not by virtue of dependent status (for subscriber eligibility requirements, see Chapter 1, Section 2).

**Supplemental Security Income (SSI)** – A monthly benefit paid by Social Security to people with limited income and resources who are disabled, blind, or age 65 and older. SSI benefits are not the same as Social Security benefits.

**Urgently Needed Services** – Urgently needed services are provided to treat a nonemergency, unforeseen medical illness, injury, or condition that requires immediate medical care. Urgently needed services may be furnished by network providers or by out-of-network providers when network providers are temporarily unavailable or inaccessible.

**PRA Disclosure Statement** According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0938-1051. If you have comments or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Attn: PRA Reports Clearance Officer, Mail Stop C4-26-05, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

## Notice of nondiscrimination

Kaiser Permanente complies with applicable federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Kaiser Permanente does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. 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 **1-800-476-2167 (TTY 711)**, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., seven days a week.

If you believe that Kaiser Permanente does has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance with our Civil Rights Coordinator by writing to 2500 South Havana, Aurora, CO 80014 or calling Member Services at the number listed above. You can file a grievance by mail or phone. If you need help filing a grievance, our Civil Rights Coordinator is available to help you. 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, **1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD)**. Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.

## Multi-language Interpreter Services

### English

ATTENTION: If you speak a language other than English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**).

### Spanish

ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**).

### 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 **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**)。

### Vietnamese

CHÚ Ý: Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**).

### Tagalog

PAUNAWA: Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, maaari kang gumamit ng mga serbisyo ng tulong sa wika nang walang bayad. Tumawag sa **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**).

### Korean

주의: 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다.

**1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**)번으로 전화해 주십시오.

### Russian

ВНИМАНИЕ: Если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните **1-800-476-2167** (телетайп: **711**).

### 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。

**1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**) まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

### Amharic

ማስታወሻ: የሚናገሩት ቋንቋ አማርኛ ከሆነ የትርጉም እርዳታ ድርጅቶች፣ በነጻ ሊያግዝዎት ተዘጋጅተዋል፡ ወደ ሚከተለው ቁጥር ይደውሉ **1-800-476-2167** (መስማት ለተሳናቸው: **711**)።

### German

ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**).

### French

ATTENTION : Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le **1-800-476-2167** (ATS : **711**).

### Farsi

توجه: اگر به زبان فارسی گفتگو می کنید، تسهیلات زبانی بصورت رایگان برای شما فراهم می باشد. با **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**) تماس بگیرید.

### Arabic

ملحوظة: إذا كنت تتحدث اذكر اللغة، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم **1-800-476-2167** (رقم هاتف الصم والبكم: **117**).

**Yoruba**

AKIYESI: Ti o ba nso ede Yoruba ofe ni iranlowo lori ede wa fun yin o. E pe ero ibanisoro yi **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: 711).

**Cushite-Oromo**

XIYYEEFFANNAA: Afaan dubbattu Oroomiffa, tajaajila gargaarsa afaanii, kanfaltiidhaan ala, ni argama. Bilbilaa **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: 711).

**Nepali**

ध्यान दिनुहोस्: तपाईंले नेपाली बोल्नुहुन्छ भने तपाईंको निम्ति भाषा सहायता सेवाहरू निःशुल्क रूपमा उपलब्ध छ । फोन गर्नुहोस् **1-800-476-2167** (टिटिवाइ: 711) ।





## Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Member Services

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<b>METHOD</b>	<b>Member Services - contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-800-476-2167</b> Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Member Services also has free language interpreter services available for non-English speakers.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
<b>WRITE</b>	Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado Customer Experience 2500 South Havana Street Aurora, CO 80014-1622
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>kp.org</b>

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## Colorado State Health Insurance Assistance Program

Colorado State Health Insurance Assistance Program is a state program that gets money from the federal government to give free local health insurance counseling to people with Medicare.

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<b>METHOD</b>	<b>Contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-888-696-7213</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	SHIP, Colorado Division of Insurance 1650 Broadway Street, Suite 850 Denver, CO 80202
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b><a href="https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dora/senior-healthcare-medicare">https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dora/senior-healthcare-medicare</a></b>

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## ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

Please refer to the Summary Chart in this booklet for specific charges and other limitations that may apply to the coverage(s) described below.

### DOMESTIC PARTNER COVERAGE

Your Group coverage includes health benefits for same-sex domestic partners. To be covered they must meet:

- (1) the eligibility requirements as described in the “Eligibility” section of this EOC; and
- (2) the conditions for domestic partnership as described in the Affidavit of Domestic Partnership.

You are required to complete and submit an Affidavit of Domestic Partnership to Health Plan. Please check with your Group's benefit administrator for details.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for same-sex domestic partners. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

DOMP0AA (01-18)

### SURVIVING DEPENDENTS

Your Group coverage includes health benefit coverage for surviving Dependents.

Surviving Dependents include your:

1. Spouses; and
2. Other eligible Dependents.

Their coverage may continue based on the Group's personnel policy.

SRDC0AE (01-12)

WOR0AA

### ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT

**(Does not apply to Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage HMO Plan)**

The following paragraph of your EOC is amended, as follows:

#### I. Eligibility

##### A. Who Is Eligible

###### 1. General

To be eligible to enroll and to remain enrolled in this health benefit plan, you must meet the following requirements:

- a. You must meet your Group's eligibility requirements that we have approved. Your Group is required to inform Subscribers of the Group's eligibility requirements; and
- b. You must also meet the Subscriber or Dependent eligibility requirements as described below; and
- c. The Subscriber must live, reside, or work in our Service Area. Our Service Area is described in the “Definitions” section.

This rider amends the general eligibility provision of the EOC. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

WOR0AA (01-20)

### CHIROPRACTIC CARE

1. Coverage

Chiropractic Services are covered as shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” when provided by contracted providers. Coverage includes:

- a. Evaluation;
- b. Manual and manipulative therapy of the spinal and extraspinal regions.

You may self-refer for visits to contracted providers.

**Note:** The following are covered, but not under this section: X-ray and laboratory tests, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”.

2. Exclusions

- a. Hypnotherapy.
- b. Behavior training.
- c. Sleep therapy.
- d. Weight loss programs.
- e. Services related to the treatment of the musculoskeletal system, except for the spinal and extraspinal regions.
- f. Vocational rehabilitation Services.
- g. Thermography.
- h. Air conditioners, air purifiers, therapeutic mattresses, supplies, or any other similar devices and appliances.
- i. Transportation costs. This includes local ambulance charges.
- j. Prescription drugs, vitamins, minerals, food supplements, or other similar products.
- k. Educational programs.
- l. Non-medical self-care or self-help training.
- m. All diagnostic testing related to these excluded Services.
- n. MRI and/or other types of diagnostic radiology.
- o. Physical or massage therapy that is not a part of the manual and manipulative therapy.
- p. Durable medical equipment (DME) and/or supplies for use in the home.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for Chiropractic Care. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

CHIR0AA (01-18) DMES0AB

**DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT (DME) AND  
PROSTHETIC AND ORTHOTIC DEVICES**

When prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan on either a purchase or rental basis, as determined by Health Plan, DME, prosthetics and orthotics, including replacements other than those necessitated by misuse, theft, or loss, are provided as shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for your use during the period prescribed. Necessary fittings, repairs and adjustments, other than those necessitated by misuse, are covered. Health Plan may repair or replace a device at its option. Repair or replacement of defective equipment is covered at no additional charge.

Health Plan uses Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) and National Coverage Determinations (NCD) (hereinafter referred to as Medicare Guidelines) for our DME, prosthetic, and orthotic formulary guidelines. These are guidelines only. Health Plan reserves the right to exclude items listed in the Medicare Guidelines (does not apply to Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage plans). Please note that this EOC may contain some, but not all, of these exclusions.

**Limitations:** Coverage is limited to a standard item of DME, prosthetic device, or orthotic device that adequately meets your medical needs.

1. Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

a. Coverage

- i. DME is equipment that is appropriate for use in the home, able to withstand repeated use, Medically Necessary, not of use to a person in the absence of illness or injury, and approved for coverage under Medicare. It includes, but is not limited to, infant apnea monitors, insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies, and oxygen and oxygen dispensing equipment.
- ii. Insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources

designated by Health Plan.

iii. When use is no longer prescribed by a Plan Physician, DME must be returned to Health Plan or its designee. If the equipment is not returned, you must pay Health Plan or its designee the fair market price, established by Health Plan, for the equipment.

b. Limitation: Coverage is limited to the lesser of the purchase or rental price, as determined by Health Plan.

c. Durable Medical Equipment Exclusions

i. Electronic monitors of bodily functions, except infant apnea monitors are covered.

ii. Devices to perform medical testing of body fluids, excretions or substances, except nitrate urine test strips for home use for pediatric patients are covered.

iii. Non-medical items such as sauna baths or elevators.

iv. Exercise or hygiene equipment.

v. Comfort, convenience, or luxury equipment or features.

vi. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze\*, tape, antiseptics, dressings, and ace-type bandages.

\*Gauze not excluded in Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Part D plans.

vii. Replacement of lost or stolen equipment.

viii. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.

ix. More than one piece of DME serving essentially the same function, except for replacements.

x. Spare equipment or alternate use equipment is not covered.

2. Prosthetic Devices

a. Coverage

Prosthetic devices are those rigid or semi-rigid external devices that are required to replace all or part of a body organ or extremity. Coverage of prosthetic devices includes:

i. Internally implanted devices for functional purposes, such as pacemakers and hip joints.

ii. Prosthetic devices for Members who have had a mastectomy. Medical Group or Health Plan will designate the source from which external prostheses can be obtained. Replacement will be made when a prosthesis is no longer functional. Custom-made prostheses will be provided when necessary.

iii. Prosthetic devices, such as obturators and speech and feeding appliances, required for the treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate are covered when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.

iv. Prosthetic devices intended to replace, in whole or in part, an arm or leg when prescribed by a Plan Physician, as Medically Necessary and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.

b. Prosthetic Devices Exclusions

i. Dental prostheses, except for Medically Necessary prosthodontic treatment for treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate, as described above.

ii. Internally implanted devices, equipment, and prosthetics related to treatment of sexual dysfunction.

iii. More than one prosthetic device for the same part of the body, except for replacements.

iv. Spare devices or alternate use devices.

v. Replacement of lost or stolen prosthetic devices.

vi. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.

3. Orthotic Devices

a. Coverage

Orthotic devices are those rigid or semi-rigid external devices that are 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.

b. Orthotic Devices Exclusions

i. Corrective shoes and orthotic devices for podiatric use and arch supports, except for diabetic shoes in accordance with clinical guidelines and therapeutic shoes for patients with a diagnosis of peripheral vascular disease or peripheral neuropathy.

ii. Dental devices and appliances except that Medically Necessary treatment of cleft lip or cleft palate is covered when prescribed by a Plan Physician, unless you are covered for these Services under a dental insurance policy or contract.

iii. Experimental and research braces.

iv. More than one orthotic device for the same part of the body, except for covered replacements.

v. Spare devices or alternate use devices.

vi. Replacement of lost or stolen orthotic devices.

vii. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and prosthetic and orthotic devices. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

DMES0AB (01-20)

OPT0AB

## OPTICAL BENEFIT

### 1. Coverage

A credit, as shown in the "Vision Services and Optical" section of the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)," applies toward the purchase of one pair of: (i) regular lenses; (ii) frames; or (iii) contact lenses, including cosmetic lenses, when obtained at a Plan Medical Office and prescribed by a physician or an optometrist. This includes: a \$60 replacement credit for single vision and contact lenses; and \$90 replacement credit for multifocal lenses if a Member's prescription changes .50 diopter or more within 12 months of the initial exam.

Covered Services include:

- a. The frame;
- b. Mounting of lenses in the frames; and
- c. The original fitting and subsequent adjustment of the frame.

Professional Services for exams and fitting of contact lenses that are not Medically Necessary are provided at an additional charge, when obtained at Plan Medical Offices.

### 2. Exclusions

Replacement of lost or broken lenses or frames.

This rider amends the EOC to provide optical hardware coverage. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

OPT0AB (01-20)  
SNKR0AA

## SILVER SNEAKERS FITNESS BENEFIT

A health and fitness benefit is covered and provided at participating fitness or wellness facilities within our Service Area. Health and fitness benefits include:

1. Fitness classes (to improve posture, flexibility and strength).
2. Toning with weights.
3. Aerobic classes.
4. Circuit training.

Additional benefits provided at some facilities include:

1. Swimming.
2. Court sports.
3. Running tracks.
4. Saunas.

You may access Services by taking your current Plan Identification Card to one of the participating fitness facilities within our Service Area and enrolling in the program. To get a list of the participating facilities, please call **Member Services**.

You will be given a one-time activity readiness assessment. Participation in the Fitness Benefit program is dependent upon the result of this assessment and may require a subsequent evaluation at a Plan Medical Office. There is no initiation fee and no monthly dues for participation.

Programs, Services and facilities which carry additional charges such as:

1. Racquetball;
2. Tennis and other court sports;
3. Massage therapy;
4. Lessons related to recreational sports;
5. Tournaments; and
6. Similar fee-based activities;

are excluded.

SNKR0AA (01-12)

### **ELECTIVE ABORTION EXCLUSION**

Voluntary, elective abortions and any related Services, drugs or supplies are excluded. Exceptions to this are:

1. When an abortion is Medically Necessary to preserve the life or health of the mother if the pregnancy continues to term; or
2. When the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest; or
3. Treatment of complications following an abortion.

TABS0AA (01-12)

# NOTES

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## **Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Member Services**

<b>METHOD</b>	<b>Member Services – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-800-476-2167</b> Calls to this number are free. Seven days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Member Services also has free language interpreter services available for non-English speakers.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> Calls to this number are free. Seven days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
<b>FAX</b>	<b>303-338-3220</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado Customer Experience 2500 South Havana Street Aurora, CO 80014-1622
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>kp.org</b>

## **Colorado State Health Insurance Assistance Program**

Colorado State Health Insurance Assistance Program is a state program that gets money from the federal government to give free local health insurance counseling to people with Medicare.

<b>METHOD</b>	<b>Contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-888-696-7213</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	SHIP, Colorado Division of Insurance 1650 Broadway Street, Suite 850 Denver, CO 80202
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b><a href="http://www.dora.state.co.us/insurance/senior/senior.htm">http://www.dora.state.co.us/insurance/senior/senior.htm</a></b>

**Kaiser Foundation Health  
Plan of Colorado**  
2500 S. Havana St.  
Aurora, CO 80014-1622

## Important plan information



**TITLE PAGE (Cover Page)**

# **Important Benefit Information Enclosed Evidence of Coverage**

## **About this Evidence of Coverage (EOC)**

This Evidence of Coverage (EOC) describes the health care coverage provided under the Agreement between Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (Health Plan) and your Group. This EOC is for your Group's 2020 contract year.

In this EOC, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado is sometimes referred to as “Kaiser Permanente,” “Kaiser,” “Health Plan,” “we,” or “us.” Members are sometimes referred to as “you.” Out-of-Health Plan is sometimes referred to as “Out-of-Plan.” Some capitalized terms have special meaning in this EOC; please see the “Definitions” section for terms you should know.

The health care coverage described in this EOC has been designed to be a High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP) compatible for use with a Health Savings Account (HSA). An HSA is a tax-exempt account established under Section 223(d) of the Internal Revenue Code exclusively for the purpose of paying qualified medical expenses of the account beneficiary. Contributions to such an account are tax deductible but in order to qualify for and make contributions to an HSA, you must be enrolled in a qualified High Deductible Health Plan.

Please note that the tax references contained in this document relate to federal income tax only. The tax treatment of HSA contributions and distributions under your state’s income tax laws may differ from the federal tax treatment, and differs from state to state. Kaiser Permanente does not provide tax advice. Consult with your financial or tax advisor for tax advice or more information about your eligibility for an HSA.



## NONDISCRIMINATION NOTICE

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (Kaiser Health Plan) complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Kaiser Health Plan does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. 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 **1-800-632-9700** (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, or sex, you can file a grievance by mail at: Customer Experience Department, Attn: Kaiser Permanente Civil Rights Coordinator, 2500 South Havana, Aurora, CO 80014, or by phone at Member Services: 1-800-632-9700.

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, 1-800-368-1019, 1-800-537-7697 (TDD). Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.

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## HELP IN YOUR LANGUAGE

**ATTENTION:** If you speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**አማርኛ (Amharic) ማስታወሻ:** የሚናገሩት ቋንቋ አማርኛ ከሆነ የትርጉም እርዳታ ድርጅቶች፣ በነጻ ሊያገዝዎት ተዘጋጅተዋል። ወደ ሚከተለው ቁጥር ይደውሉ **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**)።

**العربية (Arabic) ملحوظة:** إذا كنت تتحدث العربية، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) .

**Bàsòò Wùdù (Bassa) Dè dɛ nià kɛ dyédé gbo:** ɔ jũ ké ñ Bàsòò-wùdù-po-nyò jũ ní, nií, à wuɖu kà kò dò po-poò béin ñ gbo kpáa. Đá **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) 。

**فارسی (Farsi) توجه:** اگر به زبان فارسی گفتگو می کنید، تسهیلات زبانی بصورت رایگان برای شما فراهم می باشد. با **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711) تماس بگیرید.

**Français (French) ATTENTION:** Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Deutsch (German) ACHTUNG:** Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung.  
Rufnummer: **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Igbo (Igbo) NRUBAMA:** O bụrụ na ị na asụ Igbo, ọrụ enyemaka asụsụ, n'efu, dijiri gi. Kpọọ **1-800-632-9700** (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。 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711) まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

**한국어 (Korean) 주의:** 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711) 번으로 전화해 주십시오.

**Naabeehó (Navajo) Díí baa akó nínízin:** Díí saad bee yáníłti'go Diné Bizaad, saad bee áká'ánída'áwo'déé', t'áá jiik'eh, éi ná hóló, kobji' hódíílnih **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**नेपाली (Nepali) ध्यान दिनुहोस्:** तपाईंले नेपाली बोल्नुहुन्छ भने तपाईंको निम्ति भाषा सहायता सेवाहरू निःशुल्क रूपमा उपलब्ध छ । **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711) फोन गर्नुहोस् ।

**Afaan Oromoo (Oromo) XIYYEEFFANNAA:** Afaan dubbattu Oroomiffa, tajaajila gargaarsa afaanii, kanfaltiidhaan ala, ni argama. Bilbilaa **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Русский (Russian) ВНИМАНИЕ:** если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Español (Spanish) ATENCIÓN:** si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Yorùbá (Yoruba) AKIYESI:** Ti o ba nso ede Yoruba ofe ni iranlowo lori ede wa fun yin o. E pe ero ibanisoro yi **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT  
NON-MEDICARE EMPLOYEES  
EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE AMENDMENT - 2020**

**I. The following definitions are *in addition* to those detailed in this Evidence of Coverage (EOC).**

- 1) "Child" shall mean a primary insured's natural child, adopted child, or the natural child or adopted child of either a primary insured's spouse, or primary insured's partner in a civil union.
- 2) "Eligible dependent" shall mean the primary insured's child or spouse
  - a) An eligible dependent may not also be a primary insured on the same insurance plan.
  - b) If spouses are each eligible employees, each may enroll in medical or dental coverage as either a primary insured or eligible dependent, but not both.
  - c) An eligible dependent shall not include any form of grandchild of a primary insured or spouse, unless the primary insured or spouse has a court order of adoption.
  - d) An eligible dependent may be covered by one (1) primary insured only for each insurance plan.
- 3) "Eligible employee" shall mean:
  - a) Members of the classified service of the fire department.
- 4) "Employee only" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee only.
- 5) "Employee plus children" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and one (1) or more eligible dependents other than a spouse.
- 6) "Employee plus spouse" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and a spouse.
- 7) "Employer contribution" shall mean funds paid by the city for insurance programs approved by the employee health insurance committee.
- 8) "Family" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and a spouse or spousal equivalent and one (1) or more other eligible dependent.
- 9) "Primary insured" shall mean an eligible employee who enrolls for insurance coverage.
  - a) A primary insured may not also be an eligible dependent on the same insurance.
- 10) "Spouse" shall mean an eligible employee's lawful spouse, a lawful partner in a civil union in accordance with the Colorado Civil Union Act or spousal equivalent.
- 11) "Spousal equivalent" shall mean an adult of the same gender with whom the employee is in an exclusive committed relationship, who is not related to the employee and who shares basic living expenses with the intent for the relationship to last indefinitely. A spousal equivalent cannot be related by blood to a degree which would prevent marriage in Colorado and cannot be married to another person. An employee claiming a spousal equivalent as an eligible dependent shall file with the Department of Safety Human Resources department, an affidavit of spousal equivalency or may register as a committed partnership with the clerk's office.

**II. The following definition is removed from those detailed in this Evidence of Coverage (EOC).**

- c. Other dependent persons (but not including foster children) who meet all of the following requirements:
  - i. They are under the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)"; and
  - ii. You or your Spouse is the court-appointed permanent legal guardian (or was before the person reached age 18).

## SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (WHO PAYS WHAT)

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This Schedule of Benefits discusses:

- I. DEDUCTIBLES (if applicable)
- II. ANNUAL OUT-OF-POCKET MAXIMUMS (OPM)
- III. COPAYMENTS AND COINSURANCE
- IV. DEPENDENT LIMITING AGE

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION: PLEASE READ

This Schedule of Benefits does not fully describe the Services covered under this EOC. ***For a complete understanding of the benefits, limitations and exclusions that apply to your coverage under this plan, it is important to read this EOC in conjunction with this Schedule of Benefits.*** Please refer to the identical heading in the "Benefits/Coverage (What Is Covered)" section and to the "Limitations/Exclusions (What Is Not Covered)" section of this EOC.

Services received may be described in multiple sections of this Schedule of Benefits (for example, Office Services, Durable Medical Equipment, X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures may all apply to a broken arm). See the appropriate sections for applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and Deductible information.

You are responsible for any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for Services performed as part of or in conjunction with other outpatient Services, including but not limited to: office visits, Emergency Services, urgent care, and outpatient surgery.

Here is some important information to keep in mind as you read this Schedule of Benefits:

1. For a Service to be a covered Service:
  - a. The Service must be Medically Necessary (refer to the "Definitions" section in this EOC); **and**
  - b. The Service must be provided, prescribed, recommended, or directed by a Plan Provider; **and**
  - c. The Service must be described in this EOC as covered. Refer to the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.
2. The Charges for your Services are not always known at the time you receive the Service. You **will get a bill** for any Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance that are not known at the time you receive the Service.
3. The Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance listed here apply to covered Services provided to Members enrolled in this plan. Only covered Services apply to the Deductible and OPM. Non-covered Services will not apply to the Deductible and OPM.
4. Copayments for Services are due at the time you receive the Service. Deductibles or Coinsurance for Services may also be due at the time you receive the Service.
5. Except for #6 below, you may be responsible for any amounts over eligible Charges in addition to any Copayment or Coinsurance.
6. With respect to Emergency Services received in a non-Plan Facility, or Services rendered by a non-Plan Provider in a Plan Facility, you will not be balance billed by either the non-Plan Provider or non-Plan Facility. You are responsible for the same Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance amounts that you would pay if the care was provided in a Plan Facility or provided by a Plan Provider.
7. You may be charged separate Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance for additional Services you receive during your visit or if you receive Services from more than one provider during your visit.
8. We reserve the right to reschedule non-emergency, non-routine care if you do not pay all amounts due at the time you receive the Service.
9. For items ordered in advance, you pay the Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance in effect on the order date.
10. You, as the Subscriber, are responsible for any Deductibles, Copayments, and/or Coinsurance incurred by your Dependents enrolled in the Plan.

11. If you are the only person on your plan, your plan will become a family plan upon the addition of any eligible Dependent to your plan. This includes, but is not limited to, any temporary additions to your plan, such as the coverage of a newborn for 31 days as required by state law.

## **I. DEDUCTIBLES**

The medical Deductible represents the full amount you must pay for certain covered Services during the Accumulation Period before any Copayment or Coinsurance applies.

For covered Services that are subject to the medical Deductible, any amounts you pay over eligible Charges will not apply toward the medical Deductible.

- A. For covered Services that **ARE** subject to the medical Deductible:
  1. You must pay full charges for covered Services until your medical Deductible is satisfied. Please see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance” to find out which covered Services are subject to the medical Deductible.
  2. Once you have met your medical Deductible for the Accumulation Period, you will then pay, for the rest of the Accumulation Period, your applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for those covered Services subject to the medical Deductible (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”).
  3. Your applicable Copayment and Coinsurance may apply to your annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum (OPM) (see “II. Annual Out-of-Pocket Maximums”).
- B. For covered Services that **ARE NOT** subject to the medical Deductible: Your Copayment or Coinsurance will always apply, as listed in “III. Copayments and Coinsurance.”

## **II. ANNUAL OUT-OF-POCKET MAXIMUMS**

The OPM limits the total amount you must pay during the Accumulation Period for certain covered Services. Covered Services may or may not apply to the OPM (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”). It depends on the plan your Group has purchased.

For covered Services that apply to the OPM, any amounts you pay over eligible Charges will not apply toward the OPM.

- A. Your medical Deductible applies to the OPM (see “I. Deductibles”).
- B. For covered Services that **APPLY** to the OPM.
  1. The only Copayments or Coinsurance **that apply** toward the OPM are those made for covered Services listed as **applying** to the OPM (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”).
  2. Once your OPM is met, you will no longer pay for covered Services **that apply** to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period.
- C. For covered Services that do **NOT APPLY** to the OPM.
  1. The only Copayments or Coinsurance that **do not apply** toward the OPM are those made for covered Services listed as **not** applying to the OPM (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”).
  2. Once your OPM is met, you will continue to pay for covered Services that **do not apply** to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period.

### **Tracking Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Amounts**

Once you have received Services and we have processed the claim for Services rendered, we will provide an Explanation of Benefits (EOB). The EOB will list the Services you received, the cost of those Services, and the payments made for the Services. It will also include information regarding what portion of the payments were applied to your medical Deductible and/or OPM amounts.

For more information about your medical Deductible or OPM amounts, please call **Member Services** or go to **kp.org**.

# Benefits for DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

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## III. COPAYMENTS AND COINSURANCE

**Note:** Day, visit, and dollar limits, Deductibles, and Out-of-Pocket Maximums are based on a calendar year Accumulation Period.

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### **Medical Deductible**

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AGGREGATE Medical Deductible

*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

\$1,500/Individual per Accumulation Period

\$3,000/Family per Accumulation Period

An Aggregate Medical Deductible means:

- If you are the only person covered on your plan, the individual Medical Deductible amount applies. After the individual medical Deductible is met, the Member will begin paying Copayments or Coinsurance for most covered Services for the rest of the Accumulation Period.
- If there are two or more family Members on your plan, the individual Medical Deductible amount does not apply. The entire family Medical Deductible must be met before Copayment or Coinsurance is applied for any individual family Member. No one in the family is considered to have met the Deductible until the entire family Deductible is met.

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

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AGGREGATE OPM

\$3,000/Individual per Accumulation Period

\$6,000/Family per Accumulation Period

An Aggregate OPM means:

- If you are the only person covered on your plan, the individual OPM amount applies. After the individual OPM is met, the Member will no longer pay Copayments or Coinsurance for those covered Services that apply to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period.
  - If there are two or more family Members on your plan, the individual OPM amount does not apply. The family OPM amount applies to the entire family as a whole. The entire family medical OPM amount must be met before any covered family Member will no longer pay Copayments or Coinsurance for covered Services. No one in the family is considered to have met the OPM until the entire family OPM is met.
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<b>Office Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.	
Primary care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Specialty care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Consultations with clinical pharmacists <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Allergy evaluation and testing	
• Primary care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: 20% Coinsurance
• Specialty care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: 20% Coinsurance
Allergy injections <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Gynecology care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Routine prenatal and postpartum visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Office-administered drugs <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
• Travel immunizations <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<b>Virtual Care Services</b>	
• Email	
o Primary care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
o Specialty care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
• Chat with a doctor online via kp.org	
o Primary care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
o Specialty care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
• Telephone visits	
o Primary care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
o Specialty care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
• Video visits	
o Primary care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
o Specialty care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
Covered Services not otherwise listed in this Schedule of Benefits received during an office visit, a scheduled procedure visit, video visit, or provided by a Plan Medical Office <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance

<b>Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.	
Outpatient surgery at Plan Facilities <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance

Outpatient hospital Services <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<b>Hospital Inpatient Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(See Hospital Inpatient Care in "Benefits/Coverage (What Is Covered)" in this EOC for the list of covered Services.)</i> <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Inpatient professional Services <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<b>Alternative Medicine</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Chiropractic care	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluation and/or manipulation <i>(Not subject to Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>Laboratory Services or x-rays required for chiropractic care <i>(See "X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered  See "X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
Acupuncture Services <i>(Not subject to Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<b>Ambulance Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<b>Bariatric Surgery</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(Not subject to Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<b>Dental Services following Accidental Injury</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<b>Dialysis Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance

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**Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Prosthetics and Orthotics**

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**You Pay**

Durable Medical Equipment

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

See Additional Provisions

- Breast pumps

*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

No Charge

Prosthetic devices

- Internally implanted prosthetic devices

*(See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)*

See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for applicable Copayment(s) and/or Coinsurance.

- Prosthetic arm or leg

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

- All other prosthetic devices

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Orthotic devices

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Oxygen

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Maximum limit paid by Health Plan for Durable Medical Equipment, certain prosthetic devices, and orthotic devices

Not Applicable

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**Emergency Services**

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**You Pay**

Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.

Plan and non-Plan emergency room visits and related covered Services unless otherwise noted (covered 24 hours a day)

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

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**Urgent Care****You Pay**

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Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.

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**Plan Facility within Service Area**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Urgent care may require additional Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits (for example: Office Services, Durable Medical Equipment, X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures). See the appropriate section for applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and Deductible information.

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**Urgent care outside Service Area**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Urgent care may require additional Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits (for example: Office Services, Durable Medical Equipment, X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures). See the appropriate section for applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and Deductible information.

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Covered only if all the following requirements are met:

- The care is required to prevent serious decline of health
  - The need for care results from an unforeseen illness or injury when temporarily away from our Service Area
  - The care cannot be delayed until you return to our Service Area
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**Family Planning and Sterilization Services****You Pay**

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**Family planning counseling**

*(See "Office Services" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)*

See "Office Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.

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**Associated outpatient surgery procedures**

*(See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)*

See "Office Services" or "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.

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**Health Education Services****You Pay**

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**Training in self-care and preventive care**

*(See "Office Services" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)*

See "Office Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.

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<b>Hearing Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction when performed by an audiologist <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction when performed by a specialist other than an audiologist <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Hearing aids for Members up to age 18 <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fitting and recheck visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	20% Coinsurance
Hearing aids for Members age 18 and over <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fitting and recheck visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<b>Home Health Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Home health Services prescribed by a Plan Physician <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<b>Hospice Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Special Services program for hospice-eligible Members who have not yet elected hospice care <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Hospice care for terminally ill patients <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<b>Mental Health Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Inpatient psychiatric hospitalization <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inpatient day limit</li> </ul>	Not Applicable
Inpatient professional Services for psychiatric hospitalization <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Outpatient individual therapy or intensive outpatient therapy <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance including partial hospitalization
Outpatient group therapy <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance

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**Out-of-Area Benefit****You Pay**

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The following Services are limited to Dependents up to the age of 26 outside the Service Area

**Outpatient office visits**

*(Combined office visit limit between primary care, specialty care, outpatient mental health and substance use disorder services, gynecology care, hearing exam, prevention immunizations, preventive care, and the administration of allergy injections. Office visits do not include: allergy evaluation, routine prenatal and postpartum visits, chiropractic care, acupuncture services, hearing aids, hearing tests, home health visits, hospice services, and applied behavioral analysis (ABA).)*

*Visit: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

*Other Services: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

*Preventive immunizations: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

Visit limit: Limited to 5 visits per Accumulation Period

Visit: 20% Coinsurance

Other Services received during an office visit: Not Covered

Preventive immunizations:  
No Charge

**Diagnostic X-ray Services**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

Diagnostic X-ray Services limit:  
Limited to 5 diagnostic X-rays per Accumulation Period  
20% Coinsurance

**Outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

Therapy visit limit: Limited to 5 therapy visits (any combination) per Accumulation Period

Visit: 20% Coinsurance

**Outpatient prescription drugs**

Prescription drug fills: Limited to 5 prescription drug fills (any combination) per Accumulation Period

- Copayment/Coinsurance (except as listed below)  
*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

50% Coinsurance Generic/50%  
Coinsurance Brand name/50%  
Coinsurance Non-preferred/50%  
Coinsurance Specialty

- Prescribed diabetic supplies  
*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

- Preventive drugs
  - Contraceptive drugs  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
  - Over the counter (OTC) items:  
*(Federally mandated over the counter items)*  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
  - Tobacco cessation drugs  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

No Charge

No Charge

No Charge

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**Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy and Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services**

---

**You Pay**

Inpatient treatment in a multidisciplinary rehabilitation program provided in a designated rehabilitation facility

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance; Up to 60 days per condition per Accumulation Period

---

Short-term outpatient physical, occupational and speech therapy visits

- **Habilitative Services**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Limited to 20 visits per therapy per Accumulation Period

- **Rehabilitative Services**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Limited to 20 visits per therapy per Accumulation Period

---

Outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits to treat Autism Spectrum Disorder

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

---

Applied Behavioral Services

- **Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

---

Pulmonary rehabilitation

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

---

---

**Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements****You Pay**

---

Outpatient prescription drugs Copayment/Coinsurance  
(except as listed below):

\$15 Generic/\$40 Brand name

*(Prescriptions are subject to the medical Deductible and apply to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum except as otherwise listed in this "Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements" section.)*

- Pharmacy Deductible

Not Applicable

- Infertility drugs

Not Covered

*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

- Insulin

Applicable Copayment/Coinsurance  
not to exceed \$100 up to a 30-day  
supply

- o Prescribed supplies

20% Coinsurance

*(When obtained from sources designated by Kaiser Permanente)*

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

- Over the counter (OTC) items:

No Charge

*(Federally mandated over the counter (OTC) items. OTCs require a prescription and must be filled at a Kaiser Permanente pharmacy.)*

*(Not subject to medical or pharmacy Deductible)*

- Prescription contraceptives

No Charge

*(Supply limit according to applicable law)*

*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

- Preventive tier drugs

See applicable Outpatient  
prescription drug  
Copayment/Coinsurance

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

- Sexual dysfunction drugs

Not Covered

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

- Specialty drugs

See applicable Outpatient  
prescription drug  
Copayment/Coinsurance

*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

- Tobacco cessation drugs

No Charge

*(Not subject to medical or pharmacy Deductible)*

**Supply Limit**

- Day supply limit

60 days

- Mail-order supply limit

\$15 Generic/\$40 Brand  
Up to 60 days

See Additional Provisions

---



<b>Preventive Care Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Preventive care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult preventive care exams and screenings</li> <li>• Behavioral health screening</li> <li>• Well-woman care exams and screenings</li> <li>• Well-child care exams</li> <li>• Immunizations</li> </ul>	
Colorectal cancer screenings <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colonoscopies</li> <li>• Flexible sigmoidoscopies</li> </ul>	No Charge
Preventive Virtual Care Services <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Email</li> <li>• Chat with a doctor online via kp.org</li> <li>• Telephone</li> <li>• Video visits</li> </ul>	
Non-preventive covered Services received in conjunction with preventive care exam <i>(See "Office Services" or "Laboratory Services" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Office Services" or "Laboratory Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
<b>Reconstructive Surgery</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
<b>Reproductive Support Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Covered Services for diagnosis and treatment of infertility (including lab and X-ray) <i>(Not subject to Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
Intrauterine insemination (IUI) <i>(Not subject to Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
Gamete Intrafallopian Transfer (GIFT) <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
Zygote Intrafallopian Transfer (ZIFT) <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<b>Skilled Nursing Facility Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance Limited to 100 days per Accumulation Period

<b>Substance Use Disorder Services (formerly Chemical Dependency Services)</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Inpatient medical detoxification <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Inpatient professional Services for medical detoxification <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Outpatient individual therapy or intensive outpatient therapy <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance including partial hospitalization
Outpatient group therapy <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Residential rehabilitation <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance per inpatient admission
<b>Transplant Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(See "Office Services", "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services", or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Office Services", "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services", or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
<b>Vision Services and Optical</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Eye exams for treatment of injuries and/or diseases	See "Office Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
Routine eye exam when performed by an Optometrist	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members up to the end of the calendar year he/she turns age 19 <i>Visit: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: 20% Coinsurance Test: 20% Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members age 19 and over <i>Visit: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: 20% Coinsurance Test: 20% Coinsurance
Routine eye exam when performed by an Ophthalmologist	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members up to the end of the calendar year he/she turns age 19 <i>Visit: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: 20% Coinsurance Test: 20% Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members age 19 and over <i>Visit: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: 20% Coinsurance Test: 20% Coinsurance
Covered Services not otherwise listed in this Schedule of Benefits received during an office visit, a scheduled procedure visit, or provided by a Plan Medical Office <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Optical hardware	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members up to the end of the calendar year he/she turns age 19 <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members age 19 and over <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered

<b>X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Diagnostic laboratory Services <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Diagnostic X-ray Services <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Therapeutic X-ray Services <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
X-ray special procedures including but not limited to CT, PET, MRI, nuclear medicine <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diagnostic procedures include administered drugs.</li> <li>• Therapeutic procedures may incur an additional charge for administered drugs.</li> </ul> <i>(See "Office Services" for "Office-administered Drugs")</i>	

<b>Plus Benefit</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Maximum limit per Accumulation Period	Not Applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preventive care visits with a non-Plan Provider <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary care and allergy injection visits, hearing exams, outpatient mental health and substance use disorder individual therapy visits, and short-term outpatient physical, occupational, or speech therapy visits with a non-Plan Provider. Visits include phone or email virtual care Services. <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specialty and gynecology care visits, hearing exams, and allergy testing and evaluations with a non-Plan Provider. Visits include phone or email virtual care Services. <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Covered Services received during an office visit with a non-Plan Provider, allergy injections, durable medical equipment, diagnostic X-ray and laboratory Services, and implantable or injectable contraceptives. <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
Prescription Drug fill maximum per Accumulation Period	Not Applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outpatient prescription drugs filled at a non-Plan Pharmacy <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
Outpatient prescription drugs prescribed by a non-Plan Provider and filled at a Plan Pharmacy <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered

#### **IV. DEPENDENT LIMITING AGE**

The Dependent limiting age as described under Dependents in the "Eligibility" section of the EOC is the end of the month in which age 26 is reached. A Dependent child will continue to be eligible until the Dependent child reaches this age, if he or she continues to meet all other eligibility requirements. For additional information regarding eligible Dependents, including certain Dependents over the limiting age, please refer to the "Eligibility" section in the EOC.

#### **Additional Provisions**

Please see "Additional Provisions" for any supplemental information that applies to your coverage.



**CONTACT US**

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**Appointments and Medical Advice (Advice Nurses) – Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week**

**CALL**      *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-338-4545** or toll-free **1-800-218-1059**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-800-218-1059**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **970-207-7171** or toll-free **1-800-218-1059**

**TTY**      **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**Behavioral Health**

**CALL**      *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-471-7700**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-866-702-9026**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-866-359-8299**

**TTY**      **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**Member Services**

**CALL**      *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-338-3800** or toll-free **1-800-632-9700**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-888-681-7878**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-844-201-5824**

**TTY**      **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**FAX**      **303-338-3444**

**WRITE**      **Member Services**  
**Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado**  
**2500 South Havana Street**  
**Aurora, CO 80014-1622**

**WEBSITE**      [kp.org](http://kp.org)

**Appeals Program**

<b>CALL</b>	<b>303-344-7933</b> or toll free <b>1-888-370-9858</b>
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
<b>FAX</b>	<b>1-866-466-4042</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	<b>Appeals Program</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 378066</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-8066</b>

**Claims Department**

<b>CALL</b>	<i>Denver/Boulder</i> Members: <b>303-338-3600</b> or toll-free <b>1-800-382-4661</b> <i>Southern Colorado</i> Members: <b>1-888-681-7878</b> <i>Northern Colorado</i> Members: <b>1-800-382-4661</b>
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
<b>WRITE</b>	<i>Denver/Boulder</i> Members: <b>Claims Department</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 373150</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-3150</b>  <i>Southern Colorado</i> Members: <b>Claims Department</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 372910</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-6910</b>  <i>Northern Colorado</i> Members: <b>Claims Department</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 373150</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-3150</b>

**Membership Administration**

<b>WRITE</b>	<b>Membership Administration</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 203004</b> <b>Denver, CO 80220-9004</b>
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**Patient Financial Services**

**CALL** *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-743-5900**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-888-681-7878**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-844-201-5824**

**TTY** **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**WRITE** **Patient Financial Services**  
**Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado**  
**2500 South Havana Street, Suite 500**  
**Aurora, CO 80014-1622**

**Personal Physician Selection Services**

**CALL** *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-338-4477**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-855-208-7221**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-855-208-7221**

**TTY** **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**WEBSITE** [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations) for a list of providers and facilities

**Transplant Administrative Offices**

**CALL** **303-636-3131**

**TTY** **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.





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**ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS**



## I. ELIGIBILITY

### A. Who Is Eligible

#### 1. General

To be eligible to enroll and to remain enrolled in this health benefit plan, you must meet the following requirements:

- a. You must meet your Group's eligibility requirements that we have approved. Your Group is required to inform Subscribers of the Group's eligibility requirements; and
- b. You must also meet the Subscriber or Dependent eligibility requirements as described below; and
- c. The Subscriber must live or reside in our Service Area. Our Service Area is described in the "Definitions" section.

#### 2. Subscribers

You may be eligible to enroll as a Subscriber if you are entitled to Subscriber coverage under your Group's eligibility requirements. An example would be an employee of your Group who works at least the number of hours stated in those requirements.

#### 3. Dependents

If you are a Subscriber, the following persons may be eligible to enroll as your Dependents under this plan:

- a. Your Spouse. (Spouse includes a partner in a valid civil union under state law.)
- b. Your or your Spouse's children (including adopted children and children placed with you for adoption) who are under the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)."
- c. Other dependent persons (but not including foster children) who meet all of the following requirements:
  - i. They are under the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)"; and
  - ii. You or your Spouse is the court-appointed permanent legal guardian (or was before the person reached age 18).
- d. Your or your Spouse's unmarried children over the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" who are medically certified as disabled and dependent upon you or your Spouse are eligible to enroll or continue coverage as your Dependents if the following requirements are met:
  - i. They are dependent on you or your Spouse; and
  - ii. You give us proof of the Dependent's disability and dependency annually if we request it.
- e. Subscriber's designated beneficiary prescribed by Colorado law, if your employer elects to cover designated beneficiaries as dependents.

**Students on Medical Leave of Absence.** Dependent children who lose dependent student status at a postsecondary educational institution due to a Medically Necessary leave of absence may remain eligible for coverage until the earlier of (i) one year after the first day of the Medically Necessary leave of absence; or (ii) the date dependent coverage would otherwise terminate under this EOC. We must receive written certification by a treating physician of the dependent child which states 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.

If your plan has different eligibility requirements, please see "Additional Provisions."

#### 4. Health Savings Account Eligibility

Enrollment in a High Deductible Health Plan that is HSA-compatible is only one of the eligibility requirements for establishing and contributing to an HSA. Other requirements include that you must not be: (a) covered by another health coverage plan (for example, through your spouse's employer) that is not also an HSA-compatible health plan, with certain exceptions; (b) enrolled in Medicare; or (c) able to be claimed as a Dependent on another person's tax return. Consult your tax advisor for more information about your eligibility for an HSA.

### B. Enrollment and Effective Date of Coverage

Eligible people may enroll as follows, and membership begins at 12:00 a.m. on the membership effective date.

#### 1. New Employees and their Dependents

If you are a new employee, you may enroll yourself and any eligible Dependents by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application to your Group within 31 days after you become eligible. You should check with your Group to see when new employees become eligible. Your membership will become effective on the date specified by your Group.

#### 2. Members Who are Inpatient on Effective Date of Coverage

If you are an inpatient in a hospital or institution when your coverage with us becomes effective and you had other coverage when you were admitted, state law will determine whether we or your prior carrier will be responsible for payment for your care until your date of discharge.

3. Special Enrollment Due to Newly Acquired Dependents

You may enroll as a Subscriber (along with any eligible Dependents), and existing Subscribers may add eligible Dependents, by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application to your Group within 31 days after a Dependent becomes newly eligible.

The membership effective date for the Dependents (and, if applicable, the new Subscriber) will be:

- a. For newborn children, the moment of birth. Your newborn child is covered for the first 31 days following birth. This coverage is required by state law, whether or not you intend to add the newborn to this plan.

For existing Subscribers:

- i. If the addition of the newborn child to the Subscriber's coverage will change the amount the Subscriber is required to pay for that coverage, then the Subscriber, in order for the newborn to keep coverage beyond the first 31-day period of coverage, is required to: (A) pay the new amount due for coverage after the first 31-day period of coverage; and (B) notify Health Plan within 31 days of the newborn's birth.
- ii. If the addition of the newborn child to the Subscriber's coverage will not change the amount the Subscriber pays for coverage, the Subscriber must still notify Health Plan after the birth of the newborn to get the newborn enrolled onto the Subscriber's Health Plan coverage.

- b. For newly adopted children (including children newly placed for adoption), the date of the adoption or placement for adoption. An eligible adopted child must be enrolled within 31 days from the date the child is placed in your custody or the date of the final decree of adoption.

For existing Subscribers:

- i. If the addition of the newly adopted child to the Subscriber's coverage will change the amount the Subscriber is required to pay for that coverage, then the Subscriber, in order for the newly adopted child to continue coverage beyond the initial 31-day period of coverage, is required to (A) pay the new amount due for coverage after the initial 31-day period of coverage; and (B) notify Health Plan within 31 days of the child's adoption or placement for adoption.
- ii. If the addition of the newly adopted child to the Subscriber's coverage will not change the amount the Subscriber pays for coverage, the Subscriber must still notify Health Plan after the adoption or placement for adoption of the child to get the child enrolled onto the Subscriber's Health Plan coverage.

- c. For all other Dependents, if enrolled within 31 days of becoming eligible, no later than the first day of the month following the date your Group receives the enrollment application. Your Group will let you know the membership effective date. Employees and Dependents who are not enrolled when newly eligible must wait until the next open enrollment period to become Members of Health Plan, unless: (i) they enroll under special circumstances, as agreed to by your Group and Health Plan; or (ii) they enroll under the provisions described in "Special Enrollment".

4. Special Enrollment

You or your Dependent may experience a triggering event that allows a change in your enrollment. Examples of triggering events are the loss of coverage, a Dependent's aging off this plan, marriage, and birth of a child. The triggering event results in a special enrollment period that usually (but not always) starts on the date of the triggering event and lasts for 30 days. During the special enrollment period, you may enroll your Dependent(s) in this plan or, in certain circumstances, you may change plans (your plan choice may be limited). There are requirements that you must meet to take advantage of a special enrollment period including showing proof of your own or your Dependent's triggering event. To learn more about triggering events, special enrollment periods, how to enroll or change your plan (if permitted), timeframes for submitting information to Health Plan and other requirements, call **Member Services** to obtain a copy of Health Plan's *Special Enrollment Guide*.

5. Open Enrollment

You may enroll as a Subscriber (along with any eligible Dependents), and existing Subscribers may add eligible Dependents, by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application to your Group during the open enrollment period. Your Group will let you know when the open enrollment period begins and ends and the membership effective date.

6. Persons Barred from Enrolling

You cannot enroll if you have had your entitlement to receive Services through Health Plan terminated for cause.

## II. HOW TO ACCESS YOUR SERVICES AND OBTAIN APPROVAL OF BENEFITS

As a Member, you are selecting our medical care program to provide your health care. You must receive all covered Services from Plan Providers inside your home Service Area, except as described under the following headings:

- "Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)" in "Emergency Services and Urgent Care" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.

- “Urgent Care Outside the Service Area” in “Emergency Services and Urgent Care” in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.
- “Out-of-Area Benefit” in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.
- “Access to Other Providers” in this section.
- “Cross Market Access” in this section.
- “Visiting Other Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Areas” in this section.
- “Plus Benefit” if purchased by your Group. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if your Group has purchased this coverage.

Your home Service Area is printed on your Health Plan Identification (ID) card. For more information about your ID card, please refer to the “Using Your Health Plan Identification Card” section.

In some circumstances, you might receive emergency or non-emergency Services from a non-Plan Provider or non-Plan Facility. **Non-emergency Services from non-Plan Providers are not covered unless they are authorized by us.** If Services from a non-Plan Provider are authorized, the Deductible, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance for these authorized Services are the same as for covered Services received from a Plan Provider. You have the right and responsibility to request a Plan Provider to provide Services.

**Note:** *Denver/Boulder* Members do not have access to Affiliated Providers within the *Denver/Boulder* Service Area unless authorized by Health Plan. *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Members do have access to Affiliated Providers within their home Service Area.

## A. Your Primary Care Provider

Your primary care provider (PCP) plays an important role in coordinating your health care needs. This includes hospital stays and referrals to specialists. Every member of your family should have his or her own PCP.

### 1. Choosing Your Primary Care Provider

You may select a PCP from family medicine, pediatrics, or internal medicine within your home Service Area. You may also receive a second medical opinion from a Plan Physician upon request. Please refer to the “Second Opinions” section.

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

You may choose your PCP from our provider directory. To review a list of Plan Providers and their biographies, visit our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). You can also get a copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. To choose a PCP, sign in to your account online or call **Personal Physician Selection Services**. This team will help you choose a primary care provider, accepting new patients, based on your health care needs.

#### b. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

You must choose a PCP when you enroll. If you do not select a PCP upon enrollment, we will assign you one near your home.

Medical Group contracts with a panel of Affiliated Physicians, specialists, and other health care professionals to provide medical Services in the *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Service Areas. You may choose your PCP from our panel of *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* providers.

You can find these physicians, along with a list of affiliated specialists and ancillary providers, in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your specific home Service Area. You can review a list of *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Plan Providers by visiting our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). You can also get a copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. To choose a PCP, call **Personal Physician Selection Services**. This team will help you choose a primary care provider, accepting new patients, based on your health care needs.

If you are seeking routine or specialty care in *Denver/Boulder*, you must have a referral from your local PCP with an Authorization from Health Plan. If you do not have an Authorization, you will be billed for the full amount of the office visit Charges. If you are visiting in the *Denver/Boulder* Service Area and need urgent or emergency care, you can visit a *Denver/Boulder* Plan Facility without a referral. For a referral from a specialist, see the “Access to Other Providers” section. For care in *Denver/Boulder* Plan Medical Offices, see “Cross Market Access”.

### 2. Changing Your Primary Care Provider

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

Please call **Personal Physician Selection Services** to change your PCP. You may also change your PCP online or when visiting a Plan Facility. You may change your PCP at any time.

#### b. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

Please call **Personal Physician Selection Services** to change your PCP. Notify us of your new PCP choice by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month. Your selection will be effective on the first day of the following month.

## B. Access to Other Providers

### 1. Referrals and Authorizations

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

If your Medical Group physician decides that you need covered Services not available from us, he or she will request a referral for you to see a non-Medical Group physician inside or outside our Service Area. This referral request will result in an Authorization or a denial. However, there may be circumstances where Health Plan will partially authorize your provider's referral request.

An Authorization is a referral request that has received approval from Health Plan. An Authorization is limited to a specific Service, treatment or series of treatments, and period of time. The provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid. Copayments or Coinsurance for authorized Services are the same as those required for Services provided by a Medical Group physician.

An Authorization is required for Services provided by non-Plan Providers, non-Medical Group physicians, or non-Plan Facilities. If your provider refers you to a non-Medical Group physician, non-Plan Provider, or non-Plan Facility, inside or outside our Service Area, you must have a written Authorization in order for us to cover the Services.

All referral Services must be requested and authorized in advance. We will not pay for any care rendered by a provider unless the care is specifically authorized by Health Plan and approved in advance. A written or verbal recommendation by a provider that you get non-covered Services (whether Medically Necessary or not) is not considered an Authorization, and is **not** covered.

#### b. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

If your Medical Group physician decides that you need covered Services not available from us, he or she will request a referral for you to see a non-Medical Group physician inside or outside our Service Area. This referral request will result in an Authorization or a denial. However, there may be circumstances where Health Plan will partially authorize your provider's referral request.

An Authorization is a referral request that has received approval from Health Plan. An Authorization is limited to a specific Service, treatment or series of treatments, and period of time. The provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid. Copayments or Coinsurance for authorized Services are the same as those required for Services provided by a Medical Group physician.

An Authorization is required for Services provided by non-Plan Providers, non-Medical Group physicians, or non-Plan Facilities. If your provider refers you to a non-Medical Group physician, non-Plan Provider, or non-Plan Facility, inside or outside our Service Area, you must have a written Authorization in order for us to cover the Services.

All referral Services must be requested and authorized in advance. We will not pay for any care rendered by a provider unless the care is specifically authorized by Health Plan and approved in advance. A written or verbal recommendation by a provider that you get non-covered Services (whether Medically Necessary or not) is not considered an Authorization, and is **not** covered.

### 2. Specialty Self-Referrals

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

In some cases you can refer yourself for consultation (routine office) visits to specialty-care departments within Kaiser Permanente, with the exception of certain specialty-care departments such as the anesthesia clinical pain department. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to eye care services from a Plan Provider. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a Plan Provider who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology.

You will find specialty-care providers in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your home Service Area. The Provider Directory is available on our website, [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). If you need a printed copy of the Provider Directory, please call **Member Services**.

A self-referral provides coverage for routine office visits only. Certain Services other than those provided as part of a routine office visit will not be covered unless authorized by Kaiser Permanente before Services are rendered.

Authorization from Kaiser Permanente is required for: (i) Services in addition to those provided as part of the visit, such as surgery; and (ii) visits to specialty-care Plan Providers not eligible for self-referrals; and (iii) non-Plan Providers. The request for these Services can be generated by either your PCP or by a specialty-care provider. If the request is approved, the provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and



you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid.

A Plan Provider can directly refer you for some laboratory or radiology Services and for specialty procedures such as a CT scan or MRI. However, certain laboratory or radiology Services and specialty procedures will still require an Authorization.

b. **Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas**

In some cases you can refer yourself for consultation (routine office) visits to specialty-care departments within Kaiser Permanente, with the exception of certain specialty-care departments such as the anesthesia clinical pain department. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to eye care services from a Plan Provider. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a Plan Provider who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology.

You will find specialty-care providers in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your home Service Area. The Provider Directory is available on our website, [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). If you need a printed copy of the Provider Directory, please call **Member Services**.

A self-referral provides coverage for routine office visits only. Certain Services other than those provided as part of a routine office visit will not be covered unless authorized by Kaiser Permanente before Services are rendered.

Authorization from Kaiser Permanente is required for: (i) Services in addition to those provided as part of the visit, such as surgery; and (ii) visits to specialty-care Plan Providers not eligible for self-referrals; and (iii) non-Plan Providers. The request for these Services can be generated by either your PCP or by a specialty-care provider. If the request is approved, the provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid.

A Plan Provider can directly refer you for some laboratory or radiology Services and for specialty procedures such as a CT scan or MRI. However, certain laboratory or radiology Services and specialty procedures will still require an Authorization.

**Southern and Northern Colorado** Members may be able to self-refer to Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices in the **Denver/Boulder** Service Area (see "Cross Market Access" in this section).

3. **Second Opinions**

Upon request and subject to payment of any applicable Deductible, Copayments, and/or Coinsurance, you may get a second opinion from a Plan Physician about any proposed covered Services.

If the recommendations of the first and second physician differ regarding the need for surgery (or other major procedure), a third opinion may be covered if authorized by Health Plan. Third medical opinions are not covered unless authorized by Health Plan before Services are rendered.

**C. Plan Facilities**

Plan Facilities are Plan Medical Offices or Plan Hospitals in our Service Area that we contract with to provide covered Services to our Members.

1. **Denver/Boulder Service Area**

We offer health care at Plan Medical Offices conveniently located throughout the **Denver/Boulder** Service Area. At most of our Plan Facilities, you can usually receive all the covered Services you need. This includes specialized care. You are not restricted to a certain Plan Facility. We encourage you to use the Plan Facility in your home Service Area that will be most convenient for you.

Plan Facilities are listed in our provider directory, which we update regularly. You can get a current copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. You can also get a list of Plan Facilities on our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations).

2. **Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas**

When you select your PCP, you will receive your Services at that provider's office. You can find **Southern and Northern Colorado** Plan Physicians and their facilities, along with a list of affiliated specialists and ancillary providers, in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your specific home Service Area. You can get a copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. You can also get a list from our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations).

**D. Getting the Care You Need**

Emergency care is covered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week anywhere in the world. **If you think you have a Life or Limb Threatening Emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room.** For coverage information about emergency care, including out-of-Plan Emergency Services, and emergency benefits away from home, please refer to "Emergency Services" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.

If you need urgent care, you may use one of the designated urgent care Plan Facilities. The Copayment or Coinsurance for urgent care received in Plan Facilities listed in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” will apply. For additional information about urgent care, please refer to “Urgent Care” in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.

Urgent care received at a non-Plan Facility inside your Service Area is **not covered**. If you receive care for minor medical problems at non-Plan Facilities inside your Service Area, you will be responsible for payment for any treatment received.

There may be instances when you need to receive unauthorized urgent care outside your Service Area. Please see “Urgent Care” in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section for coverage information about urgent care Services outside the Service Area.

#### **E. Visiting Other Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Areas**

You may receive visiting member services from another Kaiser regional health plan as directed by that other plan so long as such services would be covered under this EOC. Kaiser regional health plan service areas may change at any time. Currently they are: the District of Columbia and parts of California, Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Maryland, Oregon, Virginia, and Washington. For more information, please call **Member Services**. Visiting member services shall be subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this EOC including but not limited to those pertaining to prior Authorization, Deductible, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance, as further described in the Visiting Member Brochure available online at [kp.org/travel](http://kp.org/travel). Certain services are not covered as visiting member services.

For more information about receiving visiting member services in other Kaiser regional health plan service areas, including 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).

#### **F. Moving Outside of our Service Area**

If you move to an area not within any Kaiser regional health plan service area, your membership may be terminated. We will provide you with thirty (30) days’ notice of termination which will include the reason for termination.

#### **G. Using Your Health Plan Identification Card**

Each Member is issued a Health Plan Identification (ID) card with a Health Record Number on it. This is useful when you call for advice, make an appointment, or go to a Plan Provider for care. The Health Record Number is used to identify your medical records and membership information. You should always have the same Health Record Number. Please call **Member Services** if: (1) we ever inadvertently issue you more than one Health Record Number; or (2) you need to replace your Health Plan ID card.

Your Health Plan ID card is for identification only. To receive covered Services, you must be a current Health Plan Member. Anyone who is not a Member will be billed as a non-Member for any Services we provide. In addition, claims for Emergency or non-emergency care Services from non-Plan Providers will be denied. If you let someone else use your Health Plan ID card, we may keep your card and terminate your membership upon 30 days written notice that will include the reason for termination.

When you receive Services, you will need to show photo identification along with your Health Plan ID card. This allows us to ensure proper identification and to better protect your coverage and medical information from fraud. If you suspect you or your membership is a victim of fraud, please call **Member Services** to report your concern.

#### **H. Cross Market Access**

Members may access certain Services at Kaiser Permanente Colorado Plan Medical Offices outside of their home Service Area.

##### **1. Denver/Boulder Members**

**Denver/Boulder** Members have access for certain Services at designated Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices in the **Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Service Areas. **Denver/Boulder** Members do not have access to Affiliated Providers in **Southern** and **Northern Colorado** unless authorized by Health Plan.

##### **2. Southern and Northern Colorado Members**

**Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Members have access for certain Services at any Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Office in the **Denver/Boulder**, **Southern**, and **Northern Colorado** Service Areas. **Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Members do not have access to Affiliated Providers outside their home Service Area unless authorized by Health Plan.

Services available to Members at Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices outside of their home Service Area include: primary care; specialty care; urgent care; pharmacy; laboratory; X-ray; vision; and hearing Services. These Services may not be available at all Plan Medical Offices and are subject to change. For more information on what Services you may access outside your designated home Service Area and at which Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices you may receive Services, please call **Member Services**.

### III. BENEFITS/COVERAGE (WHAT IS COVERED)

The Services described in this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section are covered only if all the following conditions are satisfied:

- The Services are Medically Necessary; and
- The Services are provided, prescribed, recommended, or directed by a Plan Provider. This does not apply where specifically noted to the contrary in the following sections of this EOC: (a) “Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)” and “Urgent Care Outside the Service Area” in “Emergency Services and Urgent Care”; and (b) “Out-of-Area Benefit”; and (c) “Plus Benefit” if purchased by your Group (see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if your Group has purchased this coverage); and
- You receive the Services from Plan Providers inside our Service Area. This does not apply where noted to the contrary in the following sections of this EOC: (a) “Referrals and Authorizations” and “Specialty Self-Referrals”; and (b) “Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)” and “Urgent Care Outside the Service Area” in “Emergency Services and Urgent Care”; and (c) “Out-of-Area Benefit”; and (d) “Visiting Other Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Areas”; and (e) “Plus Benefit” if purchased by your Group (see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if your Group has purchased this coverage); and
- Your provider has received prior Authorization for your Services, as appropriate; and
- You have met any Deductible requirements described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

Exclusions and limitations that apply only to a certain benefit are described in this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section. Exclusions, limitations, and reductions that apply to all benefits are described in the “Limitations/Exclusions (What is Not Covered)” section.

**Note:** Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance may apply to the benefits and are described below. For a complete list of Deductible, Copayment, and Coinsurance requirements, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” You are responsible for any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for Services performed as part of or in conjunction with other outpatient Services, including but not limited to: office visits, Emergency Services, urgent care, and outpatient surgery.

#### A. Office Services

##### Office Services for Preventive Care, Diagnosis, and Treatment

We cover, under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section and subject to any specific limitations, exclusions, or exceptions as noted throughout this EOC, the following office Services for preventive care, diagnosis, and treatment, including professional medical Services of physicians and other health care professionals in the physician’s office, during medical office consultations, in a Skilled Nursing Facility, or at home:

1. Primary care visits: Services from family medicine, internal medicine, and pediatrics.
2. Specialty care visits: Services from providers that are not primary care, as defined above.
3. Routine prenatal and postpartum visits: The routine prenatal benefit covers office exams, routine chemical urinalysis and fetal stress tests performed during the office visit. See the applicable section of your “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for the Copayment and/or Coinsurance for all other Services received during a prenatal visit.
4. Consultations with clinical pharmacists (*Denver/Boulder* Members only).
5. Other covered Services received during an office visit or a scheduled procedure visit.
6. Outpatient hospital clinic visits with an Authorization from Health Plan.
7. Blood, blood products, and their administration.
8. Second opinion.
9. House calls when care can best be provided in your home as determined by a Plan Physician.
10. Medical social Services.
11. Preventive care Services (see “Preventive Care Services” in this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section for more details).
12. Professional review and interpretation of patient data from a remote monitoring device.
13. Virtual care Services.
14. Office-administered drugs.

**Note:** If the following are administered in a Plan Medical Office or during home visits, and administration or observation by medical personnel is required, they are covered at the applicable office-administered drug Copayment or Coinsurance shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” This Copayment or Coinsurance may be in addition to your Office Services Copayment or Coinsurance.

Drugs and injectables; radioactive materials used for therapeutic purposes; vaccines and immunizations approved for use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA); and allergy test and treatment materials.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” If your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, you must meet Medical Group’s criteria to be eligible for coverage.

## B. Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services

### Outpatient Services at Designated Facilities

We cover, only as described under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section and subject to any specific limitations, exclusions, or exceptions as noted throughout this EOC, the following outpatient Services for diagnosis and treatment, including professional medical Services of physicians:

1. Outpatient surgery at designated Plan Facilities, including an ambulatory surgical center, surgical suite, or outpatient hospital facility. Kaiser Permanente applies Medicare global surgery guidelines in accordance with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).
2. Outpatient hospital Services at designated facilities, including but not limited to: electroencephalogram, sleep study, stress test, pulmonary function test, any treatment room, or any observation room. You may be charged an additional Copayment or Coinsurance for any Service which is listed as a separate benefit under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” If your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, you must meet Medical Group’s criteria to be eligible for coverage.

## C. Hospital Inpatient Care

### 1. Inpatient Services in a Plan Hospital

We cover, only as described under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section and subject to any specific limitations, exclusions or exceptions as noted throughout this EOC, the following inpatient Services in a Plan Hospital, when the Services are generally and customarily provided by acute care general hospitals in our Service Areas:

- a. Room and board, such as semiprivate accommodations or, when it is Medically Necessary, private accommodations or private duty nursing care.
- b. Intensive care and related hospital Services.
- c. Professional Services of physicians and other health care professionals during a hospital stay.
- d. General nursing care.
- e. Obstetrical care and delivery. This includes Cesarean section. If the covered stay for child birth ends after 8 p.m., coverage will be continued until 8 a.m. the following morning. **Note:** If you are discharged within 48 hours after delivery (or 96 hours if delivery is by Cesarean section), your Plan Physician may order a follow-up visit for you and your newborn to take place within 48 hours after discharge. Charges incurred by the newborn are subject to all Health Plan provisions. This includes the newborn’s own Deductible, Out-of-Pocket Maximum, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance requirements. This applies even if the newborn is covered only for the first 31 days that is required by state law.
- f. Meals and special diets.
- g. Other hospital Services and supplies, such as:
  - i. Operating, recovery, maternity, and other treatment rooms.
  - ii. Prescribed drugs and medicines.
  - iii. Diagnostic laboratory tests and X-rays.
  - iv. Blood, blood products and their administration.
  - v. Dressings, splints, casts, and sterile tray Services.
  - vi. Anesthetics, including nurse anesthetist Services.
  - vii. Medical supplies, appliances, medical equipment, including oxygen, and any covered items billed by a hospital for use at home.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” If your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, you must meet Medical Group’s criteria to be eligible for coverage.

### 2. Hospital Inpatient Care Exclusions

- a. Dental Services are excluded, except that we cover hospitalization and general anesthesia for dental Services provided to Members as required by state law.
- b. Cosmetic surgery related to bariatric surgery.

## D. Ambulance Services and Other Transportation

### 1. Coverage

We cover ambulance Services only if your condition requires the use of medical Services that only a licensed ambulance can provide. Kaiser Permanente applies Medicare guidelines for ambulance Services in accordance with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

2. Ambulance Services Exclusions

- a. Non-emergency routine ambulance services to home or other non-acute health care setting are not covered.
- b. Transportation by other than a licensed ambulance is not covered. Transportation by car, taxi, bus, gurney van, minivan, or any other type of transportation is not covered, even if it is the only way to travel to a Plan Provider.

**Note:** Health Plan will cover certain non-emergent, non-ambulance transportation when there is prior Authorization by Health Plan.

**E. Clinical Trials**

**Note:** We cover the initial evaluation for eligibility and acceptance into a clinical trial only if authorized by Health Plan.

1. Coverage (applies to non-grandfathered health plans only)

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

- a. We would have covered the Services if they were not related to a clinical trial.
- b. You are eligible to participate in the clinical trial according to the trial protocol with respect to treatment of cancer or other life-threatening condition (a condition from which the likelihood of death is probable unless the course of the condition is interrupted), as determined in one of the following ways:
  - i. A Plan Provider makes this determination.
  - ii. You provide us with medical and scientific information establishing this determination.
- c. If any Plan 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 Plan Provider unless the clinical trial is outside the state where you live.
- d. The clinical trial is a phase I, phase II, phase III, or phase IV clinical trial related to the prevention, detection, or treatment of cancer or other life-threatening condition and it meets one of the following requirements:
  - i. The study or investigation is conducted under an investigational new drug application reviewed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
  - ii. The study or investigation is a drug trial that is exempt from having an investigational new drug application.
  - iii. The study or investigation is approved or funded by at least one of the following:
    - (a) The National Institutes of Health.
    - (b) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
    - (c) The Agency for Health Care Research and Quality.
    - (d) The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.
    - (e) A cooperative group or center of any of the above entities or of the Department of Defense or the Department of Veterans Affairs.
    - (f) A qualified non-governmental research entity identified in the guidelines issued by the National Institutes of Health for center support grants.
    - (g) 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:
      - (i) It is comparable to the National Institutes of Health system of peer review of studies and investigations.
      - (ii) 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 applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” that you would pay if the Services were not related to a clinical trial. For example, see “Hospital Inpatient Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for the Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible that apply to hospital inpatient care.

2. Clinical Trials Exclusions

- a. The investigational Service.
- b. Services provided solely for data collection and analysis and that are not used in your direct clinical management.

**F. Dialysis Care**

We cover dialysis Services related to acute renal failure and end-stage renal disease if the following criteria are met:

- 1. The Services are provided inside our Service Area; and
- 2. You meet all medical criteria developed by Medical Group and by the facility providing the dialysis; and
- 3. The facility is certified by Medicare and contracts with Health Plan; and
- 4. A Plan Physician provides a written referral for care at the facility.

After the referral to a dialysis facility, we cover: equipment; training; and medical supplies required for home dialysis. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

## G. Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Prosthetics and Orthotics

We cover DME and prosthetics and orthotics, when prescribed by a Plan Physician as described below; when prescribed by a Plan Physician during a covered stay in a Skilled Nursing Facility, but only if Skilled Nursing Facilities ordinarily furnish the DME or prosthetics and orthotics.

Health Plan uses Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) and National Coverage Determinations (NCD) (hereinafter referred to as Medicare Guidelines) for our DME, prosthetic, and orthotic formulary guidelines. These are guidelines only. Health Plan reserves the right to exclude items listed in the Medicare Guidelines. Please note that this EOC may contain some, but not all, of these exclusions.

**Limitations:** Coverage is limited to the standard item of DME, prosthetic device, or orthotic device that adequately meets your medical needs.

### 1. Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

#### a. Coverage

DME, with the exception of the following, is **not** covered unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for DME, including prosthetic and orthotic devices. See “Additional Provisions.”

- i. Oxygen dispensing equipment and oxygen used in your home are covered. Oxygen refills are covered while you are temporarily outside the Service Area. To qualify for coverage, you must have a pre-existing oxygen order and must obtain your oxygen from the vendor designated by Health Plan.
- ii. Insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iii. Infant apnea monitors are provided.
- iv. Enteral nutrition, medical foods, and related feeding equipment and supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.

#### b. Durable Medical Equipment Exclusions

- i. All other DME not described above, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for DME. See “Additional Provisions.”
- ii. Replacement of lost or stolen equipment.
- iii. Repair, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.
- iv. Spare equipment or alternate use equipment.
- v. More than one piece of DME serving essentially the same function, except for replacements.

### 2. Prosthetic Devices

#### a. Coverage

We cover the following prosthetic devices, including repairs, adjustments, and replacements other than those necessitated by misuse, theft, or loss, when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan:

- i. Internally implanted devices for functional purposes, such as pacemakers and hip joints.
- ii. Prosthetic devices for Members who have had a mastectomy. Medical Group or Health Plan will designate the source from which external prostheses can be obtained. Replacement will be made when a prosthesis is no longer functional. Custom-made prostheses will be provided when necessary.
- iii. Prosthetic devices, such as obturators and speech and feeding appliances, required for treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iv. Prosthetic devices intended to replace, in whole or in part, an arm or leg when prescribed by a Plan Physician, as Medically Necessary and provided in accordance with this EOC, including repairs and replacements of such prosthetic devices.

Your Group may have purchased additional coverage for prosthetic devices. See “Additional Provisions.”

#### b. Prosthetic Devices Exclusions

- i. All other prosthetic devices not described above, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for prosthetic devices. See “Additional Provisions.” Your Plan Physician can provide the Services necessary to determine your need for prosthetic devices and help you make arrangements to obtain such devices at a reasonable rate.
- ii. Internally implanted devices, equipment, and prosthetics related to treatment of sexual dysfunction, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for this benefit.

### 3. Orthotic Devices

Orthotic devices are **not** covered unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for DME, including prosthetic and orthotic devices. See “Additional Provisions.”

## H. Early Childhood Intervention Services

### 1. Coverage

Covered children, from birth up to age three (3), who have significant delays in development or have a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in significant delays in development as defined by state law, are covered for the number of Early Intervention Services (EIS) visits as required by state law. EIS are subject to the Deductible and apply toward the Out-of-Pocket Maximum. EIS are not subject to any Copayments or Coinsurance.

**Note:** You may be billed for any EIS received after the number of visits required by state law is satisfied.

### 2. Limitations

The number of visits as required by state law does not apply to:

- a. Rehabilitation or therapeutic Services which are necessary as the result of an acute medical condition or post-surgical rehabilitation;
- b. Services provided to a child who is not an eligible child and whose services are not provided pursuant to an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP); and
- c. Assistive technology covered by the durable medical equipment benefit provisions of this EOC.

### 3. Early Childhood Intervention Services Exclusions

- a. Respite care;
- b. Non-emergency medical transportation;
- c. Service coordination other than case management services; or
- d. Assistive technology, not to include durable medical equipment that is otherwise covered under this EOC.

## I. Emergency Services and Urgent Care

### 1. Emergency Services

Emergency Services are available at all times - 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK. If you have an Emergency Medical Condition or mental health emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest hospital emergency department. You do not need prior Authorization for Emergency Services. When you have an Emergency Medical Condition, we cover Emergency Services you receive from Plan Providers and non-Plan Providers anywhere in the world, as long as the Services would have been covered under your plan if you had received them from Plan Providers. For information about emergency benefits away from home, please call **Member Services**.

You will pay your plan's Deductible, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance for covered Emergency Services, regardless of whether the Services are provided by a Plan Provider or a non-Plan Provider.

Please note that in addition to any Copayment or Coinsurance that applies under this section, you may incur additional Copayment or Coinsurance amounts for Services and procedures covered under other sections of this EOC.

#### a. **Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)**

“Out-of-Plan Emergency Services” are Emergency Services that are not provided by a Plan Physician. There may be times when you or a family member may receive Emergency Services from non-Plan Providers. The patient's medical condition may be so critical that you cannot call or come to one of our Plan Medical Offices or the emergency room of a Plan Hospital, or, the patient may need Emergency Services while traveling outside our Service Area.

**Please refer to “ii. Emergency Services Limitation for non-Plan Providers” if you are hospitalized for Emergency Services.**

#### i. We cover out-of-Plan Emergency Services as follows:

- A. Outside our Service Area. If you are injured or become unexpectedly ill while you are outside our Service Area, we will cover out-of-Plan Emergency Services that could not reasonably be delayed until you could get to a Plan Hospital, a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, or a Plan Facility, only if a prudent layperson having average knowledge of health services and medicine and acting reasonably would have believed that an Emergency Medical Condition or Life or Limb Threatening Emergency existed. Covered benefits include Medically Necessary out-of-Plan Emergency Services for conditions that arise unexpectedly, including but not limited to myocardial infarction, appendicitis, or premature delivery.
- B. Inside our Service Area. If you are inside our Service Area, we will cover out-of-Plan Emergency Services only if a prudent layperson would have reasonably believed that the delay in going to a Plan Hospital, a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, or a Plan Facility for treatment would result in death or serious impairment of health.

#### ii. Emergency Services Limitation for non-Plan Providers

If you are admitted to a non-Plan Hospital, non-Plan Facility, or a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, you or someone on your behalf must notify us within 24 hours, or as soon as reasonably possible. Please call the **Telephonic Medicine Center at 303-743-5763**.

We will decide whether to make arrangements for necessary continued care where you are, or to transfer you to a Plan Facility we designate once you are Stabilized. If you are admitted to a non-Plan Hospital, non-Plan Facility, or a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, we may transfer you to a Plan Hospital or Plan Facility. By notifying us of your hospitalization as soon as possible, you will protect yourself from potential liability for payment for Services you receive after transfer to one of our Plan Facilities would have been possible.

b. Emergency Services Limitations

Continuing or follow-up treatment: We cover only the Emergency Services that are required before you could have been moved to a Plan Facility we designate either inside or outside our Service Area. If you are admitted to a Plan Facility, we may transfer you to another Plan Facility. When approved by Health Plan, we will cover ambulance Services or other transportation Medically Necessary to move you to a designated Plan Facility for continuing or follow-up treatment.

c. Payment

Our payment is reduced by:

- i. any applicable Copayment and/or Coinsurance for Emergency Services and X-ray special procedures performed in the emergency room. The emergency room and X-ray special procedures Copayments, if applicable, are waived if you are admitted directly to the hospital as an inpatient; and
- ii. the Copayment or Coinsurance for ambulance Services, if any; and
- iii. coordination of benefits; and
- iv. all amounts paid or payable, or which in the absence of this EOC would be payable, for the Services in question, under any insurance policy or contract, or any other contract, or any government program except Medicaid; and
- v. amounts you or your legal representative recover from motor vehicle insurance or because of third-party liability.

**Note:** If you receive out-of-Plan Emergency Services, our payment is also reduced by any other payments you would have had to make if you received the same Services from our Plan Providers. The procedure for receiving reimbursement for out-of-Plan Emergency Services is described in the “Appeals and Complaints” section regarding “Post-Service Claims and Appeals.”

**Note:** As part of an emergent care episode, Medically Necessary DME and prosthetics and orthotics following Stabilization will be covered if authorized by Health Plan.

2. Urgent Care

a. Urgent Care Provided by Plan Providers

i. Denver/Boulder Service Area

Urgent care Services are Services that are not Emergency Services, are required to prevent serious deterioration of your health, and that are required as a result of an unforeseen illness, injury, or condition.

Urgent care that cannot wait for a scheduled visit with your PCP or specialist can be received at one of our designated urgent care Plan Facilities. In some circumstances, you may be able to receive care in your home. For Copayment and Coinsurance information, see “Urgent Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. For information regarding the designated urgent care Plan Facilities, please call **Member Services** during normal business hours. You can also go to our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org), for information on designated urgent care facilities.

You may call **Advice Nurses** at any time, and one of our advice nurses can speak with you. Our advice nurses are registered nurses (RNs) specially trained to help assess medical symptoms and provide advice over the phone, when medically appropriate. They can often answer questions about a minor concern or advise you about what to do next, including making an appointment for you if appropriate.

ii. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

Urgent care Services are Services that are not Emergency Services, are required to prevent serious deterioration of your health, and that are required as a result of an unforeseen illness, injury, or condition.

Urgent care that cannot wait for a scheduled visit with your PCP or specialist can be received at one of our designated urgent care Plan Facilities. In some circumstances, you may be able to receive care in your home. For Copayment and Coinsurance information, see “Urgent Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. For information regarding the designated urgent care Plan Facilities, please call **Member Services** during normal business hours. You can also go to our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org), for information on designated urgent care facilities.

You may call **Advice Nurses** at any time, and one of our advice nurses can speak with you. Our advice nurses are registered nurses (RNs) specially trained to help assess medical symptoms and provide advice over the phone, when medically appropriate. They can often answer questions about a minor concern or advise you about what to do next, including making an appointment for you if appropriate.



b. Urgent Care Outside the Service Area

There may be situations when it is necessary for you to receive unauthorized urgent care outside your Service Area. Urgent care received from non-Plan Providers outside your Service Area is covered only if all of the following requirements are met:

- i. The care is required to prevent serious deterioration of your health; and
- ii. The need for care results from an unforeseen illness or injury when you are temporarily away from our Service Area; and
- iii. The care cannot be delayed until you return to our Service Area.

**Note:** If you receive urgent care outside the Service Area, you may be responsible for any amounts over eligible Charges, in addition to any Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance. The procedure for receiving reimbursement for urgent care Services outside the Service Area is described in the “Appeals and Complaints” section regarding “Post-Service Claims and Appeals.”

**Note:** As part of an urgent care episode, Medically Necessary DME and prosthetics and orthotics following Stabilization will be covered if authorized by Health Plan.

**J. Family Planning and Sterilization Services**1. Coverage

- a. Family planning counseling. This includes counseling and information on birth control.
- b. Tubal ligations.
- c. Vasectomies.

**Note:** The following are covered, but not under this section: diagnostic procedures, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”; contraceptive drugs and devices, see the “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements” section.

2. Family Planning and Sterilization Services Exclusions

- a. Any and all Services to reverse voluntary, surgically induced sterilization.
- b. Acupuncture for the treatment of infertility.
- c. Donor semen or eggs.
- d. Any and all Services, supplies, office administered drugs and prescription drugs related to the procurement and/or storage of semen and/or eggs.
- e. Any and all Services, supplies, office administered drugs and prescription drugs received from the pharmacy that are related to intrauterine insemination or conception by artificial means. This includes, but is not limited to: in vitro fertilization, ovum transplants, gamete intra fallopian transfer, and zygote intra fallopian transfer.

**Note:** See “Additional Provisions” for additional coverage or exclusions, if applicable to your Group.

**K. Health Education Services**

We provide health education appointments to support understanding of chronic diseases such as diabetes and hypertension. We also teach self-care on topics such as stress management and nutrition.

**L. Hearing Services**1. Members up to Age 18

We cover hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction. For minor children with a verified hearing loss, coverage shall also include:

- a. Initial hearing aids and replacement hearing aids not more frequently than every five (5) years;
- b. A new hearing aid when alterations to the existing hearing aid cannot adequately meet the needs of the child; and
- c. Services and supplies including, but not limited to, the initial assessment, fitting, adjustments, and auditory training that is provided according to accepted professional standards.

2. Members Age 18 Years and Oldera. Coverage

We cover hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction. Your Group may have purchased additional coverage for hearing aids. See “Additional Provisions.”

b. Hearing Services Exclusions

- i. Tests to determine an appropriate hearing aid model, unless your Group has purchased that coverage.
- ii. Hearing aids and tests to determine their usefulness, unless your Group has purchased that coverage.

**M. Home Health Care**1. Coverage

We cover skilled nursing care, home health aide Services, home infusion therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, and medical social Services:

- a. only on a Part-Time or Intermittent Care basis; and
- b. only within our Service Area; and
- c. only to an eligible Member when ordered by a Plan Physician and either self-administered or administered by a Plan Provider. Care must be provided under a home health care plan established by the Plan Physician and the approved Plan Provider; and
- d. only if a Plan Physician determines that it is feasible to maintain effective supervision and control of your care in your home.

Part-Time Care or Intermittent Care means part-time or intermittent skilled nursing and home health aide Services.

**Note:** Services that are performed in the home, but that do not meet the Home Health Care requirements above, will be covered at the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance and limits for the Service performed (e.g. urgent care, physical, occupational, and/or speech therapy). See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”.

**Note:** X-ray, laboratory, and X-ray special procedures are not covered under this section. See “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”.

2. Home Health Care Exclusions

- a. Custodial care.
- b. Homemaker Services.
- c. Care that Medical Group determines may be appropriately provided in a Plan Facility or Skilled Nursing Facility, if we offer to provide that care in one of these facilities.

**N. Hospice Special Services and Hospice Care**

1. Hospice Special Services

If you have been diagnosed with a life limiting illness with a life expectancy of 24 months or less, but are not yet ready to elect hospice care, you are eligible for Hospice Special Services. Coverage of hospice care is described below.

Hospice Special Services give you and your family time to become more familiar with hospice-type Services and to decide what is best for you. It helps you bridge the gap between your diagnosis and preparing for the end of life.

The difference between Hospice Special Services and regular Home Health Care visiting nurse visits is that: you may or may not be homebound or have skilled nursing care needs; or you may only require spiritual or emotional care. Services available through this program are provided by professionals with specific training in end-of-life issues.

2. Hospice Care

We cover hospice care for terminally ill Members inside our Service Area. If a Plan Physician diagnoses you with a terminal illness and determines that your life expectancy is six (6) months or less, you can choose hospice care instead of traditional Services otherwise provided for your illness.

If you elect to receive hospice care, you will not receive **additional** benefits for the terminal illness. However, you can continue to receive Health Plan benefits for conditions other than the terminal illness.

We cover the following Services and other benefits when: (1) prescribed by a Plan Physician and the hospice care team; and (2) received from a licensed hospice approved, in writing, by Kaiser Permanente:

- a. Physician care.
- b. Nursing care.
- c. Physical, occupational, speech, and respiratory therapy.
- d. Medical social Services.
- e. Home health aide and homemaker Services.
- f. Medical supplies, drugs, biologicals, and appliances.
- g. Palliative drugs in accordance with our drug formulary guidelines.
- h. Short-term inpatient care including respite care, care for pain control, and acute and chronic pain management.
- i. Counseling and bereavement Services.
- j. Services of volunteers.

**O. Mental Health Services**

1. Coverage

We cover mental health Services as shown below. Coverage includes evaluation and Services for conditions which, in the judgment of a Plan Physician, would respond to therapeutic management. Mental health includes but is not limited to biologically based illnesses or disorders.

a. Outpatient Therapy

We cover: diagnostic evaluation; individual therapy; intensive outpatient therapy; psychiatric treatment; crisis intervention and stabilization for acute episodes; and psychiatrically oriented child and teenage guidance counseling.

Visits for the purpose of monitoring drug therapy are covered.

Psychological testing as part of diagnostic evaluation is covered.

b. Inpatient Services

We cover psychiatric hospitalization in a facility designated by Medical Group or Health Plan. Hospital Services for psychiatric conditions include all Services of Plan Physicians and mental health professionals and the following Services and supplies as prescribed by a Plan Physician while you are a registered bed patient: room and board; psychiatric nursing care; group therapy; electroconvulsive therapy; occupational therapy; drug therapy; and medical supplies.

Separate Coinsurance applies to Services of Plan Physicians and mental health professionals.

c. Partial Hospitalization

We cover partial hospitalization in a Plan Hospital-based program.

We cover mental health Services, whether they are voluntary or are court-ordered as a result of contact with the criminal justice or juvenile justice system, when they are Medically Necessary and otherwise covered under the plan, and when rendered by a Plan Provider. We do not cover court-ordered treatment that exceeds the scope of coverage of this health benefit plan.

2. Mental Health Services Exclusions

- a. Evaluations for any purpose other than mental health treatment. This includes evaluations for: child custody; disability; or fitness for duty/return to work, unless Medically Necessary.
- b. Court-ordered testing and testing for ability, aptitude, intelligence, or interest.
- c. Services which are custodial or residential in nature.

**P. Out-of-Area Benefit**

A limited benefit is available to Dependents, up to the age of 26, receiving care outside any Kaiser regional health plan service area.

1. Coverage

The Out-of-Area Benefit is limited to certain office visits, diagnostic X-rays, physical, occupational, and speech therapy, and prescription drug fills as covered under this EOC:

- a. Office visit exam limited to:
  - i. Primary care visit.
  - ii. Specialty care visit.
  - iii. Preventive care visit.
  - iv. Gynecology care visit.
  - v. Hearing exam.
  - vi. Mental health visit.
  - vii. Substance use disorder visit.
  - viii. The administration of allergy injections.
  - ix. Prevention immunizations pursuant to the schedule established by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).
- b. Diagnostic X-rays.
- c. Physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits.
- d. Prescription drug fills.

See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for more details.

2. Out-of-Area Benefit Exclusions and Limitations

The Out-of-Area Benefit does not include the following Services:

- a. Other Services provided during a covered office visit such as, but not limited to: procedures, laboratory tests, and office administered drugs and devices, except for allergy injections and prevention immunizations as listed in the “Coverage” section of this benefit.
- b. Services received outside the United States.
- c. Transplant Services.
- d. Services covered outside the Service Area under another section of this EOC (e.g., Emergency Services and Urgent Care).

- e. Allergy evaluation, routine prenatal and postpartum visits, chiropractic care, acupuncture services, applied behavior analysis (ABA), hearing tests, hearing aids, home health visits, hospice services, and travel immunizations.
- f. X-ray special procedures, including but not limited to CT, PET, MRI, nuclear medicine.
- g. Any and all Services not listed in the “Coverage” section of this benefit.

## Q. Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy and Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services

### 1. Coverage

#### a. Hospital Inpatient Care, Care in a Skilled Nursing Facility, and Home Health Care

We cover physical, occupational, and speech therapy as part of your Hospital Inpatient Care, Skilled Nursing Facility, and Home Health Care benefit. Therapies that are performed in the home, but that do not meet the Home Health Care requirements, will be covered at the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance and limits for the therapy performed (i.e., physical, occupational, and/or speech). See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”.

#### b. Outpatient Care

We cover three (3) types of outpatient therapy (i.e., physical, occupational, and speech therapy) in a Plan Facility or other location approved by Health Plan, to improve or develop skills or functioning due to medical deficits, illness, or injury. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

#### c. Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services

We will cover treatment in an organized, multidisciplinary rehabilitation Services program in a designated facility or a Skilled Nursing Facility. After your Deductible has been met, we also cover multidisciplinary rehabilitation Services while you are an inpatient in a designated facility. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

#### d. Pulmonary Rehabilitation

We cover treatment in a pulmonary rehabilitation program if prescribed or recommended by a Plan Physician and provided by therapists at designated facilities. After your Deductible has been met, you pay the applicable physical, occupational and speech therapy Coinsurance.

#### e. Therapies for Congenital Defects and Birth Abnormalities

After the first 31 days of life, the limitations and exclusions applicable to this EOC apply, except that Medically Necessary physical, occupational, and speech therapy for the care and treatment of congenital defects and birth abnormalities for covered children from age three (3) to age six (6) shall be provided. The benefit level shall be the greater of the number of such visits provided under this health benefit plan or 20 therapy visits per Accumulation Period for each physical, occupational, and speech therapy. Such visits shall be distributed as Medically Necessary throughout the Accumulation Period without regard to whether the condition is acute or chronic and without regard to whether the purpose of the therapy is to maintain or improve functional capacity. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**Note 1:** This benefit is also available for eligible children under the age of three (3) who are not participating in Early Intervention Services.

**Note 2:** The visit limit for therapy to treat congenital defects and birth abnormalities is not applicable if such therapy is Medically Necessary to treat autism spectrum disorders.

#### f. Therapies for the Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders

For the treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders when prescribed by a Plan Physician and Medically Necessary, we cover:

- i. Outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy in a Plan Medical Office or other location approved by Health Plan. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”
- ii. Applied behavior analysis, including consultations, direct care, supervision, or treatment, or any combination thereof by autism services providers. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

### 2. Limitations

Occupational therapy is limited to treatment to achieve improved self-care and other customary activities of daily living.

### 3. Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy and Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services Exclusions

- a. Long-term rehabilitation, not including treatment for autism spectrum disorders.
- b. Speech therapy that is not Medically Necessary, such as: (i) therapy for educational placement or other educational purposes; or (ii) training or therapy to improve articulation in the absence of injury, illness, or medical condition affecting articulation; or (iii) therapy for tongue thrust in the absence of swallowing problems.

## R. Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements

We use drug formularies. A drug formulary includes the list of prescription drugs that have been approved by our formulary committees for our Members. Our committees are comprised of Plan Physicians, pharmacists, and a nurse practitioner. The committees select prescription drugs for our drug formularies based on a number of factors, including safety and effectiveness as determined from a review of medical literature and research. The committees meet regularly to consider adding and removing

prescription drugs on the drug formularies. If you would like information about whether a particular drug is included in our drug formularies, please call **Member Services**.

In any Accumulation Period, you must pay full Charges for all drugs until you meet your Deductible. After you meet your Deductible, you pay the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for these drugs for the rest of the Accumulation Period, subject to the annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum limits.

If your prescription drug has a Copayment shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” and it exceeds the Charges for your prescribed medication, then you pay Charges for the medication instead of the Copayment. The drug formulary, discussed above, also applies.

1. Coverage

a. Limited Drug Coverage Under Your Basic Drug Benefit

If your Group has not purchased supplemental prescription drug coverage, then prescribed drug coverage under your basic drug benefit is limited. It includes base drugs such as: contraceptives; orally administered anti-cancer medication; and post-surgical immunosuppressive drugs required after a transplant. These drugs are available only when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies. You may obtain these drugs at the Copayment or Coinsurance shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” The amount covered cannot exceed the day supply for each maintenance drug or up to the day supply for each non-maintenance drug. Any amount you receive that exceeds the day supply will not be covered. If you receive more than the day supply, you will be charged as a non-Member for any amount that exceeds that limit. Each prescription refill is provided on the same basis as the original prescription.

If your Group has purchased supplemental prescription drug coverage, the applicable generic or brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance and any pharmacy Deductible apply for these types of drugs. For more information, please refer to the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**Note:** Kaiser Permanente may, in its sole discretion, establish quantity limits for specific prescription drugs, regardless of whether your Group has limited or supplemental prescription drug coverage.

i. We cover:

(a) prescription contraceptives intended to last:

- (i) for a three-month period the first time the prescription contraceptive is dispensed to the covered person; and
- (ii) for a twelve-month period or through the end of the covered person’s coverage under the policy, contract, or plan, whichever is shorter, for any subsequent dispensing of the same prescription contraceptive to the covered person, regardless of whether the covered person was enrolled in the policy, contract, or plan at the time the prescription contraceptive was first dispensed; or

(b) a prescribed vaginal contraceptive ring intended to last for a three-month period.

For Copayment or Coinsurance information related to contraceptive drugs and certain devices, please refer to your “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

ii. We cover a five-day supply of an FDA-approved drug for the treatment of opioid dependence without prior authorization, except that the drug supply is limited to a first request within a twelve-month period.

b. Outpatient Prescription Drugs

Unless your Group has purchased additional outpatient prescription drug coverage, we do not cover outpatient drugs except as provided in other provisions of this “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements” section. If your Group has purchased additional coverage for outpatient prescription drugs, see “Additional Provisions.” The drug formulary, discussed above, also applies.

i. Prescriptions by Mail

If requested, refills of maintenance drugs will be mailed through Kaiser Permanente’s mail-order prescription service by First-Class U.S. Mail with no charge for postage and handling. Refills of maintenance drugs prescribed by Plan Physicians or Affiliated Physicians may be obtained for up to the day supply by mail order at the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance. Maintenance drugs are determined by Health Plan. Certain drugs and supplies may not be available through our mail-order service, for example, drugs that require special handling or refrigeration, have a significant potential for waste or diversion, or are high cost. Drugs and supplies available through our mail-order prescription service are subject to change at any time without notice. For information regarding our mail-order prescription service and specialty drugs not available by mail order, please call **Member Services**.

ii. Specialty Drugs

Prescribed specialty drugs, including self-administered injectable drugs, are provided at the specialty drug Copayment or Coinsurance up to the maximum amount per drug dispensed shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

c. Food Supplements

We cover prescribed amino acid modified products used in the treatment of congenital errors of amino acid metabolism and severe protein allergic conditions, elemental enteral nutrition, and parenteral nutrition. Such products are covered for self-administered use upon payment of a \$3.00 Copayment per product, per day. Food products for enteral feedings are not covered.

d. Prescribed Supplies and Accessories

Prescribed supplies and accessories, when obtained at Plan Pharmacies or from sources designated by Health Plan, will be provided. Such items include, but may not be limited to:

- i. home glucose monitoring supplies.
- ii. disposable syringes for the administration of insulin.
- iii. glucose test strips.
- iv. acetone test tablets and nitrate screening test strips for pediatric patient home use.

For more information, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What),” and, if your Group has purchased supplemental prescription drug coverage, see “Additional Provisions.”

2. Limitations

- a. Adult and pediatric immunizations are limited to those that are not experimental, are medically indicated and are consistent with accepted medical practice.
- b. Some drugs may require prior authorization.
- c. If applicable, we may apply Step Therapy to certain drugs. You or your Plan Provider may request an exception if you previously tried a drug and your use of the drug was discontinued due to lack of efficacy or effectiveness, diminished effect, or an adverse event.
- d. Coverage determinations for the off-label use of medications will be consistent with Medicare compendia, and coverage determinations for the off-label use of oncologic agents will be consistent with the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) of 2008.

3. Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements Exclusions

- a. Drugs for which a prescription is not required by law.
- b. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze, tape, antiseptics, dressing and ace-type bandages.
- c. Drugs or injections for treatment of sexual dysfunction, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage, which is described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”
- d. Any packaging except the dispensing pharmacy’s standard packaging.
- e. Replacement of prescription drugs for any reason. This includes spilled, lost, damaged, or stolen prescriptions.
- f. Drugs or injections for the treatment of infertility, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage, which is described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” and “Additional Provisions”.
- g. Drugs to shorten the length of the common cold.
- h. Drugs to enhance athletic performance.
- i. Drugs for the treatment of weight control.
- j. Drugs available over the counter and by prescription for the same strength.
- k. Individual drugs determined excluded by our Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.
- l. Unless approved by Health Plan, drugs not approved by the FDA.
- m. Non-preferred drugs, except those prescribed and authorized through the non-preferred drug process.
- n. Prescription drugs necessary for Services excluded under this EOC.
- o. Drugs administered during a medical office visit. See “Office Services”.
- p. Medical Foods and Medical Devices. See “Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Prosthetics and Orthotics”.

**S. Preventive Care Services**

If your plan has a different preventive care Services benefit, please see “Additional Provisions.”

We cover certain preventive care Services that do one or more of the following:

- 1. Protect against disease;
- 2. Promote health; and/or
- 3. Detect disease in its earliest stages before noticeable symptoms develop.

If you receive any other covered Services during a preventive care visit, you may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, and Coinsurance for those Services.

**T. Reconstructive Surgery**1. Coverage

We cover reconstructive surgery when it: (a) will correct significant disfigurement resulting from an injury or Medically Necessary surgery; or (b) will correct a congenital defect, disease, or anomaly to produce major improvement in physical function; or (c) will treat congenital hemangioma and port wine stains. Following Medically Necessary removal of all or part of a breast, we also cover reconstruction of the breast, surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance, and treatment of physical complications, including lymphedemas. An Authorization is required for all types of reconstructive surgeries.

2. Reconstructive Surgery Exclusions

Plastic surgery or other cosmetic Services and supplies primarily to change your appearance. This includes cosmetic surgery related to bariatric surgery.

**U. Reproductive Support Services**

Reproductive Support Services are not covered unless your Group has purchased additional supplemental coverage.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the Reproductive Support Services benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**V. Skilled Nursing Facility Care**1. Coverage

We cover skilled inpatient Services in a licensed Skilled Nursing Facility. Prior Authorization is required for all Skilled Nursing Facility admissions. The skilled inpatient Services must be those usually provided by Skilled Nursing Facilities. A prior three (3)-day stay in an acute care hospital is not required. We cover the following Services:

- a. Room and board.
- b. Nursing care.
- c. Medical social Services.
- d. Medical and biological supplies.
- e. Blood, blood products, and their administration.

A Skilled Nursing Facility is an institution that: provides skilled nursing or skilled rehabilitation Services, or both; provides Services on a daily basis 24 hours a day; is licensed under applicable state law; and is approved in writing by Medical Group.

**Note:** The following are covered, but not under this section: drugs, see “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements”; DME and prosthetics and orthotics, see “Durable Medical Equipment and Prosthetics and Orthotics”; X-ray, laboratory, and X-ray special procedures, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”.

2. Skilled Nursing Facility Care Exclusion

Custodial Care, as defined in “Exclusions” under the “Limitations/Exclusions (What is Not Covered)” section.

**W. Substance Use Disorder Services**1. Inpatient Medical and Hospital Services

We cover Services for the medical management of withdrawal symptoms. Medical Services for alcohol and drug detoxification are covered the same way as any other medical condition. Detoxification is the process of removing toxic substances from the body.

2. Residential Rehabilitation

The determination of the need for Services of a residential rehabilitation program and referral to such a facility or program is made by or under the supervision of a Plan Physician.

We cover inpatient Services and partial hospitalization in a residential rehabilitation program authorized by Health Plan for the treatment of alcoholism, drug abuse, or drug addiction.

3. Outpatient Services

Outpatient rehabilitative Services for the treatment of alcohol and drug dependency are covered when referred by a Plan Physician.

We cover substance use disorder Services, whether they are voluntary or are court-ordered as a result of contact with the criminal justice or juvenile justice system, when they are Medically Necessary and otherwise covered under the plan, and when rendered by a Plan Provider. We do not cover court-ordered treatment that exceeds the scope of coverage of this health benefit plan.

Mental health Services required in connection with treatment for substance use disorder are covered as provided in the “Mental Health Services” section.

4. Substance Use Disorder Services Exclusion

Counseling for a patient who is not responsive to therapeutic management, as determined by a Plan Physician.

**X. Transgender Services**

We cover transgender Services when Medically Necessary to treat gender dysphoria or gender identity disorder. Prior Authorization may be required. You must meet all medical criteria developed by Medical Group to be eligible for coverage. Coverage includes, but is not limited to: office Services, hormone therapy, outpatient surgery, and hospital inpatient care. You pay the applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. For example, see “Hospital Inpatient Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for the Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible that apply to hospital inpatient care.

**Y. Transplant Services**1. Coverage

Transplants are covered on a limited basis as follows:

- a. Covered transplants are limited to: kidney transplants; heart transplants; heart-lung transplants; liver transplants; liver transplants for children with biliary atresia and other rare congenital abnormalities; small bowel transplants; small bowel and liver transplants; lung transplants; cornea transplants; simultaneous kidney-pancreas transplants; and pancreas alone transplants.
- b. Bone marrow transplants (autologous stem cell or allogenic stem cell) associated with high dose chemotherapy for germ cell tumors and neuroblastoma in children; and bone marrow transplants for aplastic anemia, leukemia, severe combined immunodeficiency disease, and Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome.
- c. If all medical criteria developed by Medical Group are met, we cover: stem cell rescue; and transplants of organs, tissue, or bone marrow.

2. Related Prescription Drugs

Prescribed post-surgical immunosuppressive outpatient drugs required after a transplant are provided at the applicable outpatient prescription drug Copayment or Coinsurance and are subject to any pharmacy Deductible shown in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

3. Terms and Conditions

- a. Health Plan, Medical Group, and Plan Physicians do not undertake: to provide a donor or donor organ or bone marrow or cornea; or to assure the availability of a donor or donor organ or bone marrow or cornea; or to assure the availability or capacity of referral transplant facilities approved by Medical Group. In accordance with our guidelines for living transplant donors, we provide certain donation-related Services for a donor, or a person as a potential donor, even if the donor is not a Member. These Services must be directly related to a covered transplant for you. For information specific to your situation, please call your assigned Transplant Coordinator; or the **Transplant Administrative Offices**.
- b. Plan Physicians must determine that the Member satisfies Medical Group medical criteria before the Member receives Services.
- c. A Plan Physician must provide a written referral for care at a transplant facility. The transplant facility must be from a list of approved facilities selected by Medical Group. The referral may be to a transplant facility outside our Service Area. Transplants are covered only at the facility Medical Group selects for the particular transplant, even if another facility within the Service Area could also perform the transplant.
- d. After referral, if a Plan Physician or the medical staff of the referral facility determines the Member does not satisfy its respective criteria for the Service, Health Plan’s obligation is only to pay for covered Services provided prior to such determination.

4. Transplant Services Exclusions and Limitations

- a. Bone marrow transplants, associated with high dose chemotherapy for solid tissue tumors, (except bone marrow transplants covered under this EOC) are excluded.
- b. Non-human and artificial organs and their implantation are excluded.
- c. Pancreas alone transplants are limited to patients without renal problems who meet set criteria.
- d. Travel and lodging expenses are excluded, except that in some situations, when Medical Group or a Plan Physician refers you to a non-Plan Provider outside our Service Area for transplant Services, as described in “Access to Other Providers” in the “How to Access Your Services and Obtain Approval of Benefits” section, we may pay certain expenses we preauthorize under our internal travel and lodging guidelines. For information specific to your situation, please call your assigned Transplant Coordinator or the **Transplant Administrative Offices**.



**Z. Vision Services**1. Coverage

We cover routine and non-routine eye exams. Refraction tests to determine the need for vision correction and to provide a prescription for eyeglasses are covered unless specifically excluded in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. We also cover professional exams and the fitting of Medically Necessary contact lenses when a Plan Physician or Plan Optometrist prescribes them for a specific medical condition.

Professional Services for exams and fitting of contact lenses that are not Medically Necessary are provided at an additional Charge when obtained at Health Plan Medical Offices.

2. Vision Services Exclusions

- a. Eyeglass lenses and frames.
- b. Contact lenses.
- c. Professional exams for fittings and dispensing of contact lenses except when Medically Necessary as described above.
- d. All Services related to eye surgery for the purpose of correcting refractive defects such as myopia, hyperopia, or astigmatism (for example, radial keratotomy, photo-refractive keratectomy, and similar procedures).
- e. Orthoptic (eye training) therapy or low vision therapy.

Your Group may have purchased additional optical coverage. See “Additional Provisions.”

**AA. X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures**1. Coveragea. Outpatient

We cover the following Services:

- i. Diagnostic X-ray tests, Services, and materials, including but not limited to isotopes, mammograms, and ultrasounds.
- ii. Laboratory tests, Services, and materials, including but not limited to electrocardiograms.  
**Note:** We use a laboratory formulary. A laboratory formulary is a list of laboratory tests, Services, and other materials that have been approved by Health Plan for our Members. If you would like information about whether a particular test or Service is included in our laboratory formulary, please call **Member Services**.
- iii. Therapeutic X-ray Services and materials.
- iv. X-ray special procedures such as MRI, CT, PET, and nuclear medicine.  
**Note:** For X-ray special procedures, you will be billed for each individual procedure performed. A procedure is defined in accordance with the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) medical billing codes published annually by the American Medical Association. You are responsible for any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for X-ray special procedures performed as a part of or in conjunction with other outpatient Services, including but not limited to Emergency Services, urgent care, and outpatient surgery.

Diagnostic procedures include administered drugs. Therapeutic procedures may incur an additional charge for administered drugs.

b. Inpatient

During hospitalization, prescribed diagnostic X-ray and laboratory tests, Services and materials, including diagnostic and therapeutic X-rays and isotopes, electrocardiograms, electroencephalograms, MRI, CT, PET, and nuclear medicine are covered under your hospital inpatient care benefit.

2. X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures Exclusions

- a. Testing of a Member for a non-Member’s use and/or benefit.
- b. Testing of a non-Member for a Member’s use and/or benefit.

**IV. LIMITATIONS/EXCLUSIONS (WHAT IS NOT COVERED)****A. Exclusions**

The Services listed below are not covered. These exclusions apply to all covered Services under this EOC. Additional exclusions that apply only to a particular Service are listed in the description of that Service in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.

1. **Alternative Medical Services.** The following are not covered unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for these Services. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if your Group has purchased additional coverage.
  - a. Acupuncture Services;
  - b. Naturopathy Services;
  - c. Massage therapy;

- d. Chiropractic Services and supplies that are not provided by a Plan Provider under this Agreement.
- 2. **Behavioral Problems.** Any treatment or Service for a behavioral problem not associated with a manifest mental disorder or condition.
- 3. **Cosmetic Services.** Services that are intended: primarily to change or maintain your appearance; and that will not result in significant improvement in physical function. This includes cosmetic surgery related to bariatric surgery. Exception: Services covered under “Reconstructive Surgery” in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.
- 4. **Cryopreservation.** Any and all Services related to cryopreservation, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage. This excludes, but is not limited to, the procurement and/or storage of semen, sperm, eggs, reproductive materials, and/or embryos. See “Additional Provisions” for additional coverage or exclusions, if applicable to your Group.
- 5. **Custodial or Residential Care.** Assistance with activities of daily living or care that can be performed safely and effectively by people who, in order to provide the care, do not require medical licenses or certificates or the presence of a supervising licensed nurse. Assistance with activities of daily living include: walking; getting in and out of bed; bathing; dressing; feeding; toileting; and taking medicine.
- 6. **Dental Services.** Dental Services and dental X-rays, including: dental Services following injury to teeth; dental appliances; implants; orthodontia; TMJ; and dental Services as a result of and following medical treatment such as radiation treatment. This exclusion does not apply to: (a) Medically Necessary Services for the treatment of cleft lip or cleft palate when prescribed by a Plan Physician, unless the Member is covered for these Services under a dental insurance policy or contract, or (b) hospitalization and general anesthesia for dental Services, prescribed or directed by a Plan Physician for Dependent children who: (i) have a physical, mental, or medically compromising condition; or (ii) have dental needs for which local anesthesia is ineffective because of acute infection, anatomic variations, or allergy; or (iii) are extremely uncooperative, unmanageable, anxious, or uncommunicative with dental needs deemed sufficiently important that dental care cannot be deferred; or (iv) have sustained extensive orofacial and dental trauma. Unless otherwise specified herein, (a) and (b) must be received at a Plan Facility or Skilled Nursing Facility.

The following Services for TMJ may be covered if determined Medically Necessary: diagnostic X-rays; laboratory testing; physical therapy; and surgery.

- 7. **Directed Blood Donations.**
- 8. **Disposable Supplies.** Disposable supplies for home use such as:
  - a. Bandages;
  - b. Gauze;
  - c. Tape;
  - d. Antiseptics;
  - e. Dressings;
  - f. Ace-type bandages; and
  - g. Any other supplies, dressings, appliances, or devices not specifically listed as covered in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.
- 9. **Educational Services.** Educational services are not health care services and are not covered. Examples include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Items and services to increase academic knowledge or skills;
  - b. Special education or care for learning deficiencies, whether or not associated with a manifest mental disorder or condition, including but not limited to attention deficit disorder, learning disabilities, and developmental delays;
  - c. Teaching and support services to increase academic performance;
  - d. Academic coaching or tutoring for skills such as grammar, math, and time management;
  - e. Speech training that is not Medically Necessary, and not part of an approved treatment plan, and not provided by or under the direct supervision of a Plan Provider acting within the scope of his or her license under Colorado law that is intended to address speech impediments;
  - f. Teaching you how to read, whether or not you have dyslexia;
  - g. Educational testing;
  - h. Teaching (or any other items or services associated with) activities such as art, dance, horse riding, music, swimming, or teaching you how to play.
- 10. **Employer or Government Responsibility.** Financial responsibility for Services that an employer or a government agency is required by law to provide.
- 11. **Experimental or Investigational Services**
  - a. A Service is experimental or investigational for a Member’s condition if any of the following statements apply at the time the Service is or will be provided to the Member. The Service:

- i. Has not been approved or granted by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA); or
  - ii. Is the subject of a current new drug or new device application on file with the FDA; or
  - iii. Is provided as part of a Phase I or Phase II clinical trial, as the experimental or research arm of a Phase III clinical trial or in any other manner that is intended to determine the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of the Service; or
  - iv. Is provided pursuant to a written protocol or other document that lists an evaluation of the Service's safety, toxicity, or efficacy as among its objectives; or
  - v. Is subject to the approval or review of an Institutional Review Board (IRB) or other body that approves or reviews research on the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of Services; or
  - vi. The Service has not been recommended for coverage by the Regional New Technology and Benefit Interpretation Committee, the Interregional New Technology Committee or the Medical Technology Assessment Unit based on analysis of clinical studies and literature for safety and appropriateness, unless otherwise covered by Health Plan; or,
  - vii. Is provided pursuant to informed consent documents that describe the Service as experimental or investigational or in other terms that indicate that the Service is being looked at for its safety, toxicity, or efficacy; or
  - viii. Is part of a prevailing opinion among experts as expressed in the published authoritative medical or scientific literature that (A) use of the Service should be substantially confined to research settings or (B) further research is needed to determine the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of the Service.
- b. In determining whether a Service is experimental or investigational, the following sources of information will be solely relied upon:
- i. The Member's medical records; and
  - ii. The written protocol(s) or other document(s) under which the Service has been or will be provided; and
  - iii. Any consent document(s) the Member or the Member's representative has executed or will be asked to execute to receive the Service; and
  - iv. 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; and
  - v. The published authoritative medical or scientific literature on the Service as applied to the Member's illness or injury; and
  - vi. Regulations, records, applications and other documents or actions issued by, filed with, or taken by the FDA, or other agencies within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, or any state agency performing similar functions.
- c. If two (2) or more Services are part of the same plan of treatment or diagnosis, all of the Services are excluded if one of the Services is experimental or investigational.
- d. Health Plan consults Medical Group and then uses the criteria described above to decide if a particular Service is experimental or investigational.

**Note:** For non-grandfathered health plans only, this exclusion does not apply to Services covered under "Clinical Trials" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.

- 12. **Genetic Testing.** Genetic testing unless determined to be: Medically Necessary; and meets Medical Group criteria.
- 13. **Infertility Services.** All Services related to the diagnosis or treatment of infertility unless your Group has purchased supplemental coverage.
- 14. **Intermediate Care.** Care in an intermediate care facility.
- 15. **Routine Foot Care Services.** Routine foot care Services that are not Medically Necessary.
- 16. **Services for Members in the Custody of Law Enforcement Officers.** Non-Plan Provider Services provided or arranged by criminal justice institutions for Members in the custody of law enforcement officers, unless the Services are covered as out-of-Plan Emergency Services or urgent care outside the Service Area.
- 17. **Services Not Available in our Service Area.** Services not generally and customarily available in our Service Area, except when it is a generally accepted medical practice in our Service Area to refer patients outside our Service Area for the Service.
- 18. **Services Related to a Non-Covered Service.** When a Service is not covered, all Services related to the non-covered Service are excluded. This does not include Services we would otherwise cover to treat complications as a result of the non-covered Service.
- 19. **Third Party Requests or Requirements.** Physical exams, tests, or other services that do not directly treat an actual illness, injury, or condition, and any related reports or paperwork in connection with third party requests or requirements, including but not limited to those for:

- a. Employment;
- b. Participation in employee programs;
- c. Insurance;
- d. Disability;
- e. Licensing;
- f. School events, sports, or camp;
- g. Governmental agencies;
- h. Court order, parole, or probation;
- i. Travel.

20. **Travel and Lodging Expenses.** Travel and lodging expenses are excluded. We may pay certain expenses we preauthorize in accordance with our internal travel and lodging guidelines in some situations, when Medical Group refers you to a non-Plan Provider outside our Service Area as described under “Access to Other Providers” in the “How to Access Your Services and Obtain Approval of Benefits” section.
21. **Unclassified Medical Technology Devices and Services.** Medical technology devices and Services which have not been classified as durable medical equipment or laboratory by a National Coverage Determination (NCD) issued by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), unless otherwise covered by Health Plan.
22. **Weight Management Facilities.** Services received in a weight management facility.
23. **Workers’ Compensation or Employer’s Liability.** Financial responsibility for Services for any illness, injury, or condition, to the extent a payment or any other benefit, including any amount received as a settlement (collectively referred to as “Financial Benefit”), is provided under any workers’ compensation or employer’s liability law. We will provide Services even if it is unclear whether you are entitled to a Financial Benefit, but we may recover Charges for any such Services from the following sources:
- a. Any source providing a Financial Benefit or from whom a Financial Benefit is due.
  - b. You, to the extent that a Financial Benefit is provided or payable or would have been required to be provided or payable if you had diligently sought to establish your rights to the Financial Benefit under any workers’ compensation or employer’s liability law.

**B. Limitations**

We will use our best efforts to provide or arrange covered Services in the event of unusual circumstances that delay or render impractical the provision of Services. Examples include: major disaster; epidemic; war; riot, civil insurrection; disability of a large share of personnel at a Plan Facility; complete or partial destruction of facilities; and labor disputes not involving Health Plan, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals or Medical Group. In these circumstances, Health Plan, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, Medical Group and Medical Group Plan Physicians will not have any liability for any delay or failure in providing covered Services. In the case of a labor dispute involving Health Plan, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, or Medical Group, we may postpone care until the dispute is resolved if delaying your care is safe and will not result in harmful health consequences.

**C. Reductions**

1. Coordination of Benefits (COB)  
 The Services covered under this EOC are subject to Coordination of Benefit (COB) rules. If you have health care coverage with another health plan or insurance company, we will coordinate benefits with the other coverage under the COB guidelines below.

This 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 govern 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% 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. However, 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.
  - i. **Plan** includes: group insurance contracts, health maintenance organization (HMO) contracts, closed panel plans or other forms of group or group-type coverage (whether insured or uninsured); medical care components of long-term care contracts, such as skilled nursing care; medical benefits under group or individual automobile contracts; and Medicare or any other federal governmental plan, as permitted by law.

- ii. **Plan** does not include: hospital indemnity coverage or other fixed indemnity coverage; accident only coverage; specified disease or specified accident coverage; limited benefit health coverage, as defined by state law; school accident type coverage; benefits for non-medical components of 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 i. or ii. 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 determine whether **This plan** is a **Primary plan** or **Secondary plan** when the person has health coverage under more than one **Plan**.

When **This plan** is primary, its benefits are determined before those of any other **Plan** and without considering any other **Plan's** benefits. When **This plan** is secondary, its benefits are determined after those of another **Plan** and may be reduced because of the **Primary plan's** benefits, so that all **Plan** benefits do not exceed 100% 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**:

- i. 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 or the patient's stay is medically necessary in terms of generally accepted medical practice or the hospital does not have a semi-private room.
- ii. 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**.
- iii. 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**.
- iv. 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.
- v. 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. **Claim determination period** is usually a calendar year, but a **Plan** may use some other period of time that fits the coverage of the group contract. A person is covered by a **Plan** during a portion of a **Claim determination period** if that person's coverage starts or ends during the **Claim determination period**. However, it does not include any part of a year during which a person has no coverage under **This plan**, or before the date this **COB** provision or a similar provision takes effect.
- f. **Closed panel plan** is a **Plan** that provides health benefits to covered persons primarily in the form of services through a panel of providers that have contracted with either directly or indirectly or are employed by the **Plan**, and that limits or excludes benefits for services provided by other providers, except in cases of emergency or referral by a panel member.
- g. **Custodial parent** means a parent awarded primary custody by a court decree. In the absence of a court decree, it is the parent with whom the child resides more than one half of the calendar year without regard to 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 payment are as follows:

- a. The **Primary plan** pays or provides its benefits according to its terms of coverage and without regard to the benefits under any other **Plan**.
- b.
  - i. Except as provided in paragraph ii, a **Plan** that does not contain a coordination of benefits provision that is consistent with these rules is always primary unless the provisions of both **Plans** state that the complying **Plan** is primary.
  - ii. Coverage that is obtained by virtue of being members in a group, and designed to supplement part of the basic package of benefits, may provide supplementary coverage that shall be in excess of 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 determining 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:
  - i. 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**.
  - ii. 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:
      1. The **Plan** of the parent whose birthday (month and day) falls earlier in the calendar year is the **Primary plan**; or
      2. 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:
      1. 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;
      2. 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;
      3. 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
      4. 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:
        - The **Plan** covering the **Custodial parent**;
        - The **Plan** covering the spouse of the **Custodial parent**;
        - The **Plan** covering the **non-custodial parent**; and then
        - 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.
  - iii. 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.

- iv. 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.
- v. Longer or Shorter Length of Coverage. The **Plan** that covered the person as an employee, member, policyholder, subscriber or retiree longer is the **Primary plan** and the **Plan** that covered the person the shorter period of time is the **Secondary plan**.
- vi. 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 Health Plan 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, Health Plan 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**. Health 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 reasonable cash value of the benefits provided in the form of services.

#### **RIGHT OF RECOVERY**

If the amount of the payments made by Health Plan is more than it should have paid under this **COB** provision, we may recover the excess from one or more of the persons we have paid or for whom we have 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.

If you have any questions about COB, please call or write **Patient Financial Services**.

#### 2. Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties

You must ensure we receive the maximum reimbursement allowed by law for covered Services you receive for an injury or illness that is alleged to be caused by another party. You do not have to reimburse us more than you receive from or on behalf of any other party, insurance company or organization as a result of the injury or illness. Our right to reimbursement shall include all sources as allowed by law. This includes, but is not limited to, any recovery you receive from: (a) uninsured motorist coverage; or (b) underinsured motorist coverage; or (c) automobile medical payment coverage; or (d) workers’ compensation coverage; or (e) any other liability coverage; or (f) any responsible party or entity.

**Note:** This “Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties” section does not affect your obligation to pay your Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible for these Services. The amount of reimbursement due the Plan is not limited by or subject to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum provision.

To the extent allowed 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 the other 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.

We shall have a first priority lien on the proceeds of any judgment or settlement, whether by compromise or otherwise, you obtain against any or from other party, entity or insurer, regardless of whether the other party, entity or insurer admits fault. Proceeds of such judgment, award or settlement in your or your attorney's possession shall be held in trust for our benefit.

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

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

For us to determine the existence of any rights we may have and to satisfy those rights, you must complete and send to Equian: all consents; releases; authorizations; assignments; and other documents, including lien forms directing your attorney, any other party or entity and any respective insurer to pay us or our legal representatives directly. You must cooperate to protect our interests under this "Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties" provision and must not take any action prejudicial to our rights.

If your estate, parent, guardian or conservator asserts a claim against another party, entity or insurer based on your injury or illness, your estate, parent, guardian or conservator and any settlement 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. We may assign our rights to enforce our liens and other rights.

Some providers have contracted with Kaiser Permanente to provide certain Services to Members at rates that are typically less than the fees that the providers normally charge to the general public ("General Fees"). However, these contracts may allow providers to assert any independent lien rights they may have to recover their General Fees from a judgment or settlement that you receive from or on behalf of another party, entity or insurer. For Services the provider furnished, our recovery and the provider's recovery together will not exceed the provider's General Fees.

If you are entitled to Medicare, Medicare law may apply with respect to Services covered by Medicare.

3. Traditional or Gestational Surrogacy

In situations where you receive monetary compensation to act as either a traditional or gestational surrogate, Health Plan will seek reimbursement for covered Services you receive that are associated with conception, pregnancy and/or delivery of the child, except that we will recover no more than half of the monetary compensation you receive. A surrogate arrangement is one in which a woman agrees to become pregnant and to surrender the baby to another person or persons who intend to raise the child. 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 applies to both traditional surrogacy and gestational carriers.

**Note:** This "Traditional or Gestational Surrogacy" section does not affect your obligation to pay your Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible for these Services.

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) receives, including names, addresses, and telephone numbers for any health insurance that will cover Services that the baby (or babies) receives
- 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:

Equian, LLC  
Attn: Surrogacy Subrogation Operations  
PO Box 36380  
Louisville, KY 40233



Fax: 502-214-1291

## V. MEMBER PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITY

Information on Member payment responsibility, including applicable Deductibles, annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum, Copayments, and Coinsurance, is located in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)." Payment responsibility information for Emergency Services and urgent care is located in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section. For additional questions, contact **Member Services**.

Our contracts with Plan Providers provide that you are not liable for any amounts we owe them for covered Services. However, you may be liable for the cost of non-covered Services or Services you obtain from non-Plan Providers. If our contract with any Plan Provider terminates while you are under the care of that provider, we will retain financial responsibility for covered Services you receive from that provider, in excess of any applicable Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance amounts, until we make arrangements for the Services to be provided by another Plan Provider and so notify the Subscriber.

## VI. CLAIMS PROCEDURE (HOW TO FILE A CLAIM)

Plan Providers submit claims for payment for covered Services directly to Health Plan. For general information on claims, and how to submit pre-service claims, concurrent care claims, and post-service claims, see the "Appeals and Complaints" section. For covered Services by non-Plan Providers, you may need to submit a claim on your own. Contact **Member Services** for more information on how to submit such claims. Health Plan complies with the time frames for resolution and payment of filed claims as required by state law.

## VII. GENERAL POLICY PROVISIONS

### A. Access Plan

Colorado law requires that an Access Plan be available that describes Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado's network of provider Services. To obtain a copy, please call **Member Services**.

### B. Access to Services for Foreign Language Speakers

1. **Member Services** will provide a telephone interpreter to assist Members who speak limited or no English.
2. Plan Physicians have telephone access to interpreters in over 150 languages.
3. Plan Physicians can also request an onsite interpreter for an appointment, procedure, or Service.
4. Any interpreter assistance we arrange or provide will be at no Charge to the Member.

### C. Administration of Agreement

We may adopt reasonable policies, procedures, and interpretations to promote efficient administration of the Group Agreement and this EOC.

### D. Advance Directives

Federal law requires Kaiser Permanente to tell you about your right to make health care decisions.

Colorado law recognizes the right of an adult to accept or reject medical treatment, artificial nourishment and hydration, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Each adult has the right to establish, in advance of the need for medical treatment, any directives and instructions for the administration of medical treatment in the event the person lacks the decisional capacity to provide informed consent to or refusal of medical treatment. (Colorado Revised Statutes, Section 15-14-504).

Kaiser Permanente will not discriminate against you whether or not you have an advance directive. We will follow the requirements of Colorado law respecting advance directives. If you have an advance directive, please give a copy to the Kaiser Permanente medical records department or to your provider.

A health care provider or health care facility shall provide for the prompt transfer of the principal to another health care provider or health care facility if such health care provider or health care facility wishes not to comply with an agent's medical treatment decision on the basis of policies based on moral convictions or religious beliefs. (Colorado Revised Statutes, Section 15-14-507).

Two (2) brochures are available: *Your Right to Make Health Care Decisions* and *Making Health Care Decisions*. For copies of these brochures or for more information, please call **Member Services**.

### E. Agreement 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.

## **F. Amendment of Agreement**

Your Group's Agreement with us will change periodically. If these changes affect this EOC, your Group is required to notify you of them. If it is necessary to make revisions to this EOC, we will issue revised materials to you.

## **G. 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.

## **H. Assignment**

You may assign, in writing, payments due under the policy to a licensed hospital, other licensed health care provider, an occupational therapist, or a massage therapist, for covered Services provided to you. You may not assign this EOC or any other rights, interests, or obligations hereunder without our prior written consent.

## **I. Attorney Fees and Expenses**

In any dispute between a Member and Health Plan or Plan Providers, each party will bear its own attorneys' fees and other expenses.

## **J. Claims Review Authority**

We are responsible for determining whether you are entitled to benefits under this EOC. We have the authority to review and evaluate claims that arise under this EOC. We conduct this evaluation independently by interpreting the provisions of this EOC. If this EOC is part of a health benefit plan that is subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), then we are a "named fiduciary" to review claims under this EOC.

## **K. Contracts with Plan Providers**

Plan Providers are paid in a number of ways, including: salary; capitation; per diem rates; case rates; fee for service; and incentive payments. If you would like further information about the way Plan Providers are paid to provide or arrange medical and hospital care for Members, please call **Member Services**.

Our contracts with Plan Providers provide that you are not liable for any amounts we owe. However, you may be liable for the cost of non-covered Services or Services you obtain from non-Plan Providers. If our contract with any Plan Provider terminates while you are under the care of that provider, we will retain financial responsibility for covered Services you receive from that provider, in excess of any applicable Deductibles, Copayments and Coinsurance, until we make arrangements for the Services to be provided by another Plan Provider and so notify the Subscriber.

## **L. Deductible/Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit**

Deductible/Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit is a one-time event which occurs at the point of the initial open enrollment. It applies only to:

1. Members of new groups enrolling with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado for the first time. (In this situation, Members must have been covered under one of the group's other carriers at the time of the group's enrollment.)
2. Members of new or current groups who move from non-sole carrier status to sole-carrier status with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado. Non-sole carrier status refers to when an employee has the option of choosing a group health plan either through Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado or through another carrier. (In this situation, Members must have been covered under one of the group's other carriers at the time the group moved to sole-carrier status.)

A credit will be applied toward your Deductible with Health Plan for certain eligible expenses accumulated toward your deductible under your prior coverage. You may also be eligible for a credit to be applied toward your Out-of-Pocket Maximum accumulated under your prior coverage. In order for expenses to be eligible for this credit, you must submit an Explanation of Benefits ("EOB") issued by your prior carrier showing that the expense was applied toward your deductible and/or out-of-pocket maximum under your prior coverage. All such expenses must be for Services that are covered and subject to the Deductible and/or Out-of-Pocket Maximum under this EOC.

For groups with effective dates of coverage during the months of April through December, expenses incurred from January 1 of the current year through the effective date of coverage with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado may be eligible for credit.

For groups with effective dates of coverage during the months of January through March, expenses incurred up to 90 days prior to the effective date of coverage with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan may be eligible for credit.

You must submit all claims for Deductible/Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit within 90 days from the effective date of coverage with Health Plan. To submit a claim, send all EOBs along with a completed Prior Carrier Information Cover Form to the **Kaiser Permanente Claims Department**. To get a copy of the Prior Carrier Information Cover Form, please call the **Claims Department**.

## **M. Governing Law**

Except as preempted by federal law, this EOC will be governed in accordance with Colorado law. Any provision that is required to be in this EOC by state or federal law shall bind Members and Health Plan whether or not set forth in this EOC.

## **N. Group and Members are not Health Plan's Agents**

Neither your Group nor any Member is the agent or representative of Health Plan.

## **O. 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.

## **P. Nondiscrimination**

We do not discriminate in our employment practices or in the delivery of health care Services on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or physical or mental disability.

## **Q. Notices**

Our notices to you will be sent to the most recent address we have for the Subscriber. The Subscriber is responsible for notifying us of any change in address. Members who move should call **Member Services** as soon as possible to give us their new address.

## **R. Overpayment Recovery**

We may recover any overpayment we make for Services from anyone who receives such an overpayment, or from any person or organization obligated to pay for the Services.

## **S. Privacy Practices**

Kaiser Permanente will protect the privacy of your Protected Health Information (PHI). We also require contracting providers to protect your PHI. PHI is health information that includes your name, Social Security number or other information that reveals who you are. 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* (see below). Giving us authorization is at your discretion.

**This is only a brief summary of some of our key privacy practices. Our *Notice of Privacy Practices* explains our privacy practices in detail. To request a copy, please call Member Services. You can also find the notice at your local Plan Facility or on our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org).**

## **T. Value-Added Services**

In addition to the Services we cover under this EOC, we make available a variety of value-added services. Value-added services are not covered by your plan. They are intended to give you more options for a healthy lifestyle. Examples may include:

1. Certain health education classes not covered by your plan;
2. Certain health education publications;
3. Discounts for fitness club memberships;
4. Health promotion and wellness programs; and
5. Rewards for participating in those programs.

Some of these value-added services are available to all Members. Others may be available only to Members enrolled through certain groups or plans. To take advantage of these services, you may need to:

1. Show your Health Plan ID card, and
2. Pay the fee, if any,

to the company that provides the value-added service. Because these services are not covered by your plan, any fees you pay will not count toward any coverage calculations, such as Deductible or Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

To learn about value-added services and which ones are available to you, please check our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org).

These value-added services are neither offered nor guaranteed under your Health Plan coverage. Health Plan may change or discontinue some or all value-added services at any time and without notice to you. Value-added services are not offered as inducements to purchase a health care plan from us. Although value-added services are not covered by your plan, we may have included an estimate of their cost when we calculated Premiums.

Health Plan does not endorse or make any representations regarding the quality or medical efficacy of value-added services, or the financial integrity of the companies offering them. We expressly disclaim any liability for the value-added services provided by these companies. If you have a dispute regarding a value-added service, you must resolve it with the company offering such service. Although Health Plan has no obligation to assist with this resolution, you may call **Member Services**, and a representative may try to assist in getting the issue resolved.

**U. Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act**

In accordance with the “Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998,” as determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient, we provide the following coverage after a mastectomy:

1. Reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy was performed.
2. Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical (balanced) appearance.
3. Prostheses (artificial replacements).
4. Services for physical complications resulting from the mastectomy.

**VIII. TERMINATION/NONRENEWAL/CONTINUATION**

Your Group is required to inform the Subscriber of the date coverage terminates. If your membership terminates, all rights to benefits end at 11:59 p.m. on the termination date. Dependents’ memberships end at the same time the Subscriber’s membership ends. You will be billed as a non-Member for any Services you receive after your membership terminates. Health Plan and Plan Providers have no further responsibility under this EOC after your membership terminates, except as provided under “Termination of Group Agreement” in this “Termination of Membership” section.

This section describes: how your membership may end; and explains how you may maintain Health Plan coverage if your membership under this EOC ends.

**A. Termination Due to Loss of Eligibility**

If you no longer meet the eligibility requirements in the “Eligibility” section, we or your Group will provide 30 days’ advance written notice of termination.

**B. Termination of Group Agreement**

If your Group’s Agreement with us terminates for any reason, your membership ends on the same date.

If your Group’s Agreement terminates for reasons other than nonpayment of Premiums, fraud or abuse, while you are inpatient in a hospital or institution, your coverage will continue until your date of discharge.

**C. Termination for Cause**

We may terminate the memberships in your Family Unit if anyone in your Family Unit commits any of the following acts.

1. We will send written notice that will include the reason for termination to the Subscriber at least 30 days before the termination date if:
  - a. You are disruptive, unruly, or abusive so that Health Plan’s or a Plan Provider’s ability to provide Services to you, or to other Members, is seriously impaired; or
  - b. You fail to establish and maintain a satisfactory provider-patient relationship, after the Plan Provider has made reasonable efforts to promote such a relationship; or
2. We will send written notice that will include the reason for termination to the Subscriber at least 30 days before the termination date if:
  - a. You knowingly: (a) misrepresent membership status; (b) present an invalid prescription or physician order; (c) misuse (or let someone else misuse) a Health Plan ID card; or (d) commit any other type of fraud in connection with your membership (including your enrollment application), Health Plan or a Plan Provider; or
  - b. You knowingly: furnish incorrect or incomplete information to us; or fail to notify us of changes in your family status or Medicare coverage that may affect your eligibility or benefits.

Termination of membership for any one of these reasons applies to all members of your Family Unit. All rights to benefits cease on the date of termination. You will be billed as a non-Member for any Services received after the termination date. You have the right to appeal such a termination. To appeal, please call **Member Services**; or you can call the Colorado Division of Insurance.

We may report any member fraud to the authorities for prosecution. We may also pursue appropriate civil remedies.

**D. Termination for Nonpayment**

You are entitled to coverage only for the period for which we have received the appropriate Premiums from your Group. If your Group fails to pay us the appropriate Premiums for your Family Unit, we will terminate the memberships of everyone in your Family Unit.

After termination of your enrollment for nonpayment of Premiums, Health Plan may require payment of any outstanding Premiums for prior coverage if permitted by applicable law.

**E. Termination of a Product or all Products (applies to non-grandfathered health plans only)**

We may terminate a particular product or all products offered in the group market as permitted or required by law. If we discontinue offering a particular product in the group market, we will terminate just the particular product by sending you

written notice at least 90 days before the product terminates. If we discontinue offering all products in the group market, we may terminate your Group's Agreement by sending you written notice at least 180 days before the Agreement terminates.

#### **F. Rescission of Membership**

We may rescind your membership after it is effective if you or anyone on your behalf did one of the following with respect to your membership (or application) prior to your membership effective date:

1. Performed an act, practice, or omission that constitutes fraud; or
2. Misrepresented a material fact with intent, such as an omission on the application.

We will send written notice to the Subscriber in your Family at least 30 days before we rescind your membership. The rescission will cancel your membership so no coverage ever existed. You will be required to pay as a non-Member for any Services we covered. We will refund all applicable Premiums, less any amounts you owe us.

#### **G. Continuation of Group Coverage Under Federal Law, State Law or USERRA**

##### **1. Federal Law (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. Please contact your Group if you want to know how to elect COBRA coverage or how much you will have to pay your Group for it.

##### **2. State Law**

If you are not eligible to continue uninterrupted group coverage under federal law (COBRA), you may be eligible to continue group coverage under Colorado law. Colorado law states that if you have been a Member for at least six (6) consecutive months immediately prior to termination of employment, continue to meet the eligibility requirements of Group and Health Plan and continue to pay applicable monthly Premiums to your Group, you may continue uninterrupted group coverage. If loss of eligibility occurs because of the following reasons, you and/or your Dependents may continue group coverage subject to the terms below:

- a. Your coverage is through a Subscriber who dies, divorces or legally separates, or becomes entitled to Medicare or Medicaid benefits; or
- b. You are a Subscriber (or your coverage is through a Subscriber) whose employment terminates, including voluntary termination or layoff, or whose hours of employment have been reduced.

You may enroll children born or placed for adoption with you during the period of continuation coverage. The enrollment and effective date shall be as specified under the "Eligibility" section.

To continue coverage, you must request continuation of group coverage on a form furnished by and returned to your Group along with payment of applicable Premiums, no later than 30 days after the date on which your Group coverage would otherwise terminate.

**Termination of State Continuation Coverage.** Continuation of coverage under this provision continues upon payment of the applicable Premiums to your Group and terminates on the earlier of:

- a. 18 months after your coverage would have otherwise terminated because of termination of employment; or
- b. The date you become covered under another group medical plan; or
- c. The date Health Plan terminates its contract with the Group.

We may terminate your continuation coverage if payment is not received when due.

If you have chosen an alternate health care plan offered through your Group but elect during open enrollment to receive continuation coverage through Health Plan, you will only be entitled to continued coverage for the remainder of the 18-month maximum coverage period.

##### **3. 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 the federal USERRA law. You must submit a 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 or how much you will have to pay your Group for it.

#### **H. Moving to Another Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Area**

You must notify us immediately if you permanently move outside the Service Area. If you move to another Kaiser regional health plan service area, you should contact your Group's benefits administrator before you move to learn about your Group health care options. You will be terminated from this plan, but you may be able to transfer your group membership if there is an arrangement with your Group in the new service area. However, eligibility requirements, benefits, Premiums, Copayments and Coinsurance may not be the same in the other service area.

## IX. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

### A. Claims and Appeals

Health Plan will review claims and appeals, and we may use medical experts to help us review them. The following terms have the following meanings when used in this “Appeals and Complaints” section:

1. A **claim** is a request for us to:
  - a. provide or pay for a Service that you have not received (pre-service claim),
  - b. continue to provide or pay for a Service that you are currently receiving (concurrent care claim), or
  - c. pay for a Service that you have already received (post-service claim).
2. An **adverse benefit determination** is our decision to do any of the following:
  - a. deny your claim, in whole or in part, including (1) a denial, in whole or in part, of a pre-service claim (preauthorization for a Service), a concurrent care claim (continue to provide or pay for a Service that you are currently receiving) or a post-service claim (a request to pay for a Service) in whole or in part; (2) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is not Medically Necessary, appropriate, effective or efficient or is not provided in or at the appropriate health care setting or level of care; or, (3) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is experimental or investigational,
  - b. terminate your membership retroactively except as the result of non-payment of Premiums (also called rescission or cancellation retroactively),
  - c. deny your (or, if applicable, your dependent’s) application for individual plan coverage,
  - d. uphold our previous adverse benefit determination when you appeal.

In addition, when we deny a request for medical care because it is excluded under this EOC, and you present evidence from a Colorado medical professional that there is a reasonable medical basis that the contractual exclusion does not apply to the denied medical care, then our denial shall be considered an adverse benefit determination.

3. An **appeal** is a request for us to review our initial adverse benefit determination.

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

Except when simultaneous external review can occur, you must exhaust the internal claims and appeals procedure as described in this “Appeals and Complaints” section unless we fail to follow the claims and appeals process described in this Section IX.

#### Language and Translation Assistance

You may request language assistance with your claim and/or appeal by calling **Member Services**.

SPANISH (Español): Para obtener asistencia en Español, llame al 303-338-3800.

TAGALOG (Tagalog): Kung kailangan ninyo ang tulong sa Tagalog tumawag sa 303-338-3800.

CHINESE (中文): 如果需要中文的帮助, 请拨打这个号码 303-338-3800.

NAVAJO (Dine): Dinek'ehgo shika at'ohwol ninisingo, kwijigo holne' 303-338-3800.

#### Appointing a Representative

If you would like someone (including your provider (medical facility or health care professional)) to act on your behalf regarding your claim, you may appoint an authorized representative. You must make this appointment in writing. Please 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

You may contact the Colorado Division of Insurance at:

Colorado Division of Insurance  
1560 Broadway, Suite 850  
Denver, Colorado 80202  
(303) 894-7499

#### 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. You may request our Authorization for Release of Appeal Information form by calling the **Appeals Program**.

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 and/or Appeal

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, if you ask for one. Please send all additional information to the Department that issued the adverse benefit determination.

When you appeal, you may give testimony in writing or by telephone. Please send your written testimony to the **Appeals Program**. To arrange to give testimony by telephone, you should contact the **Appeals Program**.

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 our next 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 next decision, that decision will be based on the information already in your claim file.

### **Internal Claims and Appeals Procedures**

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:

1. Pre-service claims (urgent and non-urgent)
2. Concurrent care claims (urgent and non-urgent)
3. Post-service claims

In addition, there is a separate appeals procedure for adverse benefit determinations due to a retroactive termination of membership (rescission) or a denial of an application for individual plan coverage.

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 he/she be the subordinate of someone who did participate in our original decision.

#### **1. 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 or pre-certified in order to be a covered Service may be the basis for our denial of your pre-service claim. 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 pre-service claim, a non-urgent pre-service appeal, and an urgent pre-service appeal.

##### **a. Pre-Service Claim**

Tell Health Plan in writing that you want 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 must either mail or fax your claim to **Member Services**.

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 unless your attending health care provider tells us your claim is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, creates an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent claim and appeal, to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

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 not later than 15 days after we receive your claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, so long as we notify you prior to the expiration of the initial 15-day period and explain the circumstances for which we need the extra time and when we expect to make a decision. If we tell you we need more information, we will ask you for the information within 15 days of receiving your claim, and we will give you 45 days to send the information. We will make a decision within 15 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 all of the information that you send us when we make our decision. If we do not receive any of the requested information (including documents) within 45 days after we send our request, we will make a decision based on the information we have within 15 days following the end of the 45-day period.

We will send written notice of our decision to you and, if applicable to your provider. Please let us know if you wish to have our decision sent to your provider.

If your pre-service claim was considered on an urgent basis, we will notify you of our decision (whether adverse or not) orally or in writing within a timeframe appropriate to your clinical condition but not later than 72 hours after we receive your claim. Within 24 hours after we receive your claim, we may ask you for more information. We will notify you of our decision within 48 hours of receiving the first piece of requested information. If we do not receive any of the requested information, then we will notify you of our decision within 48 hours after making our request. If we notify you of our decision orally, we will send you written confirmation within three (3) days after that.

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.

b. Non-Urgent Pre-Service Appeal

Within 180 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 Medical 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 denial, and (5) all supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must either mail or fax your appeal to the **Appeals Program**.

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The members of the appeals committee who will review your appeal will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least 5 days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that 5 day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within a reasonable period of time that is appropriate given your medical condition but not more than 30 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, that may be available to you.

c. 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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 may submit your appeal orally, by mail or by fax to the **Appeals Program**.

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 “Appeals and Complaints” section), if our internal appeal decision is not in your favor.

We will decide whether your appeal is urgent or non-urgent unless your attending health care provider tells us your appeal is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, create an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent appeal to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

You do not have the right to attend or have counsel, advocates and health care professionals in attendance at the expedited review. You are, however, entitled to submit written comments, documents, records and other materials for the reviewer or reviewers to consider; and receive, upon request and free of charge, copies of all documents, records and other information regarding your request for benefits.

We will review your appeal and give you oral or written notice of our decision as soon as your clinical condition requires, but not 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 (3) days after that.

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, that may be available to you.



2. Concurrent Care Claims and Appeals.

Concurrent care claims are requests that Health Plan continue to provide, or pay for, an ongoing course of covered treatment or Services for a period of time or number of treatments or Services, when the course of treatment already being received will end. If you have any general questions about concurrent care claims or appeals, please call **Member Services**.

Unless you are appealing an urgent care concurrent 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 then appeal our decision (an adverse benefit determination), 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 we will only pay for the continuation of Services until we notify you of our appeal decision.

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

a. Concurrent Care Claim

Tell us in writing 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 either mail or fax your claim to **Member Services**.

If you want us to consider your claim on an urgent basis and you contact us at least 24 hours before your 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 unless your attending health care provider tells us your claim is 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, health or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, create an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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 extending your course of covered treatment. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent claim or an appeal thereof, to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

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 care is ending, we will make our decision before your authorized care actually ends (that is, within 24 hours of receipt of your claim). If your authorized care ended before you submitted your claim, we will make our decision within a reasonable period of time but no later than 15 days after we receive your claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, if we send you notice before the initial 15 days end and explain why we need the extra time and when we expect to make a decision. If we tell you we need more information, we will ask you for the information before the initial decision period ends, and we will give you until your care is ending or, if your care has ended, 45 days to send us the information. We will make our decision as soon as possible, if your care has not ended, or within 15 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 days following the end of the 45 days that we gave you for sending the additional information.

We will send written notice of our decision to you and, if applicable to your provider, upon request. Please let us know if you wish to have our decision sent to your provider.

If we consider your concurrent claim on an urgent basis, we will notify you of our decision orally or in writing as soon as your clinical condition requires, but not later than 24 hours after we received your appeal. If we notify you of our decision orally, we will send you written confirmation within three (3) days after receiving your claim.

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

b. Non-Urgent Concurrent Care Appeal

Within 180 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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 the **Appeals Program**.

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The members of the appeals committee who will review your appeal will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least 5 days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that 5 day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision as soon as possible if your care has not ended but not later than 30 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, that may be available to you.

c. 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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 may submit your appeal orally, by mail or by fax to the **Appeals Program**.

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 “Appeals and Complaints” section).

We will decide whether your appeal is urgent or non-urgent unless your attending health care provider tells us your appeal is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, create an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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 continuing your course of covered treatment. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent appeal to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

You do not have the right to attend or have counsel, advocates and health care professionals in attendance at the expedited review. You are, however, entitled to submit written comments, documents, records and other materials for the reviewer or reviewers to consider; and receive, upon request and free of charge, copies of all documents, records and other information regarding your request for benefits.

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 (3) days after that.

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.

3. Post-Service Claims and Appeals

Post-service claims are requests that we for 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:

a. Post-Service Claim

Within twelve (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, and (4) why you think we should pay for the Services. You must include a copy of the bill, your medical record(s) and any supporting documents. Your letter and the related documents constitute your claim. Or, you may contact **Member Services** to obtain a claims form. You must either mail or fax your claim to the **Claims Department**.

We will not accept or pay for claims received from you after twelve (12) months from the date of Services.

We will review your claim, and if we have all the information we need we will send you a written decision within 30 days after we receive your claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, if we notify you within 15 days after we receive your claim and explain the circumstances for which we need the extra time and when we expect to make a decision. If we tell you we need more information, we will ask you for the information, and we will give you 45 days to send us the information. We will make a decision within 15 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 days after we send our request, we will make a decision based on the information we have within 15 days following the end of the 45-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.

b. Post-Service Appeal

Within 180 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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) include all supporting documents such as medical records. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must either mail or fax your appeal to the **Appeals Program**.

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The appeals committee members who will review your appeal (who were not involved in our original decision regarding your claim) will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least 5 days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that 5 day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within 30 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.

Voluntary Second Level of Appeal

Within 60 days after you receive our adverse decision regarding your appeal, you may ask us to review our adverse benefit decisions again. We will schedule a review of your second appeal within 60 days of receiving your request, and we will notify you about the date and time of this review no less than 20 days before it occurs. You have the right to request a postponement. You have the right to appear in person or by telephone conference at the meeting. We will make our decision within 7 days of the completion of this meeting.

Appeals of Retroactive Membership Termination (rescission or cancellation retroactively)

We may terminate your membership retroactively (see “Rescission of Membership” under the “Termination/Nonrenewal/Continuation” section). We will send you written notice at least 30 days prior to the termination. If you have general questions about retroactive membership terminations or appeals, please call **Member Services**.

Here is the procedure for filing an appeal of a retroactive membership termination:

Within 180 days after you receive our adverse benefit determination that your membership will be terminated retroactively, you must tell us in writing that you want to appeal our termination of your membership retroactively. Please include the following: (1) your name and Medical Record Number, (2) all of the reasons why you disagree with our retroactive membership termination, and (3) all supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must mail your appeal to **Member Services**.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within 30 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, that may be available to you.

Appeals of Denial of Individual Plan Application

Here is the procedure for filing an appeal of our denial of an individual plan application:

Within 180 days after you receive our adverse benefit determination regarding your individual plan application, you must tell us in writing that you want to appeal our denial of an individual plan application. Please include the following: (1) your name and

application reference number, (2) all of the reasons why you disagree with our adverse benefit determination, and (3) all supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must mail your appeal to:

Member Services  
P.O. Box 203004  
Denver, CO 80220-9004

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within 30 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 that may be available to you.

### **External Review**

Following receipt of an adverse decision letter regarding your First Level Appeal or Voluntary Second Level Appeal, you may have a right to request an external review.

You have the right to request an independent external review of our decision, if our decision involves an adverse benefit determination regarding a denial of a claim, in whole or in part, that is (1) a denial of a preauthorization for a Service; (2) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is not Medically Necessary, appropriate, effective or efficient or is not provided in or at the appropriate health care setting or level of care; and/or (3) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is experimental or investigational. If our final adverse decision does not involve an adverse benefit determination described in the preceding sentence, then your claim is **not** eligible for external review provided, however, independent external review is available when we deny your appeal because you request medical care that is excluded under your Kaiser Permanente plan and you present evidence from a licensed Colorado professional that there is a reasonable medical basis that the exclusion does not apply.

You will not be responsible for the cost of the external review. There is no minimum dollar amount for a claim to be eligible for an external review.

To request external review, you must:

1. Submit a completed Independent External Review of Carrier's Final Adverse Determination form which will be included with the mandatory internal appeal decision letter and explanation of your appeal rights (you may call the **Appeals Program** to request a copy of this form) to the **Appeals Program** within four (4) months of the date of receipt of the mandatory internal appeal decision or Voluntary Second Level Appeal decision. We shall consider the date of receipt for our notice to be three (3) days after the date on which our notice was drafted, unless you can prove that you received our notice after the three (3) day period ends.
2. Include in your written request a statement authorizing us to release your claim file with your health information including your medical records; or, you may submit a completed Authorization for Release of Appeal Information form which is included with the mandatory internal appeal decision letter and explanation of your appeal rights (you may call **Appeals Program** to request a copy of this form).

If we do not receive your external review request form and/or authorization form to release your health information, then we will not be able to act on your request. We must receive all of this information prior to the end of the applicable timeframe for your request of external review.

### **Expedited External Review**

**You may request an expedited review if (1) you have a medical condition for which the timeframe for completion of a standard review would seriously jeopardize your life, health, or ability to regain maximum function, or, if you have a physical or mental disability, would create an imminent and substantial limitation to your existing ability to live independently, or (2) in the opinion of a physician with knowledge of your medical condition, the timeframe for completion of a standard review would subject you to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the medical services that you are seeking. A request for an expedited external review must be accompanied by a written statement from your physician that your condition meets the expedited criteria. You must include the physician's certification that you meet expedited external review criteria when you submit your request for external review along with the other required information (described, above).**

### **Additional Requirements for External Review regarding Experimental or Investigational Services**

**You may request external review or expedited external review involving an adverse benefit determination based upon the Service being experimental or investigational. Your request for external review or expedited external review must include a written statement from your physician that either (a) standard health care services or treatments have not been effective in improving your condition or are not medically appropriate for you, or (b) there is no available standard health care service or treatment covered under this EOC that is more beneficial than the recommended or requested health care service (the physician must certify that scientifically valid studies using accepted protocols demonstrate that the requested health care service or treatment is more likely to be more beneficial to you than an available standard health care services or**

treatments), and the physician is a licensed, board-certified, or board-eligible physician to practice in the area of medicine to treat your condition. If you are requesting expedited external review, then your physician must also certify that the requested health care service or treatment would be less effective if not promptly initiated. These certifications must be submitted with your request for external review.

No expedited external review is available when you have already received the medical care that is the subject of your request for external review. If you do not qualify for expedited external review, we will treat your request as a request for standard external review.

After we receive your request for external review, we shall notify you of the information regarding the independent external review entity that the Division of Insurance has selected to conduct the external review.

If we deny your request for standard or expedited external review, including any assertion that we have not complied with the applicable requirements related to our internal claims and appeals procedure, then we may notify you in writing and include the specific reasons for the denial. Our notice will include information about your right to appeal the denial to the Division of Insurance. At the same time that we send this denial notice to you, we will send a copy of it to the Division of Insurance.

**You will not be able to present your appeal in person to the independent external review organization. You may, however, send any additional information that is significantly different from information provided or considered during the internal claims and appeal procedure and, if applicable Voluntary Second Level of Appeal process. If you send new information, we may consider it and reverse our decision regarding your appeal.**

**You may submit your additional information to the independent external review organization for consideration during its review within five (5) working days of your receipt of our notice describing the independent review organization that has been selected to conduct the external review of your claim. Although it is not required to do so, the independent review organization may accept and consider additional information submitted after this five (5) working day period ends.**

The independent external review entity shall review information regarding your benefit claim and shall base its determination on an objective review of relevant medical and scientific evidence. Within 45 days of the independent external review entity's receipt of your request for standard external review, it shall provide written notice of its decision to you. If the independent external review entity is deciding your expedited external review request, then the independent external review entity shall make its decision as expeditiously as possible and no more than 72 hours after its receipt of your request for external review and within 48 hours of notifying you orally of its decision provide written confirmation of its decision. This notice shall explain the external review entity's decision and that the external review decision is the final appeal available under state insurance law. An external review decision is binding on Health Plan and you except to the extent Health Plan and you have other remedies available under federal or state law. You or your designated representative may not file a subsequent request for external review involving the same Health Plan adverse determination for which you have already received an external review decision.

**If the independent external review organization overturns our denial of payment for care you have already received, we will issue payment within five (5) working days. If the independent review organization overturns our decision not to authorize pre-service or concurrent care claims, Kaiser Permanente will authorize care within one (1) working day. Such covered services shall be provided subject to the terms and conditions applicable to benefits under your plan.**

Except when external review is permitted to occur simultaneously with your urgent pre-service appeal or urgent concurrent care appeal, you must exhaust our internal claims and appeals procedure (but not the Voluntary Second Level of Appeal) for your claim before you may request external review unless we have failed to substantially comply with federal and/or state law requirements regarding our claims and appeals procedures.

#### **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.

## **B. Complaints**

1. If you are not satisfied with the Services received at a particular Plan 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:
  - a. Sending your written complaint to **Member Services**;
  - b. Requesting to meet with a Member Services Liaison at the Health Plan Administrative Offices; or
  - c. Telephoning **Member Services**.
2. After you notify us of a complaint, this is what happens:
  - a. A Member Services Liaison reviews the complaint and conducts an investigation, verifying all the relevant facts.

- b. The Member Services Liaison or a Plan Physician evaluates the facts and makes a recommendation for corrective action, if any.
  - c. When you file a written complaint, we usually respond in writing within 30 calendar days, unless additional information is required.
  - d. When you make a verbal complaint, a verbal response is usually made within 30 calendar days.
3. If you are dissatisfied with the resolution, you have the right to request a second review. Please put your request in writing to **Member Services**. **Member Services** will respond to you in writing within 30 calendar days of receipt of your request.

We want you to be satisfied with our Plan Facilities, Services, and Plan Physicians. 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. Please call **Member Services**.

## X. INFORMATION ON POLICY AND RATE CHANGES

Your Group's Agreement with us will change periodically. If these changes affect this EOC or your Premiums, your Group is required to notify you of them. If it is necessary to make revisions to this EOC, we will issue revised materials to you.

## XI. DEFINITIONS

The following terms, when capitalized and used in any part of this EOC, have the following meaning:

**Accumulation Period:** As stated in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)," the period of time during which benefits are paid and are counted toward the maximum allowed for the specific benefit.

**Affiliated Physician:** Any doctor of medicine contracting with Medical Group to provide covered Services to Members under this EOC.

**Affiliated Provider:** A health care provider that we designate as an Affiliated Provider.

**Authorization:** A referral request that has received approval from Health Plan.

**Charge(s):**

1. For Services provided by Plan Providers or Medical Group, the charges in Health Plan's schedule of Medical Group and Health Plan charges for Services provided to Members; or
2. For Services for which a provider (other than Medical Group or Health Plan) is compensated on a capitation basis, the charges in the schedule of charges that Kaiser Permanente negotiates with the capitated provider; or
3. For items obtained at a Plan Pharmacy, the amount the Plan Pharmacy would charge a Member for the item if a Member's benefit plan did not cover the item (this amount is an estimate of: the cost of acquiring, storing, and dispensing drugs, the direct and indirect costs of providing Kaiser Permanente pharmacy Services to Members, and the Plan Pharmacy program's contribution to the net revenue requirements of Health Plan); or
4. For all other Services, the payments that Health Plan makes for the Services (or, if Health Plan subtracts a Copayment, Coinsurance or Deductible from its payment, the amount Health Plan would have paid if it did not subtract the Copayment, Coinsurance or Deductible).

**CMS:** The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the federal agency responsible for administering Medicare.

**Coinsurance:** A percentage of Charges that you must pay when you receive a covered Service, as listed in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)."

**Copayment:** The specific dollar amount you must pay for a covered Service, as listed in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)."

**Deductible:** The amount you must pay in an Accumulation Period for certain Services before we will cover those Services in that Accumulation Period. The "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" explains the amount of the Deductible and which Services are subject to the Deductible.

**Dependent:** A Member whose relationship to a Subscriber is the basis for membership eligibility and who meets the eligibility requirements as a Dependent. For Dependent eligibility requirements, see "Who Is Eligible" in the "Eligibility" section.

**Emergency Medical Condition:** A medical condition that manifests itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity, including severe pain, that a prudent layperson with an average knowledge of health and medicine could reasonably expect, in the absence of immediate medical attention, to result in:

1. Serious jeopardy to the health of the individual or, with respect to a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child;
2. Serious impairment to bodily functions; or
3. Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part.

**Emergency Services:** With respect to an Emergency Medical Condition:

1. A medical screening examination that is within the capability of the emergency department of a hospital, including ancillary services routinely available to the emergency department to evaluate the Emergency Medical Condition; and
2. Within the capabilities of the staff and facilities available at the hospital, further medical examination and treatment as required to Stabilize the patient 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 individual from a facility.

**Family Unit:** A Subscriber and all of his or her Dependents.

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

**Health Plan:** Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado, a Colorado nonprofit corporation.

**Health Savings Account (HSA):** A tax-exempt trust or custodial account established under Section 223(d) of the Internal Revenue Code exclusively for the purpose of paying qualified medical expenses of the account beneficiary. Contributions made to a Health Savings Account by an eligible individual are tax deductible under federal tax law whether or not the individual itemizes deductions. In order to make contributions to a Health Savings Account, you must be covered under a qualified High Deductible Health Plan and meet other tax law requirements. Kaiser Permanente does not provide tax advice. Consult with your financial or tax advisor for tax advice or more information about your eligibility for a Health Savings Account.

**High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP):** A health benefit plan that meets the requirements of Section 223 (c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code. The health care coverage under this EOC has been designed to be a High Deductible Health Plan compatible for use with a Health Savings Account.

**Kaiser Permanente:** Health Plan and Medical Group

**Life or Limb Threatening Emergency:** Any event that a prudent layperson would believe threatens his or her life or limb in such a manner that a need for immediate medical care is created to prevent death or serious impairment of health.

**Medical Group:** The Colorado Permanente Medical Group, P.C., a for-profit medical corporation.

**Medically Necessary** services or supplies are those that are determined by Health Plan to be all of the following:

- Required to prevent, diagnose, or treat your condition or clinical symptoms; and
- In accordance with generally accepted standards of medical practice; and
- Not solely for the convenience of you, your family, and/or your provider; and
- The most appropriate level of care that can safely be provided to you.

The fact that a Plan or non-Plan Provider prescribes, recommends, or refers you to a Service does not make that Service Medically Necessary or covered under this EOC.

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

**Member:** A person who is eligible and enrolled under this EOC, and for whom we have received applicable Premiums. This EOC sometimes refers to a Member as “you” or “your.”

**Out-of-Pocket Maximum:** The annual limit to the total amount of Deductible (if any), certain Copayments and certain Coinsurance you must pay in an Accumulation Period for covered Services, as described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**Plan Facility:** A Plan Medical Office or Plan Hospital.

**Plan Hospital:** Any hospital listed as a Plan Hospital in our provider directory. Plan Hospitals are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Plan Medical Office:** Any medical office listed in our provider directory, including any outpatient facility designated by Health Plan. Plan Medical Offices are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Plan Optometrist:** Any licensed optometrist who is an employee of Health Plan or any licensed optometrist who contracts to provide Services to Members.

**Plan Pharmacy:** A pharmacy owned and operated by Kaiser Permanente or another pharmacy that we designate. Plan Pharmacies are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Plan Physician:** Any licensed physician who is an employee of Medical Group, an Affiliated Physician or any licensed physician who contracts to provide Services to Members (but not including physicians who contract only to provide referral Services).

**Plan Provider:** A Plan Hospital, Plan Physician, or other health care provider that we designate as Plan Provider, except that Plan Providers are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Premiums:** Periodic membership charges paid by Group.

**Service Area:**

The **Denver/Boulder** Service Area is that portion of Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Clear Creek, Denver, Douglas, Elbert, Gilpin, Jefferson, Larimer, Park, Teller, and Weld counties within the following zip codes: 80001, 80002, 80003, 80004, 80005, 80006, 80007, 80010, 80011, 80012, 80013, 80014, 80015, 80016, 80017, 80018, 80019, 80020, 80021, 80022, 80023, 80024, 80025, 80026, 80027, 80030, 80031, 80033, 80034, 80035, 80036, 80037, 80038, 80040, 80041, 80042, 80044, 80045, 80046, 80047, 80102, 80104, 80107, 80108, 80109, 80110, 80111, 80112, 80113, 80116, 80117, 80120, 80121, 80122, 80123, 80124, 80125, 80126, 80127, 80128, 80129, 80130, 80131, 80134, 80135, 80137, 80138, 80150, 80151, 80155, 80160, 80161, 80162, 80163, 80165, 80166, 80201, 80202, 80203, 80204, 80205, 80206, 80207, 80208, 80209, 80210, 80211, 80212, 80214, 80215, 80216, 80217, 80218, 80219, 80220, 80221, 80222, 80223, 80224, 80225, 80226, 80227, 80228, 80229, 80230, 80231, 80232, 80233, 80234, 80235, 80236, 80237, 80238, 80239, 80241, 80243, 80244, 80246, 80247, 80248, 80249, 80250, 80251, 80256, 80257, 80259, 80260, 80261, 80262, 80263, 80264, 80265, 80266, 80271, 80273, 80274, 80281, 80290, 80291, 80293, 80294, 80299, 80301, 80302, 80303, 80304, 80305, 80306, 80307, 80308, 80309, 80310, 80314, 80401, 80402, 80403, 80419, 80421, 80422, 80425, 80427, 80433, 80436, 80437, 80439, 80444, 80452, 80453, 80454, 80455, 80457, 80465, 80466, 80470, 80471, 80474, 80481, 80501, 80502, 80503, 80504, 80510, 80514, 80516, 80520, 80530, 80533, 80540, 80544, 80601, 80602, 80603, 80614, 80621, 80640, 80642, 80643.

The **Northern Colorado** Service Area is that portion of Adams, Boulder, Larimer, Morgan, and Weld counties within the following zip codes: 69128, 69145, 80511, 80512, 80513, 80515, 80517, 80521, 80522, 80523, 80524, 80525, 80526, 80527, 80528, 80532, 80534, 80535, 80536, 80537, 80538, 80539, 80541, 80542, 80543, 80545, 80546, 80547, 80549, 80550, 80551, 80553, 80610, 80611, 80612, 80615, 80620, 80622, 80623, 80624, 80631, 80632, 80633, 80634, 80638, 80639, 80644, 80645, 80646, 80648, 80649, 80650, 80651, 80652, 80654, 80729, 80732, 80742, 80754, 82063, 82070, 82082.

The **Southern Colorado** Service Area is that portion of Crowley, Custer, Douglas, El Paso, Elbert, Fremont, Huerfano, Las Animas, Lincoln, Otero, Park, Pueblo, and Teller counties within the following zip codes: 80106, 80118, 80132, 80133, 80808, 80809, 80813, 80814, 80816, 80817, 80819, 80820, 80827, 80829, 80831, 80832, 80833, 80840, 80841, 80860, 80863, 80864, 80866, 80901, 80902, 80903, 80904, 80905, 80906, 80907, 80908, 80909, 80910, 80911, 80912, 80913, 80914, 80915, 80916, 80917, 80918, 80919, 80920, 80921, 80922, 80923, 80924, 80925, 80926, 80927, 80928, 80929, 80930, 80931, 80932, 80933, 80934, 80935, 80936, 80937, 80938, 80939, 80941, 80942, 80946, 80947, 80949, 80950, 80951, 80960, 80962, 80970, 80977, 80995, 80997, 81001, 81002, 81003, 81004, 81005, 81006, 81007, 81008, 81009, 81010, 81011, 81012, 81019, 81022, 81023, 81025, 81039, 81062, 81069, 81212, 81215, 81221, 81222, 81223, 81226, 81232, 81233, 81240, 81244, 81253, 81290.

**Services:** Health care services or items.

**Skilled Nursing Facility:** A facility that is licensed as such by the state of Colorado, certified by Medicare and approved by Health Plan. The facility’s primary business must be the provision of 24-hour-a-day licensed skilled nursing care for patients who need skilled nursing or skilled rehabilitation care, or both, on a daily basis, as part of an ongoing medical treatment plan.

**Spouse:** Your partner in marriage or a civil union as determined by state law.

**Stabilize:** To provide the medical treatment of the Emergency Medical 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 (including the placenta).

**Step Therapy:** A protocol that requires a covered person to use a prescription drug or sequence of prescription drugs, other than the drug that the covered person’s health care provider recommends for the covered person’s treatment, before the carrier provides coverage for the recommended prescription drug.

**Subscriber:** A Member who is eligible for membership on his or her own behalf and not by virtue of Dependent status and who meets the eligibility requirements as a Subscriber (for Subscriber eligibility requirements, see “Who Is Eligible” in the “Eligibility” section).



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## ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

Please refer to the Summary Chart in this booklet for specific charges and other limitations that may apply to the coverage(s) described below.

### DOMESTIC PARTNER COVERAGE

Your Group coverage includes health benefits for same-sex domestic partners. To be covered they must meet:

- (1) the eligibility requirements as described in the “Eligibility” section of this EOC; and
- (2) the conditions for domestic partnership as described in the Affidavit of Domestic Partnership.

You are required to complete and submit an Affidavit of Domestic Partnership to Health Plan. Please check with your Group's benefit administrator for details.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for same-sex domestic partners. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

DOMP0AA (01-18)

### SURVIVING DEPENDENTS

Your Group coverage includes health benefit coverage for surviving Dependents.

Surviving Dependents include your:

1. Spouses; and
2. Other eligible Dependents.

Their coverage may continue based on the Group's personnel policy.

SRDC0AE (01-12)

WOR0AA

### ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT

**(Does not apply to Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage HMO Plan)**

The following paragraph of your EOC is amended, as follows:

#### I. Eligibility

##### A. Who Is Eligible

###### 1. General

To be eligible to enroll and to remain enrolled in this health benefit plan, you must meet the following requirements:

- a. You must meet your Group's eligibility requirements that we have approved. Your Group is required to inform Subscribers of the Group's eligibility requirements; and
- b. You must also meet the Subscriber or Dependent eligibility requirements as described below; and
- c. The Subscriber must live, reside, or work in our Service Area. Our Service Area is described in the “Definitions” section.

This rider amends the general eligibility provision of the EOC. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

WOR0AA (01-20)

DMES0AB

### DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT (DME) AND PROSTHETIC AND ORTHOTIC DEVICES

When prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan on either a purchase or rental basis, as determined by Health Plan, DME, prosthetics and orthotics, including replacements other than those necessitated by misuse, theft, or

loss, are provided as shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for your use during the period prescribed. Necessary fittings, repairs and adjustments, other than those necessitated by misuse, are covered. Health Plan may repair or replace a device at its option. Repair or replacement of defective equipment is covered at no additional charge.

Health Plan uses Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) and National Coverage Determinations (NCD) (hereinafter referred to as Medicare Guidelines) for our DME, prosthetic, and orthotic formulary guidelines. These are guidelines only. Health Plan reserves the right to exclude items listed in the Medicare Guidelines (does not apply to Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage plans). Please note that this EOC may contain some, but not all, of these exclusions.

**Limitations:** Coverage is limited to a standard item of DME, prosthetic device, or orthotic device that adequately meets your medical needs.

1. Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

a. Coverage

- i. DME is equipment that is appropriate for use in the home, able to withstand repeated use, Medically Necessary, not of use to a person in the absence of illness or injury, and approved for coverage under Medicare. It includes, but is not limited to, infant apnea monitors, insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies, and oxygen and oxygen dispensing equipment.
- ii. Insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iii. When use is no longer prescribed by a Plan Physician, DME must be returned to Health Plan or its designee. If the equipment is not returned, you must pay Health Plan or its designee the fair market price, established by Health Plan, for the equipment.

b. Limitation: Coverage is limited to the lesser of the purchase or rental price, as determined by Health Plan.

c. Durable Medical Equipment Exclusions

- i. Electronic monitors of bodily functions, except infant apnea monitors are covered.
- ii. Devices to perform medical testing of body fluids, excretions or substances, except nitrate urine test strips for home use for pediatric patients are covered.
- iii. Non-medical items such as sauna baths or elevators.
- iv. Exercise or hygiene equipment.
- v. Comfort, convenience, or luxury equipment or features.
- vi. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze\*, tape, antiseptics, dressings, and ace-type bandages.  
\*Gauze not excluded in Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Part D plans.
- vii. Replacement of lost or stolen equipment.
- viii. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.
- ix. More than one piece of DME serving essentially the same function, except for replacements.
- x. Spare equipment or alternate use equipment is not covered.

2. Prosthetic Devices

a. Coverage

Prosthetic devices are those rigid or semi-rigid external devices that are required to replace all or part of a body organ or extremity. Coverage of prosthetic devices includes:

- i. Internally implanted devices for functional purposes, such as pacemakers and hip joints.
- ii. Prosthetic devices for Members who have had a mastectomy. Medical Group or Health Plan will designate the source from which external prostheses can be obtained. Replacement will be made when a prosthesis is no longer functional. Custom-made prostheses will be provided when necessary.
- iii. Prosthetic devices, such as obturators and speech and feeding appliances, required for the treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate are covered when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iv. Prosthetic devices intended to replace, in whole or in part, an arm or leg when prescribed by a Plan Physician, as Medically Necessary and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.

b. Prosthetic Devices Exclusions

- i. Dental prostheses, except for Medically Necessary prosthodontic treatment for treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate, as described above.
- ii. Internally implanted devices, equipment, and prosthetics related to treatment of sexual dysfunction.
- iii. More than one prosthetic device for the same part of the body, except for replacements.
- iv. Spare devices or alternate use devices.
- v. Replacement of lost or stolen prosthetic devices.
- vi. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.

3. Orthotic Devices

a. Coverage

Orthotic devices are those rigid or semi-rigid external devices that are 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.

b. Orthotic Devices Exclusions

- i. Corrective shoes and orthotic devices for podiatric use and arch supports, except for diabetic shoes in accordance with clinical guidelines and therapeutic shoes for patients with a diagnosis of peripheral vascular disease or peripheral neuropathy.
- ii. Dental devices and appliances except that Medically Necessary treatment of cleft lip or cleft palate is covered when prescribed by a Plan Physician, unless you are covered for these Services under a dental insurance policy or contract.
- iii. Experimental and research braces.
- iv. More than one orthotic device for the same part of the body, except for covered replacements.
- v. Spare devices or alternate use devices.
- vi. Replacement of lost or stolen orthotic devices.
- vii. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and prosthetic and orthotic devices. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

DMES0AB (01-20)

### **FIRST RESPONDER BENEFIT**

#### Coverage

Your Group has purchased additional coverage for employees who qualify as first responders. The following screening tests and medical Services are covered at no charge\* when performed at a Plan Medical Office:

- a. Annual health maintenance examination with a primary care provider;
- b. Annual fasting cholesterol profile and fasting blood sugar;
- c. Routine laboratory tests (CBC, UA);
- d. Liver test (ALT) and kidney function test (CR);
- e. Heavy metal screening;
- f. HIV, Hepatitis C screening (available upon request, or as indicated by current CDC guidelines);
- g. Appropriate immunizations as recommended by your PCP;
- h. One baseline ECG;
- i. Cardiac testing (stress test or coronary artery calcium test);
- j. Standard Kaiser Permanente cancer screenings for colon, prostate (PSA testing based on informed decision making), cervical, and breast cancer.

**\*Note:** If you are enrolled in a High Deductible Health Plan, Services that are non-preventive may be subject to your Deductible, Coinsurance, and/or Copayment.

The following Services may incur Deductible, Coinsurance, and/or Copayment amounts, depending on your plan type:

- a. Behavioral health, chemical dependency, or sleep apnea screening (referral needed)
- b. Eye exam (without a referral)
- c. Hearing exam (available yearly, without a referral)
- d. Any other test or screening based on recommendations from your PCP

If you have questions about the First Responder benefit, please call **Member Services**.

This rider amends the EOC to provide additional coverage for first responders. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

FRST0AA (01-19)

### **PREVENTIVE SERVICES RIDER**

Preventive care services, as defined under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, are provided at no charge including those shown on the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" when prescribed by a Plan Physician. Please contact **Member Services** for a complete list of covered Preventive Services.

**Note:** If you receive any other covered Services before, during, or after a preventive care visit, you may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, and Coinsurance for those Services. For example:

- You schedule a routine physical maintenance exam. During your preventive exam your provider finds a problem with your health and orders non-preventive Services to diagnose your problem (such as laboratory or radiology tests). You may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance for these additional diagnostic Services.

- You schedule a routine preventive exam. Your provider orders laboratory tests that are not preventive care Services according to the guidelines below. You may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance for these additional non-preventive Services.
- You schedule a routine well-person exam. During your exam, you discuss new symptoms with your provider, or new health concerns are discovered. You may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance for this visit.

Coverage includes, but is not limited to, preventive health care Services for the following in accordance with the A or B recommendations of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, the Health Resources Services Administration women’s preventive services guidelines, and those preventive services mandates required by state law, for the particular preventive health care Service:

1. Office visits for preventive care Services.
2. Alcohol misuse screening and behavioral counseling interventions for adults by your primary care provider.
3. Cervical cancer screening.
4. Breast cancer screening.
5. Blood pressure screening.
6. Cholesterol screening.
7. Colorectal cancer screening.
8. Prostate cancer screening.
9. Immunizations pursuant to the schedule established by the ACIP.
10. Tobacco use screening, counseling, cessation attempt services, FDA-approved tobacco cessation medications, and the Colorado QuitLine.
11. Type 2 diabetes screening for adults with high blood pressure.
12. Diet counseling for adults with hyperlipidemia and at higher risk for cardiovascular and diet-related chronic disease.
13. Cervical cancer vaccines.
14. Influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations.
15. Approved Affordable Care Act contraceptive categories.

“ACIP” means the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention in the federal Department of Health and Human Services, or any successor entity. Go to [cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/](http://cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/). For a list of preventive services that have a rating of A or B from the U.S. Preventive Task Force, go to [uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Name/uspstf-a-and-b-recommendations/](http://uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Name/uspstf-a-and-b-recommendations/). For the Health Resources and Services Administration women’s preventive services guidelines, go to [hrsa.gov/womensguidelines/](http://hrsa.gov/womensguidelines/).

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for preventive Services. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

PV0AD (01-20)

RX0BL

### PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT

**NOTE:** When used in this Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement, the term “preferred” refers to drugs that are included in the Health Plan drug formulary. The term “non-preferred” refers to drugs that are not included in the Health Plan drug formulary.

Please refer to the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” in this booklet for the specific Copayments, Coinsurance, Deductible, and supply limits that apply to the covered prescription drugs described below.

#### 1. Coverage

Prescribed covered drugs are provided at the applicable prescription drug Copayment or Coinsurance for each tier of drug coverage. This may include: a preferred generic drug tier; a tier for preferred brand-name drugs or medications not having a generic or a generic equivalent; a tier for prescribed non-preferred drugs authorized through the non-preferred drug process; and a tier for certain specialty drugs. **Note:** Some specialty drugs are available in other tiers. To learn more, please visit our website at [kp.org/formulary](http://kp.org/formulary).

#### Non-Formulary Drug Exception Process:

You, your designee, or your Plan Provider may request access to clinically appropriate drugs not otherwise covered by Health Plan (non-formulary drugs) through a special exception process. We will make a coverage determination within 72 hours of receipt for standard requests and within 24 hours of receipt for expedited requests. As long as you are an active Member and the exception request is granted, Health Plan will provide coverage of the non-formulary drug for the duration of the prescription. If the exception request is denied, you, your designee, or your Plan Provider may request an external review of the decision by an independent review organization. For additional information about the prescription drug exception processes for non-formulary drugs, please contact **Member Services**.

Prescribed supplies and accessories include, but may not be limited to:

- a. Home glucose monitoring supplies.
- b. Glucose test strips.
- c. Acetone test tablets.

- d. Nitrate urine test strips for pediatric patients.
- e. Disposable syringes for the administration of insulin.

Such items are provided when obtained at Plan Pharmacies or from sources designated by Health Plan.

For Copayment or Coinsurance information related to contraceptive drugs and certain devices please refer to your “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

For each drug, the amount covered will be the lesser of the quantity prescribed or the day supply limit. Any amount you receive that exceeds the day supply will not be covered. If you receive more than the day supply limit, you will be charged as a non-Member for any prescribed amount exceeding the limit. Certain drugs have a significant potential for waste and diversion. Those drugs will be provided for up to a 30-day supply. Each prescription refill is provided on the same basis as the original prescription. Kaiser Permanente may, in its sole discretion, establish quantity limits for specific prescription drugs.

Generic drugs that are available in the United States only from a single manufacturer and that are not listed as generic in the then-current commercially available drug database(s) to which Health Plan subscribes are provided at the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance. The amount covered will be the lesser of the quantity prescribed or the day supply limit.

Prescription drugs are covered only when prescribed by a:

- a. Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies; or
- b. Physician to whom a Member has been referred by a Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies; or
- c. Dentist (when prescribed for acute conditions) and obtained at Plan Pharmacies.

Covered drugs include:

- a. Drugs for which a prescription is required by law. Plan Pharmacies may substitute a generic equivalent for a brand-name drug unless prohibited by the Plan Physician. If you request a brand-name drug when a generic equivalent drug is the preferred product, you must pay the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance, plus any difference in price between the preferred generic equivalent drug prescribed by the Plan Physician and the requested brand-name drug. If the brand-name drug is prescribed due to Medical Necessity, you pay only the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance.
- b. Insulin.
- c. Renewal of prescription eye drops and one additional bottle of prescription eye drops in accordance with state law.
- d. Compounded medications. **Note:** In all Service Areas, if you use a Kaiser Permanente pharmacy, compounded medications must be picked up or mailed from the pharmacy that is designated by Health Plan. Refills of compounded medications cannot be ordered on [kp.org](http://kp.org), by mail order, or through the automated refill line. Please call **303-764- 4900 (TTY 711)** and press “0” to speak to the pharmacy staff for assistance. In the *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Service Areas, you may fill or refill compounded medications at a network pharmacy.

## 2. Limitations

- a. Some drugs may require prior authorization. You do not need prior authorization for any FDA-approved prescription drug listed on our formulary, for the treatment of substance use disorder.
- b. With the exception of substance use disorder drugs, we may apply Step Therapy to certain drugs. You or your Plan Provider may request an exception if you previously tried a drug and your use of the drug was discontinued due to lack of efficacy or effectiveness, diminished effect, or an adverse event.
- c. Coverage determinations for the off-label use of medications will be consistent with Medicare compendia, and coverage determinations for the off-label use of oncologic agents will be consistent with the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) of 2008.

### 3. Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements Exclusions

- a. Drugs for which a prescription is not required by law.
- b. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze, tape, antiseptics, dressing and ace-type bandages.
- c. Prescription drugs necessary for Services excluded in the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement.
- d. Non-preferred drugs, except those prescribed and authorized through the non-preferred drug process.
- e. Any drugs listed as not covered in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”.
- f. Drugs to shorten the length of the common cold.
- g. Drugs to enhance athletic performance.
- h. Drugs available over the counter and by prescription for the same strength.
- i. Individual drugs determined excluded by our Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.
- j. Drugs for the treatment of weight control.
- k. Any prescription drug packaging except the dispensing pharmacy's standard packaging.
- l. Replacement of prescription drugs for any reason. This includes spilled, lost, damaged, or stolen prescriptions.
- m. Drugs administered during a medical office visit.
- n. Medical Foods and Medical Devices.
- o. Unless approved by Health Plan, drugs not approved by the FDA.

This rider amends the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement to provide coverage for Prescription Drugs. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement shall also apply to this rider except

where specifically changed by this rider.

RX0BL (01-20)

# NOTES

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# NOTES

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# NOTES

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**Kaiser Foundation Health  
Plan of Colorado**  
2500 S. Havana St.  
Aurora, CO 80014-1622

## Important plan information



**KAISER PERMANENTE**  
Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company

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Colorado

Point-of-Service





Apr.29,2020

Re: Policyholder: DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT  
Group Policy Number: 74-013

Dear Insured Employee:

Thank you for choosing Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company (KPIC).

Enclosed are your Certificate of Insurance and Schedule of Benefits for the current plan year. They supersede and replace any Certificate of Insurance or Schedule of Benefits that KPIC may have previously issued to you or your employer. The Certificate is evidence of your coverage under the KPIC Group Insurance Policy issued to your employer. Please read your Certificate carefully and keep it in a safe place.

If you have questions regarding your eligibility or plan benefits, please contact your employer.

Again, thank you for being a part of the Kaiser Permanente Health Care Program.

Sincerely,

**KAISER PERMANENTE INSURANCE COMPANY**

CO SUB Ltr.3





**KAISER PERMANENTE INSURANCE COMPANY**

One Kaiser Plaza  
Oakland, California 94612

**SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)**

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**Group Name: DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**Group Number: 74-013**

**Original Effective Date of Insurance:** On File

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**COVERED PERSONS:** Employees and Dependents, if elected

Dependent Child Age Limit: Age 26, covered through the end of the month in which the age limit is reached

**LIFETIME MAXIMUM BENEFIT WHILE INSURED:**

Not applicable

**PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER**

**NON-PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER**

**Accumulation Period:**

Calendar Year  
January 1- December 31

**Accumulation Period DEDUCTIBLES**

Self Only (Family of One Covered Person):	\$300	\$400
Individual (any one Covered Person in a family of two or more Covered Persons):	\$300	\$400
Family (for an entire family of two or more Covered Persons):	\$900	\$1,200

**Accumulation Period OUT-OF-POCKET MAXIMUMS**

Self Only (Family of One Covered Person):	\$3,000	\$6,000
Individual (any one Covered Person in a family of two or more Covered Persons):	\$3,000	\$6,000
Family (for an entire family of two or more Covered Persons):	\$9,000	\$18,000

**NOTE:**

1. Covered Charges applied to satisfy Deductibles and Cost Shares on Covered Services applied to satisfy Out-of-Pocket Maximums at the Participating Provider Tier will not be applied towards satisfaction of Deductibles and Out-of-Pocket Maximums at the Non-Participating Provider Tier. Likewise, Covered Charges applied to satisfy Deductibles and Cost Shares on covered Services applied to satisfy the Out-of-Pocket Maximums at the Non-Participating Provider Tier will not be

applied towards satisfaction of Deductibles and Out-of-Pocket Maximums at the Participating Provider Tier.

2. Essential Health Benefits, as defined under the Policy are not subject to the Maximum Benefit While Insured or any dollar Benefit Maximum. Unless otherwise prohibited by applicable law, day or visit limits may be imposed upon Essential and non-Essential Health Benefits.
3. Deductible, Coinsurance and Co-payments do not apply to Preventive Benefits required under the Patient Protection Affordable Care Act (PPACA) at the Participating Provider Tier. Preventive Benefits required under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) that are received at the Non-Participating Provider Tier, however, are subject to Cost Sharing.
4. Covered non-preventive services provided during a preventive exam may be subject to the Deductible and applicable Copayments and Coinsurance.

**IMPORTANT:** Read the section in Your Certificate of Insurance regarding Pre-certification carefully.

No portion of a balance billing that exceeds the level of the Maximum Allowable Charge will count towards any Deductible, Coinsurance, or Out-of-Pocket Maximum, which is applicable under the Group Policy.

For a complete understanding of the benefits, exclusions, and limitations applicable to your coverage, this **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** must be read in conjunction with the Certificate of Insurance.

<b>COVERED SERVICES</b>	<b>YOUR COST SHARE (What You Pay)</b>	
	<b>PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>	<b>NON-PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>
<b>Outpatient Services</b>		
Office Visits:	Lab, X-ray and all other services are subject to Coinsurance after Deductible	Lab, X-ray services and all other services are subject to Coinsurance after Deductible
Primary Care:		
Office Visit	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Virtual Care Services:		
Video Visit	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Email/Online Visit	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Telephone Visit	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Specialty Care:		
Office Visit	\$35 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Virtual Care Services:		
Video Visit	\$35 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Email/Online Visit	\$35 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%

**COVERED SERVICES**

**YOUR COST SHARE  
(What You Pay)**

	<b>PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>	<b>NON-PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>
Telephone Visit	\$35 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
<b>Allergy Diagnosis and Testing:</b>		
By a Primary Care Provider	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
By a Specialty Care Provider	\$35 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
<b>Allergy Treatment and Materials:</b>		
Injection Visit:	\$20 Copayment per visit, Deductible does not apply Other procedures performed during visits are subject to Deductible and Coinsurance	40%
Serum:	20%	40%
Prenatal and postnatal Care:	20%	40%
Outpatient Surgery:	20%	40%
Chiropractic Care Spinal Manipulation Services:	\$35 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	Not Covered
	Limited to a combined Benefit Maximum of 20 visits per Accumulation Period.	
Medically Necessary Bariatric Surgery:	Not Covered	Not Covered
<b>Inpatient Hospital Care</b>	20%	40%
Medically Necessary Bariatric Surgery:	Not Covered	Not Covered
<b>Ambulance</b>	Covered at the HMO In-Network Provider benefit level regardless of the participating status of the provider.	Covered at the HMO In-Network Provider benefit level regardless of the participating status of the provider.
<b>Autism Spectrum Disorders</b>		
Applied Behavior Analysis:	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy:	20%	40%

**COVERED SERVICES**

**YOUR COST SHARE  
(What You Pay)**

	<b>PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>	<b>NON-PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>
<b>Behavioral Health/Mental Health Services</b>		
Inpatient:	20%	40%
Outpatient:		
Individual Visits	\$20 Copayment per visit, Deductible does not apply Other procedures performed during visits are subject to Deductible and Coinsurance	40%
Group Therapy	\$10 Copayment per visit, Deductible does not apply Other procedures performed during visits are subject to Deductible and Coinsurance	40%
Partial Hospitalization	\$20 Copayment per visit, Deductible does not apply Other procedures performed during visits are subject to Deductible and Coinsurance	40%
<b>Dental</b>		
Hospital services for dental procedures:	20%	40%
<b>Dialysis Care</b>		
	Covered in the HMO In-Network Provider Tier only	Covered in the HMO In-Network Provider Tier only
<b>Drugs, Supplies and Supplements</b>		
Office-Administered Drugs including administration:	20%	50%
Medical Foods:	\$3 Copayment per product per day (Deductible does not apply)	\$3 Copayment per product per day (Deductible does not apply)

**COVERED SERVICES**

**YOUR COST SHARE  
(What You Pay)**

	<b>PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>	<b>NON-PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>
Outpatient Prescription Drugs:	Prescription Drug deductible: None Generic: \$25 Copayment per prescription, Deductible does not apply Brand: \$35 Copayment per prescription, Deductible does not apply Oral Anti-cancer Drugs: \$35 Copayment per prescription, Deductible does not apply Diabetic Supplies: \$25 Copayment per prescription, Deductible does not apply Day Supply: 30	Prescription Drug deductible: None Preferred Generic: 50%, Deductible does not apply Preferred Brand: 50%, Deductible does not apply Non-Preferred (Generic and Brand) Drugs: 50%, Deductible does not apply Specialty Drugs: 50%, Deductible does not apply Oral Anti-cancer Drugs: 50%, Deductible does not apply Diabetic Supplies: 20%, Deductible does not apply Day Supply: 30
Insulin	Applicable Cost Share Corresponding to the appropriate Formulary Tier Not to Exceed \$100 Cost Share per prescription for a 30-day supply	Applicable Cost Share Corresponding to the appropriate Formulary Tier Not to Exceed \$100 Cost Share per prescription for a 30-day supply
Mail Order	Same Coinsurance as retail, or if applicable, Co-payments payable for Mail Order service is 2 times the corresponding single Co-payment per prescription amount shown above, limited to a 90-day supply.	Not Available
<b>Durable Medical Equipment/External Prosthetics and Orthotics</b>		
Durable Medical Equipment and Orthotics:	Covered in the HMO In-Network Provider Tier only	Covered in the HMO In-Network Provider Tier only
Oxygen:	Covered in the HMO In-Network Provider Tier only	Covered in the HMO In-Network Provider Tier only
External Prosthetic Devices to replace an arm or a leg:	20% (Deductible does not apply)	20%
Dressings, casts and splints	20%	20%
Other covered External Prosthetic:	Covered in the HMO In-Network Provider Tier only	Covered in the HMO In-Network Provider Tier only

**COVERED SERVICES**

**YOUR COST SHARE  
(What You Pay)**

	<b>PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>	<b>NON-PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>
<b>Early Childhood Intervention Services</b>	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)
	Limited to a combined Benefit Maximum of 45 Therapeutic Visits, per Accumulation Period, for Dependents from birth up to age 3	
<b>Emergency Services</b>	Covered at the HMO In-Network Provider benefit level regardless of the participating status of the provider.	Covered at the HMO In-Network Provider benefit level regardless of the participating status of the provider.
<b>Hearing Services</b>		
Routine Exam by Audiologist for Adults (age 18 and over):	Not covered	Not covered
Routine Exam by Audiologist for Minors (under the age of 18):	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Hearing Aids for Adults (age 18 and over):	Not covered	Not covered
Hearing Aids Fitting and Recheck Visit for Adults (age 18 and over):	Not covered	Not covered
Hearing Aids for Minors (under the age of 18):	20%	40%
Hearing Aid Fitting and Recheck Visit for Minors (under the age of 18):	20%	40%
<b>Home Health Care</b>	20%	40%
	Limited to a combined Benefit Maximum of 60 Visits per Accumulation Period	
<b>Hospice Care</b>	20%	40%
<b>Infertility Services</b>		
Diagnosis and Treatment of Underlying Conditions	20%	40%
Artificial Insemination	Covered in the HMO In-Network Provider Tier only	Covered in the HMO In-Network Provider Tier only
	Please refer to Reproductive Support Services in Health Plan's Evidence of Coverage to determine what services may be covered in the HMO In-Network Provider Tier.	

**COVERED SERVICES**

**YOUR COST SHARE  
(What You Pay)**

**PARTICIPATING  
PROVIDER TIER**

**NON-PARTICIPATING  
PROVIDER TIER**

**Preventive Care Services**

Exams:	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)	\$70 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)
Screenings:	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)	\$70 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)
Health Promotion:	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)	\$70 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)
Listed Over-the-Counter Drugs and Over-the-Counter Contraceptives; and all Tobacco Cessation Drugs	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)
All other Contraceptives	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)	\$70 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)
Disease prevention:	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)	\$70 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)
Other Preventive Care:		
Family Planning:	20%	40%

**Rehabilitation and Habilitation Services**

Inpatient Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation or Habilitation Program, including one in Comprehensive Rehabilitation Facility:	Covered in the HMO In-Network Provider Tier only	Covered in the HMO In-Network Provider Tier only
Outpatient:		
Pulmonary Therapy:	20%	40%
Cardiac Rehabilitation:	20%	40%
Rehabilitative Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy:	20%	40%

Limited to a combined Benefit Maximum of 20 visits per therapy, per Accumulation Period

**COVERED SERVICES**

**YOUR COST SHARE  
(What You Pay)**

**PARTICIPATING  
PROVIDER TIER**

**NON-PARTICIPATING  
PROVIDER TIER**

Visit Limits are not applicable to treat a Covered Person's congenital defects and birth abnormalities for physical, occupational and speech therapies from birth to age 6.

Habilitative Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy:

20%

40%

Limited to a combined Benefit Maximum of 20 visits per therapy per Accumulation Period.

Visit Limits are not applicable to treat a Covered Person's congenital defects and birth abnormalities for physical, occupational and speech therapies from birth to age 6.

**Skilled Nursing Facility Services**

Covered in the HMO In-Network Provider Tier only

Covered in the HMO In-Network Provider Tier only

**Substance Use Disorder Services**

Inpatient:

20%

40%

Outpatient:

Individual Visits

\$20 Copayment per visit, Deductible does not apply Other procedures performed during visits are subject to Deductible and Coinsurance

40%

Group Therapy

\$10 Copayment per visit, Deductible does not apply Other procedures performed during visits are subject to Deductible and Coinsurance

40%

Partial Hospitalization

\$20 Copayment per visit, Deductible does not apply Other procedures performed during visits are subject to Deductible and Coinsurance

40%

**Transgender Surgery**

Covered in the HMO-In-Network Provider Tier only

Covered in the HMO-In-Network Provider Tier only

**Transplants**

Covered in the HMO-In-Network Provider Tier only

Covered in the HMO-In-Network Provider Tier only



**COVERED SERVICES**

**YOUR COST SHARE  
(What You Pay)**

	<b>PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>	<b>NON-PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>
<b>Urgent Care Facility Services</b>	Covered at the HMO In-Network Provider benefit level regardless of the participating status of the provider.	Covered at the HMO In-Network Provider benefit level regardless of the participating status of the provider.
<b>Vision Care</b>		
Routine Eye Exam by Optometrist for:		
Minors	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Adults	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Routine Eye Exam by Specialist for:		
Minors	\$35 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Adults	\$35 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Refractive Eye Test by Optometrist for:		
Minors	20%	40%
Adults	20%	40%
Refractive Eye Test by Specialist for:		
Minors	20%	40%
Adults	20%	40%
<b>X-Ray, Lab and Special Procedures</b>		
Outpatient CT/MRI/PET and Nuclear Medicine Scans:	20%	40%
All other X-ray, Lab and Special procedures:	20%	40%
<b>All Other Covered Services*</b>	20%	40%

\*Other Covered Services refer to Covered Services listed under the **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is covered)** Section of the Certificate of Insurance that are not detailed under the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)**. Unless otherwise stated, Your Cost Share for other Covered Services is as shown above. Unless specifically stated in this **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)**, Other Covered Services are subject to applicable Coinsurance after Deductibles.



## NONDISCRIMINATION NOTICE

Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company (KPIC) complies with applicable federal civil rights law and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. KPIC does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. 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 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**)

If you believe that Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance by mail at: Customer Experience Department, Attn: KPIC Civil Rights Coordinator, 2500 South Havana, Aurora, CO 80014, or by phone at Member Services: 1-800-632-9700.

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, 1-800-368-1019, 1-800-537-7697 (TDD). Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.

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## HELP IN YOUR LANGUAGE

**ATTENTION:** If you speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**አማርኛ (Amharic) ማስታወሻ:** የሚናገሩት ቋንቋ አማርኛ ከሆነ የትርጉም እርዳታ ድርጅቶች፣ በነጻ ሊያግዝዎት ተዘጋጅተዋል። ወደ ሚከተለው ቁጥር ይደውሉ **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**)።

**العربية (Arabic) ملحوظة:** إذا كنت تتحدث العربية، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**)።

**Bàsòò Wùdù (Bassa) Dè dɛ nià kɛ dyédé gbo:** Ɔ jũ ké m̀ Bàsòò-wùdù-po-nyò jũ ní, níí, à wuɖu kà kò dò po-poò béin m̀ gbo kpáa. Dá **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**)。

**فارسی (Farsi) توجه:** اگر به زبان فارسی گفتگو می کنید، تسهیلات زبانی بصورت رایگان برای شما فراهم می باشد. با **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711) تماس بگیرید.

**Français (French) ATTENTION:** Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Deutsch (German) ACHTUNG:** Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung.  
Rufnummer: **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Igbo (Igbo) NRUBAMA:** O bụrụ na ị na asụ Igbo, ọrụ enyemaka asụsụ, n'efu, dijiri gi. Kpọọ **1-800-632-9700** (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。 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711) まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

**한국어 (Korean) 주의:** 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711) 번으로 전화해 주십시오.

**Naabeehó (Navajo) Díí baa akó nínízin:** Díí saad bee yáníłti'go Diné Bizaad, saad bee áká'ánída'áwo'déé', t'áá jiik'eh, éí ná hóló, kóji' hódííłnih **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**नेपाली (Nepali) ध्यान दिनुहोस्:** तपाईंले नेपाली बोल्नुहुन्छ भने तपाईंको निम्ति भाषा सहायता सेवाहरू निःशुल्क रूपमा उपलब्ध छ । **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711) फोन गर्नुहोस् ।

**Afaan Oromoo (Oromo) XIYYEEFFANNAA:** Afaan dubbattu Oroomiffa, tajaajila gargaarsa afaanii, kanfaltiidhaan ala, ni argama. Bilbilaa **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Русский (Russian) ВНИМАНИЕ:** если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Español (Spanish) ATENCIÓN:** si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Yorùbá (Yoruba) AKIYESI:** Ti o ba nso ede Yoruba ofe ni iranlowo lori ede wa fun yin o. E pe ero ibanisoro yi **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).



Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company

Colorado

Point of Service  
Large Group  
*(Non-grandfathered Coverage)*

*Certificate of Insurance*

## TITLE PAGE (Cover Page)

### KAISER PERMANENTE INSURANCE COMPANY

One Kaiser Plaza  
Oakland, California 94612

### CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE

This Certificate describes benefit coverage funded through a Group Insurance Policy issued to Your group by Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company. It becomes Your Certificate of Insurance when You have met certain eligibility requirements.

This Certificate is not an insurance policy. The complete terms of the coverage are set forth in the Group Policy. Benefit Payment is governed by all the terms, conditions and limitations of the Group Policy. If the Group Policy and this Certificate differ, the Group Policy will govern. The Group Policy may be amended at any time without Your consent. If, any such amendment to the Policy is deemed to be a material modification, a 60-day prior notice will be sent to You before the effective date of the change. Any such amendment will not affect a claim initiated before the amendment takes effect. The Group Policy is available for inspection at the Policyholder's office.

This Certificate supersedes and replaces any and all certificates that may have been issued to You previously for the coverage described herein.

In this Certificate, Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company will be referred to as: "KPIC", "we", "us", or "our". The Insured Employee named in the attached **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section will be referred to as: "You", or "Your".

This Certificate is important to You, so please read it carefully and keep it in a safe place.

**Please refer to the LIMITATIONS and EXCLUSIONS (What is Not Covered) section of this Certificate for a description of this health insurance plan's general limitations and exclusions. Likewise, the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What section contains specific limitations for specific benefits.**

**Note: If you are insured under a separate group medical insurance policy, you may be subject to coordination of benefits as explained in the TERMINATION/NON-RENEWAL/CONTINUATION section.**

Colorado state law requires that an Access Plan be available that describes Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company (KPIC) Colorado's network of provider Services. To obtain a copy, please call **Customer Service** at 1-855-364-3184 or visit <http://info.kaiserpermanente.org/html/kpic-colorado>.

## CONTACT US

**Please read the HOW TO ACCESS YOUR SERVICES AND OBTAIN APPROVAL OF BENEFIT section carefully. It will help You understand how prior authorization requirements and the provider You select can affect the dollar amount You must pay in connection with receiving Covered Services.**

This Certificate uses many terms that have very specific definitions for the purpose of the Group Policy. These terms are defined in the **DEFINITIONS** section and are capitalized so that You can easily recognize them. Other parts of this Certificate contain definitions specific to those provisions. Terms that are used only within one section of the Group Policy are defined in those sections. Please read all definitions carefully.

This Certificate includes a **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section that will give You a quick overview of Your coverage. It is very important, however, that You read Your entire Certificate of Insurance for a more complete description of Your coverage and the exclusions and limitations under this medical insurance plan.

This Certificate describes only the benefits of the Out-of-Network portion of Your Point-of-Service Plan. The Group Policy sets forth the complete terms of the coverage underwritten by KPIC. This Certificate forms the remainder of the Group Policy. The provisions set forth herein, are incorporated.

### **Who Can Answer Your Questions?**

For assistance with questions regarding Your coverage, such as Your benefits, Your current eligibility status, or name and address changes, please have Your ID card available when You call:

1-855-364-3184 (Toll free)  
711 (TTY)

Or You may write to the Administrator:

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado  
PO Box 370897  
Denver, CO 80237-0897

For Pre-certification of Covered Services or Utilization Review of medical benefits other than Outpatient Prescription Drugs, please call the number listed on Your ID card or call 1-888-525-1553.

For Prior Authorization of certain Outpatient Prescription Drugs, please call the number listed on Your ID card or call 1-800-788-2949 (Pharmacy Help Desk).

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**\*Issued with this Certificate. Please consult Your Group Administrator if You did not receive a SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What) section.**



## ELIGIBILITY

The following persons will be eligible for insurance:

All employees of the Policyholder and their Dependents who are eligible for and enrolled under Health Plan as Point-of-Service Members.

### **Effective Date of an Eligible Employee's or Dependent's Insurance**

The Effective Date of an employee's or Dependent's insurance will be the date the person becomes covered by Health Plan as a Point-of-Service Member.

### **Eligibility of an Eligible Employee's Dependent**

See the Definition section for the definition of a Dependent.

### **Age Limits for Dependent Children**

The age limit for Dependent children is under **26** years. If your employer elected to make coverage available under Your Plan beyond this age limit for Dependent children who are full-time students, then a Dependent child beyond this age limit who is a full-time student may be covered. The Dependent child must be of an age within the Student Age Limit as shown in your Schedule of Coverage. A **"full-time student"** is a Dependent child who is enrolled at a high school, college, university, technical school, trade school, or vocational school on a full-time basis. A **"full time student"** may also include, those who are on medical leave of absence from the school or those who have any other change in enrollment in school) due to a Medically Necessary condition as certified by the attending Physician. Such student coverage shall commence on the earlier of: the first day of the medical leave of absence; or on the date certified by the Physician. Coverage for students on medical leave of absence is subject to a maximum of 12 months and shall not continue beyond the effective date of the termination of the Group Policy.

Proof of status as a **"full time student"** must be furnished to KPIC at time of enrollment or within 31 days after attaining such status and subsequently as may be required by KPIC.

### **Exceptions**

The Dependent Age Limit for Dependent Children does not apply to a Dependent child who is unmarried and continues to be both: 1) physically or mentally disabled and 2) dependent upon You for support and maintenance. Such child will continue to qualify as a Dependent until the earlier of the following dates: a) the date the child recovers from the physically or mentally disabling sickness, injury or condition; or b) the date the child no longer depends on You for support and maintenance.

The above exception also applies to a **"full time student"** who is on medical leave of absence as described above, if, as a result of the nature of the sickness, injury, or condition, would render the dependent child physically or mentally disabled and dependent upon You for support and maintenance.

Proof of such incapacity and dependency must be submitted to KPIC within 60 days of Your receipt of KPIC's notice of the child's attainment of the limiting age and subsequently as may be required by KPIC, but not more frequently than annually after the two-year period following the child's attainment of the limiting age.

### **IMPORTANT:**

KPIC will not deny enrollment of a child under the health insurance coverage of a child's parent because:

1. The child was born out of wedlock;
2. The child is not claimed as a Dependent on the parent's federal income tax return; or
3. The child does not reside with the parent or in an applicable service area.

# ELIGIBILITY

## Eligibility Date of Dependents

A Dependent's eligibility date is the later of: (a) Your eligibility date; or (b) the date the person qualifies as Your Dependent. A child named in a Qualified Medical Child Support Order qualifies as Your Dependent on the date specified in the court order. An adopted child qualifies as Your Dependent on the earlier of the date of adoption or the date of Placement for Adoption.

## Enrollment Rules for Eligible Employee or Dependent

If you are an Eligible Employee, your and your Dependent's effective date of insurance is determined by the Enrollment Rules that follow.

### 1. Initial Open Enrollment

The Policyholder will offer an initial open enrollment to new Eligible Employees and Dependents when the Employee is first eligible for coverage.

Effective date. Initial enrollment for newly Eligible Employees and Dependents is effective following completion of any waiting period (not to exceed 90 days), if required by the Policyholder. In the absence of a waiting period, the enrollment becomes effective according to the eligibility rules established by the Policyholder.

If You did not enroll Yourself and/or Your Dependents during the initial enrollment period, You will need to wait until the next annual open enrollment period to enroll or during the special enrollment period as described below.

### 2. Annual Open Enrollment

Annual open enrollment refers to a standardized annual period of time, of no less than 30 days prior to the completion of the employer's plan year for Eligible Employees and Dependents to enroll. During the annual open enrollment period, Eligible Employees and Dependents can apply for or change coverage by submitting an enrollment application to your Group during the annual open enrollment period.

Effective date. Enrollment is effective on the first day following the end of the prior plan year. Annual open enrollment occurs only once every year. The Policyholder will notify You when the annual open enrollment is available in advance of such period. Your Group will let you know when the annual open enrollment period begins and ends and the effective date.

### 3. Special Enrollment

You or your Dependent may experience a qualifying event that allows a change in your enrollment. Examples of qualifying events are the loss of coverage, a Dependent's aging off this plan, marriage, and birth of a child. The qualifying event results in a special enrollment period that usually (but not always) starts on the date of the qualifying event and lasts for sixty (60) days. During the special enrollment period, you may enroll your Dependent(s) in this plan or, in certain circumstances, you may change plans (your plan choice may be limited). There are requirements that you must meet to take advantage of a special enrollment period including showing proof of your own or your Dependent's qualifying event. To learn more about qualifying events, special enrollment periods, how to enroll or change your plan (if permitted), timeframes for submitting information to Kaiser Permanente and other requirements, call **Member Services** at 1-855-364-3184.

Effective Date. In the case of birth, adoption, or placement for adoption, or placement in foster care, enrollment is effective on the date of birth, adoption, or placement for adoption or placement in foster care.

In the case of any other qualifying event listed above, including marriage, civil union, or loss of coverage, enrollment is effective on the first day of the following month after We receive a fully completed enrollment form.

If You have Dependent coverage and there would be no extra cost for adding a Dependent to Your coverage, the effective date of insurance for a Dependent will be the date You acquire the Dependent. You must notify KPIC that You have a new Dependent within 31 days so that the Dependent can be added to

## ELIGIBILITY

Your coverage. This will also help avoid delays on any claim You might file on behalf of the Dependent.

If the cost of Your Dependent coverage would increase when You add a Dependent, You must enroll the Dependent for insurance and agree to pay any additional cost in accordance with the Enrollment Rules. The effective date of insurance for that Dependent will be the date determined from the Enrollment Rules. If a Dependent does not enroll when eligible during the special enrollment period he/she may be excluded from all coverage until the next Annual Open Enrollment Period.

### **Court or Administrative Ordered Coverage for a Dependent Child**

If a Covered Person is a non-custodial parent and is required by an Order to provide health coverage for an eligible child and the Covered Person is eligible for coverage under a family plan, the Covered Person, employee, employer or group administrator may enroll the eligible child under family coverage by sending KPIC a written application and paying KPIC any additional amounts due as a result of the change in coverage. Enrollment period restrictions will not apply in these circumstances. However, the child should be enrolled within 31 days of the court or administrative order to avoid any delays in the processing of any claim that may be submitted on behalf of the child. Coverage will not commence until the enrollment process has been completed.

If the Covered Person, employee, administrator, or employer fails to apply for coverage for the Dependent child pursuant to the Order, the custodial parent, district attorney, child's legal custodian or the State Department of Health Services may submit the application for insurance for the eligible child. Enrollment period restrictions will not apply in these circumstances. However, the child must be enrolled within 31 days of the Order to avoid any delays in the processing of any claim that may be submitted on behalf of the child.

The coverage for any child enrolled under this provision will continue pursuant to the terms of this health insurance plan unless KPIC is provided written evidence that:

1. The Order is no longer in effect;
2. The child is or will be enrolled in comparable health coverage through another insurer which will take effect on or before the requested termination date of the child's coverage under the Group Policy;
3. All family coverage is eliminated for members of the employer group; or
4. Nonpayment of premium.

### **Newborns**

A newborn Dependent child is insured from birth, whether or not You have applied for coverage, for a period of 31 days.

If You are already insured for Dependent coverage, no further application is required to continue the child's coverage. If You are not already insured for Dependent coverage and if an additional premium is required for the child's coverage, You must apply for and pay the additional premium before the expiration of the 31-day period; otherwise the child's coverage will terminate after the 31-day period.

Coverage for newborn children will include coverage for Injury or Sickness, including the necessary care and treatment of medically diagnosed congenital defects and birth abnormalities. If the newborn child is born with cleft lip or cleft palate or both, care and treatment will include to the extent Medically Necessary:

1. Oral and facial surgery, surgical management, and follow-up care by plastic surgeons and oral surgeons;
2. Prosthetic treatment such as obturators, speech appliances, and feeding appliances;
3. Orthodontic treatment;
4. Prosthodontic treatment;
5. Habilitative speech therapy;
6. Otolaryngology treatment; and
7. Audiological assessments and treatment.

## ELIGIBILITY

### **Adopted Children**

Your adopted child is insured for the period of 31 days after the earlier of the date of adoption or the date of Placement for Adoption, whether or not You have applied for coverage.

If You are already insured for Dependent coverage, no further application is required to continue the child's coverage. If, however, You are not already insured for Dependent coverage and You are required to pay an additional premium for the child's coverage, You must apply for and pay the additional premium before the expiration of the 31-day period: otherwise, the child's coverage will terminate after the 31-day period.

The Health Plan Evidence of Coverage explains more fully the eligibility, effective date, and the termination provisions.

## HOW TO ACCESS YOUR SERVICES AND OBTAIN APPROVAL OF BENEFITS

This section describes how to access your services and how to obtain approval of certain benefits that are subject to Pre-certification.

**Please read the following information carefully. It will help You understand how prior authorization requirements and the provider You select can affect the dollar amount You must pay in connection with receiving Covered Services.**

Under this Point of Service Plan, a Covered Person has access to three (3) tiers of coverage. The level of coverage that is applied to a Covered Service is dependent upon the provider's participating status and prior authorization requirements. Your provider and your provider's adherence to prior authorization requirements pursuant to state law affect whether the HMO Provider or the Participating Provider or Non- Participating Provider tiers of coverage applies to a Covered Service.

### **HMO Tier (Health Plan)**

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (hereafter referred to as "Health Plan") provides the HMO coverage, which includes specified medical and Hospital services provided, prescribed, or directed by a Medical Group Physician, Affiliated Physicians and other Plan Providers (hereafter referred to as "Plan Providers") as these terms are defined in the Health Plan Evidence of Coverage. HMO services also include Emergency Care received from non-Plan Providers. These services rendered by Plan Providers are set forth in the Health Plan Evidence of Coverage issued to you separately. When a Plan Provider renders a Covered Service and the Health Plan's prior authorization rules are met, the service will be covered under the HMO Tier. Typically, benefits payable under the Health Plan Evidence of Coverage are greater for Covered Services received from Plan Providers than those benefits payable for Covered Services received from Participating Providers and Non-Participating Providers.

### **Participating Provider Tier and Non-Participating Provider Tier (KPIC)**

Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company (KPIC) provides the Participating Provider and Non-Participating Provider benefit tiers of Your coverage. As reflected in Your **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section, Your coverage also includes Covered Services received from Participating Providers as well as Non-Participating Providers. Generally, benefits payable under the Group Policy are greater for Covered Services received from Participating Providers than those benefits payable for Covered Services received from Non-Participating Providers. In order for benefits to be payable at the Participating Provider level under the Participating Provider Tier, the Covered Person must receive care from a Participating Provider. To verify the current participation status of a provider, please call the toll-free number listed in the Participating Provider directory. A current copy of KPIC's Participating Provider directory is available from Your employer, or you may call the phone number listed on Your ID card or You may visit KPIC's website at <http://info.kaiserpermanente.kp.org/html/kpic-colorado> or KPIC's contracted provider network web site at [www.Multiplan.com/Kaiser](http://www.Multiplan.com/Kaiser).

If a Covered Person receives care from a Non-Participating Provider, benefits under the Group Policy will be payable at the Non-Participating Provider level under the Non-Participating Provider Tier.

In addition to higher Deductibles, Coinsurance or Copayments, a Non-Participating Provider may balance bill you. Balance billing occurs when a Non-Participating Provider bills you for the difference between the billed amount and Maximum Allowable Charge. Non-Participating Providers rendering services in Colorado are not allowed to balance bill You in any of the following circumstances:

- When you receive Emergency services in a Non-Participating facility or when Emergency services are rendered by physicians and other professionals that are Non-Participating Providers.
- When you receive Non-Emergency Services rendered in Participating facilities by physicians and other professionals that are Non-Participating Providers.

**NOTE:** A Non-Participating Provider may balance bill you in the circumstances described above if you choose to use a Non-Participating Provider

## HOW TO ACCESS YOUR SERVICES AND OBTAIN APPROVAL OF BENEFITS

### IMPORTANT NOTE:

- If a Covered Service is provided, arranged, paid for or payable by the Health Plan, no payment will be made by KPIC.
- Payments will be made by either Health Plan or KPIC but not both.
- The benefits provided by Health Plan under the HMO Tier and by KPIC under the Participating Provider and Non-Participating Provider Tiers are not the same. Some services are covered by both Health Plan and KPIC, and others are covered only by Health Plan or KPIC.
- In cases where a provider is contracted with both Health Plan and KPIC and the Health Plan's prior authorization requirements are met, pursuant to state law, the HMO level of coverage is applied to the treatment and services. If the Covered Service is not payable under the HMO coverage, it may be considered for payment under the Participating Provider level.
- Neither Health Plan nor KPIC is responsible for any Covered Person's decision to receive treatment, services or supplies by HMO Providers (Plan Providers) or by Participating Providers and Non-Participating Providers.
- Neither Health Plan nor KPIC is liable for the qualifications of providers or treatment, services or supplies provided under the other party's coverage.
- KPIC is not liable for the qualifications of providers or treatment, services or supplies provided by Participating or Non-Participating Providers.

For any questions regarding provider network participation please call **Customer Service** at 1-855-364-3184 (Toll free) or 711 (TTY)

### Pre-certification through the Medical Review Program

This sub-section under the **HOW TO ACCESS YOUR SERVICES AND OBTAIN APPROVAL OF BENEFITS** section describes:

1. The Medical Review Program and Pre-certification procedures for medical benefits other than Outpatient Prescription Drugs;
2. How failure to obtain Pre-certification affects coverage;
3. Pre-certification administrative procedures; and
4. Which clinical procedures require Pre-certification.

If Pre-certification is not obtained, benefits payable by KPIC will be reduced by twenty percent (20%) each time Pre-certification is required. This 20% reduction will not count toward any Deductible, Coinsurance, or Out-of-Pocket Maximum applicable under the Group Policy. Such reduction only applies if You receive services, which have not been pre-certified, from a Non-Participating Provider, subject to the **IMPORTANT** note stated below.

**IMPORTANT:** Consistent with applicable Colorado law, the sole responsibility for obtaining any necessary Pre-certification regarding the utilization of the Participating Provider level of benefits rests with the Participating Provider, who recommends or orders Covered Services, and not with the Covered Person.

If You, however, received services from a Non-Participating Provider, and Pre-certification is not obtained, benefits payable by KPIC will be reduced even if the treatment or service is deemed Medically Necessary. If the treatment or service is deemed not to be Medically Necessary, the treatment or service will not be covered. If a Hospital Confinement or other inpatient care is extended beyond the number of days first pre-certified without further Pre-certification, benefits for the extra days: (1) will similarly be reduced; or (2) will not be covered, if deemed not to be Medically Necessary.

**Medical Review Program** means the organization or program that: (1) evaluates proposed treatments and/or services to determine Medical Necessity; and (2) assures that the care received is appropriate and Medically Necessary to the Covered Person's health care needs. If the Medical Review Program determines that the care is not Medically Necessary, Pre-certification will be denied. The Medical Review Program may be contacted twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week.

## HOW TO ACCESS YOUR SERVICES AND OBTAIN APPROVAL OF BENEFITS

The following treatment or services must be pre-certified by the Medical Review Program when identified as a covered service (see the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section) under you plan:

1. All Inpatient admissions\* and services including:
  - a) Inpatient Rehabilitation Therapy Admissions including Comprehensive Rehabilitation Facility admissions related to services provided under an inpatient multidisciplinary rehabilitation program;
  - b) Inpatient Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder admissions and services including Residential Services;
  - c) Long Term Acute Care and Sub-acute admissions
2. Skilled Nursing Facility,
3. Non-Emergent Air or Ground Ambulance Transport
4. Amino Acid-Based Elemental Formulas
5. Clinical Trial
6. Medical Foods
7. Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)
8. Cardiac Rehabilitation
9. Dental and Endoscopic Anesthesia
10. Durable Medical Equipment
11. Genetic Testing
12. Habilitative Services (Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy)
13. Home Health and Home Infusion Services
14. Hospice Care
15. Imaging Services (Magnetic Resonance Imaging or MRI, Magnetic Resonance Angiography or MRA, Computerized Tomography or CT, Computerized Tomography Angiography or CTA, Positron Emission Tomography or PET, Electron Beam Computerized Tomography or EBCT, Single Photon Emission Computerized Tomography or SPECT)
16. Infertility Services
17. Outpatient Injectable Drugs
18. Outpatient Procedures
19. Outpatient Surgery
20. Pain Management Services
21. Prosthetic and Orthotic Devices
22. Radiation Therapy Services
23. Reconstructive Surgery
24. Outpatient Rehabilitation Therapy (Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy and Pulmonary Therapy)
25. TMJ/Orthognathic Surgery
26. Transplant Services including pre-transplant and post-transplant services
27. Transgender Surgery Services

\*Pre-certification is not required for emergency admissions. You or Your attending Physician should notify the Medical Review Program of the admission not later than twenty-four (24) hours following an emergency admission or as soon as reasonably possible.

**NOTE:** The above list is subject to change. For the most current information, please call the Medical Review Program at 1-888-525-1553 or 711 (TTY).

**Pregnancy Pre-certification:** When a Covered Person is admitted to a Hospital for delivery of a child, the Covered Person is authorized to stay in the hospital not less than:

1. Forty-eight (48) hours for a normal vaginal delivery; or
2. Ninety-six (96) hours for a Cesarean section delivery.

A stay longer than the above may be allowed provided the attending provider obtain authorization for an extended confinement through KPIC's Medical Review Program. In no case will KPIC require that a provider reduce the mother's or child's Hospital Confinement below the allowable minimums cited above. Treatment for Complications of Pregnancy is subject to the same Pre-certification requirements as any other Sickness.

## HOW TO ACCESS YOUR SERVICES AND OBTAIN APPROVAL OF BENEFITS

### Pre-certification Procedures

The Covered Person or the attending Physician must notify the Medical Review Program as follows:

1. Planned Hospital Confinement - as soon as reasonably possible after the Covered Person learns of a Hospital Confinement, but at least three days prior to admission for such Hospital Confinement.
2. Extension of a Hospital Confinement - as soon as reasonably possible prior to extending the number of days of Hospital Confinement beyond the number of days originally pre-certified.
3. Other treatments or procedures requiring Pre-certification - as soon as reasonably possible after the Covered Person learns of the need for any other treatment or service requiring Pre-certification but at least three days prior to performance of any other treatment or service requiring Pre-certification.
4. During the first trimester of pregnancy if the Covered Person intends to have Birth Services covered under this health insurance plan.
5. Hospital Confinement - as soon as reasonably possible upon stabilization following any emergency admission.

A Covered Person or the attending Physician must provide all necessary information to the Medical Review Program in order for it to make its determination. This means the Covered Person may be required to:

1. Obtain a second opinion from a Physician selected from a panel of three or more Physicians designated by the Medical Review Program. If the Covered Person is required to obtain a second surgical opinion, it will be provided at no charge to the Covered Person;
2. Participate in the Medical Review Program's case management, Hospital discharge planning, and long-term case management programs; and/or
3. Obtain from the attending Physician information required by the Medical Review Program relating to the Covered Person's medical condition and the requested treatment or service.

If the Covered Person or the attending Physician does not provide the necessary information or will not release the necessary information within the prescribed period as provided in the **APPEALS and COMPLAINTS** section on Pre-service Claim, We will make a decision based on the information We have.

Please refer to the **APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS** section on Pre-Service Claim of this Certificate of Insurance for Pre-certification request process. Also, refer to the same section where a benefit is denied, in whole or in part, due to a failure to obtain Pre-certification for services rendered by a Non-Participating Provider.

For prior authorization of certain Outpatient Prescription Drugs, please refer to the **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)** section under the Outpatient Prescription Drugs subsection.



## BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)

This section describes the **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)** provisions. See the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section to determine if the benefit is a covered service. General limitations and exclusions are listed in the **LIMITATIONS/EXCLUSIONS (What is Not Covered)** section.

### **Insuring Clause**

Upon receipt of satisfactory notice of claim and proof of loss, KPIC will pay the Percentage Payable of the Maximum Allowable Charge for Covered Charges incurred to treat a covered Injury or Sickness, provided:

1. The expense is incurred while the Covered Person is insured for this benefit;
2. The expense is for a Covered Service that is Medically Necessary;
3. The expense is for a Covered Service prescribed or ordered by the attending Physician or those prescribed or ordered by any other providers, who are duly licensed by the State to provide medical services without the referral of a Physician;
4. The Covered Person has satisfied the applicable Deductibles, Coinsurance, Copayments, and other amounts payable; and
5. The Covered Person has not exceeded the Maximum Benefit While Insured or any other maximum shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** a section.

Payments under this Group Policy, to the extent allowed by law:

1. May be subject to the limitations shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section;
2. May be subject to the General Limitations and Exclusions; and
3. May be subject to Pre-certification.

**Covered Services:** Refer to the **DEFINITIONS** section for the meaning of capitalized terms. Unless specifically stated otherwise elsewhere in this Certificate of Insurance or in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section, coverage is as follows:

### **Outpatient Care**

1. Physicians' services including evaluation and management services during office visit or virtual care services consisting of Telehealth visits such as video visits; email/online visits; and telephone visits.
2. Nursing care by a Registered Nurse (RN) or, if none is available, as certified by the attending Physician, nursing care by a Licensed Vocational Nurse.
3. Services by a Certified Nurse Practitioner; Certified Psychiatric-Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist; Licensed Midwife, or Certified Nurse-Midwife. This care must be within the individual's area of professional competence.
4. Respiratory therapy rendered by a certified respiratory therapist.
5. Allergy testing materials and allergy treatment material.
6. Dressings, casts, splints.
7. Anesthesia and its administration by a licensed anesthesiologist or licensed nurse anesthetist.
8. Outpatient surgery or diagnostic procedures in a Free-Standing Surgical Facility or other licensed medical facility.
9. Hospital charges for use of a surgical room on an outpatient basis.
10. Pre-admission testing, limited to diagnostic, X-ray, and laboratory exams made during a Hospital outpatient visit. The exams must be made prior to a Hospital Confinement for which a Room and Board charge is made
11. Outpatient Birth Services in a Hospital, Birth Center or any other duly licensed facility. Pregnancy and Complications of Pregnancy will be covered on the same basis as any other physical Injury or Sickness.
12. Treatment of Intractable Pain, after reasonable efforts to cure or relieve the cause of the pain. Treatment for Covered Persons must be provided through one of the following:
  - a. A primary care physician with documented experience in pain management and whose practice includes up-to-date treatment;
  - b. A pain management specialist who is located in the State of Colorado;

## **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)**

- c. A reasonably requested referral to a pain management specialist, if applicable.
13. Outpatient self-management training and education related to the care of diabetes, including equipment and supplies and medical nutrition therapy if prescribed by a health care provider licensed to prescribe such items in accordance with applicable Colorado law. When prescribed, diabetes outpatient self-management and education must be provided by a certified, registered, or licensed health care professional with expertise in the care of diabetes.
14. Chemotherapy Services
15. Non-Dental Services to treat Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ) disorder.
16. Chiropractic Care Spinal Manipulation Services and supplies regardless of the license the provider performing the Service holds
17. Fecal Microbiota Treatment
18. Medically Necessary Bariatric Surgery Services
19. Necessary Services and Supplies

### **Inpatient Hospital Care**

1. Room and Board in a Hospital, such as semi-private room or private room when a Physician determines it is medically necessary.
2. Room and Board in a Hospital Intensive Care Unit.
3. Respiratory therapy rendered by a certified respiratory therapist.
4. Physicians' services.
5. Nursing care by a Registered Nurse (RN) or, if none is available, as certified by the attending Physician, nursing care by a Licensed Vocational Nurse.
6. Services by a Certified Nurse Practitioner; Certified Psychiatric-Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist; Licensed Midwife, or Certified Nurse-Midwife. This care must be within the individual's area of professional competence.
7. Private duty nursing services in an inpatient hospital when medically necessary.
8. Dressings, casts, splints
9. Anesthesia and its administration by a licensed anesthesiologist or licensed nurse anesthetist.
10. Inpatient Birth Services in a Hospital, Birth Center or any other duly licensed facility. Pregnancy and Complications of Pregnancy will be covered on the same basis as any other physical Injury or Sickness.
11. Hospital Confinements in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child will not be limited to less than forty-eight (48) hours following a normal vaginal delivery and ninety-six (96) following a Cesarean section, unless, after consultation with the mother, the attending provider discharges the mother or newborn earlier. A stay longer than the above may be allowed provided the attending provider obtains Pre-certification for an extended confinement through KPIC's Medical Review Program. If the covered hospital stay for child birth ends after 8 p.m. coverage will be continued until 8 a.m. the following morning. In no case will KPIC require that a provider reduce the mother's or child's hospital confinement below the allowable minimum cited above.
12. Medically Necessary Bariatric Surgery Services
13. Necessary Services and Supplies.

### **Ambulance Services**

Transportation by an ambulance service for non-Emergency Care when the use of other means of transportation would adversely affect Your condition. Emergency ambulance services received for an Emergency Medical Condition are covered under the HMO In-Network benefit described in the Health Plan Evidence of Coverage issued to you separately.

### **Autism Spectrum Disorders**

Coverage for Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) is provided. The following services are in addition to, and not in lieu of, Early Childhood Intervention Services, as provided for under this Policy. Also, Covered Services provided for ASD are in addition to any service, which may be covered and rendered to a Dependent pursuant to an Individualized Family Service Plan, and Individualized Education Program or an Individualized Plan.

## **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)**

Coverage for ASD includes the following:

1. Evaluation for treatment and assessment services;
2. Behavior Training and behavior management and Applied Behavior Analysis, including, but not limited to: consultations, direct care, supervision or treatment, or any combination thereof;
3. Habilitative or Rehabilitative services;
4. Pharmacy Care which as covered under the Outpatient Prescription Drug benefit;
5. Psychiatric Care;
6. Psychological Care, including family counseling; and
7. Therapeutic Care.

The ASD Covered Services listed above, must be rendered in accordance with a Treatment Plan by an Autism Service Provider, as defined under this Policy. When rendered in accordance with a Treatment Plan, such Covered Services are considered to be appropriate, effective, and efficient for the purpose of treating ASD, and not to be regarded as either experimental or investigational.

### **Behavioral Health and Mental Health Services**

Diagnosis, treatment, services, or supplies are covered under this Group Policy for Behavioral Health and Mental Health disorders, except Autism Spectrum Disorder or ASD, when received as an inpatient or on an outpatient basis in an office, Hospital, Residential Treatment facility or other licensed medical facility including a community mental health facility, and when diagnosed and treated by a provider duly licensed to diagnosis and treat such conditions. Coverage for Autism Spectrum Disorder or ASD is described under a separate header in this section.

Benefits will be limited to treatment, services or supplies otherwise covered under this Group Policy and will be provided on the same terms and conditions and no less extensive than, those provided for the treatment and diagnosis of other physical diseases or disorders.

Services include:

1. Inpatient Hospital services such as testing, treatment, therapy including electroconvulsive therapy, and counseling.
2. Partial hospitalization. Intensive and structured outpatient treatment offered for several hours during the day or evening. Services can be as intensive as inpatient care but do not require an overnight confinement in an inpatient hospital setting.
3. Outpatient and Office based services such as testing, treatment, therapy and counseling.

### **Clinical Trials**

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

1. We would have covered the Services if they were not related to a clinical trial.
2. You are eligible to participate in the clinical trial according to the trial protocol with respect to treatment of cancer or other life-threatening condition (a condition from which the likelihood of death is probable unless the course of the condition is interrupted), as determined in one of the following ways:
  - a. A Physician makes this determination.
  - b. You provide us with medical and scientific information establishing this determination.
3. If any Participating Provider participates in the clinical trial and will accept you as a participant in the clinical trial, you must participate in the clinical trial through a Participating Provider unless the clinical trial is outside the state where you live.
4. The clinical trial is a phase I, phase II, phase III, or phase IV clinical trial related to the prevention, detection, or treatment of cancer or other life-threatening condition and it meets one of the following requirements:
  - a. The study or investigation is conducted under an investigational new drug application reviewed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
  - b. The study or investigation is a drug trial that is exempt from having an investigational new drug application.
  - c. The study or investigation is approved or funded by at least one of the following:
    - i) The National Institutes of Health.
    - ii) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
    - iii) The Agency for Health Care Research and Quality.

## **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)**

- iv) The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.
- v) A cooperative group or center of any of the above entities or of the Department of Defense or the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- vi) A qualified non-governmental research entity identified in the guidelines issued by the National Institutes of Health for center support grants.
- vii) 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:
  - 1. It is comparable to the National Institutes of Health system of peer review of studies and investigations.
  - 2. 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 “Hospital Inpatient Care” in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section for the Cost Share that applies to hospital inpatient care.

### Clinical trials exclusions

- 1. The investigational Service.
- 2. Services provided solely for data collection and analysis and that are not used in your direct clinical management.

### Dental Services

- 1. Hospitalization and Anesthesia for Dental Procedures. Covered Services includes hospitalization and general anesthesia administered to a covered Dependent child for dental procedures. The general anesthesia must be provided in a Hospital, outpatient surgical facility, or other licensed facility. Treatment must be provided by an anesthesia provider who is either:
  - a) An educationally qualified specialist in pediatric dentistry; or
  - b) Any other dentist who is educationally qualified in a recognized dental specialty for which Hospital privileges are granted or who is certified by virtue of completion of an accredited program of post-graduate Hospital training to be granted Hospital privileges.

In order for the child’s hospitalization and general anesthesia to be covered, the child’s treating dentist must provide a written opinion to KPIC indicating that:

- a) The Dependent child has a physical, mental, or medically compromising condition; or
- b) The Dependent child has dental needs for which local anesthesia is ineffective because of acute infection, anatomic variations, or allergy; or
- c) The Dependent child is an extremely uncooperative, unmanageable, anxious, or uncommunicative child or adolescent with dental needs deemed sufficiently important that dental care cannot be deferred; or
- d) The Dependent child has sustained extensive orofacial and dental trauma.

This provision does not apply to treatment rendered for temporomandibular joint disorders.

This provision does not provide coverage for any dental procedure or the services of the dentist.

- 2. Medically necessary orthodontia limited to dental services within the mouth for treatment of a condition related to or resulting from cleft lip and/or cleft palate.

### Dialysis Care

Dialysis services related to acute renal failure and end-stage renal disease including dialysis equipment; training; and medical supplies required for home dialysis. Home dialysis includes home hemodialysis, intermittent peritoneal dialysis, and home continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis.

### Drugs, Supplies and Supplements

- 1. Drugs and materials that require supervision or administration by medical personnel during a covered hospital confinement or other covered treatment.

## BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)

2. Medical Foods, as defined, when related to the treatment of inherited enzymatic disorders caused by single-gene defects involved in the metabolism of amino, organic, and fatty acids as well as severe protein allergic conditions include, but are not limited to the following diagnosed conditions: phenylketonuria (PKU), maternal PKU, maple syrup urine disease, tyrosinemia, homocystinuria, histidinemia, urea cycle disorders, hyperlysinemia, glutaric acidemias, methylmalonic acidemia, and propionic acidemia, immunoglobulin E and immunoglobulin E-mediated allergies to multiple food proteins; severe food protein induced enterocolitis syndrome; eosinophilic disorders as evidenced by the results of a biopsy; and impaired absorption of nutrients caused by disorders affecting the absorptive surface, function, length, and motility of gastrointestinal tract. Medical Foods may also be for home use, for which a Participating Physician has ordered a prescription, whether written, oral or electronic transmission. Except for PKU, there is no age limit on benefits for inherited enzymatic disorders, as specified above. The maximum age to receive benefits for PKU is twenty-one (21) years of age except that the maximum age to receive benefits for PKU for women, who are of child-bearing age, is thirty-five (35) years of age.

### Outpatient Prescription Drugs

Covered Charges include charges for drugs or medicines or supplies purchased from a licensed pharmacy on an outpatient basis provided they:

- a) Can be lawfully obtained only with the written prescription of a Physician or prescribing provider or dentist;
- b) Are purchased by Covered Persons on an outpatient basis;
- c) Are covered under the Group Plan; and
- d) Do not exceed the maximum daily supply shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section, except that in no case may the supply be larger than that normally prescribed by a Physician or prescribing provider or dentist.

Such charges are subject to all of the terms and conditions of the Group Policy including Deductible, Copayment, Coinsurance, exclusions and limitations, unless otherwise set forth in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section.

### Drugs Covered:

Covered Charges for outpatient prescription drugs are limited to charges from a licensed pharmacy for:

1. Any medication whose label is required to bear the legend "Caution: federal law prohibits dispensing without a prescription." Experimental drugs are not covered unless one or more of the following conditions are met:
  - a) The drug is recognized for treatment of the Covered Person's particular type of cancer in the United States Pharmacopoeia Drug Information, The American Medical Association Drug Evaluations or The American Hospital Formulary Service Drug Information publication; or
  - b) The drug is recommended for treatment of the Covered Person's particular type of cancer and has been found to be safe and effective in formal clinical studies, the results of which have been published in either the United States or Great Britain.
2. A prescription legend drug for which a written prescription is required;
3. Non-injectable legend drugs (to include legend maintenance drugs). See exclusions list below for exceptions;
4. Compounded medication of which at least one ingredient is a legend drug;
5. Any other drug which under the applicable state law may only be dispensed upon the written prescription of a Physician or other lawful prescriber;
6. Legend prenatal vitamins.
7. Specialty Drugs such as self-administered injectable medications, as indicated in the Preferred Drug List, are covered, subject to the following conditions:
  - a) The medication does not require administration by medical personnel;
  - b) The administration of the medication does not require observation;
  - c) The patient's tolerance and response to the drug does not need to be tested, or has been satisfactorily tested; and
  - d) The medication has been prescribed for self-administration at home.
  - e) Self-administered injectable medications must be written on a prescription filled by a pharmacy, and self-administered by the patient or caregiver at home (not administered by providers in medical offices).

## **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)**

8. Prescribed oral anti-cancer medication, which has been approved by the Federal Food and Drug Administration, at a cost not to exceed the coinsurance or the co-payment level as any intravenously administered or an injected cancer medication prescribed for the same purpose.
9. Insulin and the following diabetic supplies, unless related to the Covered Service for outpatient self-management of diabetes as described in the **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)** section:
  - a) Home glucose monitoring supplies;
  - b) Syringes and needles;
  - c) Acetone and glucose test tablets; and
  - d) Glucose test strips
10. Prescription drugs and prescribed over the counter medicines for smoking cessation are covered under Your Preventive Care Services.
11. Prescription contraceptive drugs or devices are covered under Your Preventive Care Services.
12. Off-label use of drugs used for the treatment of cancer if the drug is recognized for the treatment of cancer in the authoritative reference compendia as identified by the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services.
13. Renewal of prescription eye drops when: (a) the request for renewal is made:(i) at least 21 days for a 30-day supply or (ii) at least 42 days for a 60-day supply or (iii) at least 63 days for a 90-day supply, from the later of the date the original prescription was dispensed or last renewed and (b) the original prescription states that additional quantities are needed and the renewal request does not exceed the number of additional quantities needed. One additional bottle (limited to one bottle every 3 months) of prescription eye drops is covered when: (a) the additional bottle is requested at the time the original prescription is filled; and (b) the original prescription states that it is needed for use in a day care center, school or adult day program.
14. A five-day supply of at least one of the FDA-approved drugs for the treatment of opioid dependence limited to a first (1st) request within a 12-month period.

Coverage under Other Policy Provisions: Charges for services and supplies not subject to Prior Authorization that qualify as Covered Charges under this benefit provision will not qualify as Covered Charges under any other benefit provision of the Group Policy.

This Outpatient Prescription Drug Benefit uses an open Formulary. An open Formulary is a list of all FDA-approved drugs unrestricted drugs or devices unless specifically excluded under the plan. The Formulary consists of preferred generic and brand drugs and non-preferred generic and brand drugs and specialty drugs. Please visit <http://info.kaiserpermanente.org/html/kpic-colorado> for the Drug Formulary.

Your Outpatient Prescription Drug Benefit is subject to the following utilization management requirements:

### **Quantity Limits**

Quantity limits apply to outpatient prescription drugs for safety and cost reasons and follow the manufacturer's FDA-approved guidelines from their package inserts. Prescribers must obtain authorization for quantities higher than those allowed under the utilization management program.

### **Age Limits**

Age requirements/limits apply to some outpatient prescription drugs and are part of the utilization management program to help ensure You are receiving the right medication at the right time. Such limits restrict coverage for a drug to a certain age for reasons of safety and/or efficacy and as may be recommended to be necessary to promote appropriate use. In addition to age limitations determined by FDA-approved guideline, outpatient prescription drugs will be subject to requirements based on the recommendations of the U.S. Preventative Services Task Force (USPSTF) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

### **Step Therapy process**

Selected prescription drugs require step therapy. Step therapy is a process that defines how and when a particular outpatient prescription drug can be dispensed by requiring the use of one or more prerequisite drugs (1st line agents), as identified through Your drug history, prior to the use of another drug (2nd line agent). The step therapy process encourages safe and cost-effective medication use. Under this process, a "step" approach is required to receive coverage for certain high-cost medications. Refer to the formulary for a complete list of medications requiring step therapy. This means that to receive coverage You may first

## BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)

need to try a proven, cost-effective medication before using a more costly medication. Treatment decisions are always between You and Your Prescribing Provider. Refer to the Formulary for a complete list of medications requiring step therapy. FDA-approved medication for the treatment of substance use disorder shall not be subject to Step Therapy.

Your Prescribing Provider should prescribe a first-line medication appropriate for Your condition. If Your Prescribing Provider determines that a first-line drug is not appropriate or effective for You, a second-line drug may be covered after meeting certain conditions.

### **Prior Authorization**

Prior Authorization is a review and approval procedure that applies to some outpatient prescription drugs and is used to encourage safe and cost-effective medication use. Prior authorization is generally applied to outpatient prescription drugs that have multiple uses, are higher in cost, or have a significant safety concern. FDA-approved medication for the treatment of substance use disorder shall not be subject to Prior Authorization.

The purpose of Prior Authorization is to ensure that You receive the right medication for Your medical condition. This means that when Your Prescribing Provider prescribes a drug that has been identified as subject to Prior Authorization, the medication must be reviewed by the utilization management program to determine Medical Necessity before the prescription is filled. Prior authorization reviews address clinical appropriateness, including genomic testing, safety issues, dosing restrictions and ongoing treatment criteria.

If a drug requires prior authorization, Your Prescribing Provider must work with Us to authorize the drug for Your use. Drugs requiring Prior Authorization have specific clinical criteria that You must meet for the prescription to be eligible for coverage. Refer to the formulary for a complete list of medications requiring Prior Authorization. The most current formulary can be obtained by visiting <http://info.kaiserpermanente.org/html/kpic-colorado>. If You have questions about the Prior Authorization or about outpatient prescription drugs covered under Your plan, you can call 1-800-788-2949 (Pharmacy Help Desk) or 711 (TTY) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (closed holidays).

Definitions specific to the Prior Authorization of Outpatient Prescription Drug and Step Therapy provisions:

**“Prior Authorization”** means certain covered outpatient prescription drugs will require an approval where the prescribed medication will be reviewed by Us to determine Medical Necessity before the prescription is filled. This approval process is called the prior authorization process.

**“Urgent Prior Authorization Request”** means:

A request for prior authorization when based on the reasonable opinion of the Prescribing Provider with knowledge of the Covered Person’s medical condition, the time frames allowed for non-urgent prior authorization:

- a) Could seriously jeopardize the life or health of the covered person or the ability to regain maximum function; or
- b) The Covered Person is subject to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the drug benefit that is the subject of request for prior authorization.

**“KPIC’s Uniform Pharmacy Prior Authorization Request Form”** means the standardized prescription drug prior authorization form prescribed by the Colorado Division of Insurance (DOI) that will be used under applicable Colorado state law and regulation.

**“Prescribing Provider”** means a provider licensed and authorized to write a prescription pursuant to applicable state law to treat a medical condition of a Covered Person.

When an outpatient prescription drug requiring Prior Authorization has been prescribed, You or Your Prescribing Provider must notify the utilization management program as follows:

1. Complete and submit KPIC’s Uniform Pharmacy Prior Authorization Request Form available on-line at <http://info.kaiserpermanente.org/html/kpic-colorado> to the utilization management program as

## BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)

described in item 2 below. You or Your Prescribing Provider can also obtain a copy of KPIC's Uniform Prior Authorization Request Form by calling 1-800-788-2949. Prior authorization requests contained on a form other than KPIC's Uniform Pharmacy Prior Authorization Request Form will be rejected.

2. We will accept KPIC's Uniform Pharmacy Prior Authorization Request Form through any reasonable means of transmission, including, but not limited to, paper, electronic, or any other mutually accessible method of transmission, by sending it via fax at 1-858-790-7100.
3. Within one (1) business day upon Our receipt of a completed Urgent Prior Authorization Request, We will process the Urgent Prior Authorization Request and we will notify You or Your Prescribing Provider and dispensing pharmacy (if applicable) that:
  - a) The request is approved; or
  - b) The request is denied for any of the following reasons:
    - i) Not Medically Necessary;
    - ii) The patient is no longer eligible for coverage;
    - iii) The request is not submitted on the prescribed KPIC's Uniform Pharmacy Prior Authorization Request Form and must be resubmitted using the prescribed request form.
  - c) There is missing material information necessary to determine Medical Necessity. We will notify and request Your Prescribing Provider to submit additional information needed to process the Urgent Prior Authorization Request.
    - i) Upon receipt of Our request for additional information, Your Prescribing Provider has a period of two (2) business days within which to submit the requested information; and
    - ii) Upon Our receipt of the requested additional information from Your Prescribing Provider, we shall make a determination within one (1) business day of receipt.
    - iii) However, upon failure by Your Prescribing Provider to submit the requested additional information within two (2) business days, the Urgent Prior Authorization Request shall be deemed denied; and
    - iv) We will provide You, Your Prescribing Provider or dispensing pharmacy (if applicable) with the confirmation of the denial within one (1) business day from the date the Urgent Prior Authorization Request was deemed denied.
4. Within two (2) business days upon receipt of a completed Non-Urgent Prior Authorization Request submitted electronically and within three (3) business days upon receipt of a completed Non-Urgent Prior Authorization Request submitted via fax or electronic mail or verbally with associated written confirmation, We will process and notify You, Your Prescribing Provider and dispensing pharmacy (if applicable) that:
  - a) The request is approved;
  - b) The request is denied for any of the following reasons:
    - i) Not Medically Necessary;
    - ii) The patient is no longer eligible for coverage;
    - iii) The request is not submitted on the prescribed KPIC Uniform Pharmacy Prior Authorization Request Form and must be resubmitted using the prescribed request form.
  - c) There is missing material information necessary to determine Medical Necessity. We will notify and request Your Prescribing Provider to submit additional information needed to process the Non-Urgent Prior Authorization Request.
    - i) Upon receipt of Our request for additional information, Your Prescribing Provider has a period of two (2) business days within which to submit the requested information; and
    - ii) Upon Our receipt of the additional information from your Prescribing Provider, We shall make a determination within two (2) business days for Non-Urgent Prior Authorization Request submitted electronically and within three (3) business days for Non-Urgent Prior Authorization Request submitted via fax or electronic mail or verbally with associated written confirmation.
    - iii) However, upon failure by Your Prescribing Provider to submit the requested additional information within two (2) business days, the Non-Urgent Prior Authorization Request shall be deemed denied.
    - iv) We will provide You, Your Prescribing Provider and dispensing pharmacy (if applicable) with the confirmation of the denial within two (2) business days from the date the Non-Urgent Prior Authorization Request was deemed denied.



## BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)

5. The Request shall be deemed to have been approved for failure on Our part to:
  - a) Request additional information from Your Prescribing Provider; or
  - b) To provide the notification of approval to You and Your Prescribing Provider; or
  - c) To provide the notification of denial to You and Your Prescribing Provider within the required time frames set forth above from Our receipt of an Urgent Prior Authorization Request or a Non-Urgent Prior Authorization Request from Your Prescribing Provider.
6. We shall provide You, Your Prescribing Provider and the dispensing pharmacy (if applicable) with a confirmation of the deemed approval, as follows:
  - a) For Urgent Prior Authorization Request - within one (1) business day of the date the request was deemed approved;
  - b) For Non-Urgent Prior Authorization Request submitted electronically – within two (2) business days of the date the request was deemed approved; and
  - c) For Non-Urgent Prior Authorization Request submitted via fax or electronic mail or verbally with associated written confirmation – within three (3) business days of the date the request was deemed approved.
7. A Prior Authorization approval is valid for a period of one hundred eighty (180) days after the date of approval.
8. In the event Your Prescribing Provider's Prior Authorization Request is disapproved:
  - a) The notice of disapproval will contain an accurate and clear written explanation of the specific reasons for disapproving the request.
  - b) If the request is disapproved due to missing material information necessary to determine Medical Necessity, the notice of disapproval will contain an accurate and clear explanation that specifically identifies the missing material information.
9. Notices required to be sent to You or Your authorized representative or Your Prescribing Provider or dispensing pharmacy (if applicable) shall be delivered by Us in the same manner as the Prior Authorization Request Form was submitted to Us, or any other mutually agreeable accessible method of notification.
10. Prescription drug prior authorization procedures conducted electronically through a web portal, or any other manner of transmission mutually agreeable, shall not require You or Your Prescribing Provider to provide more information than is required by the KPIC's Uniform Pharmacy Prior Authorization Request Form.

### Exception Requests for Prior Authorization, Step Therapy, Quantity and Age Limits

You or Your authorized representative or the Prescribing Provider may request an exception or a waiver to the Outpatient Prescription Drug Prior Authorization Request, Step Therapy process, Quantity and Age Limits described above if You are already being treated for a medical condition and currently under medication of a drug subject to Prior authorization or step therapy, provided the drug is appropriately prescribed and is considered safe and effective for your condition.

You may request to waive Step Therapy if the drug is on Our Formulary, You have tried the step therapy-required prescription drug while under Your current or previous health insurance and such prescription drugs were discontinued due to lack of effectiveness, diminished effect or an adverse event. We may require you to submit relevant documentation to support Your request.

However, further Prior Authorization may be required for the continued coverage of a prescription drug prescribed pursuant to a Prior Authorization or Step Therapy process imposed from a prior insurance policy.

To request for an exception or waiver, please call: 1-800-788-2949 (Pharmacy Help Desk).

If Your request for Outpatient Prescription Drug Prior Authorization or waiver of the Step Therapy process, Quantity and Age limits, is denied, altered, or delayed, You have the right to appeal the denial, alteration or

## BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)

delay. Please refer to the **APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS** section for a detailed discussion of the grievance and appeals process and Your right to an External Review.

### Exclusions for Outpatient Prescription Drug Benefits.

The following are not covered under the Outpatient Prescription Drug Benefit:

1. Internally implanted time-release medications, except contraceptives required by law;
2. Compounded dermatological preparation, which must be prepared by a pharmacist in accord with a Physician's prescription, with ingredients of which are available over the counter;
3. Antacids;
4. For Covered Persons with enterostomies and urinary diversions, the following ostomy supplies and equipment:
  - a) Appliances
  - b) Adhesives
  - c) Skin barriers and skin care items
  - d) Belts and clamps
  - e) Internal and appliance deodorants
5. Drugs when used for cosmetic purposes, including Ioniten (Minoxidil) for the treatment of alopecia, Tretinon (Retin A) for individuals 26 years of age or older and anti-wrinkle agents (e.g., Renova);
6. Non-legend drugs and non-legend vitamins;
7. Therapeutic devices or appliances, support garments and other non-medical substances, regardless of intended use, unless specifically listed above;
8. Charges for the administration or injection of any drug;
9. Drugs labeled "Caution - limited by federal law to investigational use." or experimental drugs, even though a charge is made to the individual, unless for the treatment of cancer as specified in item 1 under Drugs Covered;
10. Hematinics;
11. DESI Drugs - drugs determined by the FDA as lacking substantial evidence of effectiveness;
12. Medication which is to be taken by or administered to an individual, in whole or in part, while he or she is a patient in a Hospital, rest home, sanitarium, extended care facility, convalescent hospital, nursing home or similar institutions which operates on its premises, or allows to be operated on its premises, a facility for dispensing pharmaceuticals;
13. Minerals;
14. Infertility Medications;
15. Anorectic drugs (any drug used for the purpose of weight loss);
16. Fluoride supplements except as required by law;
17. Tobacco cessation products except as described under Preventive Care Services.

Dispensing Limitations: KPIC will not pay for more than the per prescription or refill supply set forth in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section. In no case, however, may the supply be larger than that normally prescribed by a Physician or other lawful prescriber.

### **Direct Reimbursement**

If you paid the full price for your covered prescription, you may request a direct reimbursement from us subject to the applicable Cost Share.

To submit a claim for direct reimbursement you may access the direct member reimbursement form via <https://mp.medimpact.com/mp/public/Frameset.jsp?forwardUrl=/mp/public/HelpDesk.jsp> to find the direct member reimbursement form or for assistance you may call the MedImpact Customer Contact Center 24 hours a day 7 days a week at 1- 800-788-2949 (Pharmacy Help Desk) or email via [customerservice@medimpact.com](mailto:customerservice@medimpact.com)

### **Durable Medical Equipment/External Prosthetics and Orthotics**

1. Rental of Durable Medical Equipment. Purchase of such equipment may be made if in the judgment of KPIC:
  - a) purchase of equipment would be less expensive than rental; or
  - b) such equipment is not available for rental.
2. Prosthetic devices (External) are covered including:

## **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)**

- a) external prosthetics related to breast reconstruction resulting from a covered mastectomy; or
  - b) when necessary, to replace, in whole or in part, an arm or a leg; or
  - c) required to treat cleft lip or cleft palate such as obturators, speech and feeding appliances
3. Prosthetic devices (internally implanted) are covered as part of the surgical procedure to implant them.
  4. Orthotics including diabetic shoes are covered. Repair or replacement of orthotic devices are covered. Repair or replacement of orthotic devices due to loss or misuse is not covered.

### **Early Childhood Intervention Services**

Eligible Insured Dependents, from birth up to age three (3), who have significant delays in development or have a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in significant delays in development as defined by State law, are covered for Early Intervention Services (EIS) up to the maximum number of visits as determined by the State.

Coverage of Early Childhood Intervention Services does not include any of the following:

1. Respite care;
2. Non-emergency medical transportation;
3. Service coordination, as defined by applicable Colorado law; and
4. Assistive technology that is not included as Durable Medical Equipment, which is otherwise covered under the Group Policy.

### **Emergency Services**

Emergency Services are covered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, anywhere in the world. If You have an Emergency Medical Condition, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room.

Emergency Services received for an Emergency Medical Condition are covered under the HMO In-Network benefit described in the Health Plan Evidence of Coverage issued to you separately. Covered Services received in an Emergency Department that do not meet the definition of an Emergency Medical Condition will be covered as indicated in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section.

### **Family Planning Services – See Preventive Care and Services**

#### **Hearing Services**

Limited only to minor Dependents under the age of 18:

1. Hearing exams and tests by audiologists to determine the need for hearing correction.
2. For minor Dependents with a verified hearing loss, coverage shall also include:
  - a) Initial hearing aids and replacement hearing aids not more frequently than every 5 years;
  - b) A new hearing aid when alterations to the existing hearing aid cannot adequately meet the needs of the child; and
  - c) Services and supplies including, but not limited to, the initial assessment, fitting, adjustments, and auditory training that is provided according to accepted professional standards.

#### **Home Health Care**

Home Health Services. The following services provided by a Home Health Agency under a plan of care to Covered Persons in their place of residence are covered:

1. Skilled nursing services;
2. Certified or licensed nurse aid services under the supervision of a Registered Nurse or a qualified therapist;
3. Physical therapy;
4. Occupational therapy;
5. Speech therapy and audiology;
6. Respiratory and inhalation therapy;
7. Nutrition counseling by a nutritionist or dietitian;
8. Medical social services, medical supplies; prosthesis and appliances suitable for home use; rental or purchase of durable medical equipment; and
9. Drugs, medicines, or insulin

## **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)**

Home health services do not include:

1. Food services or meals, other than dietary counseling;
2. Services or supplies for personal comfort or convenience, including Homemaker Services; and
3. Services related to well-baby care.

Covered Home Health Services are limited to intermittent care services. Intermittent care services means services are limited to 28 hours per week and less than 8 hours a day.

Such services must be provided in the Covered Person's home and according to a prescribed treatment plan established by a Physician in collaboration with the home health provider. Home health care must be required in lieu of hospitalization or in place of hospitalization. Services of up to four hours by a home health aide shall be considered as one visit.

### **Hospice Care**

This provision only applies to a Terminally Ill Covered Person with a life expectancy of less than six (6) months receiving Medically Necessary care under a Hospice Care program. Benefits may exceed six (6) months should the Terminally Ill Covered Person continue to live beyond the prognosis for life expectancy. Covered Services include Hospice Care Benefits when a Covered Person's Physician provides KPIC a written certification of the Covered Person's Sickness along with a prognosis of life expectancy; and a statement that Hospice Care is Medically Necessary.

A copy of the Hospice program's treatment plan may be required before benefits will be payable.

Hospice Care benefits are limited to:

1. Physician services
2. Nursing care, including care provided by a Licensed Vocational Nurse or Certified Nurse's Aide, when under the supervision of a Registered Nurse or specialized rehabilitative therapist;
3. Physical, speech or occupational therapy and audiology;
4. Respiratory and inhalation therapy including oxygen and respiratory supplies;
5. Medical social services;
6. Nutrition counseling by a nutritionist or dietitian;
7. Rental or purchase of durable medical equipment;
8. Prosthetic and orthopedic appliances;
9. Medical supplies including drugs and biologicals;
10. Diagnostic testing necessary to manage the terminal illness;
11. Medically necessary transportation needed for hospice services;
12. Family counseling related to the Covered Person's terminal Sickness including bereavement support; and
13. Respite care.

Covered Persons who elect to receive Hospice Care are not entitled to any other benefits under the Group Policy for the terminal Sickness. Services and charges incurred by the Covered Person in connection with an unrelated illness will be processed in accordance with coverage provisions applicable to all other illnesses and/or injuries.

No payments will be made for expenses that are part of a Hospice Care program that started after coverage under the Group Policy ceases.

### **Infertility Services**

Services required to establish a diagnosis of infertility are covered. Services to treat underlying medical conditions that cause infertility such as endometriosis and obstructed fallopian tubes are covered. Artificial insemination which includes intrauterine insemination (IUI) is covered.

### **Preventive Care Services**

Unless otherwise stated, the requirement that Medically Necessary Covered Services be incurred as a result of Injury or Sickness will not apply to the following Covered Services. Please refer to Your **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section regarding each benefit in this section:

## BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)

As shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section as a Covered Service, the following Preventive Services are covered under this Policy and are not subject to Deductibles, Co-payments or Coinsurance if received from Participating Providers. Consult with Your physician to determine what preventive services are appropriate for You.

### 1. Exams:

- a) Well-Baby, Child, Adolescent Exam according to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) guidelines
- b) Well woman exam visits including preconception counseling and routine prenatal office visits  
Routine prenatal office visits include the initial and subsequent histories, physical examinations, recording of weight, blood pressure, fetal heart tones, and routine chemical urinalysis according to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) guidelines).

### 2. Screening:

- a) Abdominal aortic aneurysm screening
- b) Asymptomatic bacteriuria screening
- c) Breast cancer mammography screening
- d) Cervical dysplasia screening including HPV screening,
- e) Colorectal cancer screening using fecal occult blood testing, sigmoidoscopy, or colonoscopy. This includes anesthesia required for colonoscopies, pathology for biopsies resulting from a screening colonoscopy, over the counter and prescription drugs necessary to prepare the bowel for the procedure, and a specialist consultation visit prior to the procedure.
- f) Depression screening
- g) Diabetes screening for non-pregnant women with a history of diabetes who have not previously been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes mellitus
- h) Gestational Diabetes screening
- i) Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C virus infection screening
- j) Hematocrit or Hemoglobin screening in children
- k) High blood pressure screening
- l) Lead Screening
- m) Lipid disorders screening to determine need for statin use
- n) Lung cancer screening with low-dose computed tomography including a counseling visit to discuss the screening (in adults who have a 30 pack-year smoking history and currently smoke or have quit within the past 15 years. One pack year is equal to smoking one pack per day for one year, or two packs per day for half a year)
- o) Newborn congenital hypothyroidism screening
- p) Newborn hearing loss screening
- q) Newborn metabolic/hemoglobin screening
- r) Newborn sickle cell disease screening
- s) Newborn Phenylketonuria screening
- t) Obesity screening
- u) Osteoporosis screening
- v) Rh (d) incompatibility screening for pregnant women
- w) Sexually transmitted infection screening such as chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis and HIV screening
- x) Type 2 diabetes mellitus screening
- y) Tuberculin (TB) Testing
- z) Urinary incontinence screening in women
- aa) Visual impairment in children screening

### 3. Health Promotion:

- a) Unhealthy alcohol use and drug misuse screening or assessment and behavioral counseling interventions in a primary care setting to reduce alcohol misuse.
- b) Healthy diet behavioral counseling
- c) Offer Intensive counseling and behavioral interventions to promote sustained weight loss for obese adults and children
- d) Sexually transmitted infections counseling.

## BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)

- e) Tobacco use screening, tobacco use and tobacco-caused disease counseling and interventions. Including behavioral interventions. FDA-approved tobacco cessation prescription medications prescribed by a licensed health care professional authorized to prescribe drugs are also covered for women who are not pregnant and men. **NOTE:** There are resources available to You under the Colorado Quit Line. Please call 1-800-QUIT-NOW or visit its website at <https://www.coquitline.org> for more information.
  - f) Referral for testing for breast and ovarian cancer susceptibility, referral for genetic risk assessment and BRCA mutation testing
  - g) Discuss chemoprevention with women at high risk for breast cancer and at low risk for adverse effects of chemoprevention and when prescribed by a physician for asymptomatic women, over age 35 with an increased risk of breast cancer and no history of breast cancer, risk reducing medication such as tamoxifen and raloxifene.
  - h) When prescribed by a licensed health care professional authorized to prescribe drugs:
    - i) Aspirin in the prevention of cardiovascular disease, colorectal cancer and preeclampsia in pregnant women.
    - ii) Iron supplementation for children from 6 months to 12 months of age.
    - iii) Oral fluoride supplementation at currently recommended doses to preschool children older than 6 months of age whose primary water source is deficient in fluoride.
    - iv) Topical fluoride varnish treatments applied in a primary care setting by primary care providers, within the scope of their licensure, for prevention of dental caries in children
    - v) Folic acid supplementation for women planning or capable of pregnancy.
  - i) Interventions to promote breastfeeding: interventions during pregnancy and counseling by a provider acting within the scope of his or her license or certified under applicable state law during pregnancy and/or in the postpartum period and the purchase of a breast pump. A hospital-grade electric breast pump, including any equipment that is required for pump functionality, is covered when Medically Necessary and prescribed by a physician. KPIC may decide to purchase the hospital-grade electric breast pump if purchase would be less expensive than rental or rental equipment is not available.
  - j) All prescribed FDA-approved methods of contraception for women with reproductive capacity, including but not limited to drugs, cervical caps, vaginal rings, continuous extended oral contraceptives and patches. Also included are contraceptives which require medical administration in Your doctor's office, implanted devices and professional services to implant them, female sterilization procedures, follow-up and management of side effects; counseling for continued adherence, device removal, patient education and counseling. Over the counter FDA-approved female contraceptive methods are covered only when prescribed by a licensed health care professional authorized to prescribe drugs. The benefit will be provided as follows:
    - i) For a three-month period the first time the prescription contraceptive is dispensed; and
    - ii) For a twelve-month period or through the end of Your coverage whichever is shorter for any subsequent dispensing of the same prescription contraceptive regardless of whether You were enrolled in the plan at the time the prescription coverage was dispensed.
    - iii) For a three-month period for a prescribed vaginal contraceptive ring.  
In addition, fertility awareness-based methods, including the lactation amenorrhea method, although less effective, is covered for women desiring an alternative method.
  - k) Screening and counseling for interpersonal and domestic violence.
  - l) Physical therapy to prevent falls in community-dwelling adults aged 65 years or older who are at increased risk for falls. Community dwelling adults means those adults not living in assisted living, nursing homes or other institutions.
  - m) Counseling of parents of young children, children, adolescents, and young adults; from age 6 months to 24 years who have fair skin about minimizing their exposure to ultraviolet radiation to reduce their risk for skin cancer.
  - n) Counseling intervention for pregnant and postpartum persons who are at increased risk of perinatal depression.
4. Disease prevention:
- a) Immunizations as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and HRSA including the cervical cancer vaccine as required under state law.
  - b) Prophylactic gonorrhea medication for newborns to protect against gonococcal ophthalmia

## BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)

- neonatorum
- c) Low to moderate dose statin drugs for the prevention of cardiovascular disease events and mortality when all the following criteria are met:
    - i) individuals are aged 40-75 years;
    - ii) they have 1 or more cardiovascular risk factors; and
    - iii) they have a calculated 10-year risk of a cardiovascular event of 10% or greater.
  - d) Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) with effective antiretroviral therapy to persons who are at high risk of HIV acquisition effective July 1, 2020.

Preventive services may change upon Policy renewal according to federal guidelines in effect as of January 1 of each year in the calendar year in which this Group Policy renews. You will be notified at least sixty (60) days in advance, if any item or service is removed from the list of covered services. For a complete list of current preventive services required under the Patient Protection Affordable Care Act please call: 1-800-464-4000. You may also visit: [www.healthcare.gov/center/regulations/prevention.html](http://www.healthcare.gov/center/regulations/prevention.html). Please note, however, for recommendations that have been in effect for less than one year, KPIC will have one year from the effective date to comply.

**Note:** The following services are not Covered Services under this Preventive Exams and Services benefit but may be Covered Services elsewhere in this **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)** section:

- Lab, Imaging and other ancillary services associated with prenatal care not inclusive to routine prenatal care
- Non-routine prenatal care visits
- Non-preventive services performed in conjunction with a sterilization
- Lab, Imaging and other ancillary services associated with sterilizations
- Treatment for complications that arise after a sterilization procedure

### 5. Exclusions for Preventive Care

- a) Personal and convenience supplies associated with breast-feeding equipment, such as pads, bottles, and carrier cases;
- b) Replacement or upgrades of purchased breast-feeding equipment.

### 6. Other Preventive Care

- a) Adult physical exam.
- b) Annual Mental Wellness check-up.
- c) Prostate Screening as follows when performed by a qualified medical professional, including but not limited to a urologist, internist, general practitioner, doctor of osteopathy, nurse practitioner, or Physician assistant:
  - i) For men age forty (40) through age forty-nine (49), one screening per Accumulation Period if the Covered Person's Physician determines he is at high risk of developing prostate cancer; and
  - ii) For men age fifty (50) and older, one screening per Accumulation Period.  
A prostate screening test consists of a prostate-specific antigen ("PSA") blood test and a digital rectal examination. Benefits are limited to a maximum payment of the lesser of the actual charge or \$65 per screening and are exempt from any Deductibles.
- d) Colorectal screening services are covered for:
  - i) Asymptomatic average-risk adults, who are 50 years of age or older; and
  - ii) Covered Persons, who are at high risk for colorectal cancer. Such high-risk Covered Persons include those individuals who have:
    - (1) A family medical history of colorectal cancer;
    - (2) A prior occurrence of cancer or precursor neo-plastic polyps;
    - (3) A prior occurrence of a chronic digestive disease condition, such as inflammatory bowel disease, Crohn's disease, or ulcerative colitis, or other predisposing factors, as determined by a duly authorized provider.
    - (4) Benefits are provided for tests, as determined by a duly authorized provider that detect adenomatous polyps or colorectal cancer consistent with modalities that are included in "A" Recommendation or a "B" Recommendation of the Task Force.
- e) Fecal DNA screening
- f) Family planning services:

## **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)**

- i) Voluntary termination of pregnancy
- ii) Vasectomies
- g) FDA-approved tobacco cessation prescription or over-the-counter medications prescribed by a licensed health care professional authorized to prescribe drugs for women who are pregnant.
- h) Iron deficiency anemia screening for pregnant women

### **Reconstructive Services**

1. Reconstructive surgery including reconstruction of both the diseased and non-diseased breast after mastectomy to produce symmetrical appearance; and treatment of physical complications at all stages of the mastectomy, including lymphedemas.
2. Treatment of Covered Persons, without regard to age, born with cleft lip and/or cleft palate, including the following procedures when found to be Medically Necessary: oral and facial surgery; surgical management and follow-up care by plastic surgeons and oral surgeons;
3. Treatment necessary for congenital hemangiomas and port wine stains.

### **Rehabilitation and Habilitation Services**

1. Physical therapy to restore, keep, learn or improve skills or functioning. Therapy must be provided as prescribed by the attending Physician.
2. Speech therapy to restore, keep, learn or improve skills or functioning. This includes speech and language therapy and audiologic assessments and treatments for cleft lip and cleft palate.
3. Occupational therapy to restore, keep, learn or improve skills or functioning. Occupational therapy is limited to services to achieve and maintain improved self-care and other customary activities of daily living. Therapy must be provided as prescribed by the attending Physician.
4. Multidisciplinary rehabilitation services while confined in a Hospital or any other licensed medical facility or through a comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation facility (CORF) or program to restore, keep, learn or improve skills or functioning.
5. Pulmonary therapy to restore respiratory function after an illness or injury.
6. Cardiac Rehabilitation.

### **Skilled Nursing Facility Care**

Room and Board and other services rendered in a Skilled Nursing Facility. Care must follow a Hospital Confinement, and the Skilled Nursing Facility confinement must be the result of an Injury or Sickness that was the cause of the Hospital Confinement. Benefits will not be paid for custodial care or maintenance care or when maximum medical improvement is achieved, and no further significant measurable improvement can be anticipated.

### **Substance Use Disorder Services (formerly referred to as Chemical Dependency Services)**

1. Inpatient services including services in a Residential Treatment facility and medical management of withdrawal symptoms in connection with Substance Use Disorder. Medical Services for alcohol and drug Detoxification are covered in the same way as for other medical conditions.
2. Outpatient treatment services including court-ordered services, or supplies otherwise covered under the Group Policy if received in connection with Substance Use Disorder. Treatment is limited to a program of therapy in:
  - a) A facility established primarily for the treatment of Substance Use Disorder; or
  - b) A part of a Hospital used primarily for such treatment; or
  - c) Any public or private facility providing services for the treatment of Substance Use Disorder, which is licensed by the Department of Health; or
  - d) Any mental health facility approved by the Department of Institutions.

### **Transgender Surgery Services:**

Medically necessary surgery to treat gender dysphoria limited to genital surgery, mastectomy, tracheal shave and facial hair removal, is covered. Benefits for Covered Services, which are associated with transgender surgery are provided in the same manner as any other medical or surgical coverage, as set forth under this Certificate.



## **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)**

### **Transplant Services**

Transplant services in connection with an organ or tissue transplant procedure, including charges incurred by a donor or prospective donor who is not insured under this Group Policy. Covered Charges will be paid as though they were incurred by the insured provided that the services are directly related to the transplant. The Group policy will not cover any donor expenses, if the donor has coverage elsewhere that covers donor expenses.

### **Urgent Care Services**

Treatment in an Urgent Care Center. Urgent Care services are covered under the HMO In-Network benefit level described in the Health Plan Evidence of Coverage issued to you separately.

### **Vision Services**

Unless otherwise stated, the requirement that Medically Necessary Covered Services be incurred as a result of Injury or Sickness will not apply to the following Covered Services.

Routine eye exams and refractive eye tests to determine the need for vision correction and to provide a prescription for eyeglasses or contact lenses.

All vision services not listed above are not covered, including but not limited to:

1. Laser Vision Correction
2. Orthoptics
3. Radial keratotomy or any other surgical procedure to treat a refractive error of the eye.
4. Lenses, frames or contacts or their replacements.
5. Contact lens modification, polishing and cleaning.
6. Optical Hardware
7. Low vision aids

### **X-ray, Laboratory and Special Procedures**

1. Diagnostic X-ray, pathology services and laboratory tests, Services and materials, including isotopes,
2. Electrocardiograms, electroencephalograms and mammograms.
  - a) Therapeutic X-ray Services and materials including radiation therapy. Radiation treatment is limited to:
  - b) X-ray therapy when used in lieu of generally accepted surgical procedures or for the treatment of malignancy; or
3. the use of isotopes, radium or radon for diagnosis or treatment.
4. Special procedures such as MRI, CT, PET and nuclear medicine.

## LIMITATIONS/EXCLUSIONS (What is Not Covered)

No payment will be made under any benefit of the Group Policy for Expenses Incurred in connection with the following, unless specifically stated otherwise in the Group Policy or elsewhere in this Certificate, or in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section, or any Rider or Endorsement that may be attached to the Group Policy. Refer to the **DEFINITIONS** section for the meaning of capitalized terms.

1. Charges in excess of the Maximum Allowable Charge.
2. Charges for non-Emergency Care in an Emergency Care setting.
3. Non-Emergency services outside the United States
4. Weekend admission charges for non-Emergency Care Hospital services except when surgery is performed on the day of admission or the next day. This exclusion applies only to such admission charges for Friday through Sunday, inclusive.
5. Confinement, treatment, services or supplies which are not Medically Necessary. This exclusion does not apply to preventive or other health care services specifically covered under the Group Policy.
6. Confinement, treatment, services or supplies not prescribed, authorized or directed by a Physician or that are received while not under the care of a Physician.
7. Injury or Sickness for which the Covered Person has or had a right to payment under worker's compensation or similar law.
8. Injury or Sickness for which the law requires the Covered Person to maintain alternative insurance, bonding, or third-party coverage.
9. Injury or Sickness arising out of, or in the course of, past or current work for pay, profit or gain, unless workers' compensation or benefits under similar law are not required or available.
10. Injury or Sickness contracted while on duty with any military, naval, or air force of any country or international organization.
11. Treatment, services, or supplies provided by: (a) the Covered Person; (b) the Covered Person's spouse, partner in a civil union or Domestic Partner; (c) a child, sibling, or parent of the Covered Person or of the Covered Person's spouse, partner in a civil union or Domestic Partner; or (d) a person who resides in the Covered Person's home.
12. Confinement, treatment, services or supplies received where care is provided at government expense. This exclusion does not apply if: (a) there is a legal obligation for the Covered Person to pay for such treatment or service in the absence of coverage; or (b) payment is required by law.
13. Dental care and dental X-rays; dental appliances; orthodontia; and dental services resulting from medical treatment, including surgery on the jawbone and radiation treatment, except as provided for covered dependent children under the Hospitalization and Anesthesia for Dental Procedures provision and Medically necessary orthodontia for the treatment of cleft lip and palate.
14. Cosmetic Surgery, plastic surgery, or other services that are indicated primarily to improve the Covered Person's appearance and will not result in significant improvement in physical function. This exclusion does not apply to services that: (a) will correct significant disfigurement resulting from a non-congenital Injury or Medically Necessary surgery; (b) are incidental to a covered mastectomy; or (c) are necessary for treatment of congenital hemangioma and port wine stains.
15. Any drug, procedure or treatment for sexual dysfunction regardless of cause, including but not limited to Inhibited Sexual Desire, Female Sexual Arousal Disorder, Female Orgasmic Disorder, Vaginismus, Male Arousal Disorder, Erectile Dysfunction and Premature Ejaculation.
16. Non-prescription drugs or medicines; vitamins, nutrients, and food supplements even if prescribed or administered by a Physician.
17. Any treatment, procedure, drug, or equipment or device which KPIC determines to be experimental or investigational. This means that one of the following is applicable:
  - a) The service is not recognized in accordance with generally accepted medical standards as safe and effective for treating the condition in question, whether or not the service is authorized by law or used in testing or in other studies on human patients; or
  - b) The service requires approval by any governmental authority prior to use and such approval has not been granted when the service is to be rendered.

This exclusion will not apply to Clinical Trials covered in the **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)** section or to Routine Patient Care Costs related to clinical trials if the Covered Person's

## LIMITATIONS/EXCLUSIONS (What is Not Covered)

treating Physician recommends participation in the clinical trial after determining that participation in such clinical trial has the potential to provide a therapeutic health benefit to the Covered Person.

18. Special education and related counseling or therapy, or care for learning deficiencies or behavioral problems. This applies whether or not the services are associated with manifest Mental Health disorder or other disturbances.
19. Services or supplies rendered for the treatment of obesity; however, Covered Charges made to diagnose the causes of obesity or charges made for treatment of diseases causing obesity or resulting from obesity are covered.
20. Confinement, treatment, services or supplies that are required:
  - (a) Only for insurance, travel, employment, school, camp, government licensing, or similar purposes; or
  - (b) Only by a court of law except when medically necessary and otherwise covered under the plan.
21. Personal comfort items such as telephones, radios, televisions, or grooming services.
22. Custodial care. Custodial care is: (a) assistance with activities of daily living which include, but are not limited to, activities such as walking, getting in and out of bed, bathing, dressing, feeding, toileting, and taking drugs; or (b) care that can be performed safely and effectively by persons who, in order to provide the care, do not require licensure or certification or the presence of a supervising licensed nurse.
23. Intermediate care. This is a level of care for which a Physician determines the facilities and services of a Hospital or a Skilled Nursing Facility are not Medically Necessary.
24. Routine foot care such as trimming of corns and calluses.
25. Confinement or treatment that is not completed in accordance with the attending Physician's orders.
26. Hearing Therapy except where Medically Necessary to treat cleft lip and cleft palate.
27. Hearing aids for adults age 18 and over.
28. Services of a private-duty nurse in a Hospital, Skilled Nursing Facility or other licensed medical facility.
29. Outpatient private duty nursing services.
30. Acupuncture; biofeedback; massage therapy; or hypnotherapy.
31. Health education, including but not limited to: (a) stress reduction; (b) weight reduction; or (c) the services of a dietitian.
32. Medical social services except those services related to discharge planning in connection with: (a) a covered Hospital Confinement; (b) covered Home Health Agency Services; or (c) covered Hospice Care.
33. Living expenses or transportation, except as provided for under Covered Services.
34. Second surgical opinions, unless required under the Medical Review Program.
35. Eye refractions, orthoptics, contact lenses, or the fitting of glasses or contact lenses; radial keratotomy or any other surgical procedures to treat a refractive error of the eye, except as specified in the **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)** section for Vision services.
36. Reversal of sterilization.
37. Services provided in the home other than Covered Services provided through a Home Health Agency or related to Hospice Care services, as set forth under the **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)** section.
38. Repair or replacement of Prosthetics resulting from misuse or loss.
39. Treatment for infertility not otherwise covered in the **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)** and **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** sections. Services not covered include: all Services and supplies related to conception by artificial means including but not limited to prescription drugs related to such Services, artificial insemination, in vitro fertilization, ovum transplants, gamete intrafallopian transfer and zygote intrafallopian transfer, donor semen, donor eggs and Services related to their procurement and storage. These exclusions apply to fertile as well as infertile individuals or couples.
40. Maintenance therapy for rehabilitation.
41. Travel immunizations.
42. Non-human and artificial organs and their implantation.
43. Services in connection with a Surrogacy Arrangement, except for otherwise-Covered Services provided to a Covered Person who is a surrogate. A "Surrogacy Arrangement" is one in which a woman (the surrogate) agrees to become pregnant and 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. Please refer to "Surrogacy arrangements" under the **GENERAL POLICY PROVISIONS**

## **LIMITATIONS/EXCLUSIONS (What is Not Covered)**

section for information about your obligations to Us in connection with a Surrogacy Arrangement, including Your obligations to reimburse Us for any Covered Services We cover and to provide information about anyone who may be financially responsible for Covered Services the baby (or babies) receive.

**NOTE: This plan does not impose any Pre-existing condition exclusion.**

## MEMBER PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITY

### Deductible

Before any benefits will be payable during the Accumulation Period, a Covered Person must first satisfy the Deductible shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section. Unless otherwise specified in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section, the Deductible applies to all Covered Services. The Deductible will apply to each Covered Person separately and must be met within each Accumulation Period. When Covered Charges equal to the Deductible are incurred and submitted to Us, the Deductible will have been met for that Covered Person.

Payments under the Group Policy are based upon the Maximum Allowable Charge for Covered Services. The Maximum Allowable Charge may be less than the amount actually billed by the provider. Covered Persons are responsible for payment of Deductible and Coinsurance amounts and for Covered Services received from a Non-Participating Provider any amounts in excess of the Maximum Allowable Charge for a Covered Service. (Refer to the definition of Maximum Allowable Charge shown in the **DEFINITIONS** section.)

Covered Charges applied to satisfy any Deductibles under this Group Policy count toward satisfaction of the Out-of-Pocket Maximum at the Participating Provider Tier. Covered Charges applied to satisfy any Deductibles under this Group Policy do not count toward satisfaction of the Out-of-Pocket Maximum at the Non-Participating Provider Tier.

### Self-Only Deductible

For a self-only enrollment (family of one Covered Person), there is only one Deductible known as Self-Only Deductible. When the Covered Person reaches his or her Self-Only Deductible, he or she will begin paying Copayment or Coinsurance.

### Individual Deductible

For family enrollment (family of two or more Covered Persons), there is a Deductible for each individual family member known as Individual Deductible. Unless otherwise indicated in **the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section or elsewhere in the Policy, the Accumulation Period Deductible as shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section applies to all Covered Charges incurred by a Covered Person during an Accumulation Period. The Deductible applies separately to each Covered Person during each Accumulation Period. When Covered Charges equal to the Deductible are incurred during the Accumulation Period and are submitted to Us, the Deductible will have been met for that Covered Person. Benefits will not be payable for Covered Charges applied to the Deductible.

### Family Deductible Maximum

The Deductible for a family has been satisfied for an Accumulation Period when a total of Covered Charges, shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section, has been applied toward the family members' Individual Deductibles.

If the Family Deductible Maximum shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section is satisfied in any one Accumulation Period by persons in covered family members, then the Individual Deductible will not be further applied to any other Covered Charges incurred during the remainder of that Accumulation Period by any other person in Your family.

### Benefit-specific deductibles

Some Covered Services are subject to additional or separate deductible amounts as shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section. These additional or separate deductibles do not contribute towards satisfaction of the Self-Only or Individual or Family Deductible.

**NOTE:** Please refer to the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section for the actual amount of Your Self-Only, Individual and Family Deductible.

## MEMBER PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITY

### **Copayment/Coinsurance**

You must pay any Copayment, Coinsurance as well as Deductibles for Covered Services. These Cost Shares are paid directly to the provider or facility. Copayment, Coinsurance and Deductible amounts are listed in **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section. If You receive Covered Services from a Non-Participating Provider not chosen by You while at a Participating Provider facility, You are liable only for the Participating Provider Cost Share for the Covered Services You receive. In this circumstance, You are not liable for the difference between the Participating Provider Cost Share and the Non-Participating Provider's billed charges. If you receive a bill from a Non-Participating Provider in the circumstances described above, please call **Customer Service** at 1-855-364-3184 for assistance.

### **Out-of-Pocket Maximums**

Any part of a charge that does not qualify as a Covered Charge, will not be applied toward satisfaction of the Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

Covered Charges applied to satisfy any Deductible under this Group Policy count toward satisfaction of the Out-of-Pocket Maximum at the Participating Provider Tier. Covered Charges applied to satisfy any Deductible under this Group Policy do not count toward satisfaction of the Out-of-Pocket Maximum at the Non-Participating Provider Tier.

Copayments and Coinsurance for Essential Health Benefits contribute toward satisfaction of the Out-of-Pocket Maximum at the Participating Provider Tier. Coinsurance for Essential Health Benefits contribute toward satisfaction of the Out-of-Pocket Maximum at the Non-Participating Provider Tier. Unless otherwise specified in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section. Copayment amounts and pharmacy cost shares do not accumulate to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum at the Non-Participating Provider Tier.

Charges in excess of the Maximum Allowable Charge or Benefit Maximum and additional expenses a Covered Person must pay because Pre-certification was not obtained will not be applied toward satisfying the Deductible or the Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

### **Self-Only Out-of-Pocket Maximum**

For a self-only enrollment (family of one Covered Person), there is only one Out-of-Pocket Maximum known as Self-Only Out-of-Pocket Maximum. When the Covered Person reaches his or her Self-Only Out-of-Pocket Maximum, he or she no longer pays Copayments or Coinsurance for those covered services that apply towards the Out-of-Pocket Maximum for the rest of the Accumulation Period.

**Individual Out-of-Pocket Maximums:** When the Covered Person's Cost Share equals the Out-of-Pocket Maximum shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section during an Accumulation Period, the Percentage Payable will increase to 100% of further Covered Charges incurred by that same Covered Person for the remainder of that Accumulation Period.

**Family Out-of-Pocket Maximums:** When the family's Cost Share equals the Out-of-Pocket Maximum shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section during an Accumulation Period, the Percentage Payable will increase to 100% of further Covered Charges incurred by all family members for the remainder of that Accumulation Period.

**NOTE:** Please refer to the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section for the actual amount of Your Self-Only, Individual and Family Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

### **Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit**

Any Expenses Incurred by a Covered Person while covered under the Prior Coverage will be credited toward satisfaction of Deductibles and Out-of-Pocket Maximums, as applicable, under the Group Policy if:

1. The expenses were incurred during the 90 days before the Effective Date of the Group Policy;
2. The expenses were applied toward satisfaction of the deductibles or Out-of-Pocket Maximum under the Prior Coverage during the 90 days before the Effective Date of the Group Policy; and
3. The expenses would be considered Covered Charges under the Group Policy.

## MEMBER PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITY

For Group Policies with effective dates of coverage during the months of April through December, Expenses Incurred from January 1 of the current year through the effective date of coverage with KPIC may be eligible for credit.

For Group Policies with effective dates of coverage during the months of January through March, Expenses Incurred up to ninety (90) days prior to the effective date with KPIC may be eligible for credit.

You must submit all claims for the Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit within 90 days from the effective date of coverage with KPIC.

**Prior Coverage** means the Policyholder's group medical plan that the Group Policy replaced. KPIC will insure any eligible person under the Group Policy on its Effective Date, subject to the above provisions which apply only to Covered Persons who on the day before the Group Policy's Effective Date were covered under the Prior Coverage.

### **Maximum Allowable Charge**

Payments under the Plan are based upon the Maximum Allowable Charge for Covered Services. The Maximum Allowable Charge may be less than the amount actually billed by the provider. Covered Persons are responsible for payment of any amounts in excess of the Maximum Allowable Charge for a Covered Service from a Non-Participating Provider. (Refer to the definition of Maximum Allowable Charge shown in the **DEFINITIONS** section of the Certificate.)

### **Other Maximums**

To the extent allowed by law, certain treatments, services and supplies are subject to internal limits or maximums. These additional items are shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section.

**NOTE:** Please refer also to the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section at the beginning of this Certificate of Insurance.

## CLAIMS PROCEDURE (How to File a Claim)

All claims under the Group Policy will be administered by:

National Claims Administration – Colorado .  
PO Box 373150  
Denver, CO 80237-9998  
1-855-364-3184 (Toll-free)  
711 (TTY)

### Questions about Claims

For assistance with questions regarding claims filed with KPIC, please have Your ID Card available when You call the number shown above, or You may write to the address shown above. Claim forms are available from Your employer.

You need to pay only Your Deductible and Coinsurance or Copayment.

### Claim Filing Requirements

Set forth below is a description of Our claim filing requirements. You may also request a separate copy of Our claim filing requirements by writing to Us. We will respond to such requests within fifteen (15) calendar days. If We change any of the requirements, We will provide You with a copy of the revised requirements within fifteen (15) calendar days of the revision.

### Claim Forms

We will provide the claimant with the notice of claim form. You must give Us written notice of claim within twenty (20) days after the occurrence or commencement of any loss covered by the Policy, or as soon as reasonably possible. You may give notice or may have someone do it for You. The notice should give Your name and Your policy number. The notice should be mailed to Us at Our mailing address or to Our Claims Administrator at the address provided above.

When We receive Your notice of claim, We will send You forms for filing Proof of Loss. The forms may be obtained from and must be filed with KPIC's Administrator's office at the address set forth above. If We do not send You these forms within fifteen (15) days after receipt of Your Notice of Claim, You shall be deemed to have complied with the Proof of Loss requirements by submitting written proof covering the occurrence, character and extent of the loss, the within the time limit stated in the Proof of Loss section. Clean Claims, as defined, will be paid, denied or settled within thirty (30) calendar days after receipt if submitted electronically, or within forty-five (45) calendar days, if the claim is submitted by any other means. If a claim is denied in whole or in part, the written notice of denial will contain: (1) reasons for the denial; (2) reference to the pertinent provisions of the Group Policy on which the denial is based; and (3) information concerning the Covered Person's right of appeal.

If additional information is required to complete the processing of Your Claim, We will request such information within thirty (30) calendar days after receiving Your Claim. We will provide a full explanation in writing as to what additional information is needed to resolve the claim from Your group or health care provider, or You. The person or entity receiving the request for additional information must submit all additional information to Us within thirty (30) calendar days after receiving the request. Under applicable Colorado law, We may deny a claim if You and/or the provider fail to submit the requested additional information in a timely manner. Absent fraud, all claims, except those considered to be Clean Claims, shall be paid, denied, or settled within ninety (90) calendar days after receipt by KPIC.

If the Covered Person is dissatisfied with the results of a review, the Covered Person may request a reconsideration. The request must be in writing and filed with KPIC's Administrator at the address set forth above. The written request for reconsideration must be filed within thirty (30) days after the notice of denial is received. A written decision on reconsideration will be issued within thirty (30) days after KPIC's Administrator receives the request for reconsideration.



## CLAIMS PROCEDURE (How to File a Claim)

### Proof of Loss

Written Proof of Loss must be sent to Us or to Our Administrator at the address shown on the preceding page within ninety (90) days after the day services were received. Failure to furnish such proof within the time required shall not invalidate nor reduce any claim if it was not reasonably possible to give proof within such time, provided such proof is furnished as soon as reasonably possible, but in no event, later than one year from the time proof is otherwise required, except in the absence of legal capacity. If You receive services from a Participating Provider, that provider will normally file the claim on Your behalf. At Your option, You may direct, in writing to KPIC, that benefits be paid directly to the provider.

### Payment of Benefits

Benefits will be payable to the Covered Person as they accrue and any balance remaining unpaid at termination of the period of liability will be paid to the Covered Person immediately upon receipt of due written proof of loss. The Covered Person, at his or her option, may assign, in writing to KPIC, all or part of such benefits directly to a person or institution on whose charges a claim is based.

A Covered Person may also authorize KPIC to pay benefits directly to a person or institution on whose charges a claim is based. Any such payments will discharge KPIC to the extent of payment made. Unless allowed by law, KPIC's payments may not be attached, nor be subject to, a Covered Person's debts.

At the Covered Person's option, any benefits for health expenses for covered medical transportation services may be assigned, in writing to KPIC, to the provider of these services. No benefits are payable to the Covered Person to the extent benefits for the same expenses are paid to the provider.

KPIC shall not retroactively adjust a claim based on eligibility if:

- (1) The provider received verification of eligibility within two (2) business days prior to delivery of services unless the Policyholder notified KPIC:
  - (a) That Employee is no longer eligible;
  - (b) That Policyholder no longer intends to maintain coverage for the Group;
  - (c) Within ten (10) business days after the date that Employee is no longer eligible or covered because the employee left employment without notice to the Policyholder/Employer or employment was terminated because of gross misconduct
- (2) The provision of benefit is a required policy provision pursuant to state law unless the Policyholder notified KPIC of Employee's ineligibility within the timeframe provided in (1) (c).

### Reimbursement of Providers

Reimbursement for services covered under this health insurance plan which are lawfully performed by a person licensed by the State of Colorado for the practice of osteopathy, medicine, dentistry, optometry, psychology, chiropractic, or podiatry shall not be denied when such services are rendered by a person so licensed. Licensed persons shall include registered professional nurses and licensed Clinical Social Workers within the scope of professional nursing or licensed social worker practice.

### Legal Actions

No action at law or in equity may be brought to recover under the Group Policy prior to the expiration of sixty (60) days after the claim has been filed as required by the Group Policy. Also, no action may be brought after three (3) years from the expiration of the time within which proof of loss is required by the Group Policy.

### Time Limitations

If any time limitation provided in the Group Policy for giving notice of claims, or for bringing any action at law or in equity, is less than that permitted by the applicable law, the time limitation provided in the Group Policy is extended to agree with the minimum permitted by the applicable law.

### Assignment of Benefits to Colorado Department of Social Services

If a Covered Person receives medical assistance from the State of Colorado, under Colorado law, the State is deemed to have an assignment on all benefit payments made for medical expenses on behalf of the Covered Person or any other covered family member. The assignment remains in effect as long as

## CLAIMS PROCEDURE (How to File a Claim)

the individual is eligible for and receives medical assistance benefits from the State. This means that KPIC may pay benefits directly to the State when KPIC is aware that the Covered Person is a medical assistance recipient. Any payments made by KPIC in good faith pursuant to the State's assignment will fully discharge KPIC's obligation to the extent of the payment.

**NOTE:** For general information on claims, and how to submit Pre-Service Claims, Concurrent Care Claims, and Post-Service Claims, see the **APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS** section. For covered Services by Non-Participating Providers, you may need to submit a claim on your own. Contact **Customer Service** for more information on how to submit such claims.

## GENERAL POLICY PROVISIONS

### **Time Effective**

The effective time for any dates used is 12:01 a.m. at the address of the Policyholder.

### **Incontestability**

Any statement made by the Policyholder or a Covered Person in applying for insurance under this Policy will be considered a representation and not a warranty. Its validity cannot be contested except for nonpayment of premiums or fraudulent misstatement as determined by a court of competent jurisdiction. Only statements that are in writing and signed by the Policyholder and/or Covered Person may be used in a contest.

This Policy shall not be contested, except for nonpayment of premiums, after it has been in force for two (2) years from its date of issue and that no statement made for the purpose of effecting insurance coverage under the policy with respect to a person shall be used to avoid the insurance with respect to which such statement was made or to reduce benefits under such policy after such insurance has been in force for a period of two years during the lifetime of the Covered Person unless such statement is contained in a written instrument signed by the person making such statement and a copy of that instrument is or has been furnished to the person making the statement or to the beneficiary of any such person.

### **Misstatement of Age**

If the age of any person insured under this health insurance plan has been misstated: 1) premiums shall be adjusted to correspond to his or her true age; and 2) if benefits are affected by a change in age, benefits will be corrected accordingly (in which case the premium adjustment will take the correction into account).

### **Medical Examination and Autopsy**

KPIC, at its own expense, shall have the right and opportunity to examine the person of any individual whose Injury or Sickness is the basis of a claim when and as often as it may reasonably require during the pendency of a claim hereunder and to make an autopsy in case of death, where it is not forbidden by law.

### **Money Payable**

All sums payable by or to KPIC or its Administrator must be paid in the lawful currency of the United States.

### **Rights of a Custodial Parent**

If the parents of a covered Dependent child are:

1. Divorced or legally separated; and
2. Subject to the same Order,

The custodial parent will have the rights stated below without the approval of the non-custodial parent. However, for this provision to apply, the non-custodial parent must be a Covered Person approved for family health coverage under the Policy, and KPIC must receive:

1. A request from the custodial parent, who is not a Covered Person under the policy; and
2. A copy of the Order.

If all of these conditions have been met, KPIC will:

1. Provide the custodial parent with information regarding the terms, conditions, benefits, exclusions, and limitations of the Policy;
2. Accept claim forms and requests for claim payment from the custodial parent; and
3. Make claim payments directly to the custodial parent for claims submitted by the custodial parent, subject to all the provisions stated in the Policy. Payment of claims to the custodial parent, which are made in good faith under this provision, will fully discharge KPIC's obligations under the Policy to the extent of the payment.

## GENERAL POLICY PROVISIONS

KPIC will continue to comply with the terms of the Order until We determine that:

1. The Order is no longer valid;
2. The Dependent child has become covered under other health insurance or health coverage;
3. In the case of employer-provided coverage, the employer has stopped providing family coverage for all employees; or
4. The Dependent child is no longer a Covered Person under the Policy.

### **Termination by KPIC**

KPIC may terminate the Group Policy or any insurance under the Group Policy on any premium due date by giving no less than 31 days written notice when the Policyholder:

1. Fails to pay premiums or contributions in accordance with the plan provisions, or KPIC does not receive premium payments in a timely manner; or
2. Commits an act or practice that constitutes fraud or makes an intentional misrepresentation of material fact under the terms of the Group Policy; or
3. Fails to comply with a material health benefit plan contract provision, including contribution or group participation rules; or
4. No longer has any Covered Persons living, residing or working in the service area of the Preferred Provider Organization with respect to a Group Policy providing coverage, in whole or in part, in connection with a Preferred Provider plan.

If KPIC decides to discontinue offering this particular health benefit plan in the group market, KPIC may discontinue all coverage under the Group Policy. KPIC will give written notice of this type of nonrenewal to each Policyholder 90 days before the date coverage terminates. KPIC will offer each Policyholder whose coverage is discontinued the option to purchase another group health benefits plan currently offered by KPIC in the applicable state without regard to any health status-related factor of any Covered Person, including any individuals who may become eligible for the replacement coverage. Health benefit plan under this section means a particular product and not a plan design.

If KPIC stops offering all health insurance coverage in the group market, in the applicable state, KPIC has the right not to renew all policies issued on this form. KPIC will give written notice of this type of nonrenewal to the Policyholders and all Covered Persons 180 days before the date coverage terminates. Notice to an Insured Employee will be deemed notice to the Insured Dependents of that Insured Employee.

The Policyholder will be liable for all unpaid premiums for the period during which the Group Policy was in force with respect to any Covered Person whose coverage terminates.

### **Completion of Covered Services by a Terminated Provider – For PPO Plans only**

If You are inpatient in a Hospital, Skilled Nursing Facility, or a hospice for Hospice Care at the time of a Participating Provider's termination, You will continue to receive coverage for Covered Services until Your date of discharge from such inpatient facility consistent with applicable Colorado law.

As to services other than inpatient services, We will advise You in writing as to the specific extension of time, under Colorado law, pertaining to the rendition of Covered Services by a terminated Participating Provider

### **Coordination of Benefits Provisions Application**

This Coordination of Benefits ("COB") provision applies when the Covered Person has health care coverage under more than one Plan. Plan is defined below.

The order-of-benefit determination rules govern 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% of the total Allowable Expense.

## GENERAL POLICY PROVISIONS

### Definitions Related to Coordination of Benefits

- A. A **“plan”** is any of the following that provides benefits or services for medical or dental care or treatment. However, 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 insurance contracts, health maintenance organization (HMO) contracts, closed panel plans or other forms of group or group-type coverage (whether insured or uninsured); medical care components of long-term care contracts, such as skilled nursing care; medical benefits under group or individual automobile contracts; and Medicare or any other federal governmental plan, as permitted by law.
  2. “Plan” does not include: hospital indemnity coverage or other fixed indemnity coverage; accident only coverage; specified disease or specified accident coverage; limited benefit health coverage, as defined by state law; school accident type coverage; benefits for non- medical components of 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 payment rules** determine whether this plan is a “Primary plan” or “Secondary plan” when compared to another plan covering the person.

When this plan is Primary, its benefits are determined before those of any other Plan and without considering any other Plan’s benefits. When this Plan is Secondary, its benefits are determined after those of another Plan and may be reduced because of the Primary plan’s benefits, so that all Plan benefits do not exceed 100% of the total Allowable expense.

- D. **Allowable Expense** is a health care service or 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 or service or portion of an expense that is not covered by any of the Plans 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 Covered 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 Covered 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

## GENERAL POLICY PROVISIONS

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. **Claim determination period** is usually a calendar year, but a plan may use some other period of time that fits the coverage of the group contract. A person is covered by a plan during a portion of a claim determination period if that person's coverage starts or ends during the claim determination period. However, it does not include any part of a year during which a person has no coverage under this plan, or before the date this COB provision or a similar provision takes effect.
- F. **Closed Panel Plan** is a plan that provides health benefits to Covered Persons primarily in the form of services through a panel of providers that have contracted with either directly or indirectly or are employed by the Plan, and that limits or excludes benefits for services provided by other providers, except in cases of emergency or referral by a panel member.
- G. **Custodial parent** means a parent awarded primary custody by a court decree. In the absence of a court decree, it is the parent with whom the child resides more than one half of the calendar year without regard to any temporary visitation.

### Order-of-Benefit Payment Rules

When two or more plans pay benefits, the rules for determining the order of payment are as follows:

- A. The Primary plan pays or provides its benefits according to its terms of coverage and without regard to the benefits 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 being members in a group, and designed to supplement part of the basic package of benefits, may provide supplementary coverage that shall be in excess of 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 determining 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 Covered Person as a dependent is the Secondary plan. However, if the Covered 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 Covered 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 Covered 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;

## GENERAL POLICY PROVISIONS

- 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:
    - The Plan covering the custodial parent;
    - The Plan covering the spouse of the custodial parent;
    - The Plan covering the non-custodial parent; and then
    - 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.
- (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 Covered Person as a retired or laid-off employee is the Secondary plan. The same would hold true if a Covered Person is a dependent of an active employee and that same Covered 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 Covered 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, policyholder, 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

## GENERAL POLICY PROVISIONS

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. The claims administrator may get the facts it needs 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. The claims administrator need not tell, or get the consent of, any person to do this. Each Covered Person claiming benefits under this Plan must give the claims administrator any facts it needs 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, the claims administrator 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. The claims administrator will not have to pay that amount again. The term "payment made" includes providing benefits in the form of services, in which case "payment made" means reasonable cash value of the benefits provided in the form of services.

### **Right of Recovery**

If the amount of the payments made by the claims administrator is more than it should have paid under this COB provision, it 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.

### **Surrogacy arrangements**

If You enter into a Surrogacy Arrangement and You or any other payee are entitled to receive payments or other compensation under the Surrogacy Arrangement, You must reimburse Us for covered Services You receive related to conception, pregnancy, delivery, or postpartum care in connection with that arrangement ("Surrogacy Health Services") 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. Note: This "Surrogacy arrangements" provision does not affect Your obligation to pay Your Cost Share for these Covered Services. After You surrender the baby to the legal parents, You are not obligated to reimburse Us for any Covered Services that the baby receives after the date of surrender (the legal parents are financially responsible for any Covered 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.



## GENERAL POLICY PROVISIONS

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:

Equian  
Kaiser Permanente – Northern California Region  
Surrogacy Mailbox  
P.O. Box 36380  
Louisville KY 40233

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" section and to satisfy those rights. You may not agree to waive, release, or reduce our rights under this "Surrogacy arrangements" section without our prior, written consent.

If Your estate, parent, guardian, or conservator asserts a claim against a third party based on the surrogacy arrangement, Your estate, parent, guardian, or conservator and any settlement 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 the third party. We may assign our rights to enforce our liens and other rights.

If You have questions about Your obligations under this provision, please contact **Customer Service** at 1-855-364-3184.

## TERMINATION/NON-RENEWAL/CONTINUATION

### Termination of an Insured Employee's Insurance

Except as provided in the Continuation of Medical Benefits provision, Your insurance will automatically terminate on the earlier of:

1. The date the employee or employee's Dependents cease to be covered by Health Plan as a Point of Service member;
2. The date the Group Policy is terminated;
3. The date You, or Your representative, commits an act of fraud or makes an intentional misrepresentation of a material fact;
4. The end of the grace period after the Policyholder fails to pay any required premium to KPIC when due or KPIC does not receive the premium payment in a timely fashion; or
5. The last day of the month You cease to qualify as an Eligible Employee.

In no event will Your insurance continue beyond the earlier of the date Your employer is no longer a Policyholder and the date the Group Policy terminates. The Health Plan Evidence of Coverage more fully explains the eligibility, effective date, and termination provisions.

### Termination of Insured Dependent Coverage

An Insured Dependent's coverage will end on the earlier of:

1. The date You cease to be covered by KPIC;
2. The last day of the of the calendar month in which the person ceases to qualify as a Dependent;
3. The date Your insurance ends, unless continuation of coverage is available to the Dependent under the provisions of the Group Policy;
4. The end of the grace period after the Policyholder fails to pay any required premium to KPIC when due or KPIC does not receive the premium payment in a timely fashion;
5. The date the Group Policy is terminated;
6. The date the Dependent, or the Dependent's representative, commits an act of fraud or makes an intentional misrepresentation of a material fact;
7. The date the Dependent relocates to a place outside of the geographic service area of a provider network, if applicable, unless specifically provided otherwise in the Group Policy.

### Medically Necessary Leave of Absence for Student Dependent

If You, as a Dependent, are enrolled in a post-secondary educational institution, Your coverage will not terminate due to a Medically Necessary Leave of Absence before the date that is the earlier of: (a) one year after the first day of the Medically Necessary Leave of Absence or (b) the date coverage would otherwise terminate under the terms of the Group Policy.

### Continuation of Coverage during Layoff or Leave of Absence

If Your full-time work ends because of a disability, an approved leave of absence or layoff, You may be eligible to continue insurance for Yourself and Your Dependents up to a maximum of three months if full-time work ends because of disability or two months if work ends because of layoff or leave of absence other than family care leave of absence. These provisions apply as long as You continue to meet Your Group's written eligibility requirements and This health insurance plan has not terminated. You may be required to pay the full cost of the continued insurance during any such leave.

### Rescission for Fraud or Intentional Misrepresentation

Subject to any applicable state or federal law, if KPIC makes a determination that You performed an act, practice or omission that constitutes fraud or made an intentional misrepresentation of material fact under the terms of the Group Policy, KPIC may rescind Your coverage under the Group Policy by giving You no less than thirty (31) days advance written notice. The rescission will be effective, on:

1. The effective date of Your coverage, if we relied upon such information to provide coverage; or
2. The date the act of fraud or intentional misrepresentation of a material fact occurred, if the fraud or intentional misrepresentation of a material fact was committed after the Effective Date of Your coverage.

## TERMINATION/NON-RENEWAL/CONTINUATION

If Your or Your Dependent's Policy is rescinded, you have the right to appeal the rescission. Please refer to the **APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS** section of this Certificate for a detailed discussion of the grievance and Appeals process and Your right to an Independent External Review.

### CONTINUATION OF MEDICAL BENEFITS (FEDERAL)

**This section only applies to Participating Employers who are subject to Public Law 99-271 (COBRA).**

#### Eligibility for Continued Health Coverage

A Covered Person whose group health coverage under the policy would end due to a qualifying event may have a right to elect continued Health Coverage for a limited period.

The phrase "health coverage" means the benefits of the policy that are based on Expenses Incurred for medical care.

A "Qualifying Event" is any one of the following events if it would cause the Covered Person to lose health coverage under the policy:

- "A" The death of the covered employee;
- "B" The termination (other than by reason of the covered employee's gross misconduct), or reduction in hours, of such employee's employment;
- "C" The divorce or legal separation of the covered employee and his or her spouse, partner in a civil union or Domestic Partner;
- "D" The covered employee's becoming entitled to Medicare benefits;
- "E" A child's ceasing to be an eligible Dependent under the terms of this health insurance plan.

#### Written Notices and Election Required

Covered Persons must notify their employers of a qualifying event set forth in "C" or "E". That notice must be given within sixty (60) days after the event occurs. If such timely notice is not given, the event will not entitle the Covered Person to continued health coverage.

The employer will notify Covered Persons who become entitled to elect continued health coverage. That notice will be furnished within fourteen (14) days of: (a) the date timely notice of a qualifying event set forth in "C" or "E" is received; or (b) the date any other qualifying event occurs. If that notice from the employer is not given or is late, the qualifying event will not entitle the Covered Person to continued health coverage. Should a court or government agency require KPIC to pay any benefits as though coverage had been continued, the employer will reimburse KPIC in the full amount that KPIC is required to pay.

A Covered Person will have sixty (60) days in which to elect continued health coverage. That sixty (60) days starts with the later of: (a) the date the qualifying event would cause the Covered Person to lose health coverage under this health insurance plan; or (b) the date the employer provides timely notice to the Covered Person of his or her right to elect continued health coverage. A Covered Person who does not make a timely written election will not receive continued health coverage unless included as a spouse, partner in a civil union or Domestic Partner or child in another family member's timely election.

#### Effect of Other Continuations

If this health insurance plan otherwise provides any health coverage after a qualifying event: (a) such coverage that is not an option will not defer or extend the maximum period of continued health coverage in this provision; and (b) such coverage that is an elected option will be deemed a waiver of continued health coverage under this provision. However, if a covered employee elects such alternate health coverage for a spouse, partner in a civil union or Domestic Partner or child; and while that coverage is in effect another qualifying event occurs; then the alternate health coverage for the spouse, partner in a civil union or Domestic Partner or child will not end sooner than it would have under this provision.

#### Payment for Continued Health Coverage

The employer may require a Covered Person to pay for this continued health coverage. That payment will not exceed 102 percent of the total employer and employee cost of providing the same benefits to a Covered Person who has not had a qualifying event. The Covered Person will not be required to make

## TERMINATION/NON-RENEWAL/CONTINUATION

such payments less frequently than monthly.

### **Benefits under Continued Health Coverage**

This continued health coverage will at all times provide the same health care benefits as would have been afforded to the Covered Person had a qualifying event not occurred. This includes any changes in the health coverage under this health insurance plan as may become effective while continued health coverage is in effect.

### **Termination of Continued Health Coverage**

A Covered Person's continued health coverage under this provision will end at the earliest of the following dates:

1. The date which ends the "Maximum Period" as defined below;
2. The date that This Plan no longer covers the employer that sponsored the coverage before the Qualifying Event;
3. The date ending the last period for which the Covered Person has made any required payment for continued Health Coverage on a timely basis; or
4. The date after electing continued Health Coverage on which the Covered Person first becomes: a) covered under any other group health plan (as an employee or otherwise) which does not exclude or limit any pre-existing condition of the Covered Person; or b) entitled to Medicare benefits.

The "Maximum Period" referred to above will start with the date of the Qualifying Event and will end: (a) with the date eighteen (18) months after a qualifying event set forth in "B"; or (b) with the date thirty-six (36) months after any other Qualifying Event. In applying this maximum period, if continued health coverage is already in effect when a qualifying event other than as set forth in "B" occurs, the maximum period will not end less than thirty-six (36) months from the date of the original qualifying event; and if a Qualifying Event set forth in "D" occurs, the Maximum Period as to the Covered Employee's spouse, partner in a civil union or Domestic Partner or child for that or any subsequent Qualifying Event will not end less than thirty-six (36) months from the date the Covered Employee became entitled to Medicare benefits.

### **Extension for Disabled Covered Persons**

If Social Security, under its rules, determines that a Covered Person was disabled when a Qualifying Event set forth in "B" occurred, the 18-month maximum period of continued health coverage for such a Qualifying Event may be extended to twenty-nine (29) months. To obtain that extension, the Covered Person must notify the employer of Social Security's determination before the initial 18-month maximum period ends.

For the continued health coverage of disabled Covered Persons that exceeds eighteen (18) months, KPIC may increase the premium it charges by as much as 50 percent. The employer may require the disabled Covered Persons to pay all or part of that total increased premium.

In no event will continued Health Coverage extend beyond the first month to begin more than thirty (30) days after Social Security determines that the Covered Person is no longer disabled. The Covered Person must notify the employer within thirty (30) days of the date of such a Social Security determination.

### **Continued Health Coverage from a Prior Plan**

Continued Health Coverage will also be provided if: (a) this health insurance plan replaced a prior benefit plan of the employer or an associated company; and (b) a person's continued health coverage under a provision of that prior plan similar to this ended due to the replacement of that prior plan. In such case, that person may obtain continued Health Coverage under this provision. It will be as though this health insurance plan had been in effect when the Qualifying Event occurred. But no benefits will be paid under this health insurance plan for health care Expenses Incurred before its effective date.

## TERMINATION/NON-RENEWAL/CONTINUATION

### **Continued Health Coverage under 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 Policy for a limited time after You would otherwise lose eligibility, if required by the federal USERRA law. You must submit a USERRA election form to Your Employer within 60 days after Your call to active duty.

Please contact Your Employer to find out how to elect USERRA coverage and how much You must pay Your Employer.

### **CONTINUATION OF MEDICAL BENEFITS (STATE)**

#### **Continuation of Health Coverage**

A Covered Person must be given the option to elect continuation of this health insurance plan for himself or herself and any Dependents if:

1. The Covered Person's eligibility to receive coverage has ended for any reason other than discontinuance of the Group Policy in its entirety or with respect to an insured class;
2. Any premium or contribution required from or on behalf of the Covered Person has been paid to the termination date; and
3. The Covered Person has been continuously insured under the Group Policy, or under any Group Policy providing similar benefits which it replaces, for at least six (6) months immediately prior to termination.

A Covered Person has the right to continue coverage for: (a) a period of eighteen (18) months after termination of employment; or (b) until the Covered Person becomes re-employed, whichever occurs first. Should new coverage exclude a condition covered under the continued plan, coverage under the prior employer's plan may be continued for the excluded condition only for the eighteen (18) months or until the new plan covers the condition, whichever occurs first.

The Covered Person must elect to continue coverage and pay the applicable amount to apply toward the premium within twenty (20) days after termination of employment. If proper notification is not given to the Covered Person, the Covered Person may elect to continue coverage and pay the applicable amount to apply toward the insurance within thirty (30) days after termination of employment.

#### **Reduced Work Hours**

The Policyholder may elect to contract with KPIC to continue coverage under the same conditions and for the same premium for Covered Person, even if the Policyholder reduces the working hours of such Covered Person to less than thirty (30) hours per week, provided the following conditions are met:

1. The Covered Person has been continuously employed as a full-time employee of the Policyholder and has been insured under the Group Policy or any Group Policy providing similar benefits which said policy replaces, for at least 6 months immediately prior to such reduction in working hours;
2. The Policyholder has imposed such reduction in working hours due to economic conditions; and
3. The Policyholder intends to restore the Covered Person to a full 40-hour work schedule as soon as economic conditions improve.

## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

KPIC will review claims and appeals, and We may use medical experts to help Us review them. The following terms have the following meanings when used in this “**APPEALS and COMPLAINTS**” section:

1. A **Claim** is a request for us to:
  - a. Pay for a Service that You have not received (Pre-Service claim),
  - b. Continue to pay for a Service that You are currently receiving (Concurrent Care Claim), or
  - c. Pay for a Service that you have already received (Post-Service claim).
2. An **Adverse Benefit Determination** is Our decision to do any of the following:
  - a. Deny Your Claim, in whole or in part, including:
    - i) A denial, in whole or in part, of a Pre-Service Claim (preauthorization for a Service), a Concurrent Care Claim (continue to provide or pay for a Service that You are currently receiving) or a Post-Service Claim (a request to pay for a Service) in whole or in part; or
    - ii) A denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is not Medically Necessary, appropriate, effective or efficient or is not provided in or at the appropriate health care setting or level of care; or
    - iii) A denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is experimental or investigational.
  - b. Terminate Your coverage retroactively except as the result of non-payment of premiums (also known as Rescission or Retroactive Cancellation), or
  - c. Uphold Our previous Adverse Benefit Determination when You appeal.

In addition, when We deny a request for medical care because it is excluded under this policy and you present evidence from medical professional licensed pursuant to the Colorado Medical Practice Act acting within the scope of his or her license that there is a reasonable medical basis that the contractual exclusion does not apply to the denied medical care, then Our denial shall be considered an adverse benefit determination.

3. An **Appeal** is a request for Us to review Our initial Adverse Benefit Determination.

If You miss a deadline for making a Claim or Appeal, We may decline to review it.

Except when simultaneous External Review can occur, You must exhaust the Internal Claims and Appeals Procedure as described below in this “**APPEALS and COMPLAINTS**” section unless We fail to follow the claims and appeals process described in this Section.

### **Language and Translation Assistance**

You may request language assistance with Your Claim and/or Appeal by calling **Member Services** at 1-800-632-9700 or 711 (TTY).

SPANISH (Español): Para obtener asistencia en Español, llame al 1-800-632-9700.

TAGALOG (Tagalog): Kung kailangan ninyo ang tulong sa Tagalog tumawag sa 1-800-632-9700.

CHINESE (中文): 如果需要中文的帮助, ☐☐☐☐☐☐ 1-800-632-9700.

NAVAJO (Dine): Dinek'ehgo shika at'ohwol ninisingo, kwijigo holne' 1-800-632-9700.

### **Appointing a Representative**

If You would like someone including your provider (medical facility or health care professional) to act on Your behalf regarding Your Claim, You may appoint an authorized or designated representative. You must make this appointment in writing. Please contact **Customer Service** at 1-855-364-3184 or 711 (TTY) for information about how to appoint a representative. You must pay the cost of anyone You hire to represent or help You.

## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

### Help with Your Claim and/or Appeal

You may contact the Colorado Division of Insurance at:

Colorado Division of Insurance  
1560 Broadway, Suite 850  
Denver, Colorado 80202  
(303) 894-7499

### 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. You may request our Authorization for Release of Appeal Information form by calling **Member Appeals Program** at 1-888-370-9858 or 1-303-344-7933 or 711 (TTY).

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 **Customer Service** at 1-855-364-3184 or 711 (TTY).

### Providing Additional Information Regarding Your Claim and/or Appeal

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, if You ask for one. Please send all additional information to the Department that issued the Adverse Benefit Determination.

When You appeal, You may give testimony in writing or by telephone. Please send Your written testimony to **Member Appeals Program**. To arrange to give testimony by telephone, you should contact **Member Appeals Program** at 1-888-370-9858 or 1-303-344-7933 or 711 (TTY).

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 Our next 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 next decision, that decision will be based on the information already in Your Claim file.

### Internal Claims and Appeals Procedures

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 **APPEALS and COMPLAINTS** section:

1. Pre-Service Claims (Urgent and Non-Urgent)
2. Concurrent Care Claims (Urgent and Non-Urgent)
3. Post-Service Claims

In addition, there is a separate appeals procedure for adverse benefit determinations due to a retroactive termination of coverage (rescission).

Your internal review process includes (a) one mandatory level of review which is the First Level Appeal and (b) a voluntary second level of review which is the Voluntary Second Level Appeal. The Voluntary Second Level Appeal may only occur at your option. If you disagree with our decision on your First Level Appeal, your adverse First Level Appeal decision notice will tell you how to submit a Voluntary Second Level Appeal.

## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

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 he/she be the subordinate of someone who did participate in Our original decision.

### 1. Pre-Service Claims and Appeals

Pre-service Claims are requests that We pay for a Service that You have not yet received. Failure to receive authorization before receiving a Service that must be authorized or pre-certified in order to be a covered benefit may be the basis for Our denial of Your Pre-service Claim. 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 **Customer Service** at 1-855-364-3184 or 711 (TTY).

Here are the procedures for filing a Pre-service claim, a Non-Urgent Pre-service Appeal, and an Urgent Pre-service Appeal.

#### a. Pre-Service Claim

Tell KPIC in writing that You want Us to pay for a Service You have not yet received. Your request and any related documents You give us constitute Your Claim. You or Your Provider must either mail or fax Your Claim to:

Permanente Advantage  
5855 Copley Drive, Suite 250  
San Diego, CA 92111  
1-888-525-1533 (office)  
1-866-338-0266 (fax)

If You want Us to consider Your Pre-service Claim on an Urgent basis, the request should tell us that. We will decide whether Your Claim is Urgent or Non-Urgent unless Your attending health care provider tells Us Your Claim is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function; or (b) If You have a physical or mental disability that creates an imminent and substantial limitation on Your existing ability to live independently; or (c) 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. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent claim and appeal thereof, to permit you to pursue an Expedited External Review.

#### Non-Urgent Pre-Service Claim

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 not later than five (5) business days after We receive Your Claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional fifteen (15) days if circumstances beyond Our control delay Our decision, so long as We notify You and inform You and Your Provider prior to the expiration of the initial five (5) day period and explain the circumstances for which we need the extension.

If We need more information, We will ask You and Your Provider for additional information within the initial five (5) business day decision period, and We will give You and Your Provider two (2) business days from receipt of Our request to send the additional information. We will make a decision within five (5) 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 the additional information (including documents) from You or Your Provider within two (2) business days after receipt of Our request, We will make a decision based on the information We have.



## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

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 and We have all the information We need, We will notify You and Your Provider of Our decision (whether adverse or not) orally or in writing within two (2) business days but not later than seventy-two (72) hours after We receive Your Claim. Within twenty-four (24) hours after We receive Your Claim, We may ask You and Your Provider for more information. We will give You and Your Provider within two (2) business days from receipt of Our request to send the additional information. We will notify You and Your Provider of Our decision within two (2) business days but not longer than forty-eight (48) hours of receiving the first piece of requested information. If We do not receive the additional information (including documents) from You or Your Provider within two (2) business days after receipt of Our request, We will make a decision based on the information We have and We will notify You of Our decision either orally or in writing. If We notify You of Our decision orally, We will send You and Your Provider written confirmation within three (3) days after that.

Your Pre-Service Claim shall be deemed to have been approved for failure on Our part to:

- a) Request additional information needed to process the claim from You and Your Provider; or
- b) Provide the notification of approval to You and Your Provider; or
- c) Provide the notification of denial to You and Your Provider

within the required time frames set forth above.

### Validity of Approval of a Pre-Service Claim

An approval of a Pre-Service Claim is valid for a period of one hundred eighty (180) days after the date of approval and continues for the duration of the authorized course of treatment. Once approved, We cannot retroactively deny a Pre-certification request for a treatment or service. This 180-day approval does not apply if:

- a) The Pre-Service Claim approval was based on Fraud; or
- b) The provider never performed the services that were requested; or
- c) The service provided did not align with the service that was approved; or
- d) The person receiving the service no longer had coverage under the plan on or before the date the service was delivered; or
- e) The covered person's benefit maximums were reached on or before the date the service was delivered.

If We deny Your Claim (if We do not agree to 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.

### b. Non-Urgent Pre-Service First Level Appeal

Within one hundred eighty (180) days after You receive our Adverse Benefit Determination notice, You must tell us by either calling us or writing to us that You want to Appeal Our denial of Your Pre-service Claim. We will count the one hundred eighty (180) calendar starting five (5) business days from the date of the initial decision notice to allow for delivery time unless you can prove that you received the notice after that 5-business day period.

Please include the following: (1) Your name and Medical 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.

## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

For medical benefits other than Outpatient Prescription Drugs, You must either mail or fax Your Appeal to the **Appeals Program** at:

Permanente Advantage  
5855 Copley Drive, Suite 250  
San Diego, CA 92111  
1-888-525-1533 (office)  
1-866-338-0266 (fax)

For Outpatient Prescription Drugs, You can appeal orally by calling 1-800-788-2949 (Pharmacy Help Desk) or in writing by mailing to:

KPIC Pharmacy Administrator  
Grievance and Appeals Coordinator  
10181 Scripps Gateway Court  
San Diego, CA 92131

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The members of the appeals committee who will review your appeal (who was not involved in our original decision regarding your claim) will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least five (5) days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that five-(5) day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review Your Appeal and send you a written decision within a reasonable period of time that is appropriate given your medical condition but not more than thirty (30) 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, that may be available to You.

c. Urgent Pre-Service First Level 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 Medical Record Number, (2) Your medical condition or 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

For medical benefits other than Outpatient Prescription Drugs, You can appeal orally by calling **Customer Service** at 1-855-364-3184 or in writing by mailing or sending by fax to **Appeals Program** at:

Permanente Advantage  
5855 Copley Drive, Suite 250  
San Diego, CA 92111  
1-888-525-1533 (office)  
1-866-338-0266 (fax)

## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

For Outpatient Prescription Drugs, You can appeal orally by calling 1-800-788-2949 (Pharmacy Help Desk) or in writing by mailing to:

KPIC Pharmacy Administrator  
Grievance and Appeals Coordinator  
10181 Scripps Gateway Court  
San Diego, CA 92131

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 “**APPEALS and COMPLAINTS**” section), if Our internal Appeal decision is not in your favor.

We will decide whether Your Appeal is Urgent or Non-Urgent unless Your attending health care provider tells Us Your Appeal is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function; or (b) If You have a physical or mental disability that creates an imminent and substantial limitation on Your existing ability to live independently; or (c) 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. We may, but not required to waive the requirements related to an Urgent Appeal to permit you to pursue an Expedited External Review.

You do not have the right to attend or have counsel, advocates and health care professionals in attendance at the expedited review. You are, however, entitled to submit written comments, documents, records and other materials for the reviewer or reviewers to consider; and receive, upon request and free of charge, copies of all documents, records and other information regarding your request for benefits.

We will review Your Appeal and give You oral or written notice of Our decision as soon as Your clinical condition requires, but not later than seventy-two (72) hours after We received Your Appeal. If We notify You of Our decision orally, We will send You a written confirmation within three (3) days after that.

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, that may be available to You.

### 2. Concurrent Care Claims and Appeals.

Concurrent Care Claims are requests that KPIC continues to pay for an ongoing course of covered treatment or services for a period of time or number of treatments, when the course of treatment already being received will end. If You have any general questions about Concurrent Care Claims or Appeals, please call the **Customer Service** at 1-855-364-3184 or 711 (TTY).

Unless You are appealing an Urgent Concurrent 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 the authorized care that You are currently receiving is going to end early and You then appeal our decision (an Adverse Benefit Determination), 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 KPIC will only pay for the continuation of services until we notify you of our appeal decision

## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

Here are the procedures for filing a Concurrent Care Claim, a Non-Urgent concurrent care appeal, and an Urgent concurrent care appeal:

a. Concurrent Care Claim

Tell us by either calling us or writing to 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 either mail or fax Your Claim to the **Appeals Program** at:

Permanente Advantage  
5855 Copley Drive, Suite 250  
San Diego, CA 92111  
1-888-525-1533 (office)  
1-866-338-0266 (fax)

If You want us to consider Your Claim on an Urgent basis and You contact us at least twenty-four (24) hours before Your 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 unless Your attending health care provider tells us Your Claim is 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, health or ability to regain maximum function; or (b) If You have a physical or mental disability that creates an imminent and substantial limitation on Your existing ability to live independently; or (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 extending Your course of covered treatment.. We may, but not required to waive the requirements related to an urgent claim and appeal thereof to permit you to pursue an Expedited External Review.

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 twenty-four (24) hours or more before Your care is ending, We will make our decision before Your authorized care actually ends (that is, within 24 hours of receipt of Your claim). If Your authorized care ended before You submitted Your Claim, We will make our decision within a reasonable period of time but no later than fifteen (15) days after we receive Your Claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional fifteen (15) days if circumstances beyond Our control delay Our decision, if We send You notice before the initial fifteen-(15) day decision period ends and explain the circumstances and the reason for the extension and when we expect to make a decision.

If We tell You We need more information, We will ask You for the information before the initial decision period ends and We will give you until Your care is ending or, if Your care has ended, forty-five (45) days to send us the information. We will make our decision as soon as possible, if Your care has not ended, or within fifteen (15) 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 fifteen (15) days following the end of the forty-five (45) days that We gave you for sending the additional information.

We will send written notice of our decision to You and, if applicable to Your Provider, upon request. Please let Us know if You wish to have Our decision sent to Your Provider.

If We consider Your Concurrent Claim on an Urgent basis, We will notify You of Our decision orally or in writing as soon as Your clinical condition requires, but not later than twenty-four (24) hours after We received Your Appeal. If We notify You of Our decision orally, We will send You written confirmation within three (3) days after receiving Your Claim.

## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

If We deny Your Claim (if we do not agree to pay for extending the ongoing course of treatment or services), our Adverse Benefit Determination notice will tell you why We denied Your Claim and how You can appeal.

b. Non-Urgent Concurrent Care First Level Appeal

Within one hundred eighty (180) days after you receive our Adverse Benefit Determination notice, you must tell us by either calling us or writing to us that you want to appeal our Adverse Benefit Determination. We will count the one hundred eighty (180) calendar days starting five (5) business days from the date of the initial decision notice to allow for delivery time unless you can prove that you received the notice after that 5-business day period. Please include the following: (1) Your name and Medical Record Number, (2) Your medical condition or 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 appeal to **Appeals Program** at:

Permanente Advantage  
5855 Copley Drive, Suite 250  
San Diego, CA 92111  
1-888-525-1533 (office)  
1-866-338-0266 (fax)

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The members of the appeals committee who will review your appeal will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least five (5) days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that five-day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review Your Appeal and send You a written decision as soon as possible if You care has not ended but not later than thirty (30) 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, that may be available to You.

c. Urgent Concurrent Care First Level 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 Medical Record Number, (2) Your medical condition or 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 can appeal orally by calling Member Services or in writing by mailing or sending by fax to the **Appeals Program** at:

Permanente Advantage  
5855 Copley Drive, Suite 250  
San Diego, CA 92111  
1-888-525-1533 (office)  
1-866-338-0266 (fax)

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.

## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

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 “**APPEALS and COMPLAINTS**” section).

We will decide whether Your Appeal is Urgent or Non-Urgent unless Your attending health care provider tells Us Your Appeal is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function; or (b) If You have a physical or mental disability that creates an imminent and substantial limitation on Your existing ability to live independently; or (c) Would, in the opinion of a Physician with knowledge of Your medical condition, subject You to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without continuing Your course of covered treatment,. We may, but not required to waive the requirements related to an Urgent appeal to permit you to pursue an Expedited External Review.

You do not have the right to attend or have counsel, advocates and health care professionals in attendance at the expedited review. You are, however, entitled to submit written complaints, documents, record and other materials for the reviewer or reviewers to consider; and to receive, upon request and free of charge, copies of all documents, records and other information regarding your request for benefits.

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 seventy-two (72) hours after we receive Your Appeal. If We notify You of Our decision orally, We will send You a written confirmation within three (3) days after that.

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.

### 3. Post-Service Claims and Appeals

Post-service Claims are requests that We for 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 **Customer Service** at 1-855-364-3184 or 711 (TTY).

Here are the procedures for filing a Post-Service Claim and a Post-service Appeal:

#### a. Post-Service Claim

Within twelve (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, and (4) Why You think We should pay for the Services. You must include a copy of the bill and any supporting documents. Your letter and the related documents constitute Your Claim. Or, You may contact **Customer Service** at 1-855-364-3184 or 711 (TTY) to obtain a Claims form. You must mail Your Claim to **Claims Department** at:

National Claims Administration- Colorado  
PO Box 373150  
Denver, CO 80237-9998

We will not accept or pay for Claims received from You after twelve (12) months from the date of Services.

We will review Your Claim, and if We have all the information We need We will send You a written decision within thirty (30) days after We receive Your Claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional fifteen (15) days if circumstances beyond Our control delay Our decision,

## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

if We notify You within fifteen (15) days after We receive Your Claim and explain the circumstances and the reason for the extension and when we expect to make the decision. If We tell You We need more information, We will ask You for the information and We will give you forty-five (45) days from the date of Your receipt of Our notice to send Us the information. We will make a decision within fifteen (15) 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 forty-five (45) days after We send Our request, We will make a decision based on the information We have within fifteen (15) days following the end of the forty-five (45) 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.

b. Post-Service First Level Appeal

Within one hundred eighty (180) days after You receive Our Adverse Benefit Determination, tell Us in writing that You want to appeal Our denial of Your Post-service Claim. We will count the one hundred eighty (180) calendar days starting five (5) business days from the date of the initial decision notice to allow for delivery time unless you can prove that you received the notice after that 5-business day period. Please include the following: (1) Your name and Medical Record Number, (2) Your medical condition or 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) Include all supporting documents such as medical records. Your request and the supporting documents constitute Your Appeal. You must either mail or fax Your Appeal to:

Member Appeals Program  
PO Box 378066  
Denver, CO 80237  
1-888-370-9858 (office)  
1-866-466-4042 (fax)

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The appeals committee members who will review your appeal (who were not involved in our original decision regarding your claim) will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least five (5) days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that 5-day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review Your Appeal and send You a written decision within 30 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.

### **Appeals of Retroactive Coverage Termination (Rescission or Retroactive Cancellation)**

We may terminate your coverage retroactively (see Rescission for Fraud or Intentional Misrepresentation under **TERMINATION/NON-RENEWAL/CONTINUATION** section). We will send you written notice at least thirty (30) days prior to the termination. If you have general questions about retroactive coverage terminations or appeals, please call the **Customer Service** at 1-855-364-3184.

## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

Here is the procedure for filing an appeal of a retroactive coverage termination:

Within one hundred eighty (180) days after you receive our Adverse Benefit Determination that your coverage will be terminated retroactively, you must tell us in writing that you want to appeal our termination of your coverage retroactively. Please include the following: (1) Your name and Medical Record Number, (2) All of the reasons why you disagree with our retroactive membership termination, and (3) All supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must mail your appeal to:

Member Services  
P.O. Box 378066  
Denver, CO 80237

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within thirty (30) 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, that may be available to you.

### **Voluntary Second Level Appeal**

A Voluntary Second Level Appeal is another review by Us that occurs after the mandatory internal Appeal decision is communicated to You if You remain dissatisfied with Our decision. This in-person review permits You to present evidence to the Second Level Appeal Panel and to ask questions. **Choosing a Voluntary Second Level Appeal will not affect Your right, if you have one, to request an independent External Review.**

Here is the procedure for a Voluntary Second Level of Appeal for medical benefits and Outpatient Prescription Drugs:

Within sixty (60) days from the date of Your receipt of Our notice regarding Your First Level of Appeal decision, we must receive your Voluntary Second Level Appeal requesting the review of the adverse decision. We will count the sixty (60) days starting five (5) business days from the date of the First Level of Appeal decision notice to allow for delivery time unless you can prove that you received the notice after that 5-business day period. Please include the following: (1) Your name and Medical 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 (mandatory internal Appeal decision), and (5) All supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute Your request for a Voluntary Second Level of Appeal. You must either mail or fax Your Appeal to:

Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company (KPIC)  
Grievance and Appeals Coordinator  
1800 Harrison Street, 20th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612  
1-877-727-9664 (fax)

Within sixty (60) calendar days following receipt of Your request, KPIC will hold a Voluntary Second Level Appeal meeting. KPIC shall notify You of the date on which the Voluntary Second Level Appeal Panel will meet at least twenty (20) days prior to the date of this in-person meeting. You have the right to request a postponement by calling **Member Appeals Program** at 1-888-370-9858 and your request cannot be unreasonably denied. You have the right to appear in person or by telephone conference at the review meeting. We will make our decision within seven (7) days of the completion of this meeting.

You may present Your Appeal in person before the Voluntary Second Level Appeal Panel, or request a file review. If You would like to present Your Appeal in person, but an in-person meeting is not practical, You may present Your Appeal by telephone by calling e **Member Appeals Program** at 1-888-370-9858. Please indicate in Your Appeal request how you want to present Your Appeal. Unless you request to be present for the special meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review



## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

You may request in writing that KPIC transmit all material that will be presented to the Voluntary Second Level Appeal Panel at least five (5) days prior to the date of the Voluntary Second Level Appeal meeting.

You may submit additional information with Your Appeal request, or afterwards but no later than five (5) days prior to the date of Your Voluntary Second Level Appeal meeting. Any additional new material developed after this deadline shall be provided to Us as soon as practicable. You may present Your case to the Voluntary Second Level Appeal Panel and ask questions of the Panel. You may be assisted or represented by an appointed representative of Your choice including an attorney (at Your own expense), other advocate or health care professional. If You decide to have an attorney present at the Voluntary Second Level Appeal meeting, then You must let Us know that at least seven (7) days prior to that meeting. You must appoint this attorney as Your representative in accordance with our procedures.

We will issue a written decision within seven (7) days of the completion of the Voluntary Second Level Appeal meeting.

If You would like further information about the Voluntary Second Level Appeal process, to assist You in making an informed decision about pursuing a Voluntary Second Level Appeal, please call **Member Appeals Program** at 1-888-370-9858. Your decision to pursue a Voluntary Second Level Appeal will have no effect on Your rights to any other benefits under this health insurance plan, the process for selecting the decision maker and/or the impartiality of the decision maker.

### **External Review**

Following receipt of an adverse First Level Appeal or Voluntary Second Level Appeal decision letter, You may have a right to request an External Review. There is no minimum dollar amount for a claim to be eligible for an External Review. You will not be responsible for the cost of the External Review.

You have the right to request an independent External Review of our decision if our decision involves an adverse benefit determination regarding a denial of a claim, in whole or in part, that is (1) A denial of a preauthorization for a Service; (2) A denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is not Medically Necessary, appropriate, effective or efficient or is not provided in or at the appropriate health care setting or level of care; and/or (3) A denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is experimental or investigational. If our final adverse decision does not involve an adverse benefit determination described in the preceding sentence, then your claim is **not** eligible for External Review. However, independent External Review is available when we deny your appeal because you request medical care that is excluded under your plan and you present evidence from a licensed Colorado professional that there is a reasonable medical basis that the exclusion does not apply.

To request External Review, You must submit a completed Independent External Review of Carrier's Final Adverse Determination form (you may call **Member Appeals Program** at 1-888-370-9858 to request another copy of this form) which will be included with the mandatory internal appeal decision letter and explanation of Your Appeal rights, to **Member Appeals Program** within four (4) months of the date of receipt of Our mandatory First Level Appeal decision or of Our Voluntary Second Level Appeal decision. We shall consider the date of receipt for Our notice to be three (3) days after the date on which Our notice was postmarked, unless You can prove that You received our notice after the three (3)-day period ends.

You must include in your written request a statement authorizing us to release your claim file with your health information including your medical records; or, you may submit a completed Authorization for Release of Appeal Information form which is included with the mandatory internal appeal decision letter and explanation of your appeal rights (you may call **Member Appeals Program** at 1-888-370-9858 to request a copy of this form).

If We do not receive Your External Review request form and/or authorization form to release your health information, then We will not be able to act on Your request. We must receive all of this information prior to the end of the applicable timeframe (4 months) for Your request of External Review.

## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

### **Expedited External Review**

You may request an Expedited External Review if (1) You have a medical condition for which the timeframe for completion of a standard review would seriously jeopardize Your life, health, or ability to regain maximum function; or, (2) If You have a physical or mental existing disability that creates an imminent and substantial limitation to Your existing ability to live independently, or (3) In the opinion of a Physician with knowledge of Your medical condition, the timeframe for completion of a standard review would subject You to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the medical services that You are seeking.

You may request Expedited External Review simultaneously with your expedited internal appeal as permitted under this Plan. A request for an Expedited External Review must be accompanied by a written statement from Your Physician that Your condition meets the expedited criteria. You must include the Physician's certification that You meet External Review criteria when You submit Your request for External Review along with the other required information (described, above). No Expedited External Review is available when You have already received the medical care that is the subject of Your request for External Review. If You do not qualify for Expedited External Review, We will treat Your request as a request for Standard External Review.

### **Additional Requirements for External Review regarding Experimental or Investigational Services**

You may request External Review or expedited External Review involving an adverse benefit determination based upon the Service being experimental or investigational. Your request for External Review or expedited External Review must include a written statement from your physician that either (a) Standard health care services or treatments have not been effective in improving your condition or are not medically appropriate for you, or (b) There is no available standard health care service or treatment covered under this plan that is more beneficial than the recommended or requested health care service (the physician must certify that scientifically valid studies using accepted protocols demonstrate that the requested health care service or treatment is more likely to be more beneficial to you than an available standard health care services or treatments), and the physician is a licensed, board-certified, or board-eligible physician to practice in the area of medicine to treat your condition. If you are requesting expedited External Review, then your physician must also certify that the requested health care service or treatment would be less effective if not promptly initiated. These certifications must be submitted with your request for External Review.

After we receive your request for External Review, we shall notify you of the information regarding the independent External Review entity that the Division of Insurance has selected to conduct the External Review.

If We deny Your request for Standard or Expedited External Review, including any assertion that We have not complied with the applicable requirements related to Our Internal Claims and Appeals Procedure, then We may notify You in writing and include the specific reasons for the denial. Our notice will include information about your right to appeal the denial to the Division of Insurance. At the same time that We send this denial notice to You, We will send a copy of it to the Division of Insurance.

You will not be able to present Your Appeal in person to the Independent External Review Organization. You may, however, send any additional information that is significantly different from information provided or considered during the Internal Claims and Appeal Procedure and, if applicable Voluntary Second Level of Appeal process. If You send new information, We may consider it and reverse our decision regarding Your Appeal.

You may submit Your additional information to the Independent External Review Organization for consideration during its review within five (5) working days of Your receipt of Our notice describing the Independent Review Organization that has been selected to conduct the External Review of Your Claim. Although it is not required to do so, the Independent Review Organization may accept and consider additional information submitted after this five (5)-working day period ends.

The Independent External Review entity shall review information regarding Your benefit claim and shall base its determination on an objective review of relevant medical and scientific evidence. Within forty-five (45) days of the Independent External Review entity's receipt of Your request for Standard External Review,

## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

it shall provide written notice of its decision to You. If the Independent External Review entity is deciding Your Expedited External Review request, then the Independent External Review entity shall make its decision as expeditiously as possible and no more than seventy-two (72) hours after its receipt of Your request for External Review and within forty-eight (48) hours of notifying You orally of its decision provide written confirmation of its decision. This notice shall explain that the External Review decision is the final appeal available under state insurance law. An External Review decision is binding on KPIC and You except to the extent KPIC and You have other remedies available under federal or state law. You or your designated representative may not file a subsequent request for External Review involving the same adverse determination for which you have already received an External Review decision.

If the Independent External Review Organization overturns Our denial of payment for care You have already received, We will issue payment within five (5) working days. If the Independent Review organization overturns Our decision not to authorize Pre-service or Concurrent Care Claims, KPIC will authorize care within one (1) working day. Such Covered Services shall be provided subject to the terms and conditions applicable to benefits under this health insurance plan.

Except when External Review is permitted to occur simultaneously with your urgent pre-service appeal or urgent concurrent care appeal, You must exhaust Our Internal Claims and Appeals Procedure (but not the Voluntary Second Level of Appeal) for Your Claim before You may request External Review, unless We have failed to comply with federal and/or state law requirements regarding Our Claims and Appeals Procedures.

### **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.

## INFORMATION ON POLICY AND RATE CHANGES

### Entire Contract and Changes

The Policyholder will act on behalf of all the Insured Employees in all matters pertaining to the Group Policy, and the following will be binding upon all Covered Persons: (1) every act done by the Policyholder; (2) every agreement between KPIC and the Policyholder; and (3) every notice given by either party to the other.

The entire contract between the Policyholder and KPIC consists of the Group Policy, certificates, amendments or riders incorporated by reference, the attached application of the Policyholder; and the applications, on file, if any, of the Insured Employees. All statements made by the Policyholder or Insured Employees will, in the absence of fraud, be deemed representations and not warranties. No statement made by the Policyholder or Insured Employees will be used in defense to a claim under the Group Policy, unless it is contained in a written application.

No change in the Group Policy will be valid unless:

1. It is noted on, or attached to, the Group Policy;
2. Signed by an executive officer of KPIC; and
3. Delivered to the Policyholder.

KPIC may change, cancel, or discontinue coverage, to the extent permitted by law, provided under the Group Policy without the consent of the Policyholder or Insured Employees. Payment of premium, after a change has been made and incorporated into the Group Policy, will be deemed acceptance of the changes made by KPIC. The Policyholder must mail or deliver notice of cancellation or discontinuance to all Insured Employees at least thirty-one (31) days prior to the date of cancellation or discontinuance of the Group Policy. Notice to the Insured Employee will be considered notice to any Insured Dependent of the Insured Employee.

No agent has the authority to:

1. Change the Group Policy;
2. Waive any provisions of the Group Policy;
3. Extend the time for payment of premiums; or
4. Waive any of KPIC's rights or requirements.

The Policyholder designates sole discretion to KPIC to interpret and determine provisions of the Group Policy.

### Premium Rates

KPIC may change any of the premium rates as of any Group Policy Anniversary, or at any other time by written agreement between the Policyholder and KPIC on any premium due date when:

1. The terms of the Group Policy are changed;
2. A division, a subsidiary or an affiliated company is added to the Group Policy; or
3. For reasons other than the above, such as, but not limited to, a change in factors bearing on the risk assumed. The rate may not be changed within the first six months following the Group Policy Effective Date.

KPIC will give the Policyholder thirty-one (31) days advance written notice of any change in premium.

KPIC will give the Policyholder a thirty-one (31) day grace period for the payment of any premium.

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The following terms have special meaning throughout this Certificate. Other parts of this Certificate contain definitions specific to those provisions. Terms that are used only within one section of the Certificate are defined in those sections.

**“A” Recommendation** means a recommendation adopted by the Task Force, which strongly recommends that clinicians provide a preventive health care service because the Task Force found there is a high certainty that the net benefit of the preventive health care service is substantial.

**Accumulation Period** – The time period set forth in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section.

**ACIP** means the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the Federal Department of Health and Human Services, or any successor entity.

**Administrator** means Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado. KPIC reserves the right to change the Administrator at any time during the term of the Group Policy without prior notice. Neither KPIC nor its Administrator is the administrator of the Policyholder's employee benefit plan as that term is defined under Title 1 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) as then constituted or later amended.

**Applied Behavior Analysis** means the use of behavioral analytic methods and research findings to change socially important behaviors in meaningful ways.

**Approved Clinical Trial** means a phase I, phase II, phase III, or phase IV clinical trial that is conducted in relation to the prevention, detection, or treatment of cancer or other life-threatening disease or condition and is one of the following: (a) A federally funded or approved trial; (b) a clinical trial conducted under an FDA investigational new drug application; or (c) A drug that is exempt from the requirement of an FDA investigational new drug application.

**Autism Services Provider** means any person, who provides direct services to Covered Persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder, is licensed, certified, or registered by the applicable state licensing board or by a nationally recognized organization, and who meets one of the following:

1. Has a doctoral degree with a specialty in psychiatry, medicine, or clinical psychology, is actively licensed by the Colorado medical board, and has at least one (1) year of direct experience in behavioral therapies that are consistent with best practice and research on effectiveness for people with Autism Spectrum Disorders; or
2. Has a doctoral degree in one of the behavioral or health sciences and has completed one (1) year of experience in behavioral therapies that are consistent with best practice and research on effectiveness for people with Autism Spectrum Disorders; or
3. Has a master's degree or higher in behavioral sciences and is nationally certified as a “Board Certified Behavior Analyst” or certified by a similar nationally recognized organization; or
4. Has a master's degree or higher in one (1) of the behavior or health sciences, is credentialed as a “Related Services Provider,” and has completed one (1) year of direct supervised experience in behavioral therapies. Related Services Provider means physical therapist, an occupational therapist or speech therapist that are consistent with best practice and research on effectiveness for people with Autism Spectrum Disorders; or
5. Has a baccalaureate degree or higher in behavioral sciences and is nationally certified as a Board-Certified Associate Behavior Analyst or certified by a similarly recognized organization; or
6. Is nationally registered as a "registered behavior technician" by the behavior analyst certification board or by a similar nationally recognized organization and provides direct services to a person with an Autism Spectrum Disorder under the supervision of an Autism Services Provider described in sub-paragraph (1), (2), (3), (4), or (5) above.

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**Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)** means a disorder as defined in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders in effect at the time of the diagnosis; and includes the following disorders as defined in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders in effect at the time of the diagnosis: Autistic Disorder, Asperger's Disorder, and atypical Autism, as a diagnosis within pervasive developmental disorder, not otherwise specified.

**Autism Treatment Plan** means a plan developed for a Covered Person by an Autism Services Provider and prescribed by a Physician and licensed psychologist pursuant to comprehensive evaluation or reevaluation for a Covered Person consisting of the Covered Person's diagnosis, proposed treatment by type, frequency, and anticipated treatment; the anticipated outcomes stated as goals; and the frequency by which the plan will be updated. The Treatment Plan shall be developed in accordance with patient-centered medical home, as defined under applicable Colorado law

**"B" Recommendation** means a recommendation adopted by the Task Force, which recommends that clinicians provide a preventive health care service because the Task Force found there is high certainty that the net benefit is moderate or there is a moderate certainty that the net benefit is moderate to substantial.

### **Behavioral Health, Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder:**

- 1) Means a condition or disorder, regardless of etiology, that maybe the result of a combination of genetic and environmental factors and that falls under any of the diagnostic categories listed in the Mental Disorders section of the most recent version of:
  - (a) The International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Health Related Problems;
  - (b) The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders; or
  - (c) The Diagnostic Classification of Mental Health and Developmental Disorders of Infancy and Early Childhood; and
- 2) Includes Autism Spectrum Disorder

**Benefit Maximum** means a maximum amount of benefits that will be paid by KPIC for a specified type of Covered Charges incurred during a given period of time. The charges to which a Benefit Maximum applies are not considered Covered Charges after the Benefit Maximum has been reached. Covered Charges in excess of the Benefit Maximum will not be applied toward satisfaction of the Accumulation Period Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum. Benefit Maximum does not apply to Essential Health Benefits, as defined under this health insurance plan, received at either the Participating Provider level or the Non-Participating level.

**Birth Center** means an outpatient facility which:

1. Complies with licensing and other legal requirements in the jurisdiction where it is located;
2. Is engaged mainly in providing a comprehensive Birth Services program to pregnant individuals who are considered normal to low risk patients;
3. Has organized facilities for Birth Services on its premises;
4. Has Birth Services performed by a Physician specializing in obstetrics and gynecology, or at his or her direction, by a Licensed Midwife or Certified Nurse Midwife; and
5. Has 24-hour-a-day Registered Nurse services.

**Birth Services** means ante partum (before labor); intrapartum (during labor); and postpartum (after birth) care. This care is given with respect to: (1) uncomplicated pregnancy and labor; and (2) spontaneous vaginal delivery.

Benefits payable for the treatment of complications of pregnancy will be covered on the same basis as any other Sickness.

**Calendar Year** means a period of time: (1) beginning at 12:01 a.m. on January 1<sup>st</sup> of any year; and (2) terminating at midnight on December 31<sup>st</sup> of that same year.

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**Certified Nurse-Midwife or Licensed Midwife** means any person duly certified or licensed as such in the state in which treatment is received and is acting within the scope of his or her license at the time the treatment is performed.

**Certified Nurse Practitioner** means a Registered Nurse duly licensed in the state in which the treatment is received who has completed a formal educational nurse practitioner program. He or she must be certified as such by the: (1) American Nurses' Association; (2) National Board of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners and Associates; or (3) Nurses' Association of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

**Certified Psychiatric-Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist** means any Registered Nurse licensed in the state in which the treatment is received who: (1) has completed a formal educational program as a psychiatric-mental health clinical nurse specialist; and (2) is certified by the American Nurses' Association.

**Child Health Supervision Services** means those preventive services and immunizations required to be provided in a Colorado basic and standard health benefit plan in accordance with Colorado Code Section 10-16-105 (7.2), as then constituted and later amended to covered Dependent children up through age twelve (12). Services must be provided by a Physician or pursuant to a physician's supervision or by a primary health care provider who is a Physician's assistant or Registered Nurse who has additional training in child health assessment and who is working in collaboration with a Physician.

**Clean Claim** means a claim for payment of health care expenses that is submitted to KPIC or its administrator on its standard claim form with all required fields completed with correct and complete information in accordance with KPIC's published filing requirements. A Clean Claim does not include a claim for payment of expenses incurred during a period of time for which premiums are delinquent, except to the extent otherwise required by law.

**Clinical Social Worker** means a person who is licensed as a clinical social worker, and who has at least five years of experience in psychotherapy (as defined by the state of Colorado) under appropriate supervision, beyond a master's degree.

**Clinical Trial** means an experiment, in which a drug or device is administered to dispensed to, or used by one or more human subjects. An experiment may include the use of a combination of drugs, as well as the use of drug in combination with alternative therapy or dietary supplement.

**Coinsurance** means a percentage of charges that You must pay as shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section when You receive a Covered Service as described under the **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)** section and the Policy Schedule. Coinsurance amount is applied against the Covered Charge.

**Complications of Pregnancy** means (1) conditions when the pregnancy is not terminated and whose diagnoses are distinct from pregnancy but are adversely affected by pregnancy or are caused by pregnancy, such as acute nephritis, nephrosis, cardiac decompensation, missed abortion, pre-eclampsia, intrauterine fetal growth retardation, and similar medical and surgical conditions of comparable severity; (2) Non-elective cesarean section, ectopic pregnancy which is terminated and spontaneous termination of pregnancy, which occurs during a period of gestation in which a viable birth is not possible.

Complications of Pregnancy will not include conditions such as false labor, occasional spotting, physician prescribed rest during the period of pregnancy, morning sickness, hyperemesis gravidarum, and similar conditions associated with the management of a difficult pregnancy not constituting a nosologically distinct complication of pregnancy.

Complications of Pregnancy are covered under this Certificate as any other Sickness or Injury.

**Comprehensive Rehabilitation Facility** means a facility primarily engaged in providing diagnostic, therapeutic, and restorative services through licensed health care professionals to injured, ill or disabled

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individuals. The facility must be accredited for the provision of these services by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities or the Professional Services Board of the American Speech-Language Hearing Association.

**Confinement** means physically occupying a room and being charged for room and board in a Hospital or other covered facility on a twenty-four hour a day basis as a registered inpatient upon the order of a Physician.

**Copayment** means the predetermined amount, as shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section, which is to be paid by the Insured for a Covered Service, usually at the time the health care is rendered. All Copayments applicable to the Covered Services are shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section.

**Cosmetic Surgery** means surgery that: (a) is performed to alter or reshape normal structures of the body in order to improve the Covered Person's appearance; and (b) will not result in significant improvement in physical function. Cosmetic Surgery is not covered under this Policy.

**Cost Share** means a Covered Person's share of Covered Charges. Cost Share includes and is limited only to the following: 1) Coinsurance; 2) Copayment; 3) per benefit deductibles; and 4) Deductible.

**Covered Charge or Covered Charges** means the Maximum Allowable Charge(s) for a Covered Service.

**Covered Person** means a person covered under the terms of the Group Policy. A Covered Person who is enrolled as an Insured Employee or Insured Dependent under the Plan. Also, sometimes referred to as member. No person may be covered as both an Insured Employee and a Dependent at the same time under a single Group Policy.

**Covered Services** means those services which a Covered Person is entitled to receive pursuant to the Group Policy and are defined and listed under the section entitled **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)**.

**Deductible** means the amount of Covered Charges a Covered Person must incur, while insured under the Group Policy, before any benefits will be payable during that Accumulation Period.

Some Covered Services are subject to additional or separate deductible amounts as shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section. These additional or separate deductibles are neither subject to, nor do they contribute towards the satisfaction of the Self-Only Deductible or Individual Deductible or the Family Deductible Maximum.

**Dependent** means:

1. Your lawful spouse, partner in a civil union or Domestic Partner (if Domestic Partner is covered under this plan); or
2. Your or Your spouse's, Your partner in a civil union or Your Domestic Partner natural or adopted or foster child, if that child is under age the age of 26.
3. Other unmarried dependent person who meets all of the following requirements:
  - a) Is under the dependent limiting age specified in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section; and
  - b) You or Your Spouse, Your partner in a civil union or Your Domestic Partner is the court-appointed permanent legal guardian or was before the person reached age 18.
4. Your or Your Spouse's Your partner in a civil union, Your Domestic Partner unmarried child of any age; who is medically certified as disabled and dependent upon You, Your Spouse, Your partner in a civil union or Your Domestic Partner, are eligible to enroll or continue coverage as Your Dependents if the following requirements are met:
  - a) They are dependent on You or Your Spouse, Your partner in a civil union or Your Domestic Partner; and
  - b) You give us proof of the Dependent's disability and dependency annually if We request it.



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**Detoxification** means the process of removing toxic substances from the body.

**Domestic Partner** means an unmarried adult who resides with the Insured Employee for at least six months in a committed relationship. A Domestic Partner may be regarded as a Dependent, upon meeting Our prescribed requirements, which include the following:

1. Both persons must have a common residence for a period of at least six months prior to eligibility for this coverage;
2. Both persons must agree to be jointly responsible for each other's basic living expenses incurred during the domestic partnership;
3. Neither person is married nor a member of another domestic partnership or have been a party to a domestic partnership that was terminated within twelve (12) months before becoming eligible for this coverage;
4. The two persons are not related by blood in a way that would prevent them from being married to each other in conformity with state law;
5. Both persons must be at least 18 years of age and be the same sex;
6. Both persons must be capable of consenting to the domestic partnership;
7. Neither person is legally married to or legally separated from another person; and
8. Both persons must have duly executed a declaration of domestic partnership on a form agreed to by Us.

**Durable Medical Equipment** means equipment which:

1. Is designed for repeated use;
2. Can mainly and customarily be used for medical purposes;
3. Is not generally of use to a person in the absence of a Sickness or Injury;
4. Is approved for coverage under Medicare, including insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies;
5. Is not primarily or customarily for the convenience of the Covered Person;
6. Provides direct aid or relief of the Covered Person's medical condition;
7. Is Appropriate for use in the home;
8. Serves a specific therapeutic purpose in the treatment of an illness or injury; and
9. Is an infant apnea monitor.

Durable Medical Equipment does not include:

1. Oxygen tents;
2. Equipment generally used for comfort or convenience that is not primarily medical in nature (e.g., bed boards, bathtub lifts, adjust-a-beds, telephone arms, air conditioners, and humidifiers);
3. Deluxe equipment such as motor driven wheelchairs and beds, except when such deluxe features are necessary for the effective treatment of a Covered Person's condition and in order for the Covered Person to operate the equipment;
4. Disposable supplies, exercise and hygiene equipment, experimental or research equipment, and devices not medical in nature such as sauna baths, elevators, or modifications to the home or automobile. This exclusion does not apply to disposable diabetic supplies;
5. Devices for testing blood or other body substances, except diabetic testing equipment and supplies;
6. Electronic monitors of bodily functions, except infant apnea monitors;
7. Replacement of lost equipment;
8. Repair, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse;
9. More than one piece of Durable Medical Equipment serving essentially the same function; except for replacements other than those necessitated by misuse or loss; and
10. Spare or alternate use equipment.

**Early Childhood Intervention Services** means services as defined by the Colorado Department of Human Services in accordance with Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004, as then constituted and later amended, that are authorized through an Insured Dependent's Individualized Family Service Plan, but excluding non-emergency medical transportation; respite care; service coordination, as defined under applicable federal regulation; and assistive technology.

**Eligible Employee** means a person who, at the time of original enrollment: (a) is working for a Policyholder as a full-time employee as described below or is entitled to coverage under an employment contract; (b)

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by virtue of such employment or contract enrolls under the Group Policy and (c) reached an eligibility date. Eligible Employee includes sole proprietors, partners of a partnership, or independent contractor if they are included as employees under a health benefit plan of the Policyholder, engaged on a full-time basis in the employer's business or are entitled to coverage under an employment contract.

The term Eligible Employee does not include employees who work on a temporary seasonal or substitute basis.

**Eligible Insured Dependent** means an infant or toddler, from birth up to the child's third birthday, who has significant delays in development or has a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has high probability or resulting in significant delays in development or who is eligible for Early Childhood Intervention Services pursuant to applicable Colorado law. Please refer to the definition of Insured Dependent.

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

1. A medical screening examination (as required under the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act) that is within the capability of the emergency department of a hospital, including ancillary services routinely available to the emergency department to evaluate the Emergency Medical Condition
2. Within the capabilities of the staff and facilities available at the hospital, the further medical examination and treatment that the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act requires to Stabilize the patient

**Emergency Medical Condition:** A medical condition, including psychiatric conditions, manifesting 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:

1. Placing the person's health (or, with respect to a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child) in serious jeopardy
2. Serious impairment to bodily functions
3. Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part

**Essential Health Benefits** means the general categories of benefits including the items and services covered within these categories of benefits that comprise an essential health benefit package as defined under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (PPACA) as then constituted or later amended.

**Expense(s) Incurred** means expenses a Covered Person incurs for Covered Services. An expense is deemed incurred as of the date of the service, treatment, or purchase.

**Formulary** means a list of prescription drugs we cover.

**Free-Standing Surgical Facility** means a legally operated institution which is accredited by the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Health Organizations (JCAHO) or other similar organization approved by KPIC that:

1. Has permanent operating rooms;
2. Has at least one recovery room;
3. Has all necessary equipment for use before, during and after surgery;
4. Is supervised by an organized medical staff, including Registered Nurses available for care in an operating or recovery room;
5. Has a contract with at least one nearby Hospital for immediate acceptance of patients requiring Hospital care following care in the Free-Standing Surgical Facility;
6. Is other than: a) a private office or clinic of one or more Physicians; or b) part of a Hospital; and
7. Requires that admission and discharge take place within the same working day.

**Group Policy** means the health insurance contract issued by KPIC to the Policyholder that establishes the rights and obligations of KPIC and the Policyholder.

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**Habilitative Services** means services and devices that help a person retain, 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 and occupational therapy, speech-language pathology and other services for people with disabilities in a variety of outpatient settings. **Health Plan** means Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado.

**Health Plan Evidence of Coverage** describes the health care coverage provided under the group agreement between the Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (Health Plan) and your group.

**HMO coverage** means services provided, authorized or arranged by Health Plan under a separate agreement.

**HMO Physician/Provider** is a physician or provider contracted with the Health Plan to provide services under the Health Plan's Evidence of Coverage.

**Home Health Agency** means an agency which has been certified by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment as meeting the provisions of Title XVIII of the Federal "Social Security Act," as amended, for home health agencies and is engaged in arranging and providing nursing services, Home Health Services, and other therapeutic and related services.

**Home Health Visit** is each visit by a member of the home health team, provided on a part-time and intermittent basis as included in the plan of care. Services of up to four hours by a home health aide shall be considered as one visit

**Homemaker Services** means services provided to a Covered Person for Hospice Care which include:

1. General household activities including the preparation of meals and routine household care; and
2. Teaching, demonstrating and providing the Covered Person or their family with household management techniques that promote self-care, independent living and good nutrition.

**Hospice Care** means home-based palliative and supportive care by a licensed hospice for terminally ill patients. The care must be provided: (1) directly; or (2) on a consulting basis with the patient's Physician or another community agency, such as a visiting nurses' association. For Hospice Care, a terminally ill patient is any patient whose life expectancy, as determined by a Physician, is not greater than 6 months.

**Hospital** means an institution which is accredited by the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Health Organizations (JCAHO) or other similar organization approved by KPIC that:

1. Is legally operated as a Hospital in the jurisdiction where it is located;
2. Is engaged mainly in providing inpatient medical care and treatment for Injury and Sickness in return for compensation;
3. Has organized facilities for diagnosis and major surgery on its premises;
4. Is supervised by a staff of at least two Physicians;
5. Has 24-hour-a-day nursing service by Registered Nurses; and
6. Is not: a facility specializing in dentistry; or an institution which is mainly a rest home; a home for the aged; a place for drug addicts; a place for alcoholics; a convalescent home; a nursing home; or a Skilled Nursing Facility or similar institution.

The term **Hospital** will also include a psychiatric health facility which is currently licensed or certified by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment pursuant to the Department's authority under applicable Colorado law.

**Hospital Confinement** means being registered as an inpatient in a Hospital upon the order of a Physician.

**Individualized Education Plan** means a written plan for an Insured Dependent with a disability that is developed, reviewed, and revised in accordance with Colorado's applicable statutory and regulatory standards.

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**Individualized Family Service Plan** is a written plan developed pursuant to applicable federal statutory and regulatory standards, which authorizes the provision of Early Childhood Intervention Services to an Eligible Insured Dependent and to his or her family.

**Individualized Plan** means a written plan designed by an interdisciplinary team for the purpose of identifying the following: (a) needs of the Covered Person or family receiving the services; (b) the specific services and supports appropriate to meet such needs; (c) the projected date of initiation of services and supports; and (d) the anticipated results to be achieved by receiving the services and supports.

**Injury** means accidental bodily injury of a Covered Person.

**Insured Dependent** means a Covered Person who is a Dependent of an Insured Employee.

**Insured Employee** means a Covered Person who is an Eligible Employee of the Policyholder or is one entitled to coverage under a welfare trust agreement.

**Intensive Care Unit** means a section, ward or wing within the Hospital which:

1. Is separated from other Hospital facilities;
2. Is operated exclusively for the purpose of providing professional care and treatment for critically-ill patients;
3. Has special supplies and equipment necessary for such care and treatment available on a standby basis for immediate use;
4. Provides Room and Board; and
5. Provides constant observation and care by Registered Nurses or other specially trained Hospital personnel.

**Interdisciplinary Team** means a group of qualified individuals, which includes, but is not limited to, a Physician, Registered Nurse, clergy/counselors, volunteer director and/or trained volunteers, and appropriate staff who collectively have expertise in meeting the special needs of Hospice patients and their families.

**Intractable Pain** means a pain state in which the cause of the pain cannot be removed and which in the generally accepted course of medical practice no relief or cure of the cause of the pain is possible or none has been found after reasonable efforts including, but not limited to, evaluation by the attending Physician and one or more Physicians specializing in the treatment of the area, system, or organ of the body perceived as the source of the pain.

**Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN)** means an individual who has (1) specialized nursing training; (2) vocational nursing experience; and (3) is duly licensed to perform nursing service by the state in which he or she performs such service.

**Maximum Allowable Charge** means:

1. For Covered Services from Participating Providers, the Negotiated Rate as defined under Paragraph 4 (b).
2. For Covered Services from Non-Participating Providers rendering the following services in the state of Colorado:
  - (a) Emergency or Non-Emergency Services rendered in Participating facilities by physicians and other professionals that are Non-Participating Providers;
  - (b) Emergency Services rendered in a non-Denver Health Hospital Authority operated Non-Participating facility.
  - (c) Emergency Services rendered in a Denver Health Hospital Authority operated Non-Participating Provider facility.

the reimbursement rate according to state law.

Other than applicable cost sharing (Deductible, Coinsurance or Copayments) Non-Participating Providers rendering services in the state of Colorado may not balance bill a Covered Person for the difference between the Maximum Allowable Charge and the Actual Billed Charges. However, a Non-

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Participating Provider may balance bill a Covered Person when the Covered Person chooses to use the Non-Participating Provider.

3. For Emergency Services rendered by Non-Participating Providers outside the state of Colorado, the following rules apply:

If the amount payable by KPIC is less than the Actual Billed Charges by Non-Participating Providers for Emergency Service, KPIC will pay no less than the greatest of the following:

- (a) The Negotiated Rate for the service. If there is more than one Negotiated Rate with a Participating Provider for a particular service, then such amount is the median of these Negotiated Rate, treating the Negotiated Rate with each provider as a separate Negotiated Rate, and using an average of the middle two Negotiated Rates if there is an even number of Negotiated Rates.
  - (b) The amount it would pay for the service if it used the same method (for example, Usual and Customary charges) that it generally uses to determine payments for services rendered by Non-Participating Providers and if there were no Cost Share (for example, if it generally pays 80% of UCR and the Cost Share is 20%, this amount would be 100% of UCR).
  - (c) The amount that Medicare (Part A or B) would pay for the service.
4. For all other Covered Services from a Non-Participating Provider, the lesser of:
- (a) The Usual, Customary and Reasonable Charge (UCR):  
The Usual, Customary & Reasonable (UCR) Charge is the lesser of: or
    - (i) The charge generally made by a Physician or other supplier of services, medicines, or supplies;
    - (ii) The general level of charge made by Physicians or other suppliers within an area in which the charge is incurred for a Covered Service comparable in severity and nature to the Injury of Sickness being treated. The general level of charges is determined in accord with schedules on file with the authorized Claims Administrator. For charges not listed in the schedules, KPIC will establish the UCR. KPIC reserves the right to periodically adjust the charges listed in the schedules.

The term "area" as it would apply to any particular service, medicine or supply means a city or such greater area as is necessary to obtain a representative cross section of level of charges.

If the Maximum Allowable Charge is the UCR, the Covered Person will be responsible for payment to the Non-Participating Provider of any amount in excess of the UCR when the UCR is less than the actual billed charges. Such difference will not apply towards satisfaction of the Out-of-Pocket Maximum nor any Deductible under the Group Policy.

- (b) The Negotiated Rate:  
KPIC or its authorized Administrator may have a contractual arrangement with the provider or supplier of Covered Services under which discounts have been negotiated for certain services or supplies. Any such discount is referred to as the Negotiated Rate.

If there is a Negotiated Rate, the provider will accept the Negotiated Rate as payment in full for Covered Services, subject to the payment of Deductibles and coinsurance by the Covered Person.

- (c) The Actual Billed Charges for the Covered Services:  
The charges billed by the provider for Covered Services.

**IMPORTANT:** Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Maximum Allowable Charge for a Hospital or other licensed medical facility confinement may not exceed:

Hospital Routine Care Daily Limit:	the Hospital's average semi-private room rate
Intensive Care Daily Limit:	the Hospital's average Intensive Care Unit room rate
Other licensed medical facility Daily Limit:	the facility's average semi-private room rate

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**Maximum Benefit While Insured** means the dollar limitation of Covered Charges as shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section that will be paid for a Covered Person, while covered under the Group Policy. Essential Health Benefits, as defined under the Policy are not subject to the Maximum Benefit While Insured at the Participating Provider level.

**Medical Foods** means prescription metabolic formulas and their modular counterparts, obtained through a pharmacy, that are specifically designated and manufactured for the treatment of inherited enzymatic disorders caused by single gene defects involved in the metabolism of amino, organic, and fatty acids and severe allergic conditions, if diagnosed by a board-certified allergist or board-certified gastroenterologist and for which medically standard methods of diagnosis, treatment, and monitoring exist. Such formula are specifically processed or formulated to be deficient in one or more nutrients. The formulas for severe food allergies contain only singular form elemental amino acids. The formulas are to be consumed or administered enterally either via a tube or oral route under the direction of Participating Physician. This definition shall not be construed to apply to cystic fibrosis patients or lactose- or soy-intolerant patients.

**Medically Necessary** means services that, in the judgment of KPIC, are:

1. Essential for the diagnosis or treatment of a Covered Person's Injury or Sickness;
2. In accord with generally accepted medical practice and professionally recognized standards in the community;
3. Appropriate with regard to standards of medical care;
4. Provided in a safe and appropriate setting given the nature of the diagnosis and the severity of the symptoms;
5. Not provided solely for the convenience of the Covered Person or the convenience of the health care provider or facility;
6. Not primarily custodial care;
7. Not experimental or investigational; and
8. Provided at the most appropriate supply, level and facility. When applied to Confinement in a Hospital or other facility, this test means that the Covered Person needs to be confined as an inpatient due to the nature of the services rendered or due to the Covered Person's condition and that the Covered Person cannot receive safe and adequate care through outpatient treatment.

The fact that a Physician may prescribe, authorize, or direct a service does not of itself make it Medically Necessary or covered by the Group Policy.

**Medically Necessary Leave of Absence or Medical Leave of Absence** means a leave of absence from a post-secondary educational institution or a change in enrollment of the dependent at the institution that: (a) begins while the Dependent is suffering from a serious illness; (b) is medically necessary, and (c) causes the Dependent to lose student status for the purpose of Dependent coverage

**Medical Review Program** means the organization or program that (1) evaluates proposed treatments and/or services to determinate Medical Necessity; and (2) assures that the care received is appropriate and Medically Necessary to the Covered Person's health care needs. If the Medical Review Program determines that the care is not Medically Necessary, Pre-certification will be denied. The Medical Review Program may be contacted twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven days a week.

**Medical Social Services** means those services provided by an individual who possesses a baccalaureate degree in social work, psychology, or counseling, or the documented equivalent in a combination of education, training, and experience. Such services are provided at the recommendation of a Physician for the purpose of assisting a Covered Person or the family in dealing with a specific medical condition.

**Medicare** means the Health Insurance for the Aged Act, Title XVIII of the Social Security Amendments of 1965, as then constituted or later amended.

**Mental Health** Please refer to the definition of **Behavioral Health, Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder** above.

## DEFINITIONS

**Month** means a period of time: (1) beginning with the date stated in the Group Policy; and (2) terminating on the same date of the succeeding calendar month. If the succeeding calendar month has no such date, the last day of the month will be used.

**Necessary Services and Supplies** means Medically Necessary Covered Services and supplies actually administered during any covered confinement or administered during other covered treatment. Only drugs and materials that require supervision or administration by medical personnel during a covered confinement or other covered treatment are covered as Necessary Services and Supplies. Necessary Services and Supplies include, but are not limited to, surgically implanted prosthetic devices, F, blood, blood products, and biological sera. The term does not include charges for: (1) Room and Board; (2) an Intensive Care Unit; or (3) the services of a private duty nurse, Physician, or other practitioner.

**Negotiated Rate** means the fees KPIC has negotiated with a Provider to accept as payment in full for Covered Services rendered to Covered Persons.

**Non-Participating Pharmacy** means a pharmacy that does not have a Participating Pharmacy agreement with KPIC or its administrator in effect at the time services are rendered. Please consult with Your group administrator for a list of Participating Pharmacies.

**Non-Participating Provider** means a Hospital, Physician or other duly licensed health care provider or facility that does not have a participation agreement with KPIC or KPIC's Provider network in effect at the time services are rendered. In most instances, You will be responsible for a larger portion of Your bill when You visit a Non-Participating Provider. Participating Providers are listed in the Participating Provider directory.

**Open Enrollment Period** means a fixed period of time, occurring at least once annually, during which Eligible Employees of the Policyholder may elect to enroll under this health insurance plan without incurring the status of being a Late Enrollee.

**Orthotics** means rigid or semi rigid external devices which: a) support or correct a defective form or function of an inoperative or malfunctioning body part; or b) restrict motion in a diseased or injured part of the body. Orthotics do not include casts.

**Out-of-Pocket** means the Cost Share incurred by a Covered Person.

**Out-of-Pocket Maximum** means the maximum amount of Cost Share a Covered Person will be responsible for in an Accumulation Period.

**Palliative Services** means those services and/or interventions which produce the greatest degree of relief from the symptoms of a terminal Sickness.

**Partial Hospitalization** means continuous treatment for at least three (3) hours, but not more than twelve (12) hours, in any 24-hour period.

**Participating Pharmacy** means a pharmacy which has a Participating Pharmacy agreement in effect with KPIC at the time services are rendered. Please consult with Your group administrator for a list of Participating Pharmacies.

**Participating Provider** means a health care provider duly licensed in the state in which such provider is practicing, including a Primary Care Physician, Specialty Care Physician, Hospital, Participating Pharmacy, laboratory, other similar entity under a written contract with a Preferred Provider Organization (PPO), KPIC or its Administrator. Please consult with Your group administrator for a list of Participating Providers.

**Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA)** – means Title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act (PHS), as then constituted or later amended.

## DEFINITIONS

**Percentage Payable** means that percentage of Covered Charges to be paid by KPIC The Percentage Payable is applied against the Maximum Allowable Charge for Covered Services.

**Physician** means a practitioner who is duly licensed as a Physician in the state in which the treatment is received. He or she must be practicing within the scope of that license. The term does not include a practitioner who is defined elsewhere in this **DEFINITIONS** section.

**Placement for Adoption** means circumstances under which a person assumes or retains a legal obligation to partially or totally support a child in anticipation of the child's adoption. A placement terminates at the time such legal obligation terminates.

**Plan/This health insurance plan** means the part of the Group Policy that provides benefits for health care expenses. If "Plan" has a different meaning for another section of this Certificate, the term will be defined within that section and that meaning will supersede this definition only or that section.

**Policyholder** means the employer(s) or trust(s) or other entity noted in the Group Policy as the Policyholder who conforms to the administrative and other provisions established under the Group Policy.

**Policy Year** means a period of time: (1) beginning with this health insurance plan Effective Date of any year; and (2) terminating, unless otherwise noted on the Group Policy, on the same date shown on the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section. If this health insurance plan Effective Date is February 29, such date will be considered to be February 28 in any year having no such date.

**Pre-certification** means the required assessment of the necessity, efficiency and or appropriateness of specified health care services or treatment other than outpatient prescription drugs, made by the Medical Review Program. Consistent with applicable Colorado law, the sole responsibility for obtaining any necessary Pre-certification rest with the Participating Provider, who recommends or orders Covered Services, and not with the Covered Person.

Pre-certification will not result in payment of benefits that would not otherwise be covered under the Group Policy.

**Preferred Brand Name Prescription Drug** means a prescription drug that has been patented and is only produced by one manufacturer and is listed in Our Preferred Drug List of preferred prescribed medication.

**Preferred Drug List** is a listing of preferred prescribed medications that are covered under Your group coverage. Such listing is subject to change on a quarterly basis. Any product, which is not indicated in the listing or in updates thereof, will be considered a non-preferred medication. You may request a copy of the **Preferred Drug List**, Our Formulary, by calling toll-free at (800) 788-2949 (Pharmacy Help Desk), Monday through Friday.

**Preferred Generic Prescription Drug** means a prescription drug which does not bear the trademark of a specific manufacturer. Such drug is also listed in Our Drug Formulary of preferred prescribed medication.

**Preferred Provider Organization (PPO)** means a KPIC plan type, in which Covered Persons have access to a network of contracted providers and facilities referred to as preferred or Participating Providers. Generally, a higher level of benefits applies to Covered Services received from preferred or Participating Providers and facilities. The **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section shows the plan type under which the Covered Person is insured.

**Pregnancy** means the physical condition of being pregnant, but does not include Complications of Pregnancy.

**Preventive Care** means measures taken to prevent diseases rather than curing them or treating their symptoms. Preventive care:

1. protects against disease such as in the use of immunizations,
2. promotes health, such as counseling on tobacco use, and



## DEFINITIONS

3. detects disease in its earliest stages before noticeable symptoms develop such as screening for breast cancer.

Unless otherwise specified, the requirement that Medically Necessary Covered Services be incurred as a result of Injury or Sickness will not apply to Preventive Care.

**Primary Care Physician/Provider** means a Physician or other licensed provider specializing in internal medicine, family practice, general practice, internal medicine, and pediatrics.

**Prosthetic Devices (External)** means a device that is located outside of the body which replaces all or a portion of a body part or that replaces all or portion of the function of a permanently inoperative or malfunctioning body part. Examples of external prosthetics includes artificial limbs, parental and enteral nutrition, urinary collection and retention systems, colostomy bags and other items and supplies directly related to ostomy care and eyeware after cataract surgery or eyeware to correct aphakia. Supplies necessary for the effective use of prosthetic device are also considered prosthetics.

**Prosthetic Devices (Internally implanted)** means a device that replaces all or part of a body organ or that replaces all or part of the function of a permanently inoperative or malfunctioning body organ. We cover internally implanted prosthetic devices that replace the function of all or part of an internal body organ, including internally implanted breast prostheses following a covered mastectomy. The devices must be approved for coverage under Medicare and for general use by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Examples of internally implanted prosthetics include pacemakers, surgically implanted artificial hips and knees and intraocular lenses.

**Psychiatric Care** means direct or consultative services provided by a psychiatrist, who is duly licensed by the State Board of Medical Examiner in accordance with applicable Colorado law.

**Psychological Care** means direct or consultative services provided by a psychologist, who is licensed by the State Board of Psychologist Examiners pursuant to applicable Colorado law or a social worker, who is licensed by the State Board of Social Work Examiners pursuant to applicable Colorado law.

**Reconstructive Surgery** means a surgery performed to correct or repair abnormal structures of the body caused by congenital defects, developmental abnormalities, trauma, infection, tumors, or disease to do either of the following: (1) to improve function; or (2) to create a normal appearance to the extent possible.

**Registered Nurse (RN)** means a duly licensed nurse acting within the scope of his or her license at the time the treatment or service is performed in the state in which services are provided.

**Rehabilitation** means services and devices provided to restore previously existing physical function which has been lost as a result of illness or injury when a physician determines that therapy will result in a practical improvement in the level of functioning within a reasonable period of time.

**Residential Treatment** means Medically Necessary services provided in a licensed residential treatment facility that provides 24-hour individualized Substance Use Disorder or mental health treatment. Services must be above the level of custodial care and include:

1. room and board;
2. individual and group Substance Use Disorder therapy and counseling;
3. individual and group mental health therapy and counseling;
4. physician services;
5. medication monitoring;
6. social services; and
7. drugs prescribed by a physician and administered during confinement in the residential facility.

**Room and Board** means all charges commonly made by a Hospital or other inpatient medical facility on its own behalf for room and meals essential to the care of registered bed patients.

## DEFINITIONS

**Routine Patient Care Costs** means the costs associated with the provision of health care services, including drugs, items, devices, and services that would otherwise be covered under the plan or contract if those drugs, items, devices, and services were not provided in connection with an Approved Clinical Trial program, including the following:

1. Health care services typically provided absent a clinical trial.
2. Health care services required solely for the provision of the investigational drug, item, device, or service.
3. Health care services required for the clinically appropriate monitoring of the investigational item or service.
4. Health care services provided for the prevention of complications arising from the provision of the investigational drug item, device, or service.
5. Health care services needed for the reasonable and necessary care arising from the provision of the investigational drug, item, device, or service, including the diagnosis or treatment of the complications.

Routine Patient Care Costs do not include the costs associated with the provision of any of the following:

1. Drugs or devices that have not been approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration and that are associated with the clinical trial.
2. Services other than health care services, such as travel, housing, companion expenses, and other non-clinical expenses, that a Covered Person may require as a result of the treatment being provided for purposes of the clinical trial.
3. Any item or service that is provided solely to satisfy data collection and analysis needs and that is not used in the clinical management of the patient.
4. Health care services which, except for the fact that they are not being provided in a clinical trial, are otherwise specifically excluded from coverage under the Group Policy.
5. Health care services customarily provided by the research sponsors free of charge for any enrollee in the trial.

**Sickness** means an illness or a disease of a Covered Person. Sickness will include congenital defects or birth abnormalities.

**Skilled Nursing Facility** means an institution (or a distinct part of an institution) which:

1. provides 24-hour-a-day licensed nursing care;
2. has in effect a transfer agreement with one or more Hospitals;
3. is primarily engaged in providing skilled nursing care as part of an ongoing therapeutic regimen; and
4. is licensed under applicable state law.

**Specialty Care Physician/Provider** means a Physician or other licensed provider whose practice is limited to a certain branch of medicine, which includes non-standard medical-surgical services because of the specialized knowledge required for service delivery and management. Such services may include consultations with Physicians other than Primary Care Physicians in departments other than those listed under the definition of Primary Care Physician.

**Specialty Care Visits** means consultations with Specialty Care Physicians.

**Specialty Drugs** means prescribed medications such as self-injectable medications, as listed in Our Drug Preferred List. The level of coverage of Specialty Drugs is set forth in Your **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section.

**Stabilize** means to provide the medical treatment of the Emergency Medical 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 (including the placenta).

**Substance Use Disorder** (formerly referred to as Chemical Dependency) – Please refer to the definition of **Behavioral Health, Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder** above.

## DEFINITIONS

**Task Force** means the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, or any successor organization, sponsored by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the health services research arm of the federal Department of Health and Human Services.

**Telehealth** means a mode of delivery of health care services through telecommunications systems, including information, electronic, and communication technologies, to facilitate the assessment, diagnosis, consultation, treatment, education, care management, or self-management of a covered person's health while the covered person is located at an originating site and the provider is located at a distant site. Telehealth includes: (a) synchronous interactions; (b) store and forward transfers; and (c) health care services provided through a HIPAA-compliant interactive audio-visual communication or the use of a HIPAA-compliant application via a cellular telephone. "Telehealth" does not include the delivery of health care services via: (a) voice-only telephone communication or text messaging with a health care provider via a cellular telephone; (b) facsimile machine; or (c) electronic mail systems.

**Terminally Ill** means that a Covered Person's life expectancy, as determined by a Physician, is not greater than six months.

**Urgent Care** means non-life threatening medical and health services. Urgent Care services may be covered under the Group Policy the same as a Sickness or an Injury.

**Urgent Care Center** means a facility that meets all of the tests that follow:

1. It mainly provides urgent or emergency medical treatment for acute conditions;
2. It does not provide services or accommodations for overnight stays;
3. It is open to receive patients each day of a calendar year;
4. It has on duty at all times a Physician trained in emergency medicine and nurses and other supporting personnel who are specially trained in emergency care;
5. It has: x-ray and laboratory diagnostic facilities; and emergency equipment, trays, and supplies for use in life threatening events;
6. It has a written agreement with a local acute care hospital for the immediate transfer of patients who require greater care than can be furnished at the facility; written guidelines for stabilizing and transporting such patients; and direct communication channels with the acute care hospital that are immediate and reliable;
7. It complies with all licensing and other legal requirements.

**Well-child Care Services** means those preventive services and immunization services as set forth in the **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)** section of this Certificate. Services must be provided by a Physician or pursuant to Physician's supervision or by a primary health care provider who is a Physician's assistant or Registered Nurse, who has additional training in child health assessment and who is working in collaboration with a Physician.

**Well-child Visit** means a visit to a primary care provider that includes the following elements:

1. Age appropriate physical exam, but not a complete exam, unless the exam is age appropriate;
2. History;
3. Anticipatory guidance and education (e.g., examine family functioning and dynamics, injury prevention counseling, discuss dietary issues, review age appropriate behavior, etc.);
4. Growth and development assessment, which also includes safety and health education counseling for other children.

**You/Your** refers to the Insured Employee who is enrolled for benefits under this health insurance plan.

Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company One Kaiser Plaza  
Oakland, CA 94612  
KPIC-GC-3TPOS-LG-2020-CO-NGF

## Additional Information and Forms Applicable to Your Insurance Coverage

Please note the following pages are not part of the employer group insurance policy.

The following pages contain information we are required to provide you.



## PRIVACY NOTICE

### Privacy Policy and Practices

This notice describes the privacy policy and practices regarding non-public personal information followed by Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company (herein referred to as "KPIC", "we", "us", and "our"). This notice is provided to you in compliance with the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Financial Services Modernization Act.

### Collection of Non-public Personal Information

The types of non-public personal information that we may collect includes, but are not limited to:

- Information we receive from you as part of application forms, enrollment forms, claims forms, pre-certification/utilization reviews, etc, including, but not limited to, your name, address, sex, date of birth, Social Security number, marital status, dependents, and the identity of your employer.
- Information otherwise legally obtained by us, including information you authorize us to receive and/or resulting from your transactions with us, our affiliates, or non-affiliated third parties, including, but not limited to, medical information and claims history.

### Disclosure of Non-public Personal Information

Unless otherwise authorized by you, KPIC will not disclose your non-public personal information except to affiliates and non-affiliated third parties as necessary to administer, underwrite, process, service, reinsure or market its own insurance products, or as necessary to effect, administer, or enforce a transaction authorized by you. When KPIC must release non-public personal information to non-affiliated third parties, as noted above, such third parties will subject to contractual agreements that require the third parties to maintain the confidentiality of such non-public personal information. If, at a future date, KPIC determines there is a need to share your non-public personal information with a non-affiliated third party, other than as described above, we will provide you with an advance opportunity to direct us not share such information.

KPIC may also disclose non-public personal information to authorized persons or entities to comply with: federal, state, or local laws, including any properly authorized civil, criminal, or regulatory investigation or subpoena or summons; or respond to judicial process or government regulatory authorities having jurisdiction over us for examination, compliance, or other purposes as authorized by law.

### Non-public Personal Information Regarding Former Customers

Any non-public personal information KPIC maintains on former customers will be maintained on a confidential and secure basis. Any disclosure of that information will only be made in keeping with the privacy policy and practices described in this notice or as otherwise permitted or required by law.

### Confidentiality and Security of Non-public Personal Information

KPIC is committed to protecting the confidentiality and security of non-public personal information. In collaboration with our affiliates, we maintain physical, electronic, and procedural safeguards that comply with federal and state standards regarding the protection of such information. To insure that your information is not misused and is properly protected, KPIC has instituted the following:

- Employees are required to comply with our policies and procedures that exist to protect the confidentiality of customer information. Any employee who violates our privacy policy and practices is subject to a disciplinary process. Our policy requires medical records to be maintained in secure areas not accessible to the public.
- Employee access to information is provided on a business need-to-know basis such as: to facilitate administration, make benefit determinations, pay claims, managed care, underwrite coverage, or provide customer service.
- Mail and electronic security procedures to maintain confidentiality of the information we collect and to guard against its unauthorized access. Such methods include locked files, user authentication, encryption, and firewall technology.
- Contractual agreements with its non-affiliated third parties that require such third parties to maintain the confidentiality of non-public personal information.

### Where to Write For More Information

If you have any questions about KPIC's privacy policy and practices, please write to the address listed below:

Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company  
Attention: President  
One Kaiser Plaza, 25 B  
Oakland, California 94612





# HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practices

KAISER PERMANENTE INSURANCE COMPANY (“KPIC”)

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

In this Notice we use the terms "we," "us" and "our" to describe KPIC.

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## I. WHAT IS “PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION”?

Your protected health information (“PHI”) is individually identifiable health information, including demographic information, about your past, present or future physical or mental health or condition, health care services you receive, and past, present or future payment for your health care. Demographic information means information such as your name, social security number, address, and date of birth.

PHI may be in oral, written or electronic form. Examples of PHI include your medical record, claims record, enrollment or disenrollment information, and communications between you and your health care provider about your care.

With the exception of those insured in California, your individually identifiable health information ceases to be PHI 50 years after your death.

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## II. ABOUT OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT YOUR PHI

By law, we must

1. protect the privacy of your PHI;
2. tell you about your rights and our legal duties with respect to your PHI;
3. notify you if there is a breach of your unsecured PHI; and
4. tell you about our privacy practices and follow our Notice currently in effect.

We take these responsibilities seriously, and have put in place administrative safeguards (such as security awareness training and policies and procedures), technical safeguards (such as encryption and passwords), and physical safeguards (such as locked areas and requiring badges) to protect your PHI and, as in the past, we will continue to take appropriate steps to safeguard the privacy of your PHI.

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### **III. YOUR RIGHTS REGARDING YOUR PHI**

This section tells you about your rights regarding your PHI, and describes how you can exercise these rights.

#### **Your right to access and amend your PHI**

Subject to certain exceptions, you have the right to view or get a copy of your PHI that we maintain in records relating to your care or decisions about your care or payment for your care. Requests must be in writing.

After we receive your written request, we will let you know when and how you can see or obtain a copy of your record. If you agree, we will give you a summary or explanation of your PHI instead of providing copies. We may charge you a fee for the copies, summary or explanation.

If we do not have the record you asked for but we know who does, we will tell you who to contact to request it. In limited situations, we may deny some or all of your request to see or receive copies of your records, but if we do, we will tell you why in writing and explain your right, if any, to have our denial reviewed.

If you believe there is a mistake in your PHI or that important information is missing, you may request that we correct or add to the record. Requests must be in writing, telling us what corrections or additions you are requesting, and why the corrections or additions should be made. We will respond in writing after reviewing your request. If we approve your request, we will make the correction or addition to your PHI. If we deny your request, we will tell you why and explain your right to file a written statement of disagreement.

Submit all written requests to us at:

Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company  
Attention Privacy Director  
One Kaiser Plaza (25 B)  
Oakland, CA 94612

#### **Your right to choose how we send PHI to you or someone else**

You may ask us to send your PHI to you at a different address (for example, your work address) or by different means (for example, fax instead of regular mail).

If your PHI is stored electronically, you may request a copy of the records in an electronic format offered by KPIC. You may also make a specific written request to KPIC to transmit the electronic copy to a designated third party.

If the cost of meeting your request involves more than a reasonable amount, we are permitted to charge you our costs that exceeds that amount.

**Your right to an accounting of disclosures of PHI**

You may ask us for a list of our disclosures of your PHI. Write to us at:

Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company  
Attention Privacy Director  
One Kaiser Plaza (25 B)  
Oakland, CA 94612

You are entitled to one disclosure accounting in any 12-month period at no charge. If you request any additional accountings less than 12 months later, we may charge a fee.

An accounting does not include certain disclosures, for example, disclosures:

- to carry out treatment, payment and health care operations;
- for which KPIC had a signed authorization;
- of your PHI to you;
- for notifications for disaster relief purposes;
- to persons involved in your care and persons acting on your behalf; or
- not covered by the right to an accounting.

**Your right to request limits on uses and disclosures of your PHI**

You may request that we limit our uses and disclosures of your PHI for treatment, payment and health care operations purposes. We will review and consider your request. You may write to us at:

Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company  
Attention Privacy Director  
One Kaiser Plaza (25 B)  
Oakland, CA 94612

**Your right to receive a paper copy of this Notice**

You have a right to receive a paper copy of this Notice upon request.

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**IV. HOW WE MAY USE AND DISCLOSE YOUR PHI**

Your confidentiality is important to us. Our employees are required to maintain the confidentiality of the PHI of our insureds and we have policies and procedures and other safeguards to help protect your PHI from improper use and disclosure. Sometimes we are allowed by law to use and disclose certain PHI without your written permission. We briefly describe these uses and disclosures below and give you some examples.

How much PHI is used or disclosed without your written permission will vary depending, for example, on the intended purpose of the use or disclosure. Sometimes we may only need to use or disclose a limited amount of PHI, such as to confirm that you are KPIC-insured. At other times, we may need to use or disclose more PHI such as when we assist in resolving an appeal or grievance.

- **Payment:** Your PHI may be needed to determine our responsibility to pay for, or to permit us to bill and collect payment for, treatment and health-related services that you receive. When you or a provider sends us the bill for health care services, we use and disclose your PHI to determine how much, if any, of the bill we are responsible for paying.
- **Health care operations:** We may use and disclose your PHI for certain health care operations, for example, quality assessment and improvement, licensing, accreditation, activities relating to the creation, renewal or replacement of health insurance or health benefits; conducting medical review; legal services; auditing functions, including fraud and abuse detection and compliance programs; customer service, underwriting, and determining premiums and other costs of providing health care.
- **Business associates:** We may contract with business associates to perform certain functions or activities on our behalf, such as payment and health care operations. These business associates must agree to safeguard your PHI.
- **Specific types of PHI:** There are stricter requirements for use and disclosure of some types of PHI, for example, mental health and drug and alcohol abuse patient information, mental health records, and HIV tests, and genetic testing information. However, there are still circumstances in which these types of information may be used or disclosed without your authorization.
- **Underwriting:** We may use and disclose your PHI, to the extent permitted under applicable law, for underwriting purposes, including the determination of benefit eligibility and costs of coverage and to perform other activities related to issuing a benefit policy. However, we are prohibited from using or disclosing your genetic information for underwriting purposes. Your genetic information includes information about your genetic tests, your family members' genetic tests, and requests for or receipt of genetic services by you or any family members.
- **Communications with family and others when you are present:** Sometimes a family member or other person involved in your care will be present when we are discussing your PHI with you. If you object, please tell us and we won't discuss your PHI or we will ask the person to leave.
- **Communications with family and others when you are not present:** There may be times when it is necessary to disclose your PHI to a family member or other

person involved in your care because there is an emergency, you are not present, or you lack the decision-making capacity to agree or object. In those instances, we will use our professional judgment to determine if it's in your best interest to disclose your PHI. If so, we will limit the disclosure to the PHI that is directly relevant to the person's involvement with your health care. For example, we may allow someone to pick up a prescription for you.

- **Disclosure in case of disaster relief:** We may disclose your name, city of residence, age, gender, and general condition to a public or private disaster relief organization to assist disaster relief efforts, unless you object at the time.
- **Disclosures to parents as personal representatives of minors:** In most cases, we may disclose your minor child's PHI to you. In some situations, however, we are permitted or even required by law to deny your access to your minor child's PHI. Examples of when we must deny such access include your minor child's PHI regarding drug or addiction, certain mental health services, and venereal disease.
- **Public health activities:** Public health activities cover many functions performed or authorized by government agencies to promote and protect the public's health and may require us to disclose your PHI.
  - For example, we may disclose your PHI as part of our obligation to report to public health authorities certain diseases, injuries, conditions, and vital events such as births. Sometimes we may disclose your PHI to someone you may have exposed to a communicable disease or who may otherwise be at risk of getting or spreading the disease.
  - The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is responsible for tracking and monitoring certain medical products, such as pacemakers and hip replacements, to identify product problems and failures and injuries they may have caused. If you have received one of these products, we may use and disclose your PHI to the FDA or other authorized persons or organizations, such as the maker of the product.
  - We may use and disclose your PHI as necessary to comply with federal and state laws that govern workplace safety.
- **Health oversight:** As a health insurer, we are subject to oversight conducted by federal and state agencies. These agencies may conduct audits of our operations and activities and in that process, they may review your PHI.
- **Disclosures to your employer or your employee organization:** If you are enrolled in a KPIC health insurance plan through your employer or employee organization, we may share certain PHI with them without your authorization, but only when allowed by law. For example, we may disclose your PHI for a workers' compensation claim or to determine whether you are enrolled in the plan or whether premiums have been paid on your behalf. For other purposes, such as for

inquiries by your employer or employee organization on your behalf, we will obtain your authorization when necessary under applicable law.

- **Workers' compensation:** We may use and disclose your PHI in order to comply with workers' compensation laws. For example, we may communicate your medical information regarding a work-related injury or illness to claims administrators, insurance carriers, and others responsible for evaluating your claim for workers' compensation benefits.
- **Military activity and national security:** We may sometimes use or disclose the PHI of armed forces personnel to the applicable military authorities when they believe it is necessary to properly carry out military missions. We may also disclose your PHI to authorized federal officials as necessary for national security and intelligence activities or for protection of the President and other government officials and dignitaries.
- **Required by law:** In some circumstances federal or state law requires that we disclose your PHI to others. For example, the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services may review our compliance efforts, which may include seeing your PHI.
- **Lawsuits and other legal disputes:** We may use and disclose PHI in responding to a court or administrative order, a subpoena, or a discovery request. We may also use and disclose PHI to the extent permitted by law without your authorization, for example, to defend a lawsuit or arbitration.
- **Law enforcement:** We may disclose PHI to authorized officials for law enforcement purposes, for example, to respond to a search warrant, report a crime on our premises, or help identify or locate someone.
- **Abuse or neglect:** By law, we may disclose PHI to the appropriate authority to report suspected child abuse or neglect or to identify suspected victims of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence.
- **Coroners and funeral directors:** We may disclose PHI to a coroner or medical examiner to permit identification of a body, determine cause of death, or for other official duties. We may also disclose PHI to funeral directors.
- **Inmates:** Under the federal law that requires us to give you this Notice, inmates do not have the same rights to control their PHI as other individuals. If you are an inmate of a correctional institution or in the custody of a law enforcement official, we may disclose your PHI to the correctional institution or the law enforcement official for certain purposes, for example, to protect your health or safety or someone else's.

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## **V. ALL OTHER USES AND DISCLOSURES OF YOUR PHI REQUIRE YOUR PRIOR WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION**

Except for those uses and disclosures described above, we will not use or disclose your PHI without your written authorization. Some instances in which we may request your authorization for use or disclosure of PHI are:

- **Marketing:** We may ask for your authorization in order to provide information about products and services that you may be interested in purchasing or using. Note that marketing communications do not include our contacting you with information about treatment alternatives, prescription drugs you are taking or health-related products or services that we offer or that are available only to our health plan enrollees. Marketing also does not include any face-to-face discussions you may have with your providers about products or services.
- **Sale of PHI:** We may only sell your PHI if we received your prior written authorization to do so.

When your authorization is required and you authorize us to use or disclose your PHI for some purpose, you may revoke that authorization by notifying us in writing at any time. Please note that the revocation will not apply to any authorized use or disclosure of your PHI that took place before we received your revocation. Also, if you gave your authorization to secure a policy of insurance, including health insurance from us, you may not be permitted to revoke it until the insurer can no longer contest the policy issued to you or a claim under the policy.

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## **VI. HOW TO CONTACT US ABOUT THIS NOTICE OR TO COMPLAIN ABOUT OUR PRIVACY PRACTICES**

If you have any questions about this Notice, or want to lodge a complaint about our privacy practices, please let us know by calling or writing to:

Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company  
Attention Privacy Director  
One Kaiser Plaza (25 B)  
Oakland, CA 94612

You also may notify the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

We will not take retaliatory action against you if you file a complaint about our privacy practices.

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**VII. CHANGES TO THIS NOTICE**

We may change this Notice and our privacy practices at any time, as long as the change is consistent with state and federal law. Any revised notice will apply both to the PHI we already have about you at the time of the change, and any PHI created or received after the change takes effect. If we make an important change to our privacy practices, we will promptly change this Notice and notify you via the U.S. Postal Service that the change has been made along with instructions for obtaining the new notice.

Except for changes required by law, we will not implement an important change to our privacy practices before we revise this Notice.

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**VIII. EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS NOTICE**

This Notice is effective on September 23, 2013.



**KAISER PERMANENTE INSURANCE COMPANY**

One Kaiser Plaza  
Oakland, CA 94612

**IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING  
YOUR HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

**Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998**

The Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 (the Act) was passed into law on October 21, 1998. The law requires group and individual health plans that provide mastectomy coverage, such as your plan coverage, to also provide coverage for:

1. reconstruction of both the diseased and non-diseased breast to produce symmetrical appearance; and
2. prostheses and treatment of physical complications at all stages of the mastectomy, including lymphedemas.

The Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company plan under which you are insured provides coverage for mastectomy and includes the services listed above when performed following a covered mastectomy.

If you have any questions about the coverage provided under the Act and your plan of insurance, please do not hesitate to contact us at the number listed on your insurance card.





**Kaiser Permanente**  
2500 S. Havana St.  
Aurora, CO 80014-1622

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DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT



**KAISER PERMANENTE**  
Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company

000000074 013 ENAI KP PO S A GP [Apr.29.2020] OVC5OHOSPSEBLDFMHOP5ESPVC6EOPTINCOP5JHEARD9EMERCVPV0YAFTRACUMCLAFTR7TALG4EALGTNAAMBCVAUTBB1CDIP2HCDRR31CHI  
R4VCMPL--COIN20CRCS0NDED4UDEN--DIALINDMEB2LDMES--DPP--DUMY01EMPH4IEPOT--EXAB--FAMB8GRP62GYN5UHC24HCSS--HHBHOOP0BHOS2--HRA--INF TINLAB3SMHBI02MHBO01MHIP17OPM  
6QOVC2C5OXYGINPNMT2HPP--REHBINREOP7ISGOPE3SNFINSNKR--STU--TABS2ETRANINTRGNCCTRVL--VADD--WLCH00XPRO3BXRAY6BCDOP5JMHOP5EHEARD9SPVC6EOVC5ORX03HFBROK01DO  
MP01GREX01GRFD02OAD6MOAS6MSRDC05SV02WORAN

000000074 013 PV24 KP OP S A GP [Apr.29.2020] OVCV0HOSPT1BLDT8MHOP65SPVCWAOPTINCOP45HEARH4EMERCVPVCAAFTR7UACUMCLALG4ZALGTNAAMBCVAUTBC4CDIP4HCDRR36CHIR--C  
MPL--COIN26CRCSAEDED7WDEN--DIALINDMEB51DMES--DPP--DUMY01EMPH5HEPOT--EXAB--FAMCCGRPFOGYNJBHC32HCSS--HHDHOOP0KHOS2--HRA--INF TINLABD1MHB102MHBO01MHIP21OPMP6  
OVC2G2OXYGINPNMT4ZPP--REHBINREOP6ZSGOPCBSNFINSNKR--STU--TABS2VTRANINTRGN--TRVL--VADD--WLCHB0XPRO4ZXRAYHOCOP45MHOP65HEARH4SPVCWAOV0RX03T8BROK01DOMP  
01GREX01GRFD02OAD6MOAS6MSRDC05SV02WORAN

**TITLE PAGE (Cover Page)**

# **Important Benefit Information Enclosed Evidence of Coverage**

**About this Evidence of Coverage (EOC)**

This Evidence of Coverage (EOC) describes the health care coverage provided under the Agreement between Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado and your Group. In this EOC, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado is sometimes referred to as “Kaiser Permanente,” “Kaiser,” “Health Plan,” “we,” or “us.” Members are sometimes referred to as “you.” Out-of-Health Plan is sometimes referred to as “out-of-Plan.” Some capitalized terms have special meaning in this EOC; please see the “Definitions” section for terms you should know.

This EOC is for your Group’s 2020 contract year.



## NONDISCRIMINATION NOTICE

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (Kaiser Health Plan) complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Kaiser Health Plan does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. 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 **1-800-632-9700** (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, or sex, you can file a grievance by mail at: Customer Experience Department, Attn: Kaiser Permanente Civil Rights Coordinator, 2500 South Havana, Aurora, CO 80014, or by phone at Member Services: 1-800-632-9700.

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, 1-800-368-1019, 1-800-537-7697 (TDD). Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.

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## HELP IN YOUR LANGUAGE

**ATTENTION:** If you speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**አማርኛ (Amharic) ማስታወሻ:** የሚናገሩት ቋንቋ አማርኛ ከሆነ የትርጉም እርዳታ ድርጅቶች፣ በነጻ ሊያገዝዎት ተዘጋጅተዋል። ወደ ሚከተለው ቁጥር ይደውሉ **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**)።

**العربية (Arabic) ملحوظة:** إذا كنت تتحدث العربية، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**Bàsòò Wùdù (Bassa) Dè dɛ nià kɛ dyédé gbo:** ɔ jũ ké ñ Bàsòò-wùdù-po-nyò jũ ní, nií, à wuɖu kà kò dò po-poò béin ñ gbo kpáa. Đá **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**)。

**فارسی (Farsi) توجه:** اگر به زبان فارسی گفتگو می کنید، تسهیلات زبانی بصورت رایگان برای شما فراهم می باشد. با **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711) تماس بگیرید.

**Français (French) ATTENTION:** Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Deutsch (German) ACHTUNG:** Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung.  
Rufnummer: **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Igbo (Igbo) NRUBAMA:** O bụrụ na ị na asụ Igbo, ọrụ enyemaka asụsụ, n'efu, dijiri gi. Kpọọ **1-800-632-9700** (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。 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711) まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

**한국어 (Korean) 주의:** 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711) 번으로 전화해 주십시오.

**Naabeehó (Navajo) Díí baa akó nínízin:** Díí saad bee yáníłti'go Diné Bizaad, saad bee áká'ánída'áwo'déé', t'áá jiik'eh, éí ná hóló, kóji' hódíílnih **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**नेपाली (Nepali) ध्यान दिनुहोस्:** तपाईंले नेपाली बोल्नुहुन्छ भने तपाईंको निम्ति भाषा सहायता सेवाहरू निःशुल्क रूपमा उपलब्ध छ । **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711) फोन गर्नुहोस् ।

**Afaan Oromoo (Oromo) XIYYEEFFANNAA:** Afaan dubbattu Oroomiffa, tajaajila gargaarsa afaanii, kanfaltiidhaan ala, ni argama. Bilbilaa **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Русский (Russian) ВНИМАНИЕ:** если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Español (Spanish) ATENCIÓN:** si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Yorùbá (Yoruba) AKIYESI:** Ti o ba nso ede Yoruba ofe ni iranlowo lori ede wa fun yin o. E pe ero ibanisoro yi **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).



**DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT  
NON-MEDICARE EMPLOYEES  
EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE AMENDMENT - 2020**

**I. The following definitions are *in addition* to those detailed in this Evidence of Coverage (EOC).**

- 1) "Child" shall mean a primary insured's natural child, adopted child, or the natural child or adopted child of either a primary insured's spouse, or primary insured's partner in a civil union.
- 2) "Eligible dependent" shall mean the primary insured's child or spouse
  - a) An eligible dependent may not also be a primary insured on the same insurance plan.
  - b) If spouses are each eligible employees, each may enroll in medical or dental coverage as either a primary insured or eligible dependent, but not both.
  - c) An eligible dependent shall not include any form of grandchild of a primary insured or spouse, unless the primary insured or spouse has a court order of adoption.
  - d) An eligible dependent may be covered by one (1) primary insured only for each insurance plan.
- 3) "Eligible employee" shall mean:
  - a) Members of the classified service of the fire department.
- 4) "Employee only" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee only.
- 5) "Employee plus children" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and one (1) or more eligible dependents other than a spouse.
- 6) "Employee plus spouse" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and a spouse.
- 7) "Employer contribution" shall mean funds paid by the city for insurance programs approved by the employee health insurance committee.
- 8) "Family" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and a spouse or spousal equivalent and one (1) or more other eligible dependent.
- 9) "Primary insured" shall mean an eligible employee who enrolls for insurance coverage.
  - a) A primary insured may not also be an eligible dependent on the same insurance.
- 10) "Spouse" shall mean an eligible employee's lawful spouse, a lawful partner in a civil union in accordance with the Colorado Civil Union Act or spousal equivalent.
- 11) "Spousal equivalent" shall mean an adult of the same gender with whom the employee is in an exclusive committed relationship, who is not related to the employee and who shares basic living expenses with the intent for the relationship to last indefinitely. A spousal equivalent cannot be related by blood to a degree which would prevent marriage in Colorado and cannot be married to another person. An employee claiming a spousal equivalent as an eligible dependent shall file with the Department of Safety Human Resources department, an affidavit of spousal equivalency or may register as a committed partnership with the clerk's office.

**II. The following definition is removed from those detailed in this Evidence of Coverage (EOC).**

- c. Other dependent persons (but not including foster children) who meet all of the following requirements:
  - i. They are under the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)"; and
  - ii. You or your Spouse is the court-appointed permanent legal guardian (or was before the person reached age 18).

## SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (WHO PAYS WHAT)

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This Schedule of Benefits discusses:

- I. DEDUCTIBLES (if applicable)
- II. ANNUAL OUT-OF-POCKET MAXIMUMS (OPM)
- III. COPAYMENTS AND COINSURANCE
- IV. DEPENDENT LIMITING AGE

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION: PLEASE READ

This Schedule of Benefits does not fully describe the Services covered under this EOC. ***For a complete understanding of the benefits, limitations and exclusions that apply to your coverage under this plan, it is important to read this EOC in conjunction with this Schedule of Benefits.*** Please refer to the identical heading in the "Benefits/Coverage (What Is Covered)" section and to the "Limitations/Exclusions (What Is Not Covered)" section of this EOC.

Services received may be described in multiple sections of this Schedule of Benefits (for example, Office Services, Durable Medical Equipment, X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures may all apply to a broken arm). See the appropriate sections for applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and Deductible information.

You are responsible for any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for Services performed as part of or in conjunction with other outpatient Services, including but not limited to: office visits, Emergency Services, urgent care, and outpatient surgery.

Here is some important information to keep in mind as you read this Schedule of Benefits:

1. For a Service to be a covered Service:
  - a. The Service must be Medically Necessary (refer to the "Definitions" section in this EOC); **and**
  - b. The Service must be provided, prescribed, recommended, or directed by a Plan Provider; **and**
  - c. The Service must be described in this EOC as covered. Refer to the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.
2. The Charges for your Services are not always known at the time you receive the Service. You **will get a bill** for any Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance that are not known at the time you receive the Service.
3. The Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance listed here apply to covered Services provided to Members enrolled in this plan. Only covered Services apply to the Deductible and OPM. Non-covered Services will not apply to the Deductible and OPM.
4. Copayments for Services are due at the time you receive the Service. Deductibles or Coinsurance for Services may also be due at the time you receive the Service.
5. Except for #6 below, you may be responsible for any amounts over eligible Charges in addition to any Copayment or Coinsurance.
6. With respect to Emergency Services received in a non-Plan Facility, or Services rendered by a non-Plan Provider in a Plan Facility, you will not be balance billed by either the non-Plan Provider or non-Plan Facility. You are responsible for the same Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance amounts that you would pay if the care was provided in a Plan Facility or provided by a Plan Provider.
7. You may be charged separate Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance for additional Services you receive during your visit or if you receive Services from more than one provider during your visit.
8. We reserve the right to reschedule non-emergency, non-routine care if you do not pay all amounts due at the time you receive the Service.
9. For items ordered in advance, you pay the Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance in effect on the order date.
10. You, as the Subscriber, are responsible for any Deductibles, Copayments, and/or Coinsurance incurred by your Dependents enrolled in the Plan.

11. If you are the only person on your plan, your plan will become a family plan upon the addition of any eligible Dependent to your plan. This includes, but is not limited to, any temporary additions to your plan, such as the coverage of a newborn for 31 days as required by state law.

## **I. DEDUCTIBLES**

There is no medical Deductible. If your Group has purchased a supplemental prescription drug benefit with a pharmacy Deductible, payments made for prescription drugs apply *only* to the pharmacy Deductible.

The pharmacy Deductible represents the full amount you must pay for prescription drugs before any Copayment or Coinsurance applies. Prescription drugs may or may not be subject to the pharmacy Deductible. It depends on the plan your Group has purchased.

- A. For prescription drugs that **ARE** subject to the pharmacy Deductible:
  1. You must pay full charges for prescription drugs until your pharmacy Deductible is satisfied. Please see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”, “Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements” to find out which prescription drugs are subject to the pharmacy Deductible.
  2. Once you have met your pharmacy Deductible for the Accumulation Period, you will then pay, for the rest of the Accumulation Period, your applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for those prescriptions drugs subject to the pharmacy Deductible (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”, “Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements”).
  3. Your applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and pharmacy Deductible may not apply to your annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum (OPM) (see “II. Annual Out-of-Pocket Maximums”).
- B. For prescription drugs that **ARE NOT** subject to the pharmacy Deductible: Your Copayment or Coinsurance will always apply, as listed in “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”, “Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements.”

## **II. ANNUAL OUT-OF-POCKET MAXIMUMS**

The OPM limits the total amount you must pay during the Accumulation Period for certain covered Services. Covered Services may or may not apply to the OPM (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”). It depends on the plan your Group has purchased.

For covered Services that apply to the OPM, any amounts you pay over eligible Charges will not apply toward the OPM.

- A. For covered Services that **APPLY** to the OPM.
  1. The only Copayments or Coinsurance **that apply** toward the OPM are those made for covered Services listed as **applying** to the OPM (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”).
  2. Once your OPM is met, you will no longer pay for covered Services **that apply** to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period.
- B. For covered Services that do **NOT APPLY** to the OPM.
  1. The only Copayments or Coinsurance that **do not apply** toward the OPM are those made for covered Services listed as **not** applying to the OPM (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”).
  2. Once your OPM is met, you will continue to pay for covered Services that **do not apply** to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period.

### **Tracking Pharmacy Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Amounts**

Once you have received Services and we have processed the claim for Services rendered, we will provide an Explanation of Benefits (EOB). The EOB will list the Services you received, the cost of those Services, and the payments made for the Services. It will also include information regarding what portion of the payments were applied to your pharmacy Deductible and/or OPM amounts.

For more information about your Deductible or OPM amounts, please call **Member Services** or go to **kp.org**.

# Benefits for DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

74 - 013

## III. COPAYMENTS AND COINSURANCE

**Note:** Day, visit, and dollar limits, Deductibles, and Out-of-Pocket Maximums are based on a calendar year Accumulation Period.

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

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EMBEDDED OPM

\$2,000/Individual per Accumulation  
Period

\$3,500/Family per Accumulation  
Period

An Embedded OPM means:

- Each individual family Member has his or her own OPM.
  - If a family Member reaches his or her individual OPM before the family OPM is met, he or she will no longer pay Copayments or Coinsurance for those covered Services that apply to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period.
  - After the family OPM is met, all covered family Members will no longer pay Copayments or Coinsurance for those covered Services that apply to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period. This is true even for family Members who have not met their individual OPM.
-

<b>Office Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.	
Primary care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$20 Copayment each visit
Specialty care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$30 Copayment each visit
Consultations with clinical pharmacists <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$20 Copayment each visit
Allergy evaluation and testing	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>• Specialty care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: \$20 Copayment each visit  Visit: \$30 Copayment each visit
Allergy injections <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$20 Copayment each visit Copayment may apply for allergy serum
Gynecology care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$30 Copayment each visit
Routine prenatal and postpartum visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
Office-administered drugs <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel immunizations <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	No Charge
<b>Virtual Care Services</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Email               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Primary care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>o Specialty care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Chat with a doctor online via kp.org               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Primary care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>o Specialty care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Telephone visits               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Primary care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>o Specialty care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Video visits               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Primary care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>o Specialty care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	No Charge  No Charge  No Charge  No Charge  No Charge  No Charge  No Charge

<b>Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.	
Outpatient surgery at Plan Facilities <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$300 Copayment each surgery
Outpatient hospital Services <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance up to \$300

<b>Hospital Inpatient Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(See Hospital Inpatient Care in "Benefits/Coverage (What Is Covered)" in this EOC for the list of covered Services.)</i> <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$750 Copayment per admission
Inpatient professional Services <i>(See above line under "Hospital Inpatient Care" for Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See above line under "Hospital Inpatient Care" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
<b>Alternative Medicine</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Chiropractic care	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluation and/or manipulation <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	\$20 Copayment each visit Limited to 20 visits per Accumulation Period See Additional Provisions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Laboratory Services or x-rays required for chiropractic care <i>(See "X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures" for Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i></li> </ul>	See "X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
Acupuncture Services <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<b>Ambulance Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance Up to \$500 per trip
<b>Bariatric Surgery</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	30% Coinsurance
<b>Dental Services following Accidental Injury</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<b>Dialysis Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$30 Copayment each visit
<b>Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Prosthetics and Orthotics</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Durable Medical Equipment <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance See Additional Provisions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Breast pumps <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	No Charge
Prosthetic devices	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internally implanted prosthetic devices <i>(See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i></li> </ul>	See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for applicable Copayment(s) and/or Coinsurance.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prosthetic arm or leg <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	20% Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All other prosthetic devices <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	20% Coinsurance
Orthotic devices <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance

Oxygen <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
Maximum limit paid by Health Plan for Durable Medical Equipment, certain prosthetic devices, and orthotic devices	Not Applicable

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### **Emergency Services**

### **You Pay**

Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.	
Plan and non-Plan emergency room visits and related covered Services unless otherwise noted (covered 24 hours a day) <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	<p>\$250 Copayment each visit Excludes X-ray special procedures. Copayment waived if directly admitted as an inpatient. If the above amount is a Coinsurance, the Coinsurance amount is not waived if directly admitted as an inpatient.</p> <p>If X-ray special procedures are excluded, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures” for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.</p>

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### **Urgent Care**

### **You Pay**

Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.	
Plan Facility within Service Area <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	<p>\$50 Copayment each visit Urgent care may require additional Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits (for example: Office Services, Durable Medical Equipment, X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures). See the appropriate section for applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and Deductible information.</p>
Urgent care outside Service Area <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	<p>\$50 Copayment each visit Urgent care may require additional Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits (for example: Office Services, Durable Medical Equipment, X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures). See the appropriate section for applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and Deductible information.</p>

Covered only if all the following requirements are met:

- The care is required to prevent serious decline of health
- The need for care results from an unforeseen illness or injury when temporarily away from our Service Area
- The care cannot be delayed until you return to our Service Area

<b>Family Planning and Sterilization Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Family planning counseling <i>(See "Office Services" for Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Office Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
Associated outpatient surgery procedures <i>(See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" for Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
<b>Health Education Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Training in self-care and preventive care <i>(See "Office Services" for Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Office Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
<b>Hearing Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction when performed by an audiologist <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$20 Copayment each visit
Hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction when performed by a specialist other than an audiologist <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$30 Copayment each visit
Hearing aids for Members up to age 18 <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$20 Copayment each visit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fitting and recheck visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	\$20 Copayment each visit
Hearing aids for Members age 18 and over <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fitting and recheck visits <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<b>Home Health Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Home health Services provided in your home and prescribed by a Plan Physician <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<b>Hospice Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Special Services program for hospice-eligible Members who have not yet elected hospice care <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
Hospice care for terminally ill patients <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge



<b>Mental Health Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Inpatient psychiatric hospitalization <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$750 Copayment per admission
• Inpatient day limit	Not Applicable
Inpatient professional Services for psychiatric hospitalization <i>(See above line under "Mental Health Services" "Inpatient psychiatric hospitalization" for Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See above line under "Mental Health Services" "Inpatient psychiatric hospitalization" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
Outpatient individual therapy or intensive outpatient therapy <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$20 Copayment each visit \$20 Copayment per partial hospitalization day
Outpatient group therapy <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	50% of individual therapy Copayment
<b>Out-of-Area Benefit</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
The following Services are limited to Dependents up to the age of 26 outside the Service Area	
Outpatient office visits <i>(Combined office visit limit between primary care, specialty care, outpatient mental health and substance use disorder services, gynecology care, hearing exam, prevention immunizations, preventive care, and the administration of allergy injections. Office visits do not include: allergy evaluation, routine prenatal and postpartum visits, chiropractic care, acupuncture services, hearing aids, hearing tests, home health visits, hospice services, and applied behavioral analysis (ABA))</i> <i>Visit: (Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Other Services: (Do not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Preventive immunizations: (Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit limit: Not applicable Visit: Not Covered Other Services received during an office visit: Not Covered  Preventive immunizations: Not Covered
Diagnostic X-ray Services <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Diagnostic X-ray Services limit: Not applicable Not Covered
Outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Therapy visit limit: Not applicable Visit: Not Covered
Outpatient prescription drugs	Prescription drug fills: Not applicable
• Copayment/Coinsurance (except as listed below) <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
• Prescribed diabetic supplies <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
• Preventive drugs	Not Covered
o Contraceptive drugs <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	
o Over the counter (OTC) items: <i>(Federally mandated over the counter items)</i> <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
o Tobacco cessation drugs <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered

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**Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy  
and Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services**

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**You Pay**

Inpatient treatment in a multidisciplinary rehabilitation program provided in a designated rehabilitation facility  
*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

No Charge  
Up to 60 days per condition per Accumulation Period

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Short-term outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits  
*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

- Habilitative Services
  
- Rehabilitative Services

\$20 Copayment each visit  
Limited to 20 visits per therapy per Accumulation Period  
\$20 Copayment each visit  
Limited to 20 visits per therapy per Accumulation Period

Outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits to treat Autism Spectrum Disorder  
*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

\$20 Copayment each visit

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Applied Behavioral Services

- Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)  
*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

\$20 Copayment each visit

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Pulmonary rehabilitation  
*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

\$20 Copayment each visit

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**Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements****You Pay**

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## Outpatient prescription drugs

*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

- Pharmacy Deductible Not Applicable
  
- Copayment/Coinsurance (except as listed below): \$15 Generic/\$30 Brand
  
- Infertility drugs Not Covered  
*(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
  
- Insulin Applicable Copayment/Coinsurance not to exceed \$100 up to a 30-day supply  
20% Coinsurance
  - o Prescribed supplies 20% Coinsurance  
*(When obtained from sources designated by Kaiser Permanente)*  
*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
  
- Over the counter (OTC) items: No Charge  
*(Federally mandated over the counter (OTC) items. OTCs require a prescription and must be filled at a Kaiser Permanente pharmacy.)*
  
- Prescription contraceptives No Charge  
*(Supply limit according to applicable law)*  
*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
  
- Preventive tier drugs See applicable Outpatient prescription drug Copayment/Coinsurance  
*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
  
- Sexual dysfunction drugs Not Covered  
*(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
  
- Specialty drugs See applicable Outpatient prescription drug Copayment/Coinsurance  
*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
  
- Tobacco cessation drugs No Charge  
*(Not subject to pharmacy Deductible)*

## Supply Limit

- Day supply limit 30 days
  - Mail-order supply limit \$30 Generic/\$60 Brand  
Up to 90 days  
See Additional Provisions
-

<b>Preventive Care Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Preventive care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult preventive care exams and screenings</li> <li>• Behavioral health screening</li> <li>• Well-woman care exams and screenings</li> <li>• Well-child care exams</li> <li>• Immunizations</li> </ul>	
Colorectal cancer screenings <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colonoscopies</li> <li>• Flexible sigmoidoscopies</li> </ul>	No Charge No Charge
Preventive Virtual Care Services <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Email</li> <li>• Chat with a doctor online via kp.org</li> <li>• Telephone</li> <li>• Video visits</li> </ul>	
Non-preventive covered Services received in conjunction with preventive care exam	See "Office Services" or "Laboratory Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance
<b>Reconstructive Surgery</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
<b>Reproductive Support Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Covered Services for diagnosis and treatment of infertility (including lab and X-ray) <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	50% Coinsurance See Additional Provisions
Intrauterine insemination (IUI) <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	50% Coinsurance See Additional Provisions
In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
Gamete Intrafallopian Transfer (GIFT) <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
Zygote Intrafallopian Transfer (ZIFT) <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<b>Skilled Nursing Facility Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge Limited to 100 days per Accumulation Period
<b>Substance Use Disorder Services (formerly Chemical Dependency Services)</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Inpatient medical detoxification <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$750 Copayment per admission

Inpatient professional Services for medical detoxification <i>(See above line under "Chemical Dependency Services" "Inpatient medical detoxification" for Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See above line under "Chemical Dependency Services" "Inpatient medical detoxification" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
Outpatient individual therapy or intensive outpatient therapy <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$20 Copayment each visit \$20 Copayment per partial hospitalization day
Outpatient group therapy <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	50% of individual therapy Copayment
Residential rehabilitation <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$750 Copayment per inpatient admission

<b>Transplant Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(See "Office Services", "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services", or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Office Services", "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services", or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance

<b>Vision Services and Optical</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Eye exams for treatment of injuries and/or diseases	See "Office Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
Routine eye exam when performed by an Optometrist	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members up to the end of the calendar year he/she turns age 19 <i>Visit: (Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: \$20 Copayment each visit Test: \$20 Copayment each visit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members age 19 and over <i>Visit: (Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: \$20 Copayment each visit Test: \$20 Copayment each visit
Routine eye exam when performed by an Ophthalmologist	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members up to the end of the calendar year he/she turns age 19 <i>Visit: (Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: \$30 Copayment each visit Test: \$30 Copayment each visit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members age 19 and over <i>Visit: (Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: \$30 Copayment each visit Test: \$30 Copayment each visit
Optical hardware	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members up to the end of the calendar year he/she turns age 19 <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members age 19 and over <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered

<b>X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Diagnostic laboratory Services <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
Diagnostic X-ray Services <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
Therapeutic X-ray Services <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$30 Copayment each visit
X-ray special procedures including but not limited to CT, PET, MRI, nuclear medicine <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$100 Copayment per procedure Copayment waived if X-ray special procedure is performed during an Emergency Room visit and you are directly admitted as an inpatient. If the above amount is a Coinsurance, the Coinsurance amount is not waived if directly admitted as an inpatient.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diagnostic procedures include administered drugs</li> <li>• Therapeutic procedures may incur an additional charge for administered drugs. <i>(See "Office Services" for "Office-administered Drugs".)</i></li> </ul>	
<b>Plus Benefit</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Maximum limit per Accumulation Period	Not Applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preventive care visits with a non-Plan Provider <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>• Primary care and allergy injection visits, hearing exams, outpatient mental health and substance use disorder individual therapy visits, and short-term outpatient physical, occupational, or speech therapy visits with a non-Plan Provider. Visits include phone or email virtual care Services. <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>• Specialty and gynecology care visits, hearing exams, and allergy testing and evaluations with a non-Plan Provider. Visits include phone or email virtual care Services. <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>• Covered Services received during an office visit with a non-Plan Provider, allergy injections, durable medical equipment, diagnostic X-ray and laboratory Services, and implantable or injectable contraceptives. <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
Prescription Drug fill maximum per Accumulation Period	Not Applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outpatient prescription drugs filled at a non-Plan Pharmacy <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
Outpatient prescription drugs prescribed by a non-Plan Provider and filled at a Plan Pharmacy <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered

#### **IV. DEPENDENT LIMITING AGE**

The Dependent limiting age as described under Dependents in the "Eligibility" section of the EOC is the end of the month in which age 26 is reached. A Dependent child will continue to be eligible until the Dependent child reaches this age, if he or she continues to meet all other eligibility requirements. For additional information regarding eligible Dependents, including certain Dependents over the limiting age, please refer to the "Eligibility" section in the EOC.

#### **Additional Provisions**

Please see "Additional Provisions" for any supplemental information that applies to your coverage.



## AMENDMENT TO EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE

### POINT-OF-SERVICE (POS) PLANS

Your "Kaiser Permanente POS Plan" coverage gives you access to two different health care options each time you seek care. You can receive Services through Kaiser Foundation Health Plan (Health Plan) or through your separate coverage provided by the Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company (KPIC).

For assistance with questions regarding your coverage and benefits, please call Customer Service at **1-855-364-3184** (TTY **711**), Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., MT.

This Evidence of Coverage (EOC) describes the Services covered by Health Plan that you receive from Kaiser Permanente Plan Providers at Plan Facilities. The KPIC *Certificate of Insurance* and *Schedule of Benefits*, provided to you separately by KPIC, describe the Services covered by KPIC that you receive from participating providers and/or non-participating providers. KPIC coverage is not described in this EOC. To request a printed copy of your KPIC *Certificate of Insurance* and *Schedule of Benefits*, please call Customer Service at **1-855-364-3184** (TTY **711**), Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., MT.

The benefits, Deductibles, Copayments, and/or Coinsurance for Health Plan and KPIC are not the same. Some Services may be covered by one health care option, but not the other. A covered Service will be covered by one of the options, but never by both. Neither Health Plan nor KPIC is responsible for a Member's decision to access care under this EOC or the KPIC *Certificate of Insurance* and *Schedule of Benefits*.

Amounts paid toward the Deductibles and Out-of-Pocket Maximum for Services received from Health Plan cannot be used to satisfy the Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum for Services received in KPIC's participating provider or non-participating provider tier or benefit level. However, in some cases, amounts paid toward the Deductibles and Out-of-Pocket Maximum for Services received from KPIC's participating provider or non-participating provider tier or benefit level may be used to satisfy the Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum for Services received from Health Plan. Please refer to your KPIC *Certificate of Insurance* and *Schedule of Benefits* for a complete explanation.

Certain Services covered under your "Kaiser Permanente POS Plan" have combined benefit maximums, with respect to the number of visits or number of days, across the Health Plan and KPIC options. See your KPIC *Certificate of Insurance* and *Schedule of Benefits* for more information about which Services have combined benefit maximums.

Please note prescriptions obtained from KPIC providers may be filled at Health Plan Pharmacies at the applicable Health Plan charge for medications on the Kaiser Permanente formulary; and routine lab and diagnostic X-ray orders obtained from KPIC providers may be brought to Health Plan Facilities and will be charged at the applicable Health Plan benefit level.

When you access your Health Plan benefits covered under this EOC, you are selecting Kaiser Permanente's medical care program to provide your health care.

#### **The Following Sections of your EOC are Amended, as Follows:**

- I. Section III. BENEFITS/COVERAGE (WHAT IS COVERED), is amended by deleting, in its entirety, the Subsection titled "Out-of-Area Benefit."** Any references to "Out-of-Area Benefit" in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)", or anywhere else in this EOC, are also deleted in their entirety.
- II. Section IV. LIMITATIONS/EXCLUSIONS (WHAT IS NOT COVERED), Subsection "A. Exclusions" is amended to read as follows:**
  - A. Exclusions**

The Services listed below are not covered. These exclusions apply to all covered Services under this EOC. Additional exclusions that apply only to a particular Service are listed in the description of that Service in the "Benefits/Coverage (What Is Covered)" section. If a Service is not covered under this EOC, check your KPIC *Certificate of Insurance* and *Schedule of Benefits* to determine if it is covered by KPIC.



**AMENDMENT TO  
EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE**

**POINT-OF-SERVICE (POS) PLANS**

**III. Section IV. LIMITATIONS/EXCLUSIONS (WHAT IS NOT COVERED), Subsection “C. Reductions, 1. Coordination of Benefits (COB)” is amended by adding the following paragraph to this subsection:**

**Note:** The benefits administered by Health Plan as described in this EOC and the benefits administered by KPIC as described in your KPIC *Certificate of Insurance* and *Schedule of Benefits* are considered one plan for the purposes of coordination of benefits. Since a Service cannot be covered by both coverage options at the same time, there is no coordination of benefits between the two coverage options.

**IV. Section VII. GENERAL POLICY PROVISIONS is amended by adding the following provision:**

**POS Coverage**

Health Plan is not responsible for the obligations of KPIC nor for its decisions regarding KPIC claims and benefits. KPIC is not responsible for the obligations of Health Plan nor for our decisions regarding claims and benefits. Health Plan is not responsible for your decision to access Services from providers not contracting with us, the qualifications of these providers, or the Services they furnish. Furthermore, we are not liable for any act or omission of (1) such provider or the agents, officers, or employers of any of them, or (2) any other person or organization with which such providers have made or hereafter make arrangements for performance of Services.

**V. The introductory paragraph of Section VIII. TERMINATION/NONRENEWAL/CONTINUATION is amended by adding the following paragraph:**

If for any reason, you lose your KPIC coverage administered by KPIC, your Health Plan coverage described in this EOC will terminate on the same date. Check with your Group to discuss alternative health plan options.

**VI. Section XI. DEFINITIONS is amended by adding the following definition:**

**Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company (KPIC):** a California-domiciled insurance company licensed to conduct the business of insurance in Colorado and which underwrites the coverage for the Services that you receive from participating and/or non-participating providers of Kaiser Permanente's Point-of-Service (POS) plans. KPIC is a wholly owned subsidiary of Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc.





**CONTACT US**

**Appointments and Medical Advice (Advice Nurses) – Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week**

**CALL** *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-338-4545** or toll-free **1-800-218-1059**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-800-218-1059**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **970-207-7171** or toll-free **1-800-218-1059**

**TTY** **711**  
 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**Behavioral Health**

**CALL** *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-471-7700**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-866-702-9026**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-866-359-8299**

**TTY** **711**  
 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**Member Services**

**CALL** *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-338-3800** or toll-free **1-800-632-9700**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-888-681-7878**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-844-201-5824**

**TTY** **711**  
 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**FAX** **303-338-3444**

**WRITE** **Member Services**  
**Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado**  
**2500 South Havana Street**  
**Aurora, CO 80014-1622**

**WEBSITE** [kp.org](http://kp.org)

**Appeals Program**

**CALL** 303-344-7933 or toll free 1-888-370-9858

**TTY** 711  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**FAX** 1-866-466-4042

**WRITE** Appeals Program  
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado  
P.O. Box 378066  
Denver, CO 80237-8066

**Claims Department**

**CALL** *Denver/Boulder* Members: 303-338-3600 or toll-free 1-800-382-4661  
*Southern Colorado* Members: 1-888-681-7878  
*Northern Colorado* Members: 1-800-382-4661

**TTY** 711  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**WRITE** *Denver/Boulder* Members:  
Claims Department  
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado  
P.O. Box 373150  
Denver, CO 80237-3150  
  
*Southern Colorado* Members:  
Claims Department  
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado  
P.O. Box 372910  
Denver, CO 80237-6910  
  
*Northern Colorado* Members:  
Claims Department  
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado  
P.O. Box 373150  
Denver, CO 80237-3150

**Membership Administration**

**WRITE** Membership Administration  
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado  
P.O. Box 203004  
Denver, CO 80220-9004

**Patient Financial Services**

**CALL** *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-743-5900**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-888-681-7878**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-844-201-5824**

**TTY** **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**WRITE** **Patient Financial Services**  
**Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado**  
**2500 South Havana Street, Suite 500**  
**Aurora, CO 80014-1622**

**Personal Physician Selection Services**

**CALL** *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-338-4477**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-855-208-7221**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-855-208-7221**

**TTY** **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**WEBSITE** [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations) for a list of providers and facilities

**Transplant Administrative Offices**

**CALL** **303-636-3131**

**TTY** **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.



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## I. ELIGIBILITY

### A. Who Is Eligible

#### 1. General

To be eligible to enroll and to remain enrolled in this health benefit plan, you must meet the following requirements:

- a. You must meet your Group's eligibility requirements that we have approved. Your Group is required to inform Subscribers of the Group's eligibility requirements; and
- b. You must also meet the Subscriber or Dependent eligibility requirements as described below; and
- c. The Subscriber must live or reside in our Service Area. Our Service Area is described in the "Definitions" section.

#### 2. Subscribers

You may be eligible to enroll as a Subscriber if you are entitled to Subscriber coverage under your Group's eligibility requirements. An example would be an employee of your Group who works at least the number of hours stated in those requirements.

#### 3. Dependents

If you are a Subscriber, the following persons may be eligible to enroll as your Dependents under this plan:

- a. Your Spouse. (Spouse includes a partner in a valid civil union under state law.)
- b. Your or your Spouse's children (including adopted children and children placed with you for adoption) who are under the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)."
- c. Other dependent persons (but not including foster children) who meet all of the following requirements:
  - i. They are under the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)"; and
  - ii. You or your Spouse is the court-appointed permanent legal guardian (or was before the person reached age 18).
- d. Your or your Spouse's unmarried children over the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" who are medically certified as disabled and dependent upon you or your Spouse are eligible to enroll or continue coverage as your Dependents if the following requirements are met:
  - i. They are dependent on you or your Spouse; and
  - ii. You give us proof of the Dependent's disability and dependency annually if we request it.
- e. Subscriber's designated beneficiary prescribed by Colorado law, if your employer elects to cover designated beneficiaries as dependents.

**Students on Medical Leave of Absence.** Dependent children who lose dependent student status at a postsecondary educational institution due to a Medically Necessary leave of absence may remain eligible for coverage until the earlier of: (i) one year after the first day of the Medically Necessary leave of absence; or (ii) the date dependent coverage would otherwise terminate under this EOC. We must receive written certification by a treating physician of the dependent child which states 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.

If your plan has different eligibility requirements, please see "Additional Provisions."

### B. Enrollment and Effective Date of Coverage

Eligible people may enroll as follows, and membership begins at 12:00 a.m. on the membership effective date:

#### 1. New Employees and their Dependents

If you are a new employee, you may enroll yourself and any eligible Dependents by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application to your Group within 31 days after you become eligible. You should check with your Group to see when new employees become eligible. Your membership will become effective on the date specified by your Group.

#### 2. Members Who are Inpatient on Effective Date of Coverage

If you are an inpatient in a hospital or institution when your coverage with us becomes effective and you had other coverage when you were admitted, state law will determine whether we or your prior carrier will be responsible for payment for your care until your date of discharge.

#### 3. Special Enrollment Due to Newly Acquired Dependents

You may enroll as a Subscriber (along with any eligible Dependents), and existing Subscribers may add eligible Dependents, by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application to your Group within 31 days after a Dependent becomes newly eligible.

The membership effective date for the Dependents (and, if applicable, the new Subscriber) will be:

- a. For newborn children, the moment of birth. Your newborn child is covered for the first 31 days following birth. This coverage is required by state law, whether or not you intend to add the newborn to this plan.  
For existing Subscribers:

- i. If the addition of the newborn child to the Subscriber's coverage will change the amount the Subscriber is required to pay for that coverage, then the Subscriber, in order for the newborn to keep coverage beyond the first 31-day period of coverage, is required to: (A) pay the new amount due for coverage after the first 31-day period of coverage; and (B) notify Health Plan within 31 days of the newborn's birth.
    - ii. If the addition of the newborn child to the Subscriber's coverage will not change the amount the Subscriber pays for coverage, the Subscriber must still notify Health Plan after the birth of the newborn to get the newborn enrolled onto the Subscriber's Health Plan coverage.
  - b. For newly adopted children (including children newly placed for adoption), the date of the adoption or placement for adoption. An eligible adopted child must be enrolled within 31 days from the date the child is placed in your custody or the date of the final decree of adoption.  
For existing Subscribers:
    - i. If the addition of the newly adopted child to the Subscriber's coverage will change the amount the Subscriber is required to pay for that coverage, then the Subscriber, in order for the newly adopted child to continue coverage beyond the initial 31-day period of coverage, is required to: (A) pay the new amount due for coverage after the initial 31-day period of coverage; and (B) notify Health Plan within 31 days of the child's adoption or placement for adoption.
    - ii. If the addition of the newly adopted child to the Subscriber's coverage will not change the amount the Subscriber pays for coverage, the Subscriber must still notify Health Plan after the adoption or placement for adoption of the child to get the child enrolled onto the Subscriber's Health Plan coverage.
  - c. For all other Dependents, if enrolled within 31 days of becoming eligible, no later than the first day of the month following the date your Group receives the enrollment application. Your Group will let you know the membership effective date. Employees and Dependents who are not enrolled when newly eligible must wait until the next open enrollment period to become Members of Health Plan, unless: (i) they enroll under special circumstances, as agreed to by your Group and Health Plan; or (ii) they enroll under the provisions described in "Special Enrollment".
4. Special Enrollment  
You or your Dependent may experience a triggering event that allows a change in your enrollment. Examples of triggering events are the loss of coverage, a Dependent's aging off this plan, marriage, and birth of a child. The triggering event results in a special enrollment period that usually (but not always) starts on the date of the triggering event and lasts for 30 days. During the special enrollment period, you may enroll your Dependent(s) in this plan or, in certain circumstances, you may change plans (your plan choice may be limited). There are requirements that you must meet to take advantage of a special enrollment period including showing proof of your own or your Dependent's triggering event. To learn more about triggering events, special enrollment periods, how to enroll or change your plan (if permitted), timeframes for submitting information to Health Plan and other requirements, call **Member Services** to obtain a copy of Health Plan's *Special Enrollment Guide*.
5. Open Enrollment  
You may enroll as a Subscriber (along with any eligible Dependents), and existing Subscribers may add eligible Dependents, by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application to your Group during the open enrollment period. Your Group will let you know when the open enrollment period begins and ends and the membership effective date.
6. Persons Barred from Enrolling  
You cannot enroll if you have had your entitlement to receive Services through Health Plan terminated for cause.

## II. HOW TO ACCESS YOUR SERVICES AND OBTAIN APPROVAL OF BENEFITS

As a Member, you are selecting our medical care program to provide your health care. You must receive all covered Services from Plan Providers inside your home Service Area, except as described under the following headings:

- "Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)" in "Emergency Services and Urgent Care" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.
- "Urgent Care Outside the Service Area" in "Emergency Services and Urgent Care" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.
- "Out-of-Area Benefit" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.
- "Access to Other Providers" in this section.
- "Cross Market Access" in this section.
- "Visiting Other Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Areas" in this section.
- "Plus Benefit" if purchased by your Group. See the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" to determine if your Group has purchased this coverage.

Your home Service Area is printed on your Health Plan Identification (ID) card. For more information about your ID card, please refer to the “Using Your Health Plan Identification Card” section.

In some circumstances, you might receive emergency or non-emergency Services from a non-Plan Provider or non-Plan Facility. **Non-emergency Services from non-Plan Providers are not covered unless they are authorized by us.** If Services from a non-Plan Provider are authorized, the Deductible, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance for these authorized Services are the same as for covered Services received from a Plan Provider. You have the right and responsibility to request a Plan Provider to provide Services.

**Note:** *Denver/Boulder* Members do not have access to Affiliated Providers within the *Denver/Boulder* Service Area unless authorized by Health Plan. *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Members do have access to Affiliated Providers within their home Service Area.

## A. Your Primary Care Provider

Your primary care provider (PCP) plays an important role in coordinating your health care needs. This includes hospital stays and referrals to specialists. Every member of your family should have his or her own PCP.

### 1. Choosing Your Primary Care Provider

You may select a PCP from family medicine, pediatrics, or internal medicine within your home Service Area. You may also receive a second medical opinion from a Plan Physician upon request. Please refer to the “Second Opinions” section.

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

You may choose your PCP from our provider directory. To review a list of Plan Providers and their biographies, visit our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). You can also get a copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. To choose a PCP, sign in to your account online or call **Personal Physician Selection Services**. This team will help you choose a primary care provider, accepting new patients, based on your health care needs.

#### b. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

You must choose a PCP when you enroll. If you do not select a PCP upon enrollment, we will assign you one near your home.

Medical Group contracts with a panel of Affiliated Physicians, specialists, and other health care professionals to provide medical Services in the *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Service Areas. You may choose your PCP from our panel of *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* providers.

You can find these physicians, along with a list of affiliated specialists and ancillary providers, in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your specific home Service Area. You can review a list of *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Plan Providers by visiting our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). You can also get a copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. To choose a PCP, call **Personal Physician Selection Services**. This team will help you choose a primary care provider, accepting new patients, based on your health care needs.

If you are seeking routine or specialty care in *Denver/Boulder*, you must have a referral from your local PCP with an Authorization from Health Plan. If you do not have an Authorization, you will be billed for the full amount of the office visit Charges. If you are visiting in the *Denver/Boulder* Service Area and need urgent or emergency care, you can visit a *Denver/Boulder* Plan Facility without a referral. For a referral from a specialist, see the “Access to Other Providers” section. For care in *Denver/Boulder* Plan Medical Offices, see “Cross Market Access”.

### 2. Changing Your Primary Care Provider

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

Please call **Personal Physician Selection Services** to change your PCP. You may also change your PCP online or when visiting a Plan Facility. You may change your PCP at any time.

#### b. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

Please call **Personal Physician Selection Services** to change your PCP. Notify us of your new PCP choice by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month. Your selection will be effective on the first day of the following month.

## B. Access to Other Providers

### 1. Referrals and Authorizations

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

If your Medical Group physician decides that you need covered Services not available from us, he or she will request a referral for you to see a non-Medical Group physician inside or outside our Service Area. This referral request will result in an Authorization or a denial. However, there may be circumstances where Health Plan will partially authorize your provider’s referral request.

An Authorization is a referral request that has received approval from Health Plan. An Authorization is limited to a specific Service, treatment or series of treatments, and period of time. The provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider’s information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the

Authorization is valid. Copayments or Coinsurance for authorized Services are the same as those required for Services provided by a Medical Group physician.

An Authorization is required for Services provided by non-Plan Providers, non-Medical Group physicians, or non-Plan Facilities. If your provider refers you to a non-Medical Group physician, non-Plan Provider, or non-Plan Facility, inside or outside our Service Area, you must have a written Authorization in order for us to cover the Services.

All referral Services must be requested and authorized in advance. We will not pay for any care rendered by a provider unless the care is specifically authorized by Health Plan and approved in advance. A written or verbal recommendation by a provider that you get non-covered Services (whether Medically Necessary or not) is not considered an Authorization, and is **not** covered.

b. **Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas**

If your Medical Group physician decides that you need covered Services not available from us, he or she will request a referral for you to see a non-Medical Group physician inside or outside our Service Area. This referral request will result in an Authorization or a denial. However, there may be circumstances where Health Plan will partially authorize your provider's referral request.

An Authorization is a referral request that has received approval from Health Plan. An Authorization is limited to a specific Service, treatment or series of treatments, and period of time. The provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid. Copayments or Coinsurance for authorized Services are the same as those required for Services provided by a Medical Group physician.

An Authorization is required for Services provided by non-Plan Providers, non-Medical Group physicians, or non-Plan Facilities. If your provider refers you to a non-Medical Group physician, non-Plan Provider, or non-Plan Facility, inside or outside our Service Area, you must have a written Authorization in order for us to cover the Services.

All referral Services must be requested and authorized in advance. We will not pay for any care rendered by a provider unless the care is specifically authorized by Health Plan and approved in advance. A written or verbal recommendation by a provider that you get non-covered Services (whether Medically Necessary or not) is not considered an Authorization, and is **not** covered.

2. **Specialty Self-Referrals**

a. **Denver/Boulder Service Area**

In some cases you can refer yourself for consultation (routine office) visits to specialty-care departments within Kaiser Permanente, with the exception of certain specialty-care departments such as the anesthesia clinical pain department. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to eye care services from a Plan Provider. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a Plan Provider who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology.

You will find specialty-care providers in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your home Service Area. The Provider Directory is available on our website, [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). If you need a printed copy of the Provider Directory, please call **Member Services**.

A self-referral provides coverage for routine office visits only. Certain Services other than those provided as part of a routine office visit will not be covered unless authorized by Kaiser Permanente before Services are rendered.

Authorization from Kaiser Permanente is required for: (i) Services in addition to those provided as part of the visit, such as surgery; and (ii) visits to specialty-care Plan Providers not eligible for self-referrals; and (iii) non-Plan Providers. The request for these Services can be generated by either your PCP or by a specialty-care provider. If the request is approved, the provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid.

A Plan Provider can directly refer you for some laboratory or radiology Services and for specialty procedures such as a CT scan or MRI. However, certain laboratory or radiology Services and specialty procedures will still require an Authorization.

b. **Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas**

In some cases you can refer yourself for consultation (routine office) visits to specialty-care departments within Kaiser Permanente, with the exception of certain specialty-care departments such as the anesthesia clinical pain department. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to eye care services from a Plan Provider. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a Plan Provider who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology.

You will find specialty-care providers in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your home Service Area. The Provider Directory is available on our website, [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). If you need a printed copy of the Provider Directory, please call **Member Services**.

A self-referral provides coverage for routine office visits only. Certain Services other than those provided as part of a routine office visit will not be covered unless authorized by Kaiser Permanente before Services are rendered.

Authorization from Kaiser Permanente is required for: (i) Services in addition to those provided as part of the visit, such as surgery; and (ii) visits to specialty-care Plan Providers not eligible for self-referrals; and (iii) non-Plan Providers. The request for these Services can be generated by either your PCP or by a specialty-care provider. If the request is approved, the provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid.

A Plan Provider can directly refer you for some laboratory or radiology Services and for specialty procedures such as a CT scan or MRI. However, certain laboratory or radiology Services and specialty procedures will still require an Authorization.

**Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Members may be able to self-refer to Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices in the **Denver/Boulder** Service Area (see "Cross Market Access" in this section).

### 3. Second Opinions

Upon request and subject to payment of any applicable Copayments or Coinsurance, you may get a second opinion from a Plan Physician about any proposed covered Services.

If the recommendations of the first and second physician differ regarding the need for surgery (or other major procedure), a third opinion may be covered if authorized by Health Plan. Third medical opinions are not covered unless authorized by Health Plan before Services are rendered.

## C. Plan Facilities

Plan Facilities are Plan Medical Offices or Plan Hospitals in our Service Area that we contract with to provide covered Services to our Members.

### 1. Denver/Boulder Service Area

We offer health care at Plan Medical Offices conveniently located throughout the **Denver/Boulder** Service Area. At most of our Plan Facilities, you can usually receive all the covered Services you need. This includes specialized care. You are not restricted to a certain Plan Facility. We encourage you to use the Plan Facility in your home Service Area that will be most convenient for you.

Plan Facilities are listed in our provider directory, which we update regularly. You can get a current copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. You can also get a list of Plan Facilities on our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations).

### 2. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

When you select your PCP, you will receive your Services at that provider's office. You can find **Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Plan Physicians and their facilities, along with a list of affiliated specialists and ancillary providers, in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your specific home Service Area. You can get a copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. You can also get a list from our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations).

## D. Getting the Care You Need

Emergency care is covered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week anywhere in the world. **If you think you have a Life or Limb Threatening Emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room.** For coverage information about emergency care, including out-of-Plan Emergency Services, and emergency benefits away from home, please refer to "Emergency Services" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.

If you need urgent care, you may use one of the designated urgent care Plan Facilities. The Copayment or Coinsurance for urgent care received in Plan Facilities listed in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" will apply. For additional information about urgent care, please refer to "Urgent Care" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.

Urgent care received at a non-Plan Facility inside your Service Area is **not covered**. If you receive care for minor medical problems at non-Plan Facilities inside your Service Area, you will be responsible for payment for any treatment received.

There may be instances when you need to receive unauthorized urgent care outside your Service Area. Please see "Urgent Care" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section for coverage information about urgent care Services outside the Service Area.

## E. Visiting Other Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Areas

You may receive visiting member services from another Kaiser regional health plan as directed by that other plan so long as such services would be covered under this EOC. Kaiser regional health plan service areas may change at any time. Currently they are: the District of Columbia and parts of California, Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Maryland, Oregon, Virginia, and

Washington. For more information, please call **Member Services**. Visiting member services shall be subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this EOC including but not limited to those pertaining to prior Authorization, Deductible, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance, as further described in the Visiting Member Brochure available online at [kp.org/travel](http://kp.org/travel). Certain services are not covered as visiting member services.

For more information about receiving visiting member services in other Kaiser regional health plan service areas, including 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).

#### **F. Moving Outside of our Service Area**

If you move to an area not within any Kaiser regional health plan service area, your membership may be terminated. We will provide you with thirty (30) days' notice of termination which will include the reason for termination.

#### **G. Using Your Health Plan Identification Card**

Each Member is issued a Health Plan Identification (ID) card with a Health Record Number on it. This is useful when you call for advice, make an appointment, or go to a Plan Provider for care. The Health Record Number is used to identify your medical records and membership information. You should always have the same Health Record Number. Please call **Member Services** if: (1) we ever inadvertently issue you more than one Health Record Number; or (2) you need to replace your Health Plan ID card.

Your Health Plan ID card is for identification only. To receive covered Services, you must be a current Health Plan Member. Anyone who is not a Member will be billed as a non-Member for any Services we provide. In addition, claims for Emergency or non-emergency care Services from non-Plan Providers will be denied. If you let someone else use your Health Plan ID card, we may keep your card and terminate your membership upon 30 days written notice that will include the reason for termination.

When you receive Services, you will need to show photo identification along with your Health Plan ID card. This allows us to ensure proper identification and to better protect your coverage and medical information from fraud. If you suspect you or your membership is a victim of fraud, please call **Member Services** to report your concern.

#### **H. Cross Market Access**

Members may access certain Services at Kaiser Permanente Colorado Plan Medical Offices outside of their home Service Area.

##### **1. Denver/Boulder Members**

**Denver/Boulder** Members have access for certain Services at designated Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices in the **Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Service Areas. **Denver/Boulder** Members do not have access to Affiliated Providers in **Southern** and **Northern Colorado** unless authorized by Health Plan.

##### **2. Southern and Northern Colorado Members**

**Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Members have access for certain Services at any Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Office in the **Denver/Boulder**, **Southern**, and **Northern Colorado** Service Areas. **Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Members do not have access to Affiliated Providers outside their home Service Area unless authorized by Health Plan.

Services available to Members at Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices outside of their home Service Area include: primary care; specialty care; urgent care; pharmacy; laboratory; X-ray; vision; and hearing Services. These Services may not be available at all Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices and are subject to change. For more information on what Services you may access outside your designated home Service Area and at which Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices you may receive Services please call **Member Services**.

### **III. BENEFITS/COVERAGE (WHAT IS COVERED)**

The Services described in this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section are covered only if all the following conditions are satisfied:

- The Services are Medically Necessary; and
- The Services are provided, prescribed, recommended, or directed by a Plan Provider. This does not apply where specifically noted to the contrary in the following sections of this EOC: (a) “Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)”; and “Urgent Care Outside the Service Area” in “Emergency Services and Urgent Care”; and (b) “Out-of-Area Benefit”; and (c) “Plus Benefit” if purchased by your Group (see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if your Group has purchased this coverage); and
- You receive the Services from Plan Providers inside our Service Area. This does not apply where noted to the contrary in the following sections of this EOC: (a) “Referrals and Authorizations” and “Specialty Self-Referrals”; and (b) “Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)” and “Urgent Care Outside the Service Area” in “Emergency Services and Urgent Care”; and (c) “Out-of-Area Benefit”; and (d) “Visiting Other Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Areas”; and (e) “Plus Benefit” if purchased by your Group (see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if your Group has purchased this coverage); and

- Your provider has received prior Authorization for your Services, as appropriate; and
- You have met any Deductible requirements described in the “Schedule of Benefits (What is Covered).”

Exclusions and limitations that apply only to a certain benefit are described in this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section. Exclusions, limitations, and reductions that apply to all benefits are described in the “Limitations/Exclusions (What is Not Covered)” section.

**Note:** Copayments or Coinsurance may apply to the benefits and are described below. For a complete list of Copayment and Coinsurance requirements, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” You are responsible for any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for Services performed as part of or in conjunction with other outpatient Services, including but not limited to: office visits, Emergency Services, urgent care, and outpatient surgery.

## A. Office Services

### Office Services for Preventive Care, Diagnosis, and Treatment

We cover, under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section and subject to any specific limitations, exclusions, or exceptions as noted throughout this EOC, the following office services for preventive care, diagnosis, and treatment, including professional medical Services of physicians and other health care professionals in the physician’s office, during medical office consultations, in a Skilled Nursing Facility, or at home:

1. Primary care visits: Services from family medicine, internal medicine, and pediatrics.
2. Specialty care visits: Services from providers that are not primary care, as defined above.
3. Routine prenatal and postpartum visits: The routine prenatal benefit covers office exams, routine chemical urinalysis and fetal stress tests performed during the office visit. See the applicable section of your “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for the Copayment and/or Coinsurance for all other Services received during a prenatal visit.
4. Consultations with clinical pharmacists (*Denver/Boulder* Members only).
5. Other covered Services received during an office visit or a scheduled procedure visit.
6. Outpatient hospital clinic visits with an Authorization from Health Plan.
7. Blood, blood products, and their administration.
8. Second opinion.
9. House calls when care can best be provided in your home as determined by a Plan Physician.
10. Medical social Services.
11. Preventive care Services (see “Preventive Care Services” in this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section for more details).
12. Professional review and interpretation of patient data from a remote monitoring device.
13. Virtual care Services.
14. Office-administered drugs.

**Note:** If the following are administered in a Plan Medical Office or during home visits, and administration or observation by medical personnel is required, they are covered at the applicable office-administered drug Copayment or Coinsurance shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” This Copayment or Coinsurance may be in addition to your Office Services Copayment or Coinsurance.

Drugs and injectables; radioactive materials used for therapeutic purposes; vaccines and immunizations approved for use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA); and allergy test and treatment materials.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” If your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, you must meet Medical Group’s criteria to be eligible for coverage.

## B. Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services

### Outpatient Services at Designated Facilities

We cover, only as described under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section and subject to any specific limitations, exclusions, or exceptions as noted throughout this EOC, the following outpatient Services for diagnosis and treatment, including professional medical Services of physicians:

1. Outpatient surgery at designated Plan Facilities, including an ambulatory surgical center, surgical suite, or outpatient hospital facility. Kaiser Permanente applies Medicare global surgery guidelines in accordance with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).
2. Outpatient hospital Services at designated facilities, including but not limited to: electroencephalogram, sleep study, stress test, pulmonary function test, any treatment room, or any observation room. You may be charged an additional Copayment or Coinsurance for any Service which is listed as a separate benefit under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” If your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, you must meet Medical Group’s criteria to be eligible for coverage.



## C. Hospital Inpatient Care

### 1. Inpatient Services in a Plan Hospital

We cover, only as described under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section and subject to any specific limitations, exclusions or exceptions as noted throughout this EOC, the following inpatient Services in a Plan Hospital, when the Services are generally and customarily provided by acute care general hospitals in our Service Areas:

- a. Room and board, such as semiprivate accommodations or, when it is Medically Necessary, private accommodations or private duty nursing care.
- b. Intensive care and related hospital Services.
- c. Professional Services of physicians and other health care professionals during a hospital stay.
- d. General nursing care.
- e. Obstetrical care and delivery. This includes Cesarean section. If the covered stay for child birth ends after 8 p.m., coverage will be continued until 8 a.m. the following morning. **Note:** If you are discharged within 48 hours after delivery (or 96 hours if delivery is by Cesarean section), your Plan Physician may order a follow-up visit for you and your newborn to take place within 48 hours after discharge. If your newborn remains in the hospital following your discharge, Charges incurred by the newborn are subject to all Health Plan provisions. This includes the newborn’s own Deductible, Out-of-Pocket Maximum, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance requirements. This applies even if the newborn is covered only for the first 31 days that is required by state law.
- f. Meals and special diets.
- g. Other hospital Services and supplies, such as:
  - i. Operating, recovery, maternity, and other treatment rooms.
  - ii. Prescribed drugs and medicines.
  - iii. Diagnostic laboratory tests and X-rays.
  - iv. Blood, blood products and their administration.
  - v. Dressings, splints, casts, and sterile tray Services.
  - vi. Anesthetics, including nurse anesthetist Services.
  - vii. Medical supplies, appliances, medical equipment, including oxygen, and any covered items billed by a hospital for use at home.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” If your group has the bariatric surgery benefit, you must meet Medical Group’s criteria to be eligible for coverage.

### 2. Hospital Inpatient Care Exclusions

- a. Dental Services are excluded, except that we cover hospitalization and general anesthesia for dental Services provided to Members as required by state law.
- b. Cosmetic surgery related to bariatric surgery.

## D. Ambulance Services and Other Transportation

### 1. Coverage

We cover ambulance Services only if your condition requires the use of medical Services that only a licensed ambulance can provide. Kaiser Permanente applies Medicare guidelines for ambulance Services in accordance with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

### 2. Ambulance Services Exclusions

- a. Non-emergency routine ambulance services to home or other non-acute health care setting are not covered.
- b. Transportation by other than a licensed ambulance is not covered. Transportation by car, taxi, bus, gurney van, minivan, or any other type of transportation is not covered, even if it is the only way to travel to a Plan Provider.

**Note:** Health Plan will cover certain non-emergent, non-ambulance transportation when there is prior Authorization by Health Plan.

## E. Clinical Trials

**Note:** We cover the initial evaluation for eligibility and acceptance into a clinical trial only if authorized by Health Plan.

### 1. Coverage (applies to non-grandfathered health plans only)

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

- a. We would have covered the Services if they were not related to a clinical trial.
- b. You are eligible to participate in the clinical trial according to the trial protocol with respect to treatment of cancer or other life-threatening condition (a condition from which the likelihood of death is probable unless the course of the condition is interrupted), as determined in one of the following ways:
  - i. A Plan Provider makes this determination.
  - ii. You provide us with medical and scientific information establishing this determination.
- c. If any Plan 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 Plan Provider unless the clinical trial is outside the state where you live.

- d. The clinical trial is a phase I, phase II, phase III, or phase IV clinical trial related to the prevention, detection, or treatment of cancer or other life-threatening condition and it meets one of the following requirements:
  - i. The study or investigation is conducted under an investigational new drug application reviewed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
  - ii. The study or investigation is a drug trial that is exempt from having an investigational new drug application.
  - iii. The study or investigation is approved or funded by at least one of the following:
    - (a) The National Institutes of Health.
    - (b) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
    - (c) The Agency for Health Care Research and Quality.
    - (d) The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.
    - (e) A cooperative group or center of any of the above entities or of the Department of Defense or the Department of Veterans Affairs.
    - (f) A qualified non-governmental research entity identified in the guidelines issued by the National Institutes of Health for center support grants.
    - (g) 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:
      - (i) It is comparable to the National Institutes of Health system of peer review of studies and investigations.
      - (ii) 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 applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” that you would pay if the Services were not related to a clinical trial. For example, see “Hospital Inpatient Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for the Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible that apply to hospital inpatient care.

## 2. Clinical Trials Exclusions

- a. The investigational Service.
- b. Services provided solely for data collection and analysis and that are not used in your direct clinical management.

## F. **Dialysis Care**

We cover dialysis Services related to acute renal failure and end-stage renal disease if the following criteria are met:

1. The Services are provided inside our Service Area; and
2. You meet all medical criteria developed by Medical Group and by the facility providing the dialysis; and
3. The facility is certified by Medicare and contracts with Health Plan; and
4. A Plan Physician provides a written referral for care at the facility.

After the referral to a dialysis facility, we cover at no Charge: equipment; training; and medical supplies required for home dialysis.

## G. **Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Prosthetics and Orthotics**

We cover DME and prosthetics and orthotics, when prescribed by a Plan Physician as described below; when prescribed by a Plan Physician during a covered stay in a Skilled Nursing Facility, but only if Skilled Nursing Facilities ordinarily furnish the DME or prosthetics and orthotics.

Health Plan uses Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) and National Coverage Determinations (NCD) (hereinafter referred to as Medicare Guidelines) for our DME, prosthetic, and orthotic formulary guidelines. These are guidelines only. Health Plan reserves the right to exclude items listed in the Medicare Guidelines. Please note that this EOC may contain some, but not all, of these exclusions.

**Limitations:** Coverage is limited to the standard item of DME, prosthetic device, or orthotic device that adequately meets your medical needs.

### 1. Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

#### a. Coverage

DME, with the exception of the following, is **not** covered unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for DME, including prosthetic and orthotic devices. See “Additional Provisions.”

- i. Oxygen dispensing equipment and oxygen used in your home are covered. Oxygen refills are covered while you are temporarily outside the Service Area. To qualify for coverage, you must have a pre-existing oxygen order and must obtain your oxygen from the vendor designated by Health Plan.
- ii. Insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iii. Infant apnea monitors are provided.

- iv. Enteral nutrition, medical foods, and related feeding equipment and supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.

b. Durable Medical Equipment Exclusions

- i. All other DME not described above, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for DME. See “Additional Provisions.”
- ii. Replacement of lost or stolen equipment.
- iii. Repair, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.
- iv. Spare equipment or alternate use equipment.
- v. More than one piece of DME serving essentially the same function, except for replacements.

2. Prosthetic Devices

a. Coverage

We cover the following prosthetic devices, including repairs, adjustments, and replacements other than those necessitated by misuse, theft, or loss, when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan:

- i. Internally implanted devices for functional purposes, such as pacemakers and hip joints.
- ii. Prosthetic devices for Members who have had a mastectomy. Medical Group or Health Plan will designate the source from which external prostheses can be obtained. Replacement will be made when a prosthesis is no longer functional. Custom-made prostheses will be provided when necessary.
- iii. Prosthetic devices, such as obturators and speech and feeding appliances, required for treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iv. Prosthetic devices intended to replace, in whole or in part, an arm or leg when prescribed by a Plan Physician, as Medically Necessary and provided in accordance with this EOC, including repairs and replacements of such prosthetic devices.

Your Group may have purchased additional coverage for prosthetic devices. See “Additional Provisions.”

b. Prosthetic Devices Exclusions

- i. All other prosthetic devices not described above, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for prosthetic devices. See “Additional Provisions.” Your Plan Physician can provide the Services necessary to determine your need for prosthetic devices and help you make arrangements to obtain such devices at a reasonable rate.
- ii. Internally implanted devices, equipment, and prosthetics related to treatment of sexual dysfunction, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for this benefit.

3. Orthotic Devices

Orthotic devices are **not** covered unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for DME, including prosthetic and orthotic devices. See “Additional Provisions.”

**H. Early Childhood Intervention Services**

1. Coverage

Covered children, from birth up to age three (3), who have significant delays in development or have a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in significant delays in development as defined by state law, are covered for the number of Early Intervention Services (EIS) visits as required by state law. EIS are not subject to any Copayments or Coinsurance, or to any annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum or Lifetime Maximum.

**Note:** You may be billed for any EIS received after the number of visits required by state law is satisfied.

2. Limitations

The number of visits as required by state law does not apply to:

- a. Rehabilitation or therapeutic Services which are necessary as the result of an acute medical condition or post-surgical rehabilitation;
- b. Services provided to a child who is not an eligible child and whose services are not provided pursuant to an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP); and
- c. Assistive technology covered by the durable medical equipment benefit provisions of this EOC.

3. Early Childhood Intervention Services Exclusions

- a. Respite care;
- b. Non-emergency medical transportation;
- c. Service coordination other than case management services; or
- d. Assistive technology, not to include durable medical equipment that is otherwise covered under this EOC.

**I. Emergency Services and Urgent Care**

1. Emergency Services

Emergency Services are available at all times - 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK. If you have an Emergency Medical Condition or mental health emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest hospital emergency department. You do not need prior Authorization for Emergency Services. When you have an Emergency Medical Condition, we cover Emergency Services you receive from Plan Providers and non-Plan Providers anywhere in the world, as long as the Services would have been covered under your plan if you had received them from Plan Providers. For information about emergency benefits away from home, please call **Member Services**.

You will pay your plan's Deductible, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance for covered Emergency Services, regardless of whether the Services are provided by a Plan Provider or a non-Plan Provider.

Please note that in addition to any Copayment or Coinsurance that applies under this section, you may incur additional Copayment or Coinsurance amounts for Services and procedures covered under other sections of this EOC.

a. Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)

"Out-of-Plan Emergency Services" are Emergency Services that are not provided by a Plan Physician. There may be times when you or a family member may receive Emergency Services from non-Plan Providers. The patient's medical condition may be so critical that you cannot call or come to one of our Plan Medical Offices or the emergency room of a Plan Hospital, or the patient may need Emergency Services while traveling outside our Service Area.

**Please refer to "ii. Emergency Services Limitation for non-Plan Providers" if you are hospitalized for Emergency Services.**

i. We cover out-of-Plan Emergency Services as follows:

A. Outside our Service Area. If you are injured or become unexpectedly ill while you are outside our Service Area, we will cover out-of-Plan Emergency Services that could not reasonably be delayed until you could get to a Plan Hospital, a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, or a Plan Facility, only if a prudent layperson having average knowledge of health services and medicine and acting reasonably would have believed that an Emergency Medical Condition or Life or Limb Threatening Emergency existed. Covered benefits include Medically Necessary out-of-Plan Emergency Services for conditions that arise unexpectedly, including but not limited to myocardial infarction, appendicitis, or premature delivery.

B. Inside our Service Area. If you are inside our Service Area, we will cover out-of-Plan Emergency Services only if a prudent layperson would have reasonably believed that the delay in going to a Plan Hospital, a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, or a Plan Facility for treatment would result in death or serious impairment of health.

ii. Emergency Services Limitation for non-Plan Providers

If you are admitted to a non-Plan Hospital, non-Plan Facility, or a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, you or someone on your behalf must notify us within 24 hours, or as soon as reasonably possible. Please call the **Telephonic Medicine Center at 303-743-5763**.

We will decide whether to make arrangements for necessary continued care where you are, or to transfer you to a Plan Facility we designate once you are Stabilized. If you are admitted to a non-Plan Hospital, non-Plan Facility, or a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, we may transfer you to a Plan Hospital or Plan Facility. By notifying us of your hospitalization as soon as possible, you will protect yourself from potential liability for payment for Services you receive after transfer to one of our Plan Facilities would have been possible.

b. Emergency Services Limitations

Continuing or follow-up treatment: We cover only the Emergency Services that are required before you could have been moved to a Plan Facility we designate either inside or outside our Service Area. If you are admitted to a Plan Facility, we may transfer you to another Plan Facility. When approved by Health Plan, we will cover ambulance Services or other transportation Medically Necessary to move you to a designated Plan Facility for continuing or follow-up treatment.

c. Payment

Our payment is reduced by:

- i. any applicable Copayment and/or Coinsurance for Emergency Services and X-ray special procedures performed in the emergency room. The emergency room and X-ray special procedures Copayments, if applicable, are waived if you are admitted directly to the hospital as an inpatient; and
- ii. the Copayment or Coinsurance for ambulance Services, if any; and
- iii. coordination of benefits; and
- iv. all amounts paid or payable, or which in the absence of this EOC would be payable, for the Services in question, under any insurance policy or contract, or any other contract, or any government program except Medicaid; and
- v. amounts you or your legal representative recover from motor vehicle insurance or because of third party liability.

**Note:** If you receive out-of-Plan Emergency Services, our payment is also reduced by any other payments you would have had to make if you received the same Services from our Plan Providers. The procedure for receiving reimbursement for out-of-Plan Emergency Services is described in the “Appeals and Complaints” section regarding “Post-Service Claims and Appeals.”

**Note:** As part of an emergent care episode, Medically Necessary DME and prosthetics and orthotics following Stabilization will be covered if authorized by Health Plan.

## 2. Urgent Care

### a. Urgent Care Provided by Plan Providers

#### i. Denver/Boulder Service Area

Urgent care Services are Services that are not Emergency Services, are required to prevent serious deterioration of your health, and that are required as a result of an unforeseen illness, injury, or condition.

Urgent care that cannot wait for a scheduled visit with your PCP or specialist can be received at one of our designated urgent care Plan Facilities. In some circumstances, you may be able to receive care in your home. For Copayment and Coinsurance information, see “Urgent Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. For information regarding the designated urgent care Plan Facilities, please call **Member Services** during normal business hours. You can also go to our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org), for information on designated urgent care facilities.

You may call **Advice Nurses** at any time, and one of our advice nurses can speak with you. Our advice nurses are registered nurses (RNs) specially trained to help assess medical symptoms and provide advice over the phone, when medically appropriate. They can often answer questions about a minor concern or advise you about what to do next, including making an appointment for you if appropriate.

#### ii. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

Urgent care Services are Services that are not Emergency Services, are required to prevent serious deterioration of your health, and that are required as a result of an unforeseen illness, injury, or condition.

Urgent care that cannot wait for a scheduled visit with your PCP or specialist can be received at one of our designated urgent care Plan Facilities. In some circumstances, you may be able to receive care in your home. For Copayment and Coinsurance information, see “Urgent Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. For information regarding the designated urgent care Plan Facilities, please call **Member Services** during normal business hours. You can also go to our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org), for information on designated urgent care facilities.

You may call **Advice Nurses** at any time, and one of our advice nurses can speak with you. Our advice nurses are registered nurses (RNs) specially trained to help assess medical symptoms and provide advice over the phone, when medically appropriate. They can often answer questions about a minor concern or advise you about what to do next, including making an appointment for you if appropriate.

### b. Urgent Care Outside the Service Area

There may be situations when it is necessary for you to receive unauthorized urgent care outside your Service Area. Urgent care received from non-Plan Providers outside your Service Area is covered only if all of the following requirements are met:

- i. The care is required to prevent serious deterioration of your health; and
- ii. The need for care results from an unforeseen illness or injury when you are temporarily away from our Service Area; and
- iii. The care cannot be delayed until you return to our Service Area.

**Note:** If you receive urgent care outside the Service Area, you may be responsible for any amounts over eligible Charges, in addition to any Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance. The procedure for receiving reimbursement for urgent care Services outside the Service Area is described in the “Appeals and Complaints” section regarding “Post-Service Claims and Appeals”.

**Note:** As part of an urgent care episode, Medically Necessary DME and prosthetics and orthotics following Stabilization will be covered if authorized by Health Plan.

## J. **Family Planning and Sterilization Services**

### 1. Coverage

- a. Family planning counseling. This includes counseling and information on birth control.
- b. Tubal ligations.
- c. Vasectomies.

**Note:** The following are covered, but not under this section: diagnostic procedures, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”; contraceptive drugs and devices, see the “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements” section.

2. Family Planning and Sterilization Services Exclusions

- a. Any and all Services to reverse voluntary, surgically induced sterilization.
- b. Acupuncture for the treatment of infertility.
- c. Donor semen or eggs.
- d. Any and all Services, supplies, office administered drugs and prescription drugs related to the procurement and/or storage of semen and/or eggs.
- e. Any and all Services, supplies, office administered drugs and prescription drugs received from the pharmacy that are related to intrauterine insemination or conception by artificial means. This includes, but is not limited to: in vitro fertilization, ovum transplants, gamete intra fallopian transfer, and zygote intra fallopian transfer.

**Note:** See “Additional Provisions” for additional coverage or exclusions, if applicable to your Group.

**K. Health Education Services**

We provide health education appointments to support understanding of chronic diseases such as diabetes and hypertension. We also teach self-care on topics such as stress management and nutrition.

**L. Hearing Services**

1. Members up to Age 18

We cover hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction. For minor children with a verified hearing loss, coverage shall also include:

- a. Initial hearing aids and replacement hearing aids not more frequently than every five (5) years;
- b. A new hearing aid when alterations to the existing hearing aid cannot adequately meet the needs of the child; and
- c. Services and supplies including, but not limited to, the initial assessment, fitting, adjustments, and auditory training that is provided according to accepted professional standards.

2. Members Age 18 Years and Older

a. Coverage

We cover hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction. Your Group may have purchased additional coverage for hearing aids. See “Additional Provisions.”

b. Hearing Services Exclusions

- i. Tests to determine an appropriate hearing aid model, unless your Group has purchased that coverage.
- ii. Hearing aids and tests to determine their usefulness, unless your Group has purchased that coverage.

**M. Home Health Care**

1. Coverage

We cover skilled nursing care, home health aide Services, home infusion therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, and medical social Services:

- a. only on a Part-Time Care or Intermittent Care basis; and
- b. only within our Service Area; and
- c. only to an eligible Member when ordered by a Plan Physician and either self-administered or administered by a Plan Provider. Care must be provided under a home health care plan established by the Plan Physician and the approved Plan Provider; and
- d. only if a Plan Physician determines that it is feasible to maintain effective supervision and control of your care in your home.

Part-Time Care or Intermittent Care means part-time or intermittent skilled nursing and home health aide Services.

**Note:** Services that are performed in the home, but that do not meet the Home Health Care requirements above, will be covered at the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance and limits for the Service performed (e.g. urgent care, physical, occupational, and/or speech therapy). See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”.

**Note:** X-ray, laboratory, and X-ray special procedures are not covered under this section. See “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”.

2. Home Health Care Exclusions

- a. Custodial care.
- b. Homemaker Services.
- c. Care that Medical Group determines may be appropriately provided in a Plan Facility or Skilled Nursing Facility, if we offer to provide that care in one of these facilities.

**N. Hospice Special Services and Hospice Care**

1. Hospice Special Services

If you have been diagnosed with a life limiting illness with a life expectancy of 24 months or less, but are not yet ready to elect hospice care, you are eligible for the Special Services Program (“Program”). Coverage of hospice care is described below.

Hospice Special Services give you and your family time to become more familiar with hospice-type Services and to decide what is best for you. It helps you bridge the gap between your diagnosis and preparing for the end of life.

The difference between Hospice Special Services and regular Home Health Care visiting nurse visits is that: you may or may not be homebound or have skilled nursing care needs; or you may only require spiritual or emotional care. Services available through this program are provided by professionals with specific training in end-of-life issues.

2. Hospice Care

We cover hospice care for terminally ill Members inside our Service Area. If a Plan Physician diagnoses you with a terminal illness and determines that your life expectancy is six (6) months or less, you can choose hospice care instead of traditional Services otherwise provided for your illness.

If you elect to receive hospice care, you will not receive **additional** benefits for the terminal illness. However, you can continue to receive Health Plan benefits for conditions other than the terminal illness.

We cover the following Services and other benefits when: (1) prescribed by a Plan Physician and the hospice care team; and (2) received from a licensed hospice approved, in writing, by Kaiser Permanente:

- a. Physician care.
- b. Nursing care.
- c. Physical, occupational, speech, and respiratory therapy.
- d. Medical social Services.
- e. Home health aide and homemaker Services.
- f. Medical supplies, drugs, biologicals, and appliances.
- g. Palliative drugs in accordance with our drug formulary guidelines.
- h. Short-term inpatient care including respite care, care for pain control, and acute and chronic pain management.
- i. Counseling and bereavement Services.
- j. Services of volunteers.

**O. Mental Health Services**

1. Coverage

We cover mental health Services as shown below. Coverage includes evaluation and Services for conditions which, in the judgment of a Plan Physician, would respond to therapeutic management. Mental health includes but is not limited to biologically based illnesses or disorders.

a. Outpatient Therapy

We cover: diagnostic evaluation; individual therapy; intensive outpatient therapy; psychiatric treatment; crisis intervention and stabilization for acute episodes; and psychiatrically oriented child and teenage guidance counseling.

Visits for the purpose of monitoring drug therapy are covered.

Psychological testing as part of diagnostic evaluation is covered.

b. Inpatient Services

We cover psychiatric hospitalization in a facility designated by Medical Group or Health Plan. Hospital Services for psychiatric conditions include all Services of Plan Physicians and mental health professionals and the following Services and supplies as prescribed by a Plan Physician while you are a registered bed patient: room and board; psychiatric nursing care; group therapy; electroconvulsive therapy; occupational therapy; drug therapy; and medical supplies.

c. Partial Hospitalization

We cover partial hospitalization in a Plan Hospital-based program.

We cover mental health Services, whether they are voluntary or are court-ordered as a result of contact with the criminal justice or juvenile justice system, when they are Medically Necessary and otherwise covered under the plan, and when rendered by a Plan Provider. We do not cover court-ordered treatment that exceeds the scope of coverage of this health benefit plan.

2. Mental Health Services Exclusions

- a. Evaluations for any purpose other than mental health treatment. This includes evaluations for: child custody; disability; or fitness for duty/return to work, unless Medically Necessary.
- b. Court-ordered testing and testing for ability, aptitude, intelligence, or interest.
- c. Services which are custodial or residential in nature.

**P. Out-of-Area Benefit**

A limited benefit is available to Dependents, up to the age of 26, receiving care outside any Kaiser regional health plan service area.

1. Coverage

The Out-of-Area Benefit is limited to certain office visits, diagnostic X-rays, physical, occupational, and speech therapy, and prescription drug fills as covered under this EOC:

- a. Office visit exam limited to:
  - i. Primary care visit.
  - ii. Specialty care visit.
  - iii. Preventive care visit.
  - iv. Gynecology care visit.
  - v. Hearing exam.
  - vi. Mental health visit.
  - vii. Substance use disorder visit.
  - viii. The administration of allergy injections.
  - ix. Prevention immunizations pursuant to the schedule established by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).
- b. Diagnostic X-rays.
- c. Physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits.
- d. Prescription drug fills.

See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for more details.

2. Out-of-Area Benefit Exclusions and Limitations

The Out-of-Area Benefit does not include the following Services:

- a. Other Services provided during a covered office visit such as, but not limited to: procedures, laboratory tests, and office administered drugs and devices, except for allergy injections and prevention immunizations as listed in the “Coverage” section of this benefit.
- b. Services received outside the United States.
- c. Transplant Services.
- d. Services covered outside the Service Area under another section of this EOC (e.g., Emergency Services and Urgent Care).
- e. Allergy evaluation, routine prenatal and postpartum visits, chiropractic care, acupuncture services, applied behavior analysis (ABA), hearing tests, hearing aids, home health visits, hospice services, and travel immunizations.
- f. X-ray special procedures, including but not limited to CT, PET, MRI, nuclear medicine.
- g. Any and all Services not listed in the “Coverage” section of this benefit.

**Q. Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy and Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services**1. Coveragea. Hospital Inpatient Care, Care in a Skilled Nursing Facility, and Home Health Care

We cover physical, occupational, and speech therapy as part of your Hospital Inpatient Care, Skilled Nursing Facility, and Home Health Care benefit. Therapies that are performed in the home, but that do not meet the Home Health Care requirements, will be covered at the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance and limits for the therapy performed (i.e., physical, occupational, and/or speech). See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”.

b. Outpatient Care

We cover three (3) types of outpatient therapy (i.e., physical, occupational, and speech therapy) in a Plan Facility or other location approved by Health Plan, to improve or develop skills or functioning due to medical deficits, illness, or injury. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

c. Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services

We will cover treatment in an organized, multidisciplinary rehabilitation Services program in a designated facility or a Skilled Nursing Facility. We also cover multidisciplinary rehabilitation Services without Charge while you are an inpatient in a designated facility. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

d. Pulmonary Rehabilitation

Treatment in a pulmonary rehabilitation program is provided if prescribed or recommended by a Plan Physician and provided by therapists at designated facilities.

e. Therapies for Congenital Defects and Birth Abnormalities

After the first 31 days of life, the limitations and exclusions applicable to this EOC apply, except that Medically Necessary physical, occupational, and speech therapy for the care and treatment of congenital defects and birth



abnormalities for covered children from age three (3) to age six (6) shall be provided. The benefit level shall be the greater of the number of such visits provided under this health benefit plan or 20 therapy visits per Accumulation Period for each physical, occupational, and speech therapy. Such visits shall be distributed as Medically Necessary throughout the Accumulation Period without regard to whether the condition is acute or chronic and without regard to whether the purpose of the therapy is to maintain or improve functional capacity. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**Note 1:** This benefit is also available for eligible children under the age of three (3) who are not participating in Early Intervention Services.

**Note 2:** The visit limit for therapy to treat congenital defects and birth abnormalities is not applicable if such therapy is Medically Necessary to treat autism spectrum disorders.

f. Therapies for the Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders

For the treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders when prescribed by a Plan Physician and Medically Necessary, we cover:

- i. Outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy in a Plan Medical Office or other location approved by Health Plan. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”
- ii. Applied behavior analysis, including consultations, direct care, supervision, or treatment, or any combination thereof by autism services providers. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

2. Limitations

Occupational therapy is limited to treatment to achieve improved self-care and other customary activities of daily living.

3. Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy and Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services Exclusions

- a. Long-term rehabilitation, not including treatment for autism spectrum disorders.
- b. Speech therapy that is not Medically Necessary, such as: (i) therapy for educational placement or other educational purposes; or (ii) training or therapy to improve articulation in the absence of injury, illness, or medical condition affecting articulation; or (iii) therapy for tongue thrust in the absence of swallowing problems.

**R. Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements**

We use drug formularies. A drug formulary includes the list of prescription drugs that have been approved by our formulary committees for our Members. Our committees are comprised of Plan Physicians, pharmacists, and a nurse practitioner. The committees select prescription drugs for our drug formularies based on a number of factors, including safety and effectiveness as determined from a review of medical literature and research. The committees meet regularly to consider adding and removing prescription drugs on the drug formularies. If you would like information about whether a particular drug is included in our drug formularies, please call **Member Services**.

If your prescription drug has a Copayment shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” and it exceeds the Charges for your prescribed medication, then you pay Charges for the medication instead of the Copayment. The drug formulary, discussed above, also applies.

1. Coverage

a. Limited Drug Coverage Under Your Basic Drug Benefit

If your Group has not purchased supplemental prescription drug coverage, then prescribed drug coverage under your basic drug benefit is limited. It includes base drugs such as: contraceptives; orally administered anti-cancer medication; and post-surgical immunosuppressive drugs required after a transplant. These base drugs are available only when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies. You may obtain these drugs at the Copayment or Coinsurance shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” The amount covered cannot exceed the day supply for each maintenance drug or up to the day supply for each non-maintenance drug. Any amount you receive that exceeds the day supply will not be covered. If you receive more than the day supply, you will be charged as a non-Member for any amount that exceeds that limit. Each prescription refill is provided on the same basis as the original prescription.

If your Group has purchased supplemental prescription drug coverage, the applicable generic or brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance and any pharmacy Deductible apply for these types of drugs. For more information, please refer to the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”.

**Note:** Kaiser Permanente may, in its sole discretion, establish quantity limits for specific prescription drugs, regardless of whether your Group has limited or supplemental prescription drug coverage.

i. We cover:

- (a) prescription contraceptives intended to last:
  - (i) for a three-month period the first time the prescription contraceptive is dispensed to the covered person; and
  - (ii) for a twelve-month period or through the end of the covered person’s coverage under the policy, contract, or plan, whichever is shorter, for any subsequent dispensing of the same prescription contraceptive to

the covered person, regardless of whether the covered person was enrolled in the policy, contract, or plan at the time the prescription contraceptive was first dispensed; or

(b) a prescribed vaginal contraceptive ring intended to last for a three-month period.

For Copayment or Coinsurance information related to contraceptive drugs and certain devices, please refer to your “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

ii. We cover a five-day supply of an FDA-approved drug for the treatment of opioid dependence without prior authorization, except that the drug supply is limited to a first request within a twelve-month period.

b. Outpatient Prescription Drugs

Unless your Group has purchased additional outpatient prescription drug coverage, we do not cover outpatient drugs except as provided in other provisions of this “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements” section. If your Group has purchased additional coverage for outpatient prescription drugs, see “Additional Provisions.” The drug formulary, discussed above, also applies.

i. Prescriptions by Mail

If requested, refills of maintenance drugs will be mailed through Kaiser Permanente’s mail-order prescription service by First-Class U.S. Mail with no charge for postage and handling. Refills of maintenance drugs prescribed by Plan Physicians or Affiliated Physicians may be obtained for up to the day supply by mail order, at the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance. Maintenance drugs are determined by Health Plan. Certain drugs and supplies may not be available through our mail-order service, for example, drugs that require special handling or refrigeration, have a significant potential for waste or diversion, or are high cost. Drugs and supplies available through our mail-order prescription service are subject to change at any time without notice. For information regarding our mail-order prescription service and specialty drugs not available by mail order, please contact **Member Services**.

ii. Specialty Drugs

Prescribed specialty drugs, including self-administered injectable drugs, are provided at the specialty drug Copayment or Coinsurance up to the maximum amount per drug dispensed shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

c. Food Supplements

We cover prescribed amino acid modified products used in the treatment of congenital errors of amino acid metabolism and severe protein allergic conditions, elemental enteral nutrition, and parenteral nutrition. Such products are covered for self-administered use upon payment of a \$3.00 Copayment per product, per day. Food products for enteral feedings are not covered.

d. Prescribed Supplies and Accessories

Prescribed supplies, when obtained at Plan Pharmacies or from sources designated by Health Plan, will be provided. Such items include, but may not be limited to:

- i. home glucose monitoring supplies;
- ii. disposable syringes for the administration of insulin;
- iii. glucose test strips;
- iv. acetone test tablets and nitrate screening test strips for pediatric patient home use.

For more information, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” If your Group has purchased supplemental prescription drug coverage, see “Additional Provisions.”

2. Limitations

- a. Adult and pediatric immunizations are limited to those that are not experimental, are medically indicated and are consistent with accepted medical practice.
- b. Some drugs may require prior authorization.
- c. If applicable, we may apply Step Therapy to certain drugs. You or your Plan Provider may request an exception if you previously tried a drug and your use of the drug was discontinued due to lack of efficacy or effectiveness, diminished effect, or an adverse event.
- d. Coverage determinations for the off-label use of medications will be consistent with Medicare compendia, and coverage determinations for the off-label use of oncologic agents will be consistent with the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) of 2008.

3. Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements Exclusions

- a. Drugs for which a prescription is not required by law.
- b. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze, tape, antiseptics, dressing and ace-type bandages.
- c. Drugs or injections for treatment of sexual dysfunction, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage, which is described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”
- d. Any packaging except the dispensing pharmacy’s standard packaging.

- e. Replacement of prescription drugs for any reason. This includes spilled, lost, damaged, or stolen prescriptions.
- f. Drugs or injections for the treatment of infertility, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage, which is described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” and “Additional Provisions”.
- g. Drugs to shorten the length of the common cold.
- h. Drugs to enhance athletic performance.
- i. Drugs for the treatment of weight control.
- j. Drugs available over the counter and by prescription for the same strength.
- k. Individual drugs determined excluded by our Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.
- l. Unless approved by Health Plan, drugs not approved by the FDA.
- m. Non-preferred drugs, except those prescribed and authorized through the non-preferred drug process.
- n. Prescription drugs necessary for Services excluded under this EOC.
- o. Drugs administered during a medical office visit. See “Office Services”.
- p. Medical Foods and Medical Devices. See “Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Prosthetics and Orthotics”.

**S. Preventive Care Services**

If your plan has a different preventive care Services benefit, please see “Additional Provisions.”

We cover certain preventive care Services that do one or more of the following:

- 1. Protect against disease;
- 2. Promote health; and/or
- 3. Detect disease in its earliest stages before noticeable symptoms develop.

If you receive any other covered Services during a preventive care visit, you may pay the applicable Copayment and Coinsurance for those Services.

**T. Reconstructive Surgery**

1. Coverage

We cover reconstructive surgery when it: (a) will correct significant disfigurement resulting from an injury or Medically Necessary surgery; or (b) will correct a congenital defect, disease, or anomaly to produce major improvement in physical function; or (c) will treat congenital hemangioma and port wine stains. Following Medically Necessary removal of all or part of a breast, we also cover reconstruction of the breast, surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance, and treatment of physical complications, including lymphedemas. An Authorization is required for all types of reconstructive surgeries.

2. Reconstructive Surgery Exclusions

Plastic surgery or other cosmetic Services and supplies primarily to change your appearance. This includes cosmetic surgery related to bariatric surgery.

**U. Reproductive Support Services**

Reproductive Support Services are not covered unless your Group has purchased additional supplemental coverage.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the Reproductive Support Services benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**V. Skilled Nursing Facility Care**

1. Coverage

We cover skilled inpatient Services in a licensed Skilled Nursing Facility. Prior Authorization is required for all Skilled Nursing Facility admissions. The skilled inpatient Services must be those usually provided by Skilled Nursing Facilities.

A prior three (3)-day stay in an acute care hospital is not required. We cover the following Services:

- a. Room and board.
- b. Nursing care.
- c. Medical social Services.
- d. Medical and biological supplies.
- e. Blood, blood products, and their administration.

A Skilled Nursing Facility is an institution that: provides skilled nursing or skilled rehabilitation Services, or both; provides Services on a daily basis 24 hours a day; is licensed under applicable state law; and is approved in writing by Medical Group.

**Note:** The following are covered, but not under this section: drugs, see “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements”; DME and prosthetics and orthotics, see “Durable Medical Equipment and Prosthetics and Orthotics”; X-ray, laboratory, and X-ray special procedures, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”.

2. Skilled Nursing Facility Care Exclusion

Custodial Care, as defined in “Exclusions” under the “Limitations/Exclusions (What is Not Covered)” section.

## W. Substance Use Disorder Services

### 1. Inpatient Medical and Hospital Services

We cover Services for the medical management of withdrawal symptoms. Medical Services for alcohol and drug detoxification are covered the same way as any other medical condition. Detoxification is the process of removing toxic substances from the body.

### 2. Residential Rehabilitation

The determination of the need for Services of a residential rehabilitation program and referral to such a facility or program is made by or under the supervision of a Plan Physician.

We cover inpatient Services and partial hospitalization in a residential rehabilitation program authorized by Health Plan for the treatment of alcoholism, drug abuse, or drug addiction.

### 3. Outpatient Services

Outpatient rehabilitative Services for the treatment of alcohol and drug dependency are covered when referred by a Plan Physician.

We cover substance use disorder Services, whether they are voluntary or are court-ordered as a result of contact with the criminal justice or juvenile justice system, when they are Medically Necessary and otherwise covered under the plan, and when rendered by a Plan Provider. We do not cover court-ordered treatment that exceeds the scope of coverage of this health benefit plan.

Mental health Services required in connection with treatment for substance use disorder are covered as provided in the “Mental Health Services” section.

### 4. Substance Use Disorder Services Exclusion

Counseling for a patient who is not responsive to therapeutic management, as determined by a Plan Physician.

## X. Transgender Services

We cover transgender Services when Medically Necessary to treat gender dysphoria or gender identity disorder. Prior Authorization may be required. You must meet all medical criteria developed by Medical Group to be eligible for coverage. Coverage includes, but is not limited to: office Services, hormone therapy, outpatient surgery, and hospital inpatient care. You pay the applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. For example, see “Hospital Inpatient Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for the Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible that apply to hospital inpatient care.

## Y. Transplant Services

### 1. Coverage

Transplants are covered on a limited basis as follows:

- a. Covered transplants are limited to: kidney transplants; heart transplants; heart-lung transplants; liver transplants; liver transplants for children with biliary atresia and other rare congenital abnormalities; small bowel transplants; small bowel and liver transplants; lung transplants; cornea transplants; simultaneous kidney-pancreas transplants; and pancreas alone transplants.
- b. Bone marrow transplants (autologous stem cell or allogenic stem cell) associated with high dose chemotherapy for germ cell tumors and neuroblastoma in children and bone marrow transplants for aplastic anemia, leukemia, severe combined immunodeficiency disease, and Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome.
- c. If all medical criteria developed by Medical Group are met, we cover: stem cell rescue; and transplants of organs, tissue, or bone marrow.

### 2. Related Prescription Drugs

Prescribed post-surgical immunosuppressive outpatient drugs required after a transplant are provided at the applicable outpatient prescription drug Copayment or Coinsurance and are subject to any pharmacy Deductible shown in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

### 3. Terms and Conditions

- a. Health Plan, Medical Group, and Plan Physicians do not undertake: to provide a donor or donor organ or bone marrow or cornea; or to assure the availability of a donor or donor organ or bone marrow or cornea; or to assure the availability or capacity of referral transplant facilities approved by Medical Group. In accordance with our guidelines for living transplant donors, we provide certain donation-related Services for a donor, or a person Medical Group or a Plan Physician identifies as a potential donor, even if the donor is not a Member. These Services must be directly related to a covered transplant for you. For information specific to your situation, please call your assigned Transplant Coordinator or the **Transplant Administrative Offices**.
- b. Plan Physicians must determine that the Member satisfies Medical Group medical criteria before the Member receives Services.

- c. A Plan Physician must provide a written referral for care at a transplant facility. The transplant facility must be from a list of approved facilities selected by Medical Group. The referral may be to a transplant facility outside our Service Area. Transplants are covered only at the facility Medical Group selects for the particular transplant, even if another facility within the Service Area could also perform the transplant.
  - d. After referral, if a Plan Physician or the medical staff of the referral facility determines the Member does not satisfy its respective criteria for the Service, Health Plan’s obligation is only to pay for covered Services provided prior to such determination.
4. Transplant Services Exclusions and Limitations
- a. Bone marrow transplants, associated with high dose chemotherapy for solid tissue tumors, (except bone marrow transplants covered under this EOC) are excluded.
  - b. Non-human and artificial organs and their implantation are excluded.
  - c. Pancreas alone transplants are limited to patients without renal problems who meet set criteria.
  - d. Travel and lodging expenses are excluded, except that in some situations, when Medical Group or a Plan Physician refers you to a non-Plan Provider outside our Service Area for transplant Services, as described in “Access to Other Providers” in the “How to Access Your Services and Obtain Approval of Benefits” section, we may pay certain expenses we preauthorize under our internal travel and lodging guidelines. For information specific to your situation, please call your assigned Transplant Coordinator or the **Transplant Administrative Offices**.

**Z. Vision Services**

1. Coverage

We cover routine and non-routine eye exams. Refraction tests to determine the need for vision correction and to provide a prescription for eyeglasses are covered unless specifically excluded in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. We also cover professional exams and the fitting of Medically Necessary contact lenses when a Plan Physician or Plan Optometrist prescribes them for a specific medical condition.

Professional Services for exams and fitting of contact lenses that are not Medically Necessary are provided at an additional Charge when obtained at Health Plan Medical Offices.

2. Vision Services Exclusions

- a. Eyeglass lenses and frames.
- b. Contact lenses.
- c. Professional exams for fittings and dispensing of contact lenses except when Medically Necessary as described above.
- d. All Services related to eye surgery for the purpose of correcting refractive defects such as myopia, hyperopia, or astigmatism (for example, radial keratotomy, photo-refractive keratectomy, and similar procedures).
- e. Orthoptic (eye training) therapy or low vision therapy.

Your Group may have purchased additional optical coverage. See “Additional Provisions.”

**AA. X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures**

1. Coverage

a. Outpatient

We cover the following Services:

- i. Diagnostic X-ray tests, Services, and materials, including but not limited to isotopes, mammograms, and ultrasounds.
- ii. Laboratory tests, Services, and materials, including but not limited to electrocardiograms.  
**Note:** We use a laboratory formulary. A laboratory formulary is a list of laboratory tests, Services, and other materials that have been approved by Health Plan for our Members. If you would like information about whether a particular test or Service is included in our laboratory formulary, please call **Member Services**.
- iii. Therapeutic X-ray Services and materials.
- iv. X-ray special procedures such as MRI, CT, PET, and nuclear medicine.

**Note:** For X-ray special procedures, you will be billed for each individual procedure performed. As such, if more than one procedure is performed in a single visit, more than one Copayment will apply. A procedure is defined in accordance with the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) medical billing codes published annually by the American Medical Association. You are responsible for any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for X-ray special procedures performed as a part of or in conjunction with other outpatient Services, including but not limited to Emergency Services, urgent care, and outpatient surgery.

Diagnostic procedures include administered drugs. Therapeutic procedures may incur an additional charge for administered drugs.

- b. Inpatient  
During hospitalization, prescribed diagnostic X-ray and laboratory tests, Services and materials, including diagnostic and therapeutic X-rays and isotopes, electrocardiograms, electroencephalograms, MRI, CT, PET, and nuclear medicine are covered under your hospital inpatient care benefit.
- 2. X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures Exclusions
  - a. Testing of a Member for a non-Member's use and/or benefit.
  - b. Testing of a non-Member for a Member's use and/or benefit.

## IV. LIMITATIONS/EXCLUSIONS (WHAT IS NOT COVERED)

### A. Exclusions

The Services listed below are not covered. These exclusions apply to all covered Services under this EOC. Additional exclusions that apply only to a particular Service are listed in the description of that Service in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.

1. **Alternative Medical Services.** The following are not covered unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for these Services See the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" to determine if your Group has purchased additional coverage.
  - a. Acupuncture Services.
  - b. Naturopathy Services.
  - c. Massage therapy.
  - d. Chiropractic Services and supplies that are not provided by a Plan Provider under this Agreement.
2. **Behavioral Problems.** Any treatment or Service for a behavioral problem not associated with a manifest mental disorder or condition.
3. **Cosmetic Services.** Services that are intended: primarily to change or maintain your appearance; and that will not result in significant improvement in physical function. This includes cosmetic surgery related to bariatric surgery. Exception: Services covered under "Reconstructive Surgery" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.
4. **Cryopreservation.** Any and all Services related to cryopreservation, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage. This excludes, but is not limited to, the procurement and/or storage of semen, sperm, eggs, reproductive materials, and/or embryos. See "Additional Provisions" for additional coverage or exclusions, if applicable to your Group.
5. **Custodial or Residential Care.** Assistance with activities of daily living or care that can be performed safely and effectively by people who, in order to provide the care, do not require medical licenses or certificates or the presence of a supervising licensed nurse. Assistance with activities of daily living include: walking; getting in and out of bed; bathing; dressing; feeding; toileting; and taking medicine.
6. **Dental Services.** Dental Services and dental X-rays, including: dental Services following injury to teeth; dental appliances; implants; orthodontia; TMJ; and dental Services as a result of and following medical treatment such as radiation treatment. This exclusion does not apply to: (a) Medically Necessary Services for the treatment of cleft lip or cleft palate when prescribed by a Plan Physician, unless the Member is covered for these Services under a dental insurance policy or contract; or (b) hospitalization and general anesthesia for dental Services, prescribed or directed by a Plan Physician for Dependent children who: (i) have a physical, mental, or medically compromising condition; or (ii) have dental needs for which local anesthesia is ineffective because of acute infection, anatomic variations, or allergy; or (iii) are extremely uncooperative, unmanageable, anxious, or uncommunicative with dental needs deemed sufficiently important that dental care cannot be deferred; or (iv) have sustained extensive orofacial and dental trauma. Unless otherwise specified herein, (a) and (b) must be received at a Plan Facility or Skilled Nursing Facility.  
  
The following Services for TMJ may be covered if determined Medically Necessary: diagnostic X-rays; laboratory testing; physical therapy; and surgery.
7. **Directed Blood Donations.**
8. **Disposable Supplies.** Disposable supplies for home use such as:
  - a. Bandages;
  - b. Gauze;
  - c. Tape;
  - d. Antiseptics;
  - e. Dressings;
  - f. Ace-type bandages; and
  - g. Any other supplies, dressings, appliances, or devices not specifically listed as covered in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.

9. **Educational Services.** Educational services are not health care services and are not covered. Examples include, but are not limited to:
- a. Items and services to increase academic knowledge or skills;
  - b. Special education or care for learning deficiencies, whether or not associated with a manifest mental disorder or condition, including but not limited to attention deficit disorder, learning disabilities, and developmental delays;
  - c. Teaching and support services to increase academic performance;
  - d. Academic coaching or tutoring for skills such as grammar, math, and time management;
  - e. Speech training that is not Medically Necessary, and not part of an approved treatment plan, and not provided by or under the direct supervision of a Plan Provider acting within the scope of his or her license under Colorado law that is intended to address speech impediments;
  - f. Teaching you how to read, whether or not you have dyslexia;
  - g. Educational testing;
  - h. Teaching (or any other items or services associated with) activities such as art, dance, horse riding, music, swimming, or teaching you how to play.

10. **Employer or Government Responsibility.** Financial responsibility for Services that an employer or a government agency is required by law to provide.

11. **Experimental or Investigational Services:**

- a. A Service is experimental or investigational for a Member’s condition if any of the following statements apply at the time the Service is or will be provided to the Member. The Service:
  - i. Has not been approved or granted by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA); or
  - ii. Is the subject of a current new drug or new device application on file with the FDA; or
  - iii. Is provided as part of a Phase I or Phase II clinical trial, as the experimental or research arm of a Phase III clinical trial or in any other manner that is intended to determine the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of the Service; or
  - iv. Is provided pursuant to a written protocol or other document that lists an evaluation of the Service’s safety, toxicity, or efficacy as among its objectives; or
  - v. Is subject to the approval or review of an Institutional Review Board (IRB) or other body that approves or reviews research on the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of Services; or
  - vi. The Service has not been recommended for coverage by the Regional New Technology and Benefit Interpretation Committee, the Interregional New Technology Committee or the Medical Technology Assessment Unit based on analysis of clinical studies and literature for safety and appropriateness, unless otherwise covered by Health Plan; or,
  - vii. Is provided pursuant to informed consent documents that describe the Service as experimental or investigational or in other terms that indicate that the Service is being looked at for its safety, toxicity, or efficacy; or
  - viii. Is part of a prevailing opinion among experts as expressed in the published authoritative medical or scientific literature that (A) use of the Service should be substantially confined to research settings or (B) further research is needed to determine the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of the Service.
- b. In determining whether a Service is experimental or investigational, the following sources of information will be solely relied upon:
  - i. The Member’s medical records; and
  - ii. The written protocol(s) or other document(s) under which the Service has been or will be provided; and
  - iii. Any consent document(s) the Member or the Member’s representative has executed or will be asked to execute to receive the Service; and
  - iv. 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; and
  - v. The published authoritative medical or scientific literature on the Service as applied to the Member’s illness or injury; and
  - vi. Regulations, records, applications and other documents or actions issued by, filed with, or taken by the FDA, or other agencies within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, or any state agency performing similar functions.
- c. If two (2) or more Services are part of the same plan of treatment or diagnosis, all of the Services are excluded if one of the Services is experimental or investigational.
- d. Health Plan consults Medical Group and then uses the criteria described above to decide if a particular Service is experimental or investigational.

**Note:** For non-grandfathered health plans only, this exclusion does not apply to Services covered under “Clinical Trials” in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.

12. **Genetic Testing.** Genetic testing unless determined to be: Medically Necessary; and meets Medical Group criteria.

13. **Infertility Services.** All Services related to the diagnosis or treatment of infertility unless your Group has purchased additional supplemental coverage.
14. **Intermediate Care.** Care in an intermediate care facility.
15. **Routine Foot Care Services.** Routine foot care Services that are not Medically Necessary.
16. **Services for Members in the Custody of Law Enforcement Officers.** Non-Plan Provider Services provided or arranged by criminal justice institutions for Members in the custody of law enforcement officers, unless the Services are covered as out-of- Plan Emergency Services or urgent care outside the Service Area.
17. **Services Not Available in our Service Area.** Services not generally and customarily available in our Service Area, except when it is a generally accepted medical practice in our Service Area to refer patients outside our Service Area for the Service.
18. **Services Related to a Non-Covered Service.** When a Service is not covered, all Services related to the non-covered Service are excluded. This does not include Services we would otherwise cover to treat complications as a result of the non-covered Service.
19. **Third Party Requests or Requirements.** Physical exams, tests, or other services that do not directly treat an actual illness, injury, or condition, and any related reports or paperwork in connection with third party requests or requirements, including but not limited to those for:
  - a. Employment;
  - b. Participation in employee programs;
  - c. Insurance;
  - d. Disability;
  - e. Licensing;
  - f. School events, sports, or camp;
  - g. Governmental agencies;
  - h. Court order, parole, or probation;
  - i. Travel.
20. **Travel and Lodging Expenses.** Travel and lodging expenses are excluded. We may pay certain expenses we preauthorize in accordance with our internal travel and lodging guidelines in some situations, when Medical Group refers you to a non-Plan Provider outside our Service Area as described under “Access to Other Providers” in the “How to Access Your Services and Obtain Approval of Benefits” section.
21. **Unclassified Medical Technology Devices and Services.** Medical technology devices and Services which have not been classified as durable medical equipment or laboratory by a National Coverage Determination (NCD) issued by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), unless otherwise covered by Health Plan.
22. **Weight Management Facilities.** Services received in a weight management facility.
23. **Workers’ Compensation or Employer’s Liability.** Financial responsibility for Services for any illness, injury, or condition, to the extent a payment or any other benefit, including any amount received as a settlement (collectively referred to as “Financial Benefit”), is provided under any workers’ compensation or employer’s liability law. We will provide Services even if it is unclear whether you are entitled to a Financial Benefit, but we may recover Charges for any such Services from the following sources:
  - a. Any source providing a Financial Benefit or from whom a Financial Benefit is due.
  - b. You, to the extent that a Financial Benefit is provided or payable or would have been required to be provided or payable if you had diligently sought to establish your rights to the Financial Benefit under any workers’ compensation or employer’s liability law.

## B. Limitations

We will use our best efforts to provide or arrange covered Services in the event of unusual circumstances that delay or render impractical the provision of Services. Examples include: major disaster; epidemic; war; riot; civil insurrection; disability of a large share of personnel at a Plan Facility; complete or partial destruction of facilities; and labor disputes not involving Health Plan, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals or Medical Group. In these circumstances, Health Plan, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, Medical Group and Medical Group Plan Physicians will not have any liability for any delay or failure in providing covered Services. In the case of a labor dispute involving Health Plan, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, or Medical Group, we may postpone care until the dispute is resolved if delaying your care is safe and will not result in harmful health consequences.



## C. Reductions

### 1. Coordination of Benefits (COB)

The Services covered under this EOC are subject to Coordination of Benefit (COB) rules. If you have health care coverage with another health plan or insurance company, we will coordinate benefits with the other coverage under the COB guidelines below.

This 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 govern 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% 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. However, 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.
  - i. **Plan** includes: group insurance contracts, health maintenance organization (HMO) contracts, closed panel plans or other forms of group or group-type coverage (whether insured or uninsured); medical care components of long-term care contracts, such as skilled nursing care; medical benefits under group or individual automobile contracts; and Medicare or any other federal governmental plan, as permitted by law.
  - ii. **Plan** does not include: hospital indemnity coverage or other fixed indemnity coverage; accident only coverage; specified disease or specified accident coverage; limited benefit health coverage, as defined by state law; school accident type coverage; benefits for non-medical components of 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 i. or ii. 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 determine whether **This plan** is a **Primary plan** or **Secondary plan** when the person has health coverage under more than one **Plan**.

When **This plan** is primary, its benefits are determined before those of any other **Plan** and without considering any other **Plan's** benefits. When **This plan** is secondary, its benefits are determined after those of another **Plan** and may be reduced because of the **Primary plan's** benefits, so that all **Plan** benefits do not exceed 100% 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**:

- i. 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 or the patient's stay is medically necessary in terms of generally accepted medical practice or the hospital does not have a semi-private room.
- ii. 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**.
- iii. 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**.
- iv. 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.
- v. 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. **Claim determination period** is usually a calendar year, but a **Plan** may use some other period of time that fits the coverage of the group contract. A person is covered by a **Plan** during a portion of a **Claim determination period** if that person's coverage starts or ends during the **Claim determination period**. However, it does not include any part of a year during which a person has no coverage under **This plan**, or before the date this **COB** provision or a similar provision takes effect.
  - f. **Closed panel plan** is a **Plan** that provides health benefits to covered persons primarily in the form of services through a panel of providers that have contracted with either directly or indirectly or are employed by the **Plan**, and that limits or excludes benefits for services provided by other providers, except in cases of emergency or referral by a panel member.
  - g. **Custodial parent** means a parent awarded primary custody by a court decree. In the absence of a court decree, it is the parent with whom the child resides more than one half of the calendar year without regard to 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 payment are as follows:

- a. The **Primary plan** pays or provides its benefits according to its terms of coverage and without regard to the benefits under any other **Plan**.
- b.
  - i. Except as provided in paragraph ii., a **Plan** that does not contain a coordination of benefits provision that is consistent with these rules is always primary unless the provisions of both **Plans** state that the complying **Plan** is primary.
  - ii. Coverage that is obtained by virtue of being members in a group, and designed to supplement part of the basic package of benefits, may provide supplementary coverage that shall be in excess of 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 determining 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:
  - i. 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**.
  - ii. 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:
      - 1. The **Plan** of the parent whose birthday (month and day) falls earlier in the calendar year is the **Primary plan**; or
      - 2. 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:
      - 1. 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;
      - 2. 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;

3. 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
  4. 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:
    - The **Plan** covering the **Custodial parent**;
    - The **Plan** covering the spouse of the **Custodial parent**;
    - The **Plan** covering the **non-custodial parent**; and then
    - 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.
- iii. 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.
  - iv. 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.
  - v. Longer or Shorter Length of Coverage. The **Plan** that covered the person as an employee, member, policyholder, subscriber or retiree longer is the **Primary plan** and the **Plan** that covered the person the shorter period of time is the **Secondary plan**.
  - vi. 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 Health Plan 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, Health Plan 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**. Health 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 reasonable cash value of the benefits provided in the form of services.

## **RIGHT OF RECOVERY**

If the amount of the payments made by Health Plan is more than it should have paid under this **COB** provision, we may recover the excess from one or more of the persons we have paid or for whom we have 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.

If you have any questions about COB, please call or write **Patient Financial Services**.

### 2. Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties

You must ensure we receive the maximum reimbursement allowed by law for covered Services you receive for an injury or illness that is alleged to be caused by another party. You do not have to reimburse us more than you receive from or on behalf of any other party, insurance company or organization as a result of the injury or illness. Our right to reimbursement shall include all sources as allowed by law. This includes, but is not limited to, any recovery you receive from: (a) uninsured motorist coverage; or (b) underinsured motorist coverage; or (c) automobile medical payment coverage; or (d) workers’ compensation coverage; or (e) any other liability coverage; or (f) any responsible party or entity.

**Note:** This “Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties” section does not affect your obligation to pay your Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible for these Services. The amount of reimbursement due the Plan is not limited by or subject to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum provision.

To the extent allowed 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 the other 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.

We shall have a first priority lien on the proceeds of any judgment or settlement, whether by compromise or otherwise, you obtain against or from any other party, entity or insurer, regardless of whether the other party, entity or insurer admits fault. Proceeds of such judgment, award or settlement in your or your attorney’s possession shall be held in trust for our benefit.

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

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

For us to determine the existence of any rights we may have and to satisfy those rights, you must complete and send to Equian: all consents; releases; authorizations; assignments; and other documents, including lien forms directing your attorney, any other party or entity and any respective insurer to pay us or our legal representatives directly. You must cooperate to protect our interests under this “Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties” provision and must not take any action prejudicial to our rights.

If your estate, parent, guardian or conservator asserts a claim against another party, entity or insurer based on your injury or illness, your estate, parent, guardian or conservator and any settlement 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. We may assign our rights to enforce our liens and other rights.

Some providers have contracted with Kaiser Permanente to provide certain Services to Members at rates that are typically less than the fees that the providers normally charge to the general public (“General Fees”). However, these contracts may allow providers to assert any independent lien rights they may have to recover their General Fees from a judgment or settlement that you receive from or on behalf of another party, entity or insurer. For Services the provider furnished, our recovery and the provider’s recovery together will not exceed the provider’s General Fees.

If you are entitled to Medicare, Medicare law may apply with respect to Services covered by Medicare.

### 3. Traditional or Gestational Surrogacy

In situations where you receive monetary compensation to act as either a traditional or gestational surrogate, Health Plan will seek reimbursement for covered Services you receive that are associated with conception, pregnancy and/or delivery of the child, except that we will recover no more than half of the monetary compensation you receive. A surrogate arrangement is one in which a woman agrees to become pregnant and to surrender the baby to another person or persons who intend to raise the child. 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 applies to both traditional surrogacy and gestational carriers.

**Note:** This "Traditional or Gestational Surrogacy" section does not affect your obligation to pay your Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible for these Services.

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) receives, including names, addresses, and telephone numbers for any health insurance that will cover Services that the baby (or babies) receives
- 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:

Equian, LLC  
Attn: Surrogacy Subrogation Operations  
PO Box 36380  
Louisville, KY 40233  
Fax: 502-214-1291

## V. MEMBER PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITY

Information on Member payment responsibility, including applicable Deductibles, annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum, Copayments, and Coinsurance, is located in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)." Payment responsibility information for Emergency Services and urgent care is located in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section. For additional questions, contact **Member Services**.

Our contracts with Plan Providers provide that you are not liable for any amounts we owe them for covered Services. However, you may be liable for the cost of non-covered Services or Services you obtain from non-Plan Providers. If our contract with any Plan Provider terminates while you are under the care of that provider, we will retain financial responsibility for covered Services you receive from that provider, in excess of any applicable Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance amounts, until we make arrangements for the Services to be provided by another Plan Provider and so notify the Subscriber.

## VI. CLAIMS PROCEDURE (HOW TO FILE A CLAIM)

Plan Providers submit claims for payment for covered Services directly to Health Plan. For general information on claims, and how to submit pre-service claims, concurrent care claims, and post-service claims, see the "Appeals and Complaints" section. For covered Services by non-Plan Providers, you may need to submit a claim on your own. Contact **Member Services** for more information on how to submit such claims. Health Plan complies with the time frames for resolution and payment of filed claims as required by state law.

## VII. GENERAL POLICY PROVISIONS

### A. Access Plan

Colorado law requires that an Access Plan be available that describes Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado's network of provider Services. To obtain a copy, please call **Member Services**.

### B. Access to Services for Foreign Language Speakers

1. **Member Services** will provide a telephone interpreter to assist Members who speak limited or no English.
2. Plan Physicians have telephone access to interpreters in over 150 languages.
3. Plan Physicians can also request an onsite interpreter for an appointment, procedure, or Service.
4. Any interpreter assistance we arrange or provide will be at no Charge to the Member.

### C. Administration of Agreement

We may adopt reasonable policies, procedures, and interpretations to promote efficient administration of the Group Agreement and this EOC.

### D. Advance Directives

Federal law requires Kaiser Permanente to tell you about your right to make health care decisions.

Colorado law recognizes the right of an adult to accept or reject medical treatment, artificial nourishment and hydration, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Each adult has the right to establish, in advance of the need for medical treatment, any directives and instructions for the administration of medical treatment in the event the person lacks the decisional capacity to provide informed consent to or refusal of medical treatment. (Colorado Revised Statutes, Section 15-14-504)

Kaiser Permanente will not discriminate against you whether or not you have an advance directive. We will follow the requirements of Colorado law respecting advance directives. If you have an advance directive, please give a copy to the Kaiser Permanente medical records department or to your provider.

A health care provider or health care facility shall provide for the prompt transfer of the principal to another health care provider or health care facility if such health care provider or health care facility wishes not to comply with an agent's medical treatment decision on the basis of policies based on moral convictions or religious beliefs. (Colorado Revised Statutes, Section 15-14-507)

Two (2) brochures are available: *Your Right to Make Health Care Decisions* and *Making Health Care Decisions*. For copies of these brochures or for more information, please call **Member Services**.

**E. Agreement 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.

**F. Amendment of Agreement**

Your Group's Agreement with us will change periodically. If these changes affect this EOC, your Group is required to notify you of them. If it is necessary to make revisions to this EOC, we will issue revised materials to you.

**G. 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.

**H. Assignment**

You may assign, in writing, payments due under the policy to a licensed hospital, other licensed health care provider, an occupational therapist, or a massage therapist, for covered Services provided to you. You may not assign this EOC or any other rights, interests, or obligations hereunder without our prior written consent.

**I. Attorney Fees and Expenses**

In any dispute between a Member and Health Plan or Plan Providers, each party will bear its own attorneys' fees and other expenses.

**J. Claims Review Authority**

We are responsible for determining whether you are entitled to benefits under this EOC. We have the authority to review and evaluate claims that arise under this EOC. We conduct this evaluation independently by interpreting the provisions of this EOC. If this EOC is part of a health benefit plan that is subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), then we are a "named fiduciary" to review claims under this EOC.

**K. Contracts with Plan Providers**

Plan Providers are paid in a number of ways, including: salary; capitation; per diem rates; case rates; fee for service; and incentive payments. If you would like further information about the way Plan Providers are paid to provide or arrange medical and hospital care for Members, please call **Member Services**.

Our contracts with Plan Providers provide that you are not liable for any amounts we owe. However, you may be liable for the cost of non-covered Services or Services you obtain from non-Plan Providers. If our contract with any Plan Provider terminates while you are under the care of that provider, we will retain financial responsibility for covered Services you receive from that provider, in excess of any applicable Copayments and Coinsurance, until we make arrangements for the Services to be provided by another Plan Provider and so notify the Subscriber.

**L. Governing Law**

Except as preempted by federal law, this EOC will be governed in accordance with Colorado law. Any provision that is required to be in this EOC by state or federal law shall bind Members and Health Plan whether or not set forth in this EOC.

**M. Group and Members are not Health Plan's Agents**

Neither your Group nor any Member is the agent or representative of Health Plan.

**N. 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.

**O. Nondiscrimination**

We do not discriminate in our employment practices or in the delivery of health care Services on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or physical or mental disability.

**P. Notices**

Our notices to you will be sent to the most recent address we have for the Subscriber. The Subscriber is responsible for notifying us of any change in address. Members who move should call **Member Services** as soon as possible to give us their new address.

**Q. Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit**

Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit is a one-time event which may occur at the point of the initial open enrollment. It applies only to:

1. Members of new groups enrolling with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado for the first time. (In this situation, Members must have been covered under one of the group's other carriers at the time of the group's enrollment.)
2. Members of new or current groups who move from non-sole carrier status to sole-carrier status with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado. Non-sole carrier status refers to when an employee has the option of choosing a group health plan either through Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado or through another carrier. (In this situation, Members must have been covered under one of the group's other carriers at the time the group moved to sole-carrier status.)

A credit may be applied toward your Out-of-Pocket Maximum with Health Plan for certain eligible expenses accumulated toward your out-of-pocket maximum under your prior coverage. In order for expenses to be considered for this credit, you must submit an Explanation of Benefits ("EOB") issued by your prior carrier showing that the expense was applied toward your out-of-pocket maximum under your prior coverage. All such expenses must be for Services that are covered and subject to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum under this EOC.

For groups with effective dates of coverage during the months of April through December, expenses incurred from January 1 of the current year through the effective date of coverage with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado may be eligible for credit.

For groups with effective dates of coverage during the months of January through March, expenses incurred up to 90 days prior to the effective date of coverage with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan may be eligible for credit.

You must submit all claims for Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit within 90 days from the effective date of coverage with Health Plan. To submit a claim, send all EOBs along with a completed Prior Carrier Information Cover Form to the **Kaiser Permanente Claims Department**. To get a copy of the Prior Carrier Information Cover Form, please call the **Claims Department**.

**R. Overpayment Recovery**

We may recover any overpayment we make for Services from anyone who receives such an overpayment, or from any person or organization obligated to pay for the Services.

**S. Privacy Practices**

Kaiser Permanente will protect the privacy of your Protected Health Information (PHI). We also require contracting providers to protect your PHI. PHI is health information that includes your name, Social Security number or other information that reveals who you are. 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, and health care operations purposes, including health research and measuring the quality of care and Services. We are sometimes required by law to give PHI to government agencies or in judicial actions. In addition, we may share your PHI with employers 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* (see below). Giving us authorization is at your discretion.

**This is only a brief summary of some of our key privacy practices. Our *Notice of Privacy Practices* explains our privacy practices in detail. To request a copy, please call Member Services. You can also find the *Notice of Privacy Practices* on our website at [kp.org](http://kp.org).**

**T. Value-Added Services**

In addition to the Services we cover under this EOC, we make available a variety of value-added services. Value-added services are not covered by your plan. They are intended to give you more options for a healthy lifestyle. Examples may include:

1. Certain health education classes not covered by your plan;
2. Certain health education publications;
3. Discounts for fitness club memberships;
4. Health promotion and wellness programs; and
5. Rewards for participating in those programs.

Some of these value-added services are available to all Members. Others may be available only to Members enrolled through certain groups or plans. To take advantage of these services, you may need to:

1. Show your Health Plan ID card, and
2. Pay the fee, if any,

to the company that provides the value-added service. Because these services are not covered by your plan, any fees you pay will not count toward any coverage calculations, such as Deductible or Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

To learn about value-added services and which ones are available to you, please check our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org).

These value-added services are neither offered nor guaranteed under your Health Plan coverage. Health Plan may change or discontinue some or all value-added services at any time and without notice to you. Value-added services are not offered as inducements to purchase a health care plan from us. Although value-added services are not covered by your plan, we may have included an estimate of their cost when we calculated Premiums.

Health Plan does not endorse or make any representations regarding the quality or medical efficacy of value-added services, or the financial integrity of the companies offering them. We expressly disclaim any liability for the value-added services provided by these companies. If you have a dispute regarding a value-added service, you must resolve it with the company offering such service. Although Health Plan has no obligation to assist with this resolution, you may call **Member Services**, and a representative may try to assist in getting the issue resolved.

#### **U. Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act**

In accordance with the “Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998,” and as determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient, we provide the following coverage after a mastectomy:

1. Reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy was performed.
2. Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical (balanced) appearance.
3. Prostheses (artificial replacements).
4. Services for physical complications resulting from the mastectomy.

### **VIII. TERMINATION/NONRENEWAL/CONTINUATION**

Your Group is required to inform the Subscriber of the date coverage terminates. If your membership terminates, all rights to benefits end at 11:59 p.m. on the termination date. Dependents’ memberships end at the same time the Subscriber’s membership ends. You will be billed as a non-Member for any Services you receive after your membership terminates. Health Plan and Plan Providers have no further responsibility under this EOC after your membership terminates, except as provided under “Termination of Group Agreement” in this “Termination of Membership” section.

This section describes: how your membership may end; and explains how you may maintain Health Plan coverage if your membership under this EOC ends.

#### **A. Termination Due to Loss of Eligibility**

If you no longer meet the eligibility requirements in the “Eligibility” section, we or your Group will provide 30 days’ advance written notice of termination.

#### **B. Termination of Group Agreement**

If your Group’s Agreement with us terminates for any reason, your membership ends on the same date.

If your Group’s Agreement terminates for reasons other than nonpayment of Premiums, fraud or abuse, while you are inpatient in a hospital or institution, your coverage will continue until your date of discharge.

#### **C. Termination for Cause**

We may terminate the memberships in your Family Unit if anyone in your Family Unit commits any of the following acts.

1. We will send written notice that will include the reason for termination to the Subscriber at least 30 days before the termination date if:
  - a. You are disruptive, unruly, or abusive so that Health Plan’s or a Plan Provider’s ability to provide Services to you, or to other Members, is seriously impaired; or
  - b. You fail to establish and maintain a satisfactory provider-patient relationship, after the Plan Provider has made reasonable efforts to promote such a relationship; or
2. We will send written notice that will include the reason for termination to the Subscriber at least 30 days before the termination date if:
  - a. You knowingly: (a) misrepresent membership status; (b) present an invalid prescription or physician order; (c) misuse (or let someone else misuse) a Health Plan ID card; or (d) commit any other type of fraud in connection with your membership (including your enrollment application), Health Plan or a Plan Provider; or
  - b. You knowingly: furnish incorrect or incomplete information to us; or fail to notify us of changes in your family status or Medicare coverage that may affect your eligibility or benefits.



Termination of membership for any one of these reasons applies to all members of your Family Unit. All rights to benefits cease on the date of termination. You will be billed as a non-Member for any Services received after the termination date. You have the right to appeal such a termination. To appeal, please call **Member Services**; or you can call the Colorado Division of Insurance.

We may report any member fraud to the authorities for prosecution. We may also pursue appropriate civil remedies.

**D. Termination for Nonpayment**

You are entitled to coverage only for the period for which we have received the appropriate Premiums from your Group. If your Group fails to pay us the appropriate Premiums for your Family Unit, we will terminate the memberships of everyone in your Family Unit.

After termination of your enrollment for nonpayment of Premiums, Health Plan may require payment of any outstanding Premiums for prior coverage if permitted by applicable law.

**E. Termination of a Product or all Products (applies to non-grandfathered health plans only)**

We may terminate a particular product or all products offered in the group market as permitted or required by law. If we discontinue offering a particular product in the group market, we will terminate just the particular product by sending you written notice at least 90 days before the product terminates. If we discontinue offering all products in the group market, we may terminate your Group's Agreement by sending you written notice at least 180 days before the Agreement terminates.

**F. Rescission of Membership**

We may rescind your membership after it is effective if you or anyone on your behalf did one of the following with respect to your membership (or application) prior to your membership effective date:

1. Performed an act, practice, or omission that constitutes fraud; or
2. Misrepresented a material fact with intent, such as an omission on the application.

We will send written notice to the Subscriber in your Family at least 30 days before we rescind your membership. The rescission will cancel your membership so no coverage ever existed. You will be required to pay as a non-Member for any Services we covered. We will refund all applicable Premiums, less any amounts you owe us.

**G. Continuation of Group Coverage Under Federal Law, State Law or USERRA**

1. Federal Law (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. Please contact your Group if you want to know how to elect COBRA coverage or how much you will have to pay your Group for it.

2. State Law

If you are not eligible to continue uninterrupted group coverage under federal law (COBRA), you may be eligible to continue group coverage under Colorado law. Colorado law states that if you have been a Member for at least six (6) consecutive months immediately prior to termination of employment, continue to meet the eligibility requirements of Group and Health Plan and continue to pay applicable monthly Premiums to your Group, you may continue uninterrupted group coverage. If loss of eligibility occurs because of the following reasons, you and/or your Dependents may continue group coverage subject to the terms below:

- a. Your coverage is through a Subscriber who dies, divorces or legally separates, or becomes entitled to Medicare or Medicaid benefits; or
- b. You are a Subscriber (or your coverage is through a Subscriber) whose employment terminates, including voluntary termination or layoff, or whose hours of employment have been reduced.

You may enroll children born or placed for adoption with you during the period of continuation coverage. The enrollment and effective date shall be as specified under the "Eligibility" section.

To continue coverage, you must request continuation of group coverage on a form furnished by and returned to your Group along with payment of applicable Premiums, no later than 30 days after the date on which your Group coverage would otherwise terminate.

**Termination of State Continuation Coverage.** Continuation of coverage under this provision continues upon payment of the applicable Premiums to your Group and terminates on the earlier of:

- a. 18 months after your coverage would have otherwise terminated because of termination of employment; or
- b. The date you become covered under another group medical plan; or
- c. The date Health Plan terminates its contract with the Group.

We may terminate your continuation coverage if payment is not received when due.

If you have chosen an alternate health care plan offered through your Group but elect during open enrollment to receive continuation coverage through Health Plan, you will only be entitled to continued coverage for the remainder of the 18-month maximum coverage period.

3. 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 the federal USERRA law. You must submit a 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 or how much you will have to pay your Group for it.

**H. Moving to Another Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Area**

You must notify us immediately if you permanently move outside the Service Area. If you move to another Kaiser regional health plan service area, you should contact your Group's benefits administrator before you move to learn about your Group health care options. You will be terminated from this plan, but you may be able to transfer your group membership if there is an arrangement with your Group in the new service area. However, eligibility requirements, benefits, Premiums, Copayments and Coinsurance may not be the same in the other service area.

## IX. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

**A. Claims and Appeals**

Health Plan will review claims and appeals, and we may use medical experts to help us review them. The following terms have the following meanings when used in this "Appeals and Complaints" section:

1. A **claim** is a request for us to:
  - a. provide or pay for a Service that you have not received (pre-service claim),
  - b. continue to provide or pay for a Service that you are currently receiving (concurrent care claim), or
  - c. pay for a Service that you have already received (post-service claim).
2. An **adverse benefit determination** is our decision to do any of the following:
  - a. deny your claim, in whole or in part, including (1) a denial, in whole or in part, of a pre-service claim (preauthorization for a Service), a concurrent care claim (continue to provide or pay for a Service that you are currently receiving) or a post-service claim (a request to pay for a Service) in whole or in part; (2) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is not Medically Necessary, appropriate, effective or efficient or is not provided in or at the appropriate health care setting or level of care; or, (3) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is experimental or investigational,
  - b. terminate your membership retroactively except as the result of non-payment of Premiums (also called rescission or cancellation retroactively),
  - c. deny your (or, if applicable, your dependent's) application for individual plan coverage,
  - d. uphold our previous adverse benefit determination when you appeal.

In addition, when we deny a request for medical care because it is excluded under this EOC, and you present evidence from a Colorado medical professional that there is a reasonable medical basis that the contractual exclusion does not apply to the denied medical care, then our denial shall be considered an adverse benefit determination

3. An **appeal** is a request for us to review our initial adverse benefit determination.

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

Except when simultaneous external review can occur, you must exhaust the internal claims and appeals procedure as described in this "Appeals and Complaints" section unless we fail to follow the claims and appeals process described in this Section IX.

**Language and Translation Assistance**

You may request language assistance with your claim and/or appeal by calling **Member Services**.

SPANISH (Español): Para obtener asistencia en Español, llame al 303-338-3800.

TAGALOG (Tagalog): Kung kailangan ninyo ang tulong sa Tagalog tumawag sa 303-338-3800.

CHINESE (中文): 如果需要中文的帮助, 请拨打这个号码 303-338-3800.

NAVAJO (Dine): Dinek'ehgo shika at'ohwol ninisingo, kwijijigo holne' 303-338-3800.

**Appointing a Representative**

If you would like someone (including your provider (medical facility or health care professional)) to act on your behalf regarding your claim, you may appoint an authorized representative. You must make this appointment in writing. Please 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**

You may contact the Colorado Division of Insurance at:

Colorado Division of Insurance  
1560 Broadway, Suite 850  
Denver, Colorado 80202  
(303) 894-7499

### **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. You may request our Authorization for Release of Appeal Information form by calling the **Appeals Program**.

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 and/or Appeal**

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, if you ask for one. Please send all additional information to the Department that issued the adverse benefit determination.

When you appeal, you may give testimony in writing or by telephone. Please send your written testimony to the **Appeals Program**. To arrange to give testimony by telephone, you should contact the **Appeals Program**.

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 our next 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 next decision, that decision will be based on the information already in your claim file.

### **Internal Claims and Appeals Procedures**

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:

1. Pre-service claims (urgent and non-urgent)
2. Concurrent care claims (urgent and non-urgent)
3. Post-service claims

In addition, there is a separate appeals procedure for adverse benefit determinations due to a retroactive termination of membership (rescission) or a denial of an application for individual plan coverage.

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 he/she be the subordinate of someone who did participate in our original decision.

#### **1. 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 or pre-certified in order to be a covered Service may be the basis for our denial of your pre-service claim. 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 pre-service claim, a non-urgent pre-service appeal, and an urgent pre-service appeal.

##### **a. Pre-Service Claim**

Tell Health Plan in writing that you want 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 must either mail or fax your claim to **Member Services**.

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 unless your attending health care provider tells us your claim is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, creates an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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. We

may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent claim and appeal, to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

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 not later than 15 days after we receive your claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, so long as we notify you prior to the expiration of the initial 15-day period and explain the circumstances for which we need the extra time and when we expect to make a decision. If we tell you we need more information, we will ask you for the information within 15 days of receiving your claim, and we will give you 45 days to send the information. We will make a decision within 15 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 all of the information that you send us when we make our decision. If we do not receive any of the requested information (including documents) within 45 days after we send our request, we will make a decision based on the information we have within 15 days following the end of the 45-day period.

We will send written notice of our decision to you and, if applicable to your provider. Please let us know if you wish to have our decision sent to your provider.

If your pre-service claim was considered on an urgent basis, we will notify you of our decision (whether adverse or not) orally or in writing within a timeframe appropriate to your clinical condition but not later than 72 hours after we receive your claim. Within 24 hours after we receive your claim, we may ask you for more information. We will notify you of our decision within 48 hours of receiving the first piece of requested information. If we do not receive any of the requested information, then we will notify you of our decision within 48 hours after making our request. If we notify you of our decision orally, we will send you written confirmation within three (3) days after that.

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.

b. Non-Urgent Pre-Service Appeal

Within 180 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 Medical 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 denial, and (5) all supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must either mail or fax your appeal to the **Appeals Program**.

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The members of the appeals committee who will review your appeal will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least 5 days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that 5 day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within a reasonable period of time that is appropriate given your medical condition but not more than 30 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, that may be available to you.

c. 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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 may submit your appeal orally, by mail or by fax to the **Appeals Program**.

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 “Appeals and Complaints” section), if our internal appeal decision is not in your favor.

We will decide whether your appeal is urgent or non-urgent unless your attending health care provider tells us your appeal is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, create an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent appeal to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

You do not have the right to attend or have counsel, advocates and health care professionals in attendance at the expedited review. You are, however, entitled to submit written comments, documents, records and other materials for the reviewer or reviewers to consider; and receive, upon request and free of charge, copies of all documents, records and other information regarding your request for benefits.

We will review your appeal and give you oral or written notice of our decision as soon as your clinical condition requires, but not 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 (3) days after that.

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, that may be available to you.

2. Concurrent Care Claims and Appeals.

Concurrent care claims are requests that Health Plan continue to provide, or pay for, an ongoing course of covered treatment or Services for a period of time or number of treatments or Services, when the course of treatment already being received will end. If you have any general questions about concurrent care claims or appeals, please call **Member Services**.

Unless you are appealing an urgent care concurrent 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 then appeal our decision (an adverse benefit determination), 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 we will only pay for the continuation of Services until we notify you of our appeal decision.

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

a. Concurrent Care Claim

Tell us in writing 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 either mail or fax your claim to **Member Services**.

If you want us to consider your claim on an urgent basis and you contact us at least 24 hours before your 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 unless your attending health care provider tells us your claim is 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, health or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, create an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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 extending your course of covered treatment. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent claim or an appeal thereof, to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

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 care is ending, we will make our decision before your authorized care actually ends (that is, within 24 hours of receipt of your claim). If your authorized care ended before you submitted your claim, we will make our decision within a reasonable period of time but no later than 15 days after we receive your claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, if we send you notice before the initial 15 days end and explain why we need the extra time and when we expect to make a decision. If we tell you we need more information, we will ask you for the information before the initial decision period ends, and we will give you until your care is ending or, if your care has ended, 45 days to send us the information. We will make our decision as soon as possible, if your care has not ended, or within 15 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 days following the end of the 45 days that we gave you for sending the additional information.

We will send written notice of our decision to you and, if applicable to your provider, upon request. Please let us know if you wish to have our decision sent to your provider.

If we consider your concurrent claim on an urgent basis, we will notify you of our decision orally or in writing as soon as your clinical condition requires, but not later than 24 hours after we received your appeal. If we notify you of our decision orally, we will send you written confirmation within three (3) days after receiving your claim.

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

b. Non-Urgent Concurrent Care Appeal

Within 180 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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 the **Appeals Program**.

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The members of the appeals committee who will review your appeal will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least 5 days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that 5 day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision as soon as possible if your care has not ended but not later than 30 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, that may be available to you.

c. 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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 may submit your appeal orally, by mail or by fax to the **Appeals Program**.

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 “Appeals and Complaints” section).

We will decide whether your appeal is urgent or non-urgent unless your attending health care provider tells us your appeal is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, create an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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 continuing your course of covered treatment. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent appeal to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

You do not have the right to attend or have counsel, advocates and health care professionals in attendance at the expedited review. You are, however, entitled to submit written comments, documents, records and other materials for the reviewer or reviewers to consider; and receive, upon request and free of charge, copies of all documents, records and other information regarding your request for benefits.

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 (3) days after that.

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.

3. 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:

a. Post-Service Claim

Within twelve (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, and (4) why you think we should pay for the Services. You must include a copy of the bill, your medical record(s) and any supporting documents. Your letter and the related documents constitute your claim. Or, you may contact **Member Services** to obtain a claims form. You must either mail or fax your claim to the **Claims Department**.

We will not accept or pay for claims received from you after twelve (12) months from the date of Services.

We will review your claim, and if we have all the information we need we will send you a written decision within 30 days after we receive your claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, if we notify you within 15 days after we receive your claim and explain the circumstances for which we need the extra time and when we expect to make a decision. If we tell you we need more information, we will ask you for the information, and we will give you 45 days to send us the information. We will make a decision within 15 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 days after we send our request, we will make a decision based on the information we have within 15 days following the end of the 45-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.

b. Post-Service Appeal

Within 180 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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) include all supporting documents such as medical records. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must either mail or fax your appeal to the **Appeals Program**.

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The appeals committee members who will review your appeal (who were not involved in our original decision regarding your claim) will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least 5 days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that 5 day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within 30 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.

Voluntary Second Level of Appeal

Within 60 days after you receive our adverse decision regarding your appeal, you may ask us to review our adverse benefit decisions again. We will schedule a review of your second appeal within 60 days of receiving your request, and we will notify you about the date and time of this review no less than 20 days before it occurs. You have the right to request a postponement. You have the right to appear in person or by telephone conference at the meeting. We will make our decision within 7 days of the completion of this meeting.

Appeals of Retroactive Membership Termination (rescission or cancellation retroactively)

We may terminate your membership retroactively (see “Rescission of Membership” under the “Termination/Nonrenewal/Continuation” section). We will send you written notice at least 30 days prior to the termination. If you have general questions about retroactive membership terminations or appeals, please call **Member Services**.

Here is the procedure for filing an appeal of a retroactive membership termination:

Within 180 days after you receive our adverse benefit determination that your membership will be terminated retroactively, you must tell us in writing that you want to appeal our termination of your membership retroactively. Please include the following: (1) your name and Medical Record Number, (2) all of the reasons why you disagree with our retroactive membership termination, and (3) all supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must mail your appeal to **Member Services**.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within 30 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, that may be available to you.

#### **Appeals of Denial of Individual Plan Application**

Here is the procedure for filing an appeal of our denial of an individual plan application:

Within 180 days after you receive our adverse benefit determination regarding your individual plan application, you must tell us in writing that you want to appeal our denial of an individual plan application. Please include the following: (1) your name and application reference number, (2) all of the reasons why you disagree with our adverse benefit determination, and (3) all supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must mail your appeal to:

Member Services  
P.O. Box 203004  
Denver, CO 80220-9004

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within 30 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 that may be available to you.

#### **External Review**

Following receipt of an adverse decision letter regarding your First Level Appeal or Voluntary Second Level Appeal, you may have a right to request an external review.

You have the right to request an independent external review of our decision if our decision involves an adverse benefit determination regarding a denial of a claim, in whole or in part, that is (1) a denial of a preauthorization for a Service; (2) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is not Medically Necessary, appropriate, effective or efficient or is not provided in or at the appropriate health care setting or level of care; and/or (3) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is experimental or investigational. If our final adverse decision does not involve an adverse benefit determination described in the preceding sentence, then your claim is **not** eligible for external review provided, however, independent external review is available when we deny your appeal because you request medical care that is excluded under your Kaiser Permanente plan and you present evidence from a licensed Colorado professional that there is a reasonable medical basis that the exclusion does not apply.

You will not be responsible for the cost of the external review. There is no minimum dollar amount for a claim to be eligible for an external review.

To request external review, you must:

1. Submit a completed Independent External Review of Carrier's Final Adverse Determination form which will be included with the mandatory internal appeal decision letter and explanation of your appeal rights (you may call the **Appeals Program** to request a copy of this form) to the **Appeals Program** within four (4) months of the date of receipt of the mandatory internal appeal decision or Voluntary Second Level Appeal decision. We shall consider the date of receipt for our notice to be three (3) days after the date on which our notice was drafted, unless you can prove that you received our notice after the three (3) day period ends.
2. Include in your written request a statement authorizing us to release your claim file with your health information including your medical records; or, you may submit a completed Authorization for Release of Appeal Information form which is included with the mandatory internal appeal decision letter and explanation of your appeal rights (you may call **Appeals Program** to request a copy of this form).

If we do not receive your external review request form and/or authorization form to release your health information, then we will not be able to act on your request. We must receive all of this information prior to the end of the applicable timeframe (4 months) for your request of external review.

#### **Expedited External Review**

**You may request an expedited review if (1) you have a medical condition for which the timeframe for completion of a standard review would seriously jeopardize your life, health, or ability to regain maximum function, or, if you have a physical or mental disability, would create an imminent and substantial limitation to your existing ability to live independently, or (2) in the opinion of a physician with knowledge of your medical condition, the timeframe for completion of a standard review would subject you to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the medical services that**



you are seeking. A request for an expedited external review must be accompanied by a written statement from your physician that your condition meets the expedited criteria. You must include the physician's certification that you meet expedited external review criteria when you submit your request for external review along with the other required information (described, above).

#### **Additional Requirements for External Review regarding Experimental or Investigational Services**

You may request external review or expedited external review involving an adverse benefit determination based upon the Service being experimental or investigational. Your request for external review or expedited external review must include a written statement from your physician that either (a) standard health care services or treatments have not been effective in improving your condition or are not medically appropriate for you, or (b) there is no available standard health care service or treatment covered under this EOC that is more beneficial than the recommended or requested health care service (the physician must certify that scientifically valid studies using accepted protocols demonstrate that the requested health care service or treatment is more likely to be more beneficial to you than an available standard health care services or treatments), and the physician is a licensed, board-certified, or board-eligible physician to practice in the area of medicine to treat your condition. If you are requesting expedited external review, then your physician must also certify that the requested health care service or treatment would be less effective if not promptly initiated. These certifications must be submitted with your request for external review.

No expedited external review is available when you have already received the medical care that is the subject of your request for external review. If you do not qualify for expedited external review, we will treat your request as a request for standard external review.

After we receive your request for external review, we shall notify you of the information regarding the independent external review entity that the Division of Insurance has selected to conduct the external review.

If we deny your request for standard or expedited external review, including any assertion that we have not complied with the applicable requirements related to our internal claims and appeals procedure, then we may notify you in writing and include the specific reasons for the denial. Our notice will include information about your right to appeal the denial to the Division of Insurance. At the same time that we send this denial notice to you, we will send a copy of it to the Division of Insurance.

**You will not be able to present your appeal in person to the independent external review organization. You may, however, send any additional information that is significantly different from information provided or considered during the internal claims and appeal procedure and, if applicable Voluntary Second Level of Appeal process. If you send new information, we may consider it and reverse our decision regarding your appeal.**

**You may submit your additional information to the independent external review organization for consideration during its review within five (5) working days of your receipt of our notice describing the independent review organization that has been selected to conduct the external review of your claim. Although it is not required to do so, the independent review organization may accept and consider additional information submitted after this five (5) working day period ends.**

The independent external review entity shall review information regarding your benefit claim and shall base its determination on an objective review of relevant medical and scientific evidence. Within 45 days of the independent external review entity's receipt of your request for standard external review, it shall provide written notice of its decision to you. If the independent external review entity is deciding your expedited external review request, then the independent external review entity shall make its decision as expeditiously as possible and no more than 72 hours after its receipt of your request for external review and within 48 hours of notifying you orally of its decision provide written confirmation of its decision. This notice shall explain the external review entity's decision and that the external review decision is the final appeal available under state insurance law. An external review decision is binding on Health Plan and you except to the extent Health Plan and you have other remedies available under federal or state law. You or your designated representative may not file a subsequent request for external review involving the same Health Plan adverse determination for which you have already received an external review decision.

**If the independent external review organization overturns our denial of payment for care you have already received, we will issue payment within five (5) working days. If the independent review organization overturns our decision not to authorize pre-service or concurrent care claims, Kaiser Permanente will authorize care within one (1) working day. Such covered services shall be provided subject to the terms and conditions applicable to benefits under your plan.**

Except when external review is permitted to occur simultaneously with your urgent pre-service appeal or urgent concurrent care appeal, you must exhaust our internal claims and appeals procedure (but not the Voluntary Second Level of Appeal) for your claim before you may request external review unless we have failed to substantially comply with federal and/or state law requirements regarding our claims and appeals procedures.

#### **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.

## B. Complaints

1. If you are not satisfied with the Services received at a particular Plan 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:
  - a. Sending your written complaint to **Member Services**;
  - b. Requesting to meet with a Member Services Liaison at the Health Plan Administrative Offices; or
  - c. Telephoning **Member Services**.
2. After you notify us of a complaint, this is what happens:
  - a. A Member Services Liaison reviews the complaint and conducts an investigation, verifying all the relevant facts.
  - b. The Member Services Liaison or a Plan Physician evaluates the facts and makes a recommendation for corrective action, if any.
  - c. When you file a written complaint, we usually respond in writing within 30 calendar days, unless additional information is required.
  - d. When you make a verbal complaint, a verbal response is usually made within 30 calendar days.
3. If you are dissatisfied with the resolution, you have the right to request a second review. Please put your request in writing to **Member Services**. **Member Services** will respond to you in writing within 30 calendar days of receipt of your request.

We want you to be satisfied with our Plan Facilities, Services, and Plan Physicians. 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. Please call **Member Services**.

## X. INFORMATION ON POLICY AND RATE CHANGES

Your Group's Agreement with us will change periodically. If these changes affect this EOC or your Premiums, your Group is required to notify you of them. If it is necessary to make revisions to this EOC, we will issue revised materials to you.

## XI. DEFINITIONS

The following terms, when capitalized and used in any part of this EOC, have the following meaning:

**Accumulation Period:** As stated in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)," the period of time during which benefits are paid and are counted toward the maximum allowed for the specific benefit.

**Affiliated Physician:** Any doctor of medicine contracting with Medical Group to provide covered Services to Members under this EOC.

**Affiliated Provider:** A health care provider that we designate as an Affiliated Provider.

**Authorization:** A referral request that has received approval from Health Plan.

### Charge(s):

1. For Services provided by Plan Providers or Medical Group, the charges in Health Plan's schedule of Medical Group and Health Plan charges for Services provided to Members; or
2. For Services for which a provider (other than Medical Group or Health Plan) is compensated on a capitation basis, the charges in the schedule of charges that Kaiser Permanente negotiates with the capitated provider; or
3. For items obtained at a Plan Pharmacy, the amount the Plan Pharmacy would charge a Member for the item if a Member's benefit plan did not cover the item (this amount is an estimate of: the cost of acquiring, storing, and dispensing drugs, the direct and indirect costs of providing Kaiser Permanente pharmacy Services to Members, and the Plan Pharmacy program's contribution to the net revenue requirements of Health Plan); or
4. For all other Services, the payments that Health Plan makes for the Services (or, if Health Plan subtracts a Copayment, Coinsurance or Deductible from its payment, the amount Health Plan would have paid if it did not subtract the Copayment, Coinsurance or Deductible).

**CMS:** The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the federal agency responsible for administering Medicare.

**Coinsurance:** A percentage of Charges that you must pay when you receive a covered Service, as listed in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)."

**Copayment:** The specific dollar amount you must pay for a covered Service, as listed in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)."

**Dependent:** A Member whose relationship to a Subscriber is the basis for membership eligibility and who meets the eligibility requirements as a Dependent. For Dependent eligibility requirements, see "Who Is Eligible" in the "Eligibility" section).

**Emergency Medical Condition:** A medical condition that manifests itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity, including severe pain, that a prudent layperson with an average knowledge of health and medicine could reasonably expect, in the absence of immediate medical attention, to result in:

1. Serious jeopardy to the health of the individual or, with respect to a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child;
2. Serious impairment to bodily functions; or
3. Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part.

**Emergency Services:** With respect to an Emergency Medical Condition:

1. A medical screening examination that is within the capability of the emergency department of a hospital, including ancillary services routinely available to the emergency department to evaluate the Emergency Medical Condition; and
2. Within the capabilities of the staff and facilities available at the hospital, further medical examination and treatment as required to stabilize the patient 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 individual from a facility.

**Family Unit:** A Subscriber and all of his or her Dependents.

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

**Health Plan:** Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado, a Colorado nonprofit corporation.

**Kaiser Permanente:** Health Plan and Medical Group.

**Life or Limb Threatening Emergency:** Any event that a prudent layperson would believe threatens his or her life or limb in such a manner that a need for immediate medical care is created to prevent death or serious impairment of health.

**Medical Group:** The Colorado Permanente Medical Group, P.C., a for-profit medical corporation.

**Medically Necessary** services or supplies are those that are determined by Health Plan to be all of the following:

- Required to prevent, diagnose, or treat your condition or clinical symptoms; and
- In accordance with generally accepted standards of medical practice; and
- Not solely for the convenience of you, your family, and/or your provider; and
- The most appropriate level of care that can safely be provided to you.

The fact that a Plan or non-Plan Provider prescribes, recommends, or refers you to a Service does not make that Service Medically Necessary or covered under this EOC.

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

**Member:** A person who is eligible and enrolled under this EOC, and for whom we have received applicable Premiums. This EOC sometimes refers to a Member as “you” or “your.”

**Out-of-Pocket Maximum:** The annual limit to the total amount of Deductible (if any), certain Copayments and certain Coinsurance you must pay in an Accumulation Period for covered Services, as described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**Plan Facility:** A Plan Medical Office or Plan Hospital.

**Plan Hospital:** Any hospital listed as a Plan Hospital in our provider directory. Plan Hospitals are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Plan Medical Office:** Any medical office listed in our provider directory, including any outpatient facility designated by Health Plan. Plan Medical Offices are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Plan Optometrist:** Any licensed optometrist who is an employee of Health Plan or any licensed optometrist who contracts to provide Services to Members.

**Plan Pharmacy:** A pharmacy owned and operated by Kaiser Permanente or another pharmacy that we designate. Plan Pharmacies are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Plan Physician:** Any licensed physician who is an employee of Medical Group, an Affiliated Physician or any licensed physician who contracts to provide Services to Members (but not including physicians who contract only to provide referral Services).

**Plan Provider:** A Plan Hospital, Plan Physician, or other health care provider that we designate as Plan Provider, except that Plan Providers are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Premiums:** Periodic membership charges paid by Group.

**Service Area:**

The **Denver/Boulder** Service Area is that portion of Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Clear Creek, Denver, Douglas, Elbert, Gilpin, Jefferson, Larimer, Park, Teller, and Weld counties within the following zip codes: 80001, 80002, 80003, 80004, 80005, 80006, 80007, 80010, 80011, 80012, 80013, 80014, 80015, 80016, 80017, 80018, 80019, 80020, 80021, 80022, 80023, 80024, 80025, 80026, 80027, 80030, 80031, 80033, 80034, 80035, 80036, 80037, 80038, 80040, 80041, 80042, 80044, 80045, 80046, 80047, 80102, 80104, 80107, 80108, 80109, 80110, 80111, 80112, 80113, 80116, 80117, 80120, 80121, 80122, 80123, 80124, 80125, 80126, 80127, 80128, 80129, 80130, 80131, 80134, 80135, 80137, 80138, 80150, 80151, 80155, 80160, 80161, 80162, 80163, 80165, 80166, 80201, 80202, 80203, 80204, 80205, 80206, 80207, 80208, 80209, 80210, 80211, 80212, 80214, 80215, 80216, 80217, 80218, 80219, 80220, 80221, 80222, 80223, 80224, 80225, 80226, 80227, 80228, 80229, 80230, 80231, 80232, 80233, 80234, 80235, 80236, 80237, 80238, 80239, 80241, 80243, 80244, 80246, 80247, 80248, 80249, 80250, 80251, 80256, 80257, 80259, 80260, 80261, 80262, 80263, 80264, 80265, 80266, 80271, 80273, 80274, 80281, 80290, 80291, 80293, 80294, 80299, 80301, 80302, 80303, 80304, 80305, 80306, 80307, 80308, 80309, 80310, 80314, 80401, 80402, 80403, 80419, 80421, 80422, 80425, 80427, 80433, 80436, 80437, 80439, 80444, 80452, 80453, 80454, 80455, 80457, 80465, 80466, 80470, 80471, 80474, 80481, 80501, 80502, 80503, 80504, 80510, 80514, 80516, 80520, 80530, 80533, 80540, 80544, 80601, 80602, 80603, 80614, 80621, 80640, 80642, 80643.

The **Northern Colorado** Service Area is that portion of Adams, Boulder, Larimer, Morgan, and Weld counties within the following zip codes: 69128, 69145, 80511, 80512, 80513, 80515, 80517, 80521, 80522, 80523, 80524, 80525, 80526, 80527, 80528, 80532, 80534, 80535, 80536, 80537, 80538, 80539, 80541, 80542, 80543, 80545, 80546, 80547, 80549, 80550, 80551, 80553, 80610, 80611, 80612, 80615, 80620, 80622, 80623, 80624, 80631, 80632, 80633, 80634, 80638, 80639, 80644, 80645, 80646, 80648, 80649, 80650, 80651, 80652, 80654, 80729, 80732, 80742, 80754, 82063, 82070, 82082.

The **Southern Colorado** Service Area is that portion of Crowley, Custer, Douglas, El Paso, Elbert, Fremont, Huerfano, Las Animas, Lincoln, Otero, Park, Pueblo, and Teller counties within the following zip codes: 80106, 80118, 80132, 80133, 80808, 80809, 80813, 80814, 80816, 80817, 80819, 80820, 80827, 80829, 80831, 80832, 80833, 80840, 80841, 80860, 80863, 80864, 80866, 80901, 80902, 80903, 80904, 80905, 80906, 80907, 80908, 80909, 80910, 80911, 80912, 80913, 80914, 80915, 80916, 80917, 80918, 80919, 80920, 80921, 80922, 80923, 80924, 80925, 80926, 80927, 80928, 80929, 80930, 80931, 80932, 80933, 80934, 80935, 80936, 80937, 80938, 80939, 80941, 80942, 80946, 80947, 80949, 80950, 80951, 80960, 80962, 80970, 80977, 80995, 80997, 81001, 81002, 81003, 81004, 81005, 81006, 81007, 81008, 81009, 81010, 81011, 81012, 81019, 81022, 81023, 81025, 81039, 81062, 81069, 81212, 81215, 81221, 81222, 81223, 81226, 81232, 81233, 81240, 81244, 81253, 81290.

**Services:** Health care services or items.

**Skilled Nursing Facility:** A facility that is licensed as such by the state of Colorado, certified by Medicare and approved by Health Plan. The facility's primary business must be the provision of 24-hour-a-day licensed skilled nursing care for patients who need skilled nursing or skilled rehabilitation care, or both, on a daily basis, as part of an ongoing medical treatment plan.

**Spouse:** Your partner in marriage or a civil union as determined by state law.

**Stabilize:** To provide the medical treatment of the Emergency Medical 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 (including the placenta).

**Step Therapy:** A protocol that requires a covered person to use a prescription drug or sequence of prescription drugs, other than the drug that the covered person's health care provider recommends for the covered person's treatment, before the carrier provides coverage for the recommended prescription drug.

**Subscriber:** A Member who is eligible for membership on his or her own behalf and not by virtue of Dependent status and who meets the eligibility requirements as a Subscriber (for Subscriber eligibility requirements, see "Who Is Eligible" in the "Eligibility" section).

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## ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

Please refer to the Summary Chart in this booklet for specific charges and other limitations that may apply to the coverage(s) described below.

### DOMESTIC PARTNER COVERAGE

Your Group coverage includes health benefits for same-sex domestic partners. To be covered they must meet:

- (1) the eligibility requirements as described in the “Eligibility” section of this EOC; and
- (2) the conditions for domestic partnership as described in the Affidavit of Domestic Partnership.

You are required to complete and submit an Affidavit of Domestic Partnership to Health Plan. Please check with your Group's benefit administrator for details.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for same-sex domestic partners. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

DOMP0AA (01-18)

### SURVIVING DEPENDENTS

Your Group coverage includes health benefit coverage for surviving Dependents.

Surviving Dependents include your:

1. Spouses; and
2. Other eligible Dependents.

Their coverage may continue based on the Group's personnel policy.

SRDC0AE (01-12)

WOR0AA

### ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT

**(Does not apply to Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage HMO Plan)**

The following paragraph of your EOC is amended, as follows:

#### I. Eligibility

##### A. Who Is Eligible

###### 1. General

To be eligible to enroll and to remain enrolled in this health benefit plan, you must meet the following requirements:

- a. You must meet your Group's eligibility requirements that we have approved. Your Group is required to inform Subscribers of the Group's eligibility requirements; and
- b. You must also meet the Subscriber or Dependent eligibility requirements as described below; and
- c. The Subscriber must live, reside, or work in our Service Area. Our Service Area is described in the “Definitions” section.

This rider amends the general eligibility provision of the EOC. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

WOR0AA (01-20)

### CHIROPRACTIC CARE

#### 1. Coverage

Chiropractic Services are covered as shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” when provided by contracted providers. Coverage includes:

- a. Evaluation;

- b. Manual and manipulative therapy of the spinal and extraspinal regions.

You may self-refer for visits to contracted providers.

**Note:** The following are covered, but not under this section: X-ray and laboratory tests, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”.

2. Exclusions

- a. Hypnotherapy.
- b. Behavior training.
- c. Sleep therapy.
- d. Weight loss programs.
- e. Services related to the treatment of the musculoskeletal system, except for the spinal and extraspinal regions.
- f. Vocational rehabilitation Services.
- g. Thermography.
- h. Air conditioners, air purifiers, therapeutic mattresses, supplies, or any other similar devices and appliances.
- i. Transportation costs. This includes local ambulance charges.
- j. Prescription drugs, vitamins, minerals, food supplements, or other similar products.
- k. Educational programs.
- l. Non-medical self-care or self-help training.
- m. All diagnostic testing related to these excluded Services.
- n. MRI and/or other types of diagnostic radiology.
- o. Physical or massage therapy that is not a part of the manual and manipulative therapy.
- p. Durable medical equipment (DME) and/or supplies for use in the home.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for Chiropractic Care. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

CHIR0AA (01-18)  
DMES0AB

**DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT (DME) AND  
PROSTHETIC AND ORTHOTIC DEVICES**

When prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan on either a purchase or rental basis, as determined by Health Plan, DME, prosthetics and orthotics, including replacements other than those necessitated by misuse, theft, or loss, are provided as shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for your use during the period prescribed. Necessary fittings, repairs and adjustments, other than those necessitated by misuse, are covered. Health Plan may repair or replace a device at its option. Repair or replacement of defective equipment is covered at no additional charge.

Health Plan uses Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) and National Coverage Determinations (NCD) (hereinafter referred to as Medicare Guidelines) for our DME, prosthetic, and orthotic formulary guidelines. These are guidelines only. Health Plan reserves the right to exclude items listed in the Medicare Guidelines (does not apply to Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage plans). Please note that this EOC may contain some, but not all, of these exclusions.

**Limitations:** Coverage is limited to a standard item of DME, prosthetic device, or orthotic device that adequately meets your medical needs.

1. Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

a. Coverage

- i. DME is equipment that is appropriate for use in the home, able to withstand repeated use, Medically Necessary, not of use to a person in the absence of illness or injury, and approved for coverage under Medicare. It includes, but is not limited to, infant apnea monitors, insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies, and oxygen and oxygen dispensing equipment.
- ii. Insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iii. When use is no longer prescribed by a Plan Physician, DME must be returned to Health Plan or its designee. If the equipment is not returned, you must pay Health Plan or its designee the fair market price, established by Health Plan, for the equipment.

- b. Limitation: Coverage is limited to the lesser of the purchase or rental price, as determined by Health Plan.

c. Durable Medical Equipment Exclusions

- i. Electronic monitors of bodily functions, except infant apnea monitors are covered.
- ii. Devices to perform medical testing of body fluids, excretions or substances, except nitrate urine test strips for home use for pediatric patients are covered.
- iii. Non-medical items such as sauna baths or elevators.

- iv. Exercise or hygiene equipment.
- v. Comfort, convenience, or luxury equipment or features.
- vi. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze\*, tape, antiseptics, dressings, and ace-type bandages.  
\*Gauze not excluded in Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Part D plans.
- vii. Replacement of lost or stolen equipment.
- viii. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.
- ix. More than one piece of DME serving essentially the same function, except for replacements.
- x. Spare equipment or alternate use equipment is not covered.

## 2. Prosthetic Devices

### a. Coverage

Prosthetic devices are those rigid or semi-rigid external devices that are required to replace all or part of a body organ or extremity. Coverage of prosthetic devices includes:

- i. Internally implanted devices for functional purposes, such as pacemakers and hip joints.
- ii. Prosthetic devices for Members who have had a mastectomy. Medical Group or Health Plan will designate the source from which external prostheses can be obtained. Replacement will be made when a prosthesis is no longer functional. Custom-made prostheses will be provided when necessary.
- iii. Prosthetic devices, such as obturators and speech and feeding appliances, required for the treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate are covered when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iv. Prosthetic devices intended to replace, in whole or in part, an arm or leg when prescribed by a Plan Physician, as Medically Necessary and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.

### b. Prosthetic Devices Exclusions

- i. Dental prostheses, except for Medically Necessary prosthodontic treatment for treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate, as described above.
- ii. Internally implanted devices, equipment, and prosthetics related to treatment of sexual dysfunction.
- iii. More than one prosthetic device for the same part of the body, except for replacements.
- iv. Spare devices or alternate use devices.
- v. Replacement of lost or stolen prosthetic devices.
- vi. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.

## 3. Orthotic Devices

### a. Coverage

Orthotic devices are those rigid or semi-rigid external devices that are 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.

### b. Orthotic Devices Exclusions

- i. Corrective shoes and orthotic devices for podiatric use and arch supports, except for diabetic shoes in accordance with clinical guidelines and therapeutic shoes for patients with a diagnosis of peripheral vascular disease or peripheral neuropathy.
- ii. Dental devices and appliances except that Medically Necessary treatment of cleft lip or cleft palate is covered when prescribed by a Plan Physician, unless you are covered for these Services under a dental insurance policy or contract.
- iii. Experimental and research braces.
- iv. More than one orthotic device for the same part of the body, except for covered replacements.
- v. Spare devices or alternate use devices.
- vi. Replacement of lost or stolen orthotic devices.
- vii. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and prosthetic and orthotic devices. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

DMES0AB (01-20)

## **REPRODUCTIVE SUPPORT SERVICES**

### 1. Coverage

We cover the following Services as shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”:

- a. Services for diagnosis and treatment of involuntary infertility (including X-ray and laboratory tests).
- b. Intrauterine insemination (IUI).
- c. Office administered drugs supplied and used during an office visit for IUI.

**Note:** Prescription drugs are not covered under this section. See “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if you have coverage for prescription drugs received from a Plan Pharmacy for IUI.



2. Limitations

- a. IUI coverage is limited to three (3) treatment cycles per lifetime.
- b. Services are covered only for the person who is the Member.

3. Exclusions

These exclusions apply to fertile as well as infertile individuals or couples.

- a. Any and all Services to reverse voluntary, surgically induced infertility.
- b. Acupuncture for the treatment of infertility, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for this service. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if your Group has the acupuncture benefit.
- c. Donor semen, sperm, or eggs.
- d. Any and all Services, supplies, office administered drugs, and prescription drugs received from a pharmacy related to the procurement and/or storage of semen, sperm, eggs, reproductive materials, and/or embryos, except as listed in the “Coverage” section of this benefit.
- e. Prescription drugs received from a pharmacy for infertility services unless prescription drug coverage for infertility is purchased.
- f. Any and all Services, supplies, office administered drugs, and prescription drugs received from a pharmacy that are related to conception by artificial means, except as listed in the “Coverage” section of this benefit.

This rider amends the EOC to provide limited coverage for Reproductive Support Services. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

INFT0AA (01-20)

### PREVENTIVE SERVICES RIDER

Preventive care services, as defined under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, are provided at no charge including those shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” when prescribed by a Plan Physician. Please contact **Member Services** for a complete list of covered Preventive Services.

**Note:** If you receive any other covered Services before, during, or after a preventive care visit, you may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, and Coinsurance for those Services. For example:

- You schedule a routine physical maintenance exam. During your preventive exam your provider finds a problem with your health and orders non-preventive Services to diagnose your problem (such as laboratory or radiology tests). You may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance for these additional diagnostic Services.
- You schedule a routine preventive exam. Your provider orders laboratory tests that are not preventive care Services according to the guidelines below. You may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance for these additional non-preventive Services.
- You schedule a routine well-person exam. During your exam, you discuss new symptoms with your provider, or new health concerns are discovered. You may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance for this visit.

Coverage includes, but is not limited to, preventive health care Services for the following in accordance with the A or B recommendations of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, the Health Resources Services Administration women’s preventive services guidelines, and those preventive services mandates required by state law, for the particular preventive health care Service:

1. Office visits for preventive care Services.
2. Alcohol misuse screening and behavioral counseling interventions for adults by your primary care provider.
3. Cervical cancer screening.
4. Breast cancer screening.
5. Blood pressure screening.
6. Cholesterol screening.
7. Colorectal cancer screening.
8. Prostate cancer screening.
9. Immunizations pursuant to the schedule established by the ACIP.
10. Tobacco use screening, counseling, cessation attempt services, FDA-approved tobacco cessation medications, and the Colorado QuitLine.
11. Type 2 diabetes screening for adults with high blood pressure.
12. Diet counseling for adults with hyperlipidemia and at higher risk for cardiovascular and diet-related chronic disease.
13. Cervical cancer vaccines.
14. Influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations.
15. Approved Affordable Care Act contraceptive categories.

“ACIP” means the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention in the federal Department of Health and Human Services, or any successor entity. Go to [cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/](http://cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/). For a list of preventive services that have a rating of A or B from the U.S. Preventive Task Force, go to [uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Name/uspstf-a-and-b-recommendations/](http://uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Name/uspstf-a-and-b-recommendations/). For the Health Resources and Services Administration women’s preventive services guidelines, go to [hrsa.gov/womensguidelines/](http://hrsa.gov/womensguidelines/).

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for preventive Services. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

PV0AD (01-20)

RX0BL

### PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT

**NOTE:** When used in this Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement, the term “preferred” refers to drugs that are included in the Health Plan drug formulary. The term “non-preferred” refers to drugs that are not included in the Health Plan drug formulary.

Please refer to the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” in this booklet for the specific Copayments, Coinsurance, Deductible, and supply limits that apply to the covered prescription drugs described below.

#### 1. Coverage

Prescribed covered drugs are provided at the applicable prescription drug Copayment or Coinsurance for each tier of drug coverage. This may include: a preferred generic drug tier; a tier for preferred brand-name drugs or medications not having a generic or a generic equivalent; a tier for prescribed non-preferred drugs authorized through the non-preferred drug process; and a tier for certain specialty drugs. **Note:** Some specialty drugs are available in other tiers. To learn more, please visit our website at [kp.org/formulary](http://kp.org/formulary).

Non-Formulary Drug Exception Process:

You, your designee, or your Plan Provider may request access to clinically appropriate drugs not otherwise covered by Health Plan (non-formulary drugs) through a special exception process. We will make a coverage determination within 72 hours of receipt for standard requests and within 24 hours of receipt for expedited requests. As long as you are an active Member and the exception request is granted, Health Plan will provide coverage of the non-formulary drug for the duration of the prescription. If the exception request is denied, you, your designee, or your Plan Provider may request an external review of the decision by an independent review organization. For additional information about the prescription drug exception processes for non-formulary drugs, please contact **Member Services**.

Prescribed supplies and accessories include, but may not be limited to:

- a. Home glucose monitoring supplies.
- b. Glucose test strips.
- c. Acetone test tablets.
- d. Nitrate urine test strips for pediatric patients.
- e. Disposable syringes for the administration of insulin.

Such items are provided when obtained at Plan Pharmacies or from sources designated by Health Plan.

For Copayment or Coinsurance information related to contraceptive drugs and certain devices please refer to your “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

For each drug, the amount covered will be the lesser of the quantity prescribed or the day supply limit. Any amount you receive that exceeds the day supply will not be covered. If you receive more than the day supply limit, you will be charged as a non-Member for any prescribed amount exceeding the limit. Certain drugs have a significant potential for waste and diversion. Those drugs will be provided for up to a 30-day supply. Each prescription refill is provided on the same basis as the original prescription. Kaiser Permanente may, in its sole discretion, establish quantity limits for specific prescription drugs.

Generic drugs that are available in the United States only from a single manufacturer and that are not listed as generic in the then-current commercially available drug database(s) to which Health Plan subscribes are provided at the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance. The amount covered will be the lesser of the quantity prescribed or the day supply limit.

Prescription drugs are covered only when prescribed by a:

- a. Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies; or
- b. Physician to whom a Member has been referred by a Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies; or
- c. Dentist (when prescribed for acute conditions) and obtained at Plan Pharmacies.

Covered drugs include:

- a. Drugs for which a prescription is required by law. Plan Pharmacies may substitute a generic equivalent for a brand-name drug unless prohibited by the Plan Physician. If you request a brand-name drug when a generic equivalent drug is the preferred product, you must pay the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance, plus any difference in price between the preferred generic equivalent drug prescribed by the Plan Physician and the requested brand-name drug. If the brand-name drug is prescribed due to Medical Necessity, you pay only the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance.

- b. Insulin.
  - c. Renewal of prescription eye drops and one additional bottle of prescription eye drops in accordance with state law.
  - d. Compounded medications. **Note:** In all Service Areas, if you use a Kaiser Permanente pharmacy, compounded medications must be picked up or mailed from the pharmacy that is designated by Health Plan. Refills of compounded medications cannot be ordered on [kp.org](http://kp.org), by mail order, or through the automated refill line. Please call **303-764-4900 (TTY 711)** and press “0” to speak to the pharmacy staff for assistance. In the *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Service Areas, you may fill or refill compounded medications at a network pharmacy.
2. Limitations
- a. Some drugs may require prior authorization. You do not need prior authorization for any FDA-approved prescription drug listed on our formulary, for the treatment of substance use disorder.
  - b. With the exception of substance use disorder drugs, we may apply Step Therapy to certain drugs. You or your Plan Provider may request an exception if you previously tried a drug and your use of the drug was discontinued due to lack of efficacy or effectiveness, diminished effect, or an adverse event.
  - c. Coverage determinations for the off-label use of medications will be consistent with Medicare compendia, and coverage determinations for the off-label use of oncologic agents will be consistent with the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) of 2008.
3. Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements Exclusions
- a. Drugs for which a prescription is not required by law.
  - b. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze, tape, antiseptics, dressing and ace-type bandages.
  - c. Prescription drugs necessary for Services excluded in the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement.
  - d. Non-preferred drugs, except those prescribed and authorized through the non-preferred drug process.
  - e. Any drugs listed as not covered in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”.
  - f. Drugs to shorten the length of the common cold.
  - g. Drugs to enhance athletic performance.
  - h. Drugs available over the counter and by prescription for the same strength.
  - i. Individual drugs determined excluded by our Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.
  - j. Drugs for the treatment of weight control.
  - k. Any prescription drug packaging except the dispensing pharmacy's standard packaging.
  - l. Replacement of prescription drugs for any reason. This includes spilled, lost, damaged, or stolen prescriptions.
  - m. Drugs administered during a medical office visit.
  - n. Medical Foods and Medical Devices.
  - o. Unless approved by Health Plan, drugs not approved by the FDA.

This rider amends the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement to provide coverage for Prescription Drugs. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

RX0BL (01-20)

# NOTES

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# NOTES

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# NOTES

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**Kaiser Foundation Health  
Plan of Colorado**  
2500 S. Havana St.  
Aurora, CO 80014-1622

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DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT



## Important plan information





**KAISER PERMANENTE**  
Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company

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Colorado

Preferred Provider Organization





Apr.22,2020

Re: Policyholder: DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT  
Group Policy Number: 74-078

Dear Insured Employee:

Thank you for choosing Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company (KPIC).

Enclosed are your Certificate of Insurance and Schedule of Benefits for the current plan year. They supersede and replace any Certificate of Insurance or Schedule of Benefits that KPIC may have previously issued to you or your employer. The Certificate is evidence of your coverage under the KPIC Group Insurance Policy issued to your employer. Please read your Certificate carefully and keep it in a safe place.

If you have questions regarding your eligibility or plan benefits, please contact your employer.

Again, thank you for being a part of the Kaiser Permanente Health Care Program.

Sincerely,

**KAISER PERMANENTE INSURANCE COMPANY**

CO SUB Ltr.3



**KAISER PERMANENTE INSURANCE COMPANY**

One Kaiser Plaza  
Oakland, California 94612

**SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)**

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**Group Name: DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**Group Number: 74-078**

**Original Effective Date of Insurance:** On File

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**COVERED PERSONS:** Employees and Dependents, if elected

Dependent Child Age Limit: Age 26, covered through the end of the month in which the age limit is reached

**LIFETIME MAXIMUM BENEFIT WHILE INSURED:**

Not applicable

**PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER**

**NON-PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER**

**Accumulation Period:**

Calendar Year  
January 1- December 31

**Accumulation Period DEDUCTIBLES**

Self Only (Family of One Covered Person):	\$300	\$400
Individual (any one Covered Person in a family of two or more Covered Persons):	\$300	\$400
Family (for an entire family of two or more Covered Persons):	\$900	\$1,200

**Accumulation Period OUT-OF-POCKET MAXIMUMS**

Self Only (Family of One Covered Person):	\$3,000	\$6,000
Individual (any one Covered Person in a family of two or more Covered Persons):	\$3,000	\$6,000
Family (for an entire family of two or more Covered Persons):	\$9,000	\$18,000

**NOTE:**

1. Covered Charges applied to satisfy Deductible and Cost Shares on Covered Services applied to satisfy Out-of-Pocket Maximums at the Participating Provider Tier will not be applied towards satisfaction of Deductibles and Out-of-Pocket Maximums at the Non-Participating Provider Tier. Likewise, Covered Charges applied to satisfy Deductibles and Cost Shares on Covered Services applied to satisfy Out-of-Pocket Maximums at the Non-Participating Provider Tier will not be applied towards satisfaction of Deductibles and Out-of-Pocket Maximums at the Participating Provider Tier.
2. Essential Health Benefits, as defined under the Policy are not subject to the Maximum Benefit While Insured or any dollar Benefit Maximum. Unless otherwise prohibited by applicable law, day or visit limits may be imposed upon Essential and non-Essential Health Benefits.
3. Deductible, Coinsurance and Co-payments do not apply to Preventive Benefits required under the Patient Protection Affordable Care Act (PPACA) at the Participating Provider Tier. Preventive Benefits required under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) that are received at the Non-Participating Provider Tier, however, are subject to Cost Sharing.
4. Covered non-preventive services provided during a preventive exam may be subject to the Deductible and applicable Copayments and Coinsurance.

**IMPORTANT:** Read the section in Your Certificate of Insurance regarding Pre-certification carefully.

No portion of a balance billing that exceeds the level of the Maximum Allowable Charge will count towards any Deductible, Coinsurance, or Out-of-Pocket Maximum, which is applicable under the Group Policy.

For a complete understanding of the benefits, exclusions, and limitations applicable to your coverage, this **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** must be read in conjunction with the Certificate of Insurance.

COVERED SERVICES	YOUR COST SHARE (What You Pay)	
	PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER	NON-PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER
<b>Outpatient Services</b>		
Office Visits:	Lab, X-ray and all other services are subject to Coinsurance after Deductible	Lab, X-ray services and all other services are subject to Coinsurance after Deductible
Primary Care:		
Office visit	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Virtual Care Services:		
Video visit	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Email/Online visit	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Telephone visit	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Specialty Care:		
Office visit	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Virtual Care Services:		
Video visit	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Email/Online visit	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Telephone visit	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)	40%

**COVERED SERVICES**

**YOUR COST SHARE  
(What You Pay)**

	<b>PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>	<b>NON-PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>
Allergy Diagnosis and Testing: By a Primary Care Provider	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
By a Specialty Care Provider	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Allergy Treatment and Materials:		
Injection Visit:	\$20 Copayment per visit, Deductible does not apply Other procedures performed during visits are subject to Deductible and Coinsurance	40%
Serum:	20%	40%
Prenatal and postnatal Care:	20%	40%
Outpatient Surgery:	20%	40%
Chiropractic Care Spinal Manipulation Services:	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	Not Covered
	Limited to a combined Benefit Maximum of 20 visits per Accumulation Period.	
Medically Necessary Bariatric Surgery:	Not Covered	Not Covered
<b>Inpatient Hospital Care</b>	20%	40%
Medically Necessary Bariatric Surgery:	Not Covered	Not Covered
<b>Ambulance</b>	20%	Covered at the Participating Provider Benefit level regardless of the participating status of the provider.
<b>Autism Spectrum Disorders</b>		
Applied Behavior Analysis:	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy:	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
<b>Behavioral Health/Mental Health Services</b>		
Inpatient:	20%	40%

**COVERED SERVICES**

**YOUR COST SHARE  
(What You Pay)**

	<b>PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>	<b>NON-PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>
<b>Outpatient:</b>		
Individual Visits	\$20 Copayment per visit, Deductible does not apply Other procedures performed during visits are subject to Deductible and Coinsurance	40%
Group Therapy	\$10 Copayment per visit, Deductible does not apply Other procedures performed during visits are subject to Deductible and Coinsurance	40%
Partial Hospitalization	\$20 Copayment per visit, Deductible does not apply Other procedures performed during visits are subject to Deductible and Coinsurance	40%
<b>Dental</b>		
Hospital services for dental procedures:	20%	40%
<b>Dialysis Care</b>	20%	40%
<b>Drugs, Supplies and Supplements</b>		
Office Administered Drugs including administration:	20%	40%
Medical Foods:	\$3 Copayment per product per day (Deductible does not apply)	\$3 Copayment per product per day (Deductible does not apply)
Outpatient Prescription Drugs:	Prescription Drug deductible: None Preferred Generic: \$20 Copayment per prescription, Deductible does not apply Preferred Brand: \$30 Copayment per prescription, Deductible does not apply Specialty Drugs: 20%, limited to \$250 cost share per prescription, Deductible does not apply Oral Anti-cancer Drugs: 20%, Deductible does not apply Diabetic Supplies: \$20 Copayment, Deductible does not apply Day Supply: 30	Prescription Drug deductible: None Generic: Not covered Brand: Not covered Oral Anti-cancer Drugs: 40%, Deductible does not apply Diabetic Supplies: 20%, Deductible does not apply Day Supply: 30



**COVERED SERVICES**

**YOUR COST SHARE  
(What You Pay)**

	<b>PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>	<b>NON-PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>
Insulin	Applicable Cost Share Corresponding to the appropriate Formulary Tier Not to Exceed \$100 Cost Share per prescription for a 30-day supply	Applicable Cost Share Corresponding to the appropriate Formulary Tier Not to Exceed \$100 Cost Share per prescription for a 30-day Supply
Mail Order	Same Coinsurance as retail, or if applicable, Co-payments payable for Mail Order service is 2 times the corresponding single Co-payment per prescription amount shown above, limited to a 90-day supply.	Not Available
<b>Durable Medical Equipment/External Prosthetics and Orthotics</b>		
Durable Medical Equipment and Orthotics:	20%	40%
Oxygen:	20%	40%
External Prosthetic Devices to replace an arm or a leg:	20% (Deductible does not apply)	20%
Dressings, casts and splints	20%	20%
Other covered External Prosthetics	20%	40%
<b>Early Childhood Intervention Services</b>	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)
	Limited to a combined Benefit Maximum of 45 Therapeutic Visits, per Accumulation Period, for Dependents from birth up to age 3	
<b>Emergency Services</b>	20%	Covered at the Participating Provider Benefit level regardless of the participating status of the provider.
<b>Hearing Services</b>		
Routine Exam by Audiologist for Adults (age 18 and over):	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Routine Exam by Audiologist for Minors (under age 18):	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%

**COVERED SERVICES**

**YOUR COST SHARE  
(What You Pay)**

	<b>PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>	<b>NON-PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>
Hearing Aids for Adults (age 18 and over):	Not covered	Not covered
Hearing Aids Fitting and Recheck Visit for Adults (age 18 and over):	Not covered	Not covered
Hearing Aids for Minors (under the age of 18):	20%	40%
Hearing Aid Fitting and Recheck Visit for Minors (under the age of 18):	20%	40%
<b>Home Health Care</b>	20%	40%
	Limited to a combined Benefit Maximum of 60 Visits per Accumulation Period	
<b>Hospice Care</b>	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)	40%
<b>Infertility Services</b>		
Diagnosis and Treatment of Underlying Conditions	20%	40%
Artificial Insemination	20%	40%
	Limited to a combined benefit Maximum of 3 cycle of Intrauterine Insemination (IUI) per lifetime.	
<b>Preventive Care Services</b>		
Exams:	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)	\$70 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)
Screenings:	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)	\$70 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)
Health Promotion:	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)	\$70 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)
Listed Over-the-Counter Drugs and Over-the-Counter Contraceptives; and all Tobacco Cessation Drugs	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)
All other Contraceptives	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)	\$70 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)

**COVERED SERVICES**

**YOUR COST SHARE  
(What You Pay)**

	<b>PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>	<b>NON-PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>
Disease prevention:	No Charge (Deductible does not apply)	\$70 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)
Other Preventive Care:		
Family Planning:	20%	40%

**Rehabilitation and Habilitation Services**

Inpatient Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation or Habilitation Program, including one in Comprehensive Rehabilitation Facility:	20%	40%
	Limited to a combined Benefit Maximum of 60 days per condition per Accumulation Period	

**Outpatient**

Pulmonary Therapy:	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Cardiac Rehabilitation:	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Rehabilitative Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy:	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
	Limited to a combined Benefit Maximum of 20 visits per therapy, per Accumulation Period Visit Limits are not applicable to treat a Covered Person's congenital defects and birth abnormalities for physical, occupational and speech therapies from birth to age 6.	
Habilitative Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy:	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
	Limited to a combined Benefit Maximum of 20 visits per therapy per Accumulation Period Visit Limits are not applicable to treat a Covered Person's congenital defects and birth abnormalities for physical, occupational and speech therapies from birth to age 6.	

**Skilled Nursing Facility Services**

	20%	40%
	Limited to a combined Benefit Maximum of 100 days per Accumulation Period.	

**Substance Use Disorder Services**

**COVERED SERVICES**

**YOUR COST SHARE  
(What You Pay)**

	<b>PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>	<b>NON-PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>
Inpatient:	20%	40%
Outpatient:		
Individual Visits	\$20 Copayment per visit, Deductible does not apply Other procedures performed during visits are subject to Deductible and Coinsurance	40%
Group Therapy	\$10 Copayment per visit, Deductible does not apply Other procedures performed during visits are subject to Deductible and Coinsurance	40%
Partial Hospitalization	\$20 Copayment per visit, Deductible does not apply Other procedures performed during visits are subject to Deductible and Coinsurance	40%
<b>Transgender Surgery</b>	Covered the same as any other Inpatient or Outpatient Surgery	Covered in the Participating Provider Tier only.
<b>Transplants</b>	20%	40%
<b>Urgent Care Facility Services</b>	20%	40%
<b>Vision Care</b>		
Routine Eye Exam by Optometrist for:		
Minors	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Adults	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Routine Eye Exam by Specialist for:		
Minors	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Adults	\$20 Copayment per visit (Deductible does not apply)	40%
Refractive Eye Test by Optometrist for:		
Minors	20%	40%
Adults	20%	40%
Refractive Eye Test by Specialist for:		

**COVERED SERVICES**

**YOUR COST SHARE  
(What You Pay)**

	<b>PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>	<b>NON-PARTICIPATING PROVIDER TIER</b>
Minors	20%	40%
Adults	20%	40%
<b>X-Ray, Lab and Special Procedures</b>		
Outpatient CT/MRI/PET and Nuclear Medicine Scans:	20%	40%
All other X-ray, Lab and Special procedures:	20%	40%
<b>All Other Covered Services*</b>	20%	40%

\*Other Covered Services refer to Covered Services listed under the **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is covered)** Section of the Certificate of Insurance that are not detailed under the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)**. Unless otherwise stated, Your Cost Share for other Covered Services is as shown above. Unless specifically stated in this **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)**, Other Covered Services are subject to applicable Coinsurance after Deductibles.



## NONDISCRIMINATION NOTICE

Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company (KPIC) complies with applicable federal civil rights law and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. KPIC does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. 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 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**)

If you believe that Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance by mail at: Customer Experience Department, Attn: KPIC Civil Rights Coordinator, 2500 South Havana, Aurora, CO 80014, or by phone at Member Services: 1-800-632-9700.

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, 1-800-368-1019, 1-800-537-7697 (TDD). Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.

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## HELP IN YOUR LANGUAGE

**ATTENTION:** If you speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**አማርኛ (Amharic) ማስታወሻ:** የሚናገሩት ቋንቋ አማርኛ ከሆነ የትርጉም እርዳታ ድርጅቶች፣ በነጻ ሊያግዝዎት ተዘጋጅተዋል። ወደ ሚከተለው ቁጥር ይደውሉ **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**)።

**العربية (Arabic) ملحوظة:** إذا كنت تتحدث العربية، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**)።

**Bàsòò Wùdù (Bassa) Dè dɛ nià kɛ dyédé gbo:** Ɔ jũ ké m̀ Bàsòò-wùdù-po-nyò jũ ní, níí, à wuɖu kà kò dò po-poò béin m̀ gbo kpáa. Dá **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**)。

**فارسی (Farsi) توجه:** اگر به زبان فارسی گفتگو می کنید، تسهیلات زبانی بصورت رایگان برای شما فراهم می باشد. با **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711) تماس بگیرید.

**Français (French) ATTENTION:** Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Deutsch (German) ACHTUNG:** Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung.  
Rufnummer: **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Igbo (Igbo) NRUBAMA:** O bụrụ na ị na asụ Igbo, ọrụ enyemaka asụsụ, n'efu, dijiri gi. Kpọọ **1-800-632-9700** (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。 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711) まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

**한국어 (Korean) 주의:** 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711) 번으로 전화해 주십시오.

**Naabeehó (Navajo) Díí baa akó nínízin:** Díí saad bee yáníłti'go Diné Bizaad, saad bee áká'ánída'áwo'déé', t'áá jiik'eh, éí ná hóló, kóji' hódííłnih **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**नेपाली (Nepali) ध्यान दिनुहोस्:** तपाईंले नेपाली बोल्नुहुन्छ भने तपाईंको निम्ति भाषा सहायता सेवाहरू निःशुल्क रूपमा उपलब्ध छ । **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711) फोन गर्नुहोस् ।

**Afaan Oromoo (Oromo) XIYYEEFFANNAA:** Afaan dubbattu Oroomiffa, tajaajila gargaarsa afaanii, kanfaltiidhaan ala, ni argama. Bilbilaa **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Русский (Russian) ВНИМАНИЕ:** если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Español (Spanish) ATENCIÓN:** si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Yorùbá (Yoruba) AKIYESI:** Ti o ba nso ede Yoruba ofe ni iranlowo lori ede wa fun yin o. E pe ero ibanisoro yi **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).



KAISER PERMANENTE INSURANCE COMPANY  
One Kaiser Plaza  
Oakland, CA 94612

### END-OF-LIFE DRUG EXCLUSION RIDER

The **END-OF-LIFE DRUG EXCLUSION RIDER** applies to Groups that have elected not to cover prescriptions for the lethal drug and accompanying drugs written according to Colorado End of Life Options Act. This Rider is issued and made part of the Group Policy/Certificate to which it is attached.

By attachment of this Rider, the provisions of the Certificate of Insurance (COI) particularly the Exclusions for Outpatient Prescription Drug Benefits under the Drugs, Supplies and Supplements subsection of the **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is covered)** section, is amended, by adding the following exclusion:

“Prescriptions for the lethal drug and accompanying drugs for terminal illness.”

This Rider does not change, waive or extend any part of the Group Policy/Certificate other than as set forth above. This Rider is subject to all the provisions of the Group Policy/Certificate that are not in conflict with this Rider. In the event this Rider creates a duplication of benefits, duplicate benefits will not be paid, but the higher of the applicable benefits will apply. This Rider is effective on the same date as the Group Policy to which it is attached, unless a different date is shown above. This Rider terminates on the same date as the Group Policy to which it is attached.



Charles P. Bevilacqua  
President





Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company

Colorado  
Preferred Provider  
Organization Large Group  
(*Non-grandfathered Coverage*)

*Certificate of Insurance*

## TITLE PAGE (Cover Page)

**KAISER PERMANENTE INSURANCE COMPANY**  
One Kaiser Plaza Oakland, California 94612

### CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE

This Certificate describes benefit coverage funded through a Group Insurance Policy issued to Your group by Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company (hereafter referred to as "KPIC"). It becomes Your Certificate of Insurance when You have met certain eligibility requirements.

This Certificate is not an insurance policy. The complete terms of the coverage are set forth in the Group Policy. Benefit Payment is governed by all the terms, conditions and limitations of the Group Policy. If the Group Policy and this Certificate differ, the Group Policy will govern. The Group Policy may be amended at any time without Your consent. If, any such amendment to the Policy is deemed to be a material modification, a 60-day prior notice will be sent to You before the effective date of the change. Any such amendment will not affect a claim initiated before the amendment takes effect. The Group Policy is available for inspection at the Policyholder's office.

This Certificate supersedes and replaces any and all certificates that may have been issued to You previously for the coverage described herein.

A Covered Person is entitled to choose between two levels of coverage with this Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) plan. The level of coverage depends on the provider that renders the treatment or service. Your coverage includes specified medical and Hospital services rendered by providers contracted by KPIC (hereafter referred to as "Participating Providers"). These services obtained from the Participating Providers are covered under the Participating Provider Tier. Your coverage also includes services rendered by any other providers that have not been contracted by KPIC (hereafter referred to as Non-Participating Providers). Services obtained from Non-Participating Providers are covered under the Non-Participating Provider Tier. Some services are covered under both the Participating Provider and Non-Participating Provider Tiers and others are covered only under the Participating Provider Tier. The provider You select can affect the dollar amount You must pay.

KPIC is not responsible for any Covered Person's decision to receive treatment, services or supplies under either level of coverage.

Payments will be made under either the Participating Provider Tier or the Non-Participating Provider Tier of the PPO plan but not under both.

In this Certificate, Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company will be referred to as: "KPIC", "we", "us", or "our". The Insured Employee named in the attached **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section will be referred to as: "You", or "Your".

This Certificate is important to You, so please read it carefully and keep it in a safe place.

**Please refer to the LIMITATIONS and EXCLUSIONS (What is Not Covered) section of this Certificate for a description of this health insurance plan's general limitations and exclusions. Likewise, the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What) section contains specific limitations for specific benefits.**

**Note: If you are insured under a separate group medical insurance policy, you may be subject to coordination of benefits as explained in the TERMINATION/NON-RENEWAL/CONTINUATION section.**

Colorado state law requires that an Access Plan be available that describes Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company (KPIC) Colorado's network of provider Services. To obtain a copy, please call **Customer Service** at 1-855- 364-3184 or visit <http://info.kaiserpermanente.org/html/kpic-colorado>.

## CONTACT US

This Certificate describes the KPIC Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) Plan.

This Certificate uses many terms that have very specific definitions for the purpose of the Group Policy. These terms are defined in the **DEFINITIONS** section and are capitalized so that You can easily recognize them. Other parts of this Certificate contain definitions specific to those provisions. Terms that are used only within one section of the Group Policy are defined in those sections. Please read all definitions carefully.

This Certificate includes a **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section that will give You a quick overview of Your coverage. It is very important, however, that You read Your entire Certificate of Insurance for a more complete description of Your coverage and the exclusions and limitations under this medical insurance plan.

This Certificate forms the remainder of the Group Policy. The provisions set forth herein, are incorporated into, and made part of, the Group Policy.

### Who Can Answer Your Questions?

For assistance with questions regarding Your coverage, such as Your benefits, Your current eligibility status, or name and address changes, please have Your ID card available when You call:

1-855-364-3184 (Toll-free)  
711 (TTY)

Or You may write to the Administrator:

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado  
PO Box 370897  
Denver, CO 80237-0897

**PPO** - If You have any questions regarding services, facilities, or care You receive from a Participating Provider, please call the toll-free number listed in the Participating Provider directory.

For Pre-certification of Covered Services or Utilization Review of medical benefits other than Outpatient Prescription Drugs, please call the number listed on Your ID card or call 1-888-525-1553.

For Prior Authorization of certain Outpatient Prescription Drugs, please call the number listed on Your ID card or call 1-800-788-2949 (Pharmacy Help Desk).

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## ELIGIBILITY

### Eligible for Insurance

You must be an Eligible Employee or Dependent of an Eligible Employee to become insured under the Group Policy.

### Eligible Employee

Eligible Employee means a person who, at the time of original enrollment:

- a. Is working for a Policyholder as a full-time employee as described below or is entitled to coverage under an employment contract;
- b. By virtue of such employment or contract enrolls under the Group Policy and;
- c. Reached an eligibility date.

Eligible Employee includes sole proprietors, partners of a partnership, or independent contractor if they are included as employees under a health benefit plan of the Policyholder, engaged on a full-time basis in the employer's business or are entitled to coverage under an employment contract.

The term "**Eligible Employee**" does not include employees who work on a temporary, seasonal or substitute basis.

For an Eligible Employee to become a Covered Person, the Eligible Employee must:

1. Complete a KPIC or KPIC-approved enrollment form;
2. Provide any information needed to determine the Eligible Employee's eligibility, if requested by Us;
3. Agree to pay any portion of the required premium, if applicable, and
4. Must live or work within a geographical area specified by KPIC and the Policyholder.

### Full-Time Work

The terms "**full-time**", "**working full-time**", "**work on a full-time basis**", and all other references to full-time work mean that the Eligible Employee is actively engaged in the business of a Policyholder for at least 20 hours per week.

### Permanent Employee

A "**permanent employee**" is a person scheduled to work full-time and is not a seasonal, temporary, or substitute employee.

### Contributions

You must pay part of the cost of the insurance, unless the Policyholder's Application for coverage specifies that the Policyholder will pay the full cost of the Covered Person's' coverage. In no event will the Policyholder contribute less than one-half of the cost of the employee's insurance.

### Eligibility Date

Your Eligibility Date is the date Your employer becomes a Policyholder if You are an Eligible Employee on that date, or the Policyholder's Application for coverage indicates that the eligibility waiting period does not apply to initial employees. Otherwise, Your eligibility date is the first day of the calendar month coinciding with or next following the date You complete the eligibility waiting period which shall not exceed 90 days elected by the Policyholder.

### Effective Date of Your Insurance

Your effective date of insurance is described in the subsection Enrollment Rules for Eligible Employee or Dependent provision set forth below under this section.

If an Eligible Employee is not in Active Service on the date coverage would otherwise become effective, the coverage for that individual will not be effective until the date of return to Active Service. Any delay in an Eligible Employee's Effective Date will not be due to a health status-related factor as defined under the Health Insurance and Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, or as later amended.

## ELIGIBILITY

**Active Service** means that a Covered Person: (1) is present at work with the intent and ability to work the scheduled hours; and (2) is performing in the customary manner all of the regular duties of his or her employment.

### **Eligibility of an Eligible Employee's Dependent**

See the Definition section for the definition of a Dependent. (Please check with Your employer if Dependent coverage is available under Your plan)

### **Age Limits for Dependent Children**

The age limit for Dependent children is under **26** years. If your employer elected to make coverage available under Your Plan beyond this age limit for Dependent children who are full-time students, then a Dependent child beyond this age limit who is a full-time student may be covered. The Dependent child must be of an age within the Student Age Limit as shown in your Schedule of Coverage. A **"full-time student"** is a Dependent child who is enrolled at a high school, college, university, technical school, trade school, or vocational school on a full-time basis. A **"full time student"** may also include, those who are on medical leave of absence from the school or those who have any other change in enrollment in school) due to a Medically Necessary condition as certified by the attending Physician. Such student coverage shall commence on the earlier of: the first day of the medical leave of absence; or on the date certified by the Physician. Coverage for students on medical leave of absence is subject to a maximum of 12 months and shall not continue beyond the effective date of the termination of the Group Policy.

Proof of status as a **"full time student"** must be furnished to KPIC at time of enrollment or within 31 days after attaining such status and subsequently as may be required by KPIC.

### **Exceptions**

The Dependent Age Limit for Dependent Children does not apply to a Dependent child who is unmarried and continues to be both: 1) physically or mentally disabled and 2) dependent upon You for support and maintenance. Such child will continue to qualify as a Dependent until the earlier of the following dates: a) the date the child recovers from the physically or mentally disabling sickness, injury or condition; or b) the date the child no longer depends on You for support and maintenance.

The above exception also applies to a **"full time student"** who is on medical leave of absence as described above, if, as a result of the nature of the sickness, injury, or condition, would render the dependent child physically or mentally disabled and dependent upon You for support and maintenance.

Proof of such incapacity and dependency must be submitted to KPIC within 60 days of Your receipt of KPIC's notice of the child's attainment of the limiting age and subsequently as may be required by KPIC, but not more frequently than annually after the two-year period following the child's attainment of the limiting age.

### **IMPORTANT:**

KPIC will not deny enrollment of a child under the health insurance coverage of a child's parent because:

1. The child was born out of wedlock;
2. The child is not claimed as a Dependent on the parent's federal income tax return; or
3. The child does not reside with the parent or in an applicable service area.

### **Eligibility Date of Dependents**

A Dependent's eligibility date is the later of: (a) Your eligibility date; or (b) the date the person qualifies as Your Dependent. A child named in a Qualified Medical Child Support Order qualifies as Your Dependent on the date specified in the court order. An adopted child qualifies as Your Dependent on the earlier of: the date of adoption or the date of Placement for Adoption.

### **Enrollment Rules for Eligible Employee or Dependent**

If you are an Eligible Employee, your effective date of insurance is determined by the Enrollment Rules that follow. Your Dependent's effective date is likewise determined by the following Enrollment Rules:



## ELIGIBILITY

### 1. Initial Open Enrollment

The Policyholder will offer an initial open enrollment to new Eligible Employees and Dependents when the Employee is first eligible for coverage.

Effective date. Initial enrollment for newly Eligible Employees and Dependents is effective following completion of any waiting period (not to exceed 90 days), if required by the Policyholder. In the absence of a waiting period, the enrollment becomes effective according to the eligibility rules established by the Policyholder

If You did not enroll Yourself and/or Your Dependents during the initial enrollment period, You will need to wait until the next annual open enrollment period to enroll or during the special enrollment period as described below.

### 2. Annual Open Enrollment

Annual open enrollment refers to a standardized annual period of time, of no less than 30 days prior to the completion of the employer's plan year for Eligible Employees and Dependents to enroll. During the annual open enrollment period, Eligible Employees and Dependents can apply for or change coverage by submitting an enrollment application to your Group during the annual open enrollment period.

Effective date. Enrollment is effective on the first day following the end of the prior plan year. Annual open enrollment occurs only once every year. The Policyholder will notify You when the annual open enrollment is available in advance of such period. Your Group will let you know when the annual open enrollment period begins and ends and the effective date.

### 3. Special Enrollment

You or your Dependent may experience a qualifying event that allows a change in your enrollment. Examples of qualifying events are the loss of coverage, a Dependent's aging off this plan, marriage, and birth of a child. The qualifying event results in a special enrollment period that usually (but not always) starts on the date of the qualifying event and lasts for sixty (60) days. During the special enrollment period, you may enroll your Dependent(s) in this plan or, in certain circumstances, you may change plans (your plan choice may be limited). There are requirements that you must meet to take advantage of a special enrollment period including showing proof of your own or your Dependent's qualifying event. To learn more about qualifying events, special enrollment periods, how to enroll or change your plan (if permitted), timeframes for submitting information to Kaiser Permanente and other requirements, call **Member Services** at 1-855-364-3184.

Effective Date. In the case of birth, adoption, or placement for adoption, or placement in foster care, enrollment is effective on the date of birth, adoption, or placement for adoption or placement in foster care.

In the case of any other qualifying event, including marriage, civil union, or loss of coverage, enrollment is effective the first day of the following month after We received a fully completed enrollment form.

If You have Dependent coverage and there would be no extra cost for adding a Dependent to Your coverage, the effective date of insurance for a Dependent will be the date You acquire the Dependent. You must notify KPIC that You have a new Dependent within 31 days so that the Dependent can be added to Your coverage. This will also help avoid delays on any claim You might file on behalf of the Dependent.

If the cost of Your Dependent coverage would increase when You add a Dependent, You must enroll the Dependent for insurance and agree to pay any additional cost in accordance with the Enrollment Rules. The effective date of insurance for that Dependent will be the date determined from the Enrollment Rules. If a Dependent does not enroll when eligible during the special enrollment period he/she may be excluded from all coverage until the next Annual Open Enrollment Period.

## ELIGIBILITY

### **Court or Administrative Ordered Coverage for a Dependent Child**

If a Covered Person is a non-custodial parent and is required by an Order to provide health coverage for an eligible child and the Covered Person is eligible for coverage under a family plan, the Covered Person, employee, employer or group administrator may enroll the eligible child under family coverage by sending KPIC a written application and paying KPIC any additional amounts due as a result of the change in coverage. Enrollment period restrictions will not apply in these circumstances. However, the child should be enrolled within 31 days of the court or administrative order to avoid any delays in the processing of any claim that may be submitted on behalf of the child. Coverage will not commence until the enrollment process has been completed.

If the Covered Person, employee, administrator, or employer fails to apply for coverage for the Dependent child pursuant to the Order, the custodial parent, district attorney, child's legal custodian or the State Department of Health Services may submit the application for insurance for the eligible child. Enrollment period restrictions will not apply in these circumstances. However, the child must be enrolled within 31 days of the Order to avoid any delays in the processing of any claim that may be submitted on behalf of the child.

The coverage for any child enrolled under this provision will continue pursuant to the terms of this health insurance plan unless KPIC is provided written evidence that:

1. The Order is no longer in effect;
2. The child is or will be enrolled in comparable health coverage through another insurer which will take effect on or before the requested termination date of the child's coverage under the Group Policy;
3. All family coverage is eliminated for members of the employer group; or
4. Nonpayment of premium.

### **Newborns**

A newborn Dependent child is insured from birth, whether or not You have applied for coverage, for a period of 31 days.

If You are already insured for Dependent coverage, no further application is required to continue the child's coverage. If You are not already insured for Dependent coverage and if an additional premium is required for the child's coverage, You must apply for and pay the additional premium before the expiration of the 31-day period; otherwise the child's coverage will terminate after the 31-day period.

Coverage for newborn children will include coverage for Injury or Sickness, including the necessary care and treatment of medically diagnosed congenital defects and birth abnormalities. If the newborn child is born with cleft lip or cleft palate or both, care and treatment will include to the extent Medically Necessary:

1. Oral and facial surgery, surgical management, and follow-up care by plastic surgeons and oral surgeons;
2. Prosthetic treatment such as obturators, speech appliances, and feeding appliances;
3. Orthodontic treatment;
4. Prosthodontic treatment;
5. Habilitative speech therapy;
6. Otolaryngology treatment; and
7. Audiological assessments and treatment.

### **Adopted Children**

Your adopted child is insured for the period of 31 days after the earlier of the date of adoption or the date of Placement for Adoption, whether or not You have applied for coverage.

If You are already insured for Dependent coverage, no further application is required to continue the child's coverage. If, however, You are not already insured for Dependent coverage and You are required to pay an additional premium for the child's coverage, You must apply for and pay the additional premium before the expiration of the 31-day period: otherwise, the child's coverage will terminate after the 31-day period.

## HOW TO ACCESS YOUR SERVICES AND OBTAIN APPROVAL OF BENEFITS

This section describes how to access your services and how to obtain approval of certain benefits that are subject to Pre-certification.

**Please read the following information carefully. It will help You understand how the prior authorization requirements and the provider You select can affect the dollar amount You must pay in connection with receiving Covered Services.**

Your coverage under the Group Policy includes coverage for Covered Services received from Participating Providers as well as Non-Participating Providers. Normally, benefits payable under the Group Policy are greater for Covered Services received from Participating Providers than those benefits payable for Covered Services received from Non-Participating Providers. In order for benefits to be payable at the Participating Provider level under the Participating Provider Tier, the Covered Person must receive care from a Participating Provider. To verify the current participation status of a provider, please call the toll-free number listed in the Participating Provider directory. A current copy of KPIC's Participating Provider directory is available from Your employer or You may call the phone number listed on Your ID card or You may visit KPIC's web site at <http://info.kaiserpermanente.org/html/kpic-colorado> or KPIC's contracted provider network website at [www.Multiplan.com/Kaiser](http://www.Multiplan.com/Kaiser). If a Covered Person receives care from a Non-Participating Provider, benefits under the Group Policy will be payable at the Non-Participating Provider level at the Non-Participating Provider Tier. However, if there are no Participating Providers within a reasonable distance per state regulation to provide a covered benefit, and as a result services are provided by a Non-Participating Provider, then the service will be covered at the Participating Provider level. Please notify us by calling **Customer Service** at 1-855-364-3184 if you are unable to locate a Participating Provider for a covered benefit.

In addition to higher Deductibles, Coinsurance or Copayments, a Non-Participating Provider may balance bill you. Balance billing occurs when a Non-Participating Provider bills you for the difference between the billed amount and Maximum Allowable Charge. Non-Participating Providers rendering services in Colorado are not allowed to balance bill You in any of the following circumstances:

- When you receive Emergency services in a Non-Participating facility or when Emergency services are rendered by physicians and other professionals that are Non-Participating Providers.
- When you receive Non-Emergency Services rendered in Participating facilities by physicians and other professionals that are Non-Participating Providers.

**NOTE:** A Non-Participating Provider may balance bill you in the circumstances described above if you choose to use a Non-Participating Provider.

KPIC is not responsible for Your decision to receive treatment, services or supplies from Participating or Non-Participating Providers. Additionally, KPIC is neither responsible for the qualifications of providers nor the treatments, services or supplies under this coverage.

### **Pre-certification through the Medical Review Program**

This sub-section under the **HOW TO ACCESS YOUR SERVICES AND OBTAIN APPROVAL OF BENEFITS** section describes:

1. The Medical Review Program and Pre-certification procedures for medical benefits other than Outpatient Prescription Drugs;
2. How failure to obtain Pre-certification affects coverage;
3. Pre-certification administrative procedures; and
4. Which clinical procedures require Pre-certification.

If Pre-certification is not obtained, benefits payable by KPIC, will be reduced by twenty percent (20%) each time Pre-certification is required. This 20% reduction will not count toward any Deductible, Coinsurance, or Out-of-Pocket Maximum applicable under the Group Policy. Such reduction only applies

## HOW TO ACCESS YOUR SERVICES AND OBTAIN APPROVAL OF BENEFITS

if You receive services, which have not been pre-certified, from a Non-Participating Provider, subject to the **IMPORTANT** note stated below.

**IMPORTANT:** Consistent with applicable Colorado law, the sole responsibility for obtaining any necessary Pre-certification regarding the utilization of the Participating Provider level of benefits rests with the Participating Provider, who recommends or orders Covered Services, and not with the Covered Person.

If You, however, received services from a Non-Participating Provider, and Pre-certification is not obtained, benefits payable by KPIC will be reduced even if the treatment or service is deemed Medically Necessary. If the treatment or service is deemed not to be Medically Necessary, the treatment or service will not be covered. If a Hospital Confinement or other inpatient care is extended beyond the number of days first pre-certified without further Pre-certification, benefits for the extra days: (1) will similarly be reduced; or (2) will not be covered, if deemed not to be Medically Necessary.

**Medical Review Program** means the organization or program that: (1) evaluates proposed treatments and/or services to determine Medical Necessity; and (2) assures that the care received is appropriate and Medically Necessary to the Covered Person's health care needs. If the Medical Review Program determines that the care is not Medically Necessary, Pre-certification will be denied. The Medical Review Program may be contacted twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week at 1-888-525-1533.

The following treatment or services must be pre-certified by the Medical Review Program when identified as a covered service (see the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section) under you plan:

1. All Inpatient admissions\* and services including:
  - a) Inpatient Rehabilitation Therapy Admissions including Comprehensive Rehabilitation Facility admissions related to services provided under an inpatient multidisciplinary rehabilitation program;
  - b) Inpatient Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder admissions and services including Residential Services;
  - c) Long Term Acute Care and Sub-acute admissions
2. Skilled Nursing Facility
3. Non-Emergent Air or Ground Ambulance Transport
4. Amino Acid-Based Elemental Formulas
5. Clinical Trial
6. Medical Foods
7. Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)
8. Cardiac Rehabilitation
9. Dental and Endoscopic Anesthesia
10. Durable Medical Equipment
11. Genetic Testing
12. Habilitative Services (Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy)
13. Home Health and Home Infusion Services
14. Hospice Care
15. Imaging Services (Magnetic Resonance Imaging or MRI, Magnetic Resonance Angiography or MRA, Computerized Tomography or CT, Computerized Tomography Angiography or CTA, Positron Emission Tomography or PET, Electron Beam Computerized Tomography or EBCT, Single Photon Emission Computerized Tomography or SPECT)
16. Infertility Services
17. Outpatient Injectable Drugs
18. Outpatient Procedures
19. Outpatient Surgery
20. Pain Management Services
21. Prosthetic and Orthotic Devices
22. Radiation Therapy Services
23. Reconstructive Surgery
24. Outpatient Rehabilitation Therapy (Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy and Pulmonary Therapy)
25. TMJ/Orthognathic Surgery
26. Transplant Services including pre-transplant and post-transplant services

## HOW TO ACCESS YOUR SERVICES AND OBTAIN APPROVAL OF BENEFITS

### 27. Transgender Surgery Services

\*Pre-certification is not required for emergency admissions. You or Your attending Physician should notify the Medical Review Program of the admission not later than twenty-four (24) hours following an emergency admission or as soon as reasonably possible.

**NOTE:** The above list is subject to change. For the most current information, please call the Medical Review Program at 1-888-525-1553 or 711 (TTY).

**Pregnancy Pre-certification:** When a Covered Person is admitted to a Hospital for delivery of a child, the Covered Person is authorized to stay in the hospital not less than:

1. Forty-eight (48) hours for a normal vaginal delivery; or
2. Ninety-six (96) hours for a Cesarean section delivery.

A stay longer than the above may be allowed provided the attending provider obtain authorization for an extended confinement through KPIC's Medical Review Program. In no case will KPIC require that a provider reduce the mother's or child's Hospital Confinement below the allowable minimums cited above. Treatment for Complications of Pregnancy is subject to the same Pre-certification requirements as any other Sickness.

#### **Pre-certification Procedures**

The Covered Person or the attending Physician must notify the Medical Review Program as follows:

1. Planned Hospital Confinement - as soon as reasonably possible after the Covered Person learns of a Hospital Confinement, but at least three (3) days prior to admission for such Hospital Confinement.
2. Extension of a Hospital Confinement - as soon as reasonably possible prior to extending the number of days of Hospital Confinement beyond the number of days originally pre-certified.
3. Other treatments or procedures requiring Pre-certification - as soon as reasonably possible after the Covered Person learns of the need for any other treatment or service requiring Pre-certification but at least three days prior to performance of any other treatment or service requiring Pre-certification.
4. During the first trimester of pregnancy if the Covered Person intends to have Birth Services covered under this health insurance plan.
5. Hospital Confinement - as soon as reasonably possible upon stabilization following any emergency admission.

A Covered Person or the attending Physician must provide all necessary information to the Medical Review Program in order for it to make its determination. This means the Covered Person may be required to:

1. Obtain a second opinion from a Physician selected from a panel of three (3) or more Physicians designated by the Medical Review Program. If the Covered Person is required to obtain a second surgical opinion, it will be provided at no charge to the Covered Person;
2. Participate in the Medical Review Program's case management, Hospital discharge planning, and long-term case management programs; and/or
3. Obtain from the attending Physician information required by the Medical Review Program relating to the Covered Person's medical condition and the requested treatment or service.

If the Covered Person or the attending Physician does not provide the necessary information or will not release the necessary information within the prescribed period as provided in the **APPEALS and COMPLAINTS** section on Pre-Service Claim, We will make a decision based on the information We have.

Please refer to the **APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS** section on Pre-Service Claim of this Certificate of Insurance for Pre-certification request process. Also, refer to the same section where a benefit is denied, in whole or in part, due to a failure to obtain Pre-certification for services rendered by a Non-Participating Provider.

For prior authorization of certain Outpatient Prescription Drugs, please refer to the **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)** section under the Outpatient Prescription Drugs subsection.

## BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)

This section describes the **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)** provisions. See the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section to determine if the benefit is a covered service. General limitations and exclusions are listed in the **LIMITATIONS/EXCLUSIONS (What is Not Covered)** section.

### **Insuring Clause**

Upon receipt of satisfactory notice of claim and proof of loss, KPIC will pay the Percentage Payable (shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section) of the Maximum Allowable Charge for Covered Charges incurred to treat a covered Injury or Sickness, provided:

1. The expense is incurred while the Covered Person is insured for this benefit;
2. The expense is for a Covered Service that is Medically Necessary;
3. The expense is for a Covered Service prescribed or ordered by the attending Physician or those prescribed or ordered by any other providers, who are duly licensed by the State to provide medical services without the referral of a Physician;
4. The Covered Person has satisfied the applicable Deductibles, Coinsurance, Copayments, and other amounts payable; and
5. The Covered Person has not exceeded the Maximum Benefit While Insured or any other maximum shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section.

Payments under this Group Policy, to the extent allowed by law:

1. May be subject to the limitations shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section;
2. May be subject to the General Limitations and Exclusions; and
3. May be subject to Pre-certification.

**Covered Services:** Refer to the **DEFINITIONS** section for the meaning of capitalized terms. Unless specifically stated otherwise elsewhere in this Certificate of Insurance or in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section, coverage is as follows:

### **Outpatient Care**

1. Physicians' services including evaluation and management services during office visit or virtual care services consisting of Telehealth visits such as video visits; email/online visits; and telephone visits.
2. Nursing care by a Registered Nurse (RN) or, if none is available, as certified by the attending Physician, nursing care by a Licensed Vocational Nurse.
3. Services by a Certified Nurse Practitioner; Certified Psychiatric-Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist; Licensed Midwife, or Certified Nurse-Midwife. This care must be within the individual's area of professional competence.
4. Respiratory therapy rendered by a certified respiratory therapist.
5. Allergy testing materials and allergy treatment material.
6. Dressings, casts, splints.
7. Anesthesia and its administration by a licensed anesthesiologist or licensed nurse anesthetist.
8. Outpatient surgery or diagnostic procedures in a Free-Standing Surgical Facility or other licensed medical facility.
9. Hospital charges for use of a surgical room on an outpatient basis.
10. Pre-admission testing, limited to diagnostic, X-ray, and laboratory exams made during a Hospital outpatient visit. The exams must be made prior to a Hospital Confinement for which a Room and Board charge is made
11. Outpatient Birth Services in a Hospital, Birth Center or any other duly licensed facility. Pregnancy and Complications of Pregnancy will be covered on the same basis as any other physical Injury or Sickness.
12. Treatment of Intractable Pain, after reasonable efforts to cure or relieve the cause of the pain. Treatment for Covered Persons must be provided through one of the following:
  - a. A primary care physician with documented experience in pain management and whose practice includes up-to-date treatment;

## **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)**

- b. A pain management specialist who is located in the State of Colorado;
- c. A reasonably requested referral to a pain management specialist, if applicable.
- 13. Outpatient self-management training and education related to the care of diabetes, including equipment and supplies and medical nutrition therapy if prescribed by a health care provider licensed to prescribe such items in accordance with applicable Colorado law. When prescribed, diabetes outpatient self-management and education must be provided by a certified, registered, or licensed health care professional with expertise in the care of diabetes.
- 14. Chemotherapy Services
- 15. Non-Dental Services to treat Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ) disorder.
- 16. Chiropractic Care Spinal Manipulation Services and supplies regardless of the license the provider performing the Service holds.
- 17. Medically Necessary Bariatric Surgery Services
- 18. Fecal Microbiota Treatment
- 19. Necessary Services and Supplies.

### **Inpatient Hospital Care**

- 1. Room and Board in a Hospital, such as semi-private room or private room when a Physician determines it is medically necessary.
- 2. Room and Board in a Hospital Intensive Care Unit.
- 3. Respiratory therapy rendered by a certified respiratory therapist.
- 4. Physicians' services.
- 5. Nursing care by a Registered Nurse (RN) or, if none is available, as certified by the attending Physician, nursing care by a Licensed Vocational Nurse.
- 6. Services by a Certified Nurse Practitioner; Certified Psychiatric-Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist; Licensed Midwife, or Certified Nurse-Midwife. This care must be within the individual's area of professional competence.
- 7. Private duty nursing services in an inpatient hospital when medically necessary.
- 8. Dressings, casts, splints.
- 9. Anesthesia and its administration by a licensed anesthesiologist or licensed nurse anesthetist.
- 10. Inpatient Birth Services in a Hospital, Birth Center or any other duly licensed facility. Pregnancy and Complications of Pregnancy will be covered on the same basis as any other physical Injury or Sickness.
- 11. Hospital Confinements in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child will not be limited to less than forty-eight (48) hours following a normal vaginal delivery and ninety-six (96) following a Cesarean section, unless, after consultation with the mother, the attending provider discharges the mother or newborn earlier. A stay longer than the above may be allowed provided the attending provider obtains Pre-certification for an extended confinement through KPIC's Medical Review Program. If the covered hospital stay for child birth ends after 8 p.m. coverage will be continued until 8 a.m. the following morning. In no case will KPIC require that a provider reduce the mother's or child's hospital confinement below the allowable minimum cited above.
- 12. Medically Necessary Bariatric Surgery Services
- 13. Necessary Services and Supplies.

### **Ambulance Services**

- 1. Transportation by an ambulance service for Emergency Care.
- 2. Transportation by an ambulance service for non-Emergency Care when the use of other means of transportation would adversely affect Your condition.

### **Autism Spectrum Disorders**

Coverage for Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) is provided. The following services are in addition to, and not in lieu of, Early Childhood Intervention Services, as provided for under this Policy. Also, Covered Services provided for ASD are in addition to any service, which may be covered and rendered to a Dependent pursuant to an Individualized Family Service Plan, and Individualized Education Program or an Individualized Plan.

Coverage for ASD includes the following:

- 1. Evaluation for treatment and assessment services;
- 2. Behavior Training and behavior management and Applied Behavior Analysis, including, but not

## **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)**

- limited to: consultations, direct care, supervision or treatment, or any combination thereof;
3. Habilitative or Rehabilitative services;
  4. Pharmacy Care which as covered under the Outpatient Prescription Drug benefit;
  5. Psychiatric Care;
  6. Psychological Care, including family counseling; and
  7. Therapeutic Care.

The ASD Covered Services listed above, must be rendered in accordance with a Treatment Plan by an Autism Service Provider, as defined under this Policy. When rendered in accordance with a Treatment Plan, such Covered Services are considered to be appropriate, effective, and efficient for the purpose of treating ASD, and not to be regarded as either experimental or investigational.

### **Behavioral Health and Mental Health Services**

Diagnosis, treatment, services, or supplies are covered under this Group Policy for Behavioral Health and Mental Health disorders, except Autism Spectrum Disorder or ASD, when received as an inpatient or on an outpatient basis in an office, Hospital, Residential Treatment facility or other licensed medical facility including a community mental health facility, and when diagnosed and treated by a provider duly licensed to diagnosis and treat such conditions. Coverage for Autism Spectrum Disorder or ASD is described under a separate header in this section.

Benefits will be limited to treatment, services or supplies otherwise covered under this Group Policy and will be provided on the same terms and conditions and no less extensive than, those provided for the treatment and diagnosis of other physical diseases or disorders.

Services include:

1. Inpatient Hospital services such as testing, treatment, therapy including electroconvulsive therapy, and counseling.
2. Partial hospitalization. Intensive and structured outpatient treatment offered for several hours during the day or evening. Services can be as intensive as inpatient care but do not require an overnight confinement in an inpatient hospital setting.
3. Outpatient and Office based services such as testing, treatment, therapy and counseling.

### **Clinical Trials**

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

- 1) We would have covered the Services if they were not related to a clinical trial.
- 2) You are eligible to participate in the clinical trial according to the trial protocol with respect to treatment of cancer or other life-threatening condition (a condition from which the likelihood of death is probable unless the course of the condition is interrupted), as determined in one of the following ways:
  - a) A Physician makes this determination.
  - b) You provide us with medical and scientific information establishing this determination.
- 3) If any Participating Provider participates in the clinical trial and will accept you as a participant in the clinical trial, you must participate in the clinical trial through a Participating Provider unless the clinical trial is outside the state where you live.
- 4) The clinical trial is a phase I, phase II, phase III, or phase IV clinical trial related to the prevention, detection, or treatment of cancer or other life-threatening condition and it meets one of the following requirements:
  - a) The study or investigation is conducted under an investigational new drug application reviewed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
  - b) The study or investigation is a drug trial that is exempt from having an investigational new drug application.
  - c) The study or investigation is approved or funded by at least one of the following:
    - i) The National Institutes of Health.
    - ii) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
    - iii) The Agency for Health Care Research and Quality.
    - iv) The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.
    - v) A cooperative group or center of any of the above entities or of the Department of Defense or the Department of Veterans Affairs.



## BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)

- vi) A qualified non-governmental research entity identified in the guidelines issued by the National Institutes of Health for center support grants.
- vii) 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:
  - 1. It is comparable to the National Institutes of Health system of peer review of studies and investigations.
  - 2. 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 "Hospital Inpatient Care" in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section for the Cost Share that applies to hospital inpatient care.

### Clinical trials exclusions

- 1. The investigational Service.
- 2. Services provided solely for data collection and analysis and that are not used in your direct clinical management.

### Dental Services

- 1. Hospitalization and Anesthesia for Dental Procedures. Covered Services includes hospitalization and general anesthesia administered to a covered Dependent child for dental procedures. The general anesthesia must be provided in a Hospital, outpatient surgical facility, or other licensed facility. Treatment must be provided by an anesthesia provider who is either:
  - a) An educationally qualified specialist in pediatric dentistry; or
  - b) Any other dentist who is educationally qualified in a recognized dental specialty for which Hospital privileges are granted or who is certified by virtue of completion of an accredited program of post-graduate Hospital training to be granted Hospital privileges.

In order for the child's hospitalization and general anesthesia to be covered, the child's treating dentist must provide a written opinion to KPIC indicating that:

- a) The Dependent child has a physical, mental, or medically compromising condition; or
- b) The Dependent child has dental needs for which local anesthesia is ineffective because of acute infection, anatomic variations, or allergy; or
- c) The Dependent child is an extremely uncooperative, unmanageable, anxious, or uncommunicative child or adolescent with dental needs deemed sufficiently important that dental care cannot be deferred; or
- d) The Dependent child has sustained extensive orofacial and dental trauma.

This provision does not apply to treatment rendered for temporomandibular joint disorders.

This provision does not provide coverage for any dental procedure or the services of the dentist.

- 2. Medically necessary orthodontia limited to dental services within the mouth for treatment of a condition related to or resulting from cleft lip and/or cleft palate.

### Dialysis Care

Dialysis services related to acute renal failure and end-stage renal disease including dialysis equipment; training; and medical supplies required for home dialysis. Home dialysis includes home hemodialysis, intermittent peritoneal dialysis, and home continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis.

### Drugs, Supplies and Supplements

- 1. Drugs and materials that require supervision or administration by medical personnel during a covered hospital confinement or other covered treatment.
- 2. Medical Foods, as defined, when related to the treatment of inherited enzymatic disorders caused by single-gene defects involved in the metabolism of amino, organic, and fatty acids as well as severe protein allergic conditions include, but are not limited to the following diagnosed conditions:

## BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)

phenylketonuria (PKU), maternal PKU, maple syrup urine disease, tyrosinemia, homocystinuria, histidinemia, urea cycle disorders, hyperlysinemia, glutaric acidemias, methylmalonic acidemia, propionic acidemia, immunoglobulin E and immunoglobulin E-mediated allergies to multiple food proteins; severe food protein induced enterocolitis syndrome; eosinophilic disorders as evidenced by the results of a biopsy; and impaired absorption of nutrients caused by disorders affecting the absorptive surface, function, length, and motility of gastrointestinal tract. Medical Foods may also be for home use, for which a Participating Physician has order a prescription, whether written, oral or electronic transmission. Except for PKU, there is no age limit on benefits for inherited enzymatic disorders, as specified above. The maximum age to receive benefits for PKU is twenty-one (21) years of age except that the maximum age to receive benefits for PKU for women, who are of child-bearing age, is thirty-five (35) years of age.

### Outpatient Prescription Drugs

Covered Charges include charges for prescribed drugs or medicines or supplies purchased from a licensed pharmacy on an outpatient basis provided they:

- a. Can be lawfully obtained only with the written prescription of a Physician or prescribing provider or dentist;
- b. Are purchased by Covered Persons on an outpatient basis;
- c. Are covered under the Group Plan; and
- d. Do not exceed the maximum daily supply shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section, except that in no case may the supply be larger than that normally prescribed by a Physician or prescribing provider or dentist.

Such charges are subject to all of the terms and conditions of the Group Policy including Deductibles, Copayment, Coinsurance, exclusions and limitations, unless otherwise set forth in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section.

### Drugs Covered:

Covered Charges for outpatient prescription drugs are limited to charges from a licensed pharmacy for:

- 1) Any medication whose label is required to bear the legend "Caution: federal law prohibits dispensing without a prescription." Experimental drugs are not covered unless one or more of the following conditions are met:
  - a) The drug is recognized for treatment of the Covered Person's particular type of cancer in the United States Pharmacopoeia Drug Information, The American Medical Association Drug Evaluations or The American Hospital Formulary Service Drug Information publication; or
  - b) The drug is recommended for treatment of the Covered Person's particular type of cancer and has been found to be safe and effective in formal clinical studies, the results of which have been published in either the United States or Great Britain.
- 2) A prescription legend drug for which a written prescription is required;
- 3) Non-injectable legend drugs (to include legend maintenance drugs). See exclusions list below for exceptions;
- 4) Compounded medication of which at least one ingredient is a legend drug;
- 5) Any other drug which under the applicable state law may only be dispensed upon the written prescription of a Physician or other lawful prescriber;
- 6) Legend prenatal vitamins.
- 7) Specialty Drugs such as self-administered injectable medications, as indicated in the Preferred Drug List, are covered, subject to the following conditions:
  - a) The medication does not require administration by medical personnel;
  - b) The administration of the medication does not require observation;
  - c) The patient's tolerance and response to the drug does not need to be tested, or has been satisfactorily tested; and
  - d) The medication has been prescribed for self-administration at home.Self-administered injectable medications must be written on a prescription filled by a pharmacy, and self-administered by the patient or caregiver at home (not administered by providers in medical offices).
- 8) Prescribed oral anti-cancer medication, which has been approved by the Federal Food and Drug Administration, at a cost not to exceed the Coinsurance or the Copayment level as any intravenously administered or an injected anti-cancer medication prescribed for the same purpose.

## **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)**

- 9) Insulin and the following diabetic supplies, unless related to the Covered Service for outpatient self-management of diabetes as described in the **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)** section:
  - a) Home glucose monitoring supplies;
  - b) Syringes and needles;
  - c) Acetone and glucose test tablets; and
  - d) Glucose test strips;
- 10) Prescription drugs and prescribed over the counter medicines for smoking cessation are covered under Your Preventive Care Services.
- 11) Prescription contraceptive drugs or devices are covered under Your Preventive Care Services.
- 12) Off-label use of drugs used for the treatment of cancer if the drug is recognized for the treatment of cancer in the authoritative reference compendia as identified by the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Service.
- 13) Renewal of prescription eye drops when: (a) the request for renewal is made:(i) at least 21 days for a 30-day supply or (ii) at least 42 days for a 60-day supply or (iii) at least 63 days for a 90-day supply, from the later of the date the original prescription was dispensed or last renewed and (b) the original prescription states that additional quantities are needed and the renewal request does not exceed the number of additional quantities needed. One additional bottle (limited to one bottle every 3 months) of prescription eye drops is covered when: (a) the additional bottle is requested at the time the original prescription is filled; and (b) the original prescription states that it is needed for use in a day care center, school or adult day program.
- 14) A five-day supply of at least one of the FDA-approved drugs for the treatment of opioid dependence limited to a first (1st) request within a 12-month period.

Coverage under Other Policy Provisions: Charges for services and supplies that qualify as Covered Charges under this benefit provision will not qualify as Covered Charges under any other benefit provision of the Group Policy.

This Outpatient Prescription Drug Benefit uses an open Formulary. An open Formulary is a list of all FDA-approved drugs unrestricted drugs or devices unless specifically excluded under the plan. The Formulary consists of preferred generic and brand drugs and non-preferred generic and brand drugs and including specialty drugs. Please visit <http://info.kaiserpermanente.org/html/kpic-colorado> for the Drug Formulary

Your Outpatient Prescription Drug Benefit is subject to the following utilization management requirements.

### **Quantity Limits**

Quantity limits apply to outpatient prescription drugs for safety and cost reasons and follow the manufacturer's FDA-approved guidelines from their package inserts. Prescribers must obtain authorization for quantities higher than those allowed under the utilization management program.

### **Age Limits**

Age requirements/limits apply to some outpatient prescription drugs and are part of the utilization management program to help ensure You are receiving the right medication at the right time. Such limits restrict coverage for a drug to a certain age for reasons of safety and/or efficacy and as may be recommended to be necessary to promote appropriate use. In addition to age limitations determined by FDA-approved guideline, outpatient prescription drugs will be subject to requirements based on the recommendations of the U.S. Preventative Services Task Force (USPSTF) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

### **Step Therapy process**

Selected prescription drugs require step therapy. Step therapy is a process that defines how and when a particular outpatient prescription drug can be dispensed by requiring the use of one or more prerequisite drugs (1st line agents), as identified through Your drug history, prior to the use of another drug (2nd line agent). The step therapy process encourages safe and cost-effective medication use. Under this process, a "step" approach is required to receive coverage for certain high-cost medications. Refer to the formulary for a complete list of medications requiring step therapy. This means that to receive coverage You may first need to try a proven, cost-effective medication before using a more costly medication. Treatment decisions are always between You and Your Prescribing Provider. Refer to the Formulary for a complete

## BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)

list of medications requiring step therapy. FDA-approved medication for the treatment of substance use disorder shall not be subject to Step Therapy.

Your Prescribing Provider should prescribe a first-line medication appropriate for Your condition. If Your Prescribing Provider determines that a first-line drug is not appropriate or effective for You, a second-line drug may be covered after meeting certain conditions.

### **Prior Authorization**

Prior Authorization is a review and approval procedure that applies to some outpatient prescription drugs and is used to encourage safe and cost-effective medication use. Prior authorization is generally applied to outpatient prescription drugs that have multiple uses, are higher in cost, or have a significant safety concern. FDA-approved medication for the treatment of substance use disorder shall not be subject to Prior Authorization.

The purpose of Prior Authorization is to ensure that You receive the right medication for Your medical condition. This means that when Your Prescribing Provider prescribes a drug that has been identified as subject to Prior Authorization, the medication must be reviewed by the utilization management program to determine Medical Necessity before the prescription is filled. Prior authorization reviews address clinical appropriateness, including genomic testing, safety issues, dosing restrictions and ongoing treatment criteria.

If a drug requires prior authorization, Your Prescribing Provider must work with Us to authorize the drug for Your use. Drugs requiring Prior Authorization have specific clinical criteria that You must meet for the prescription to be eligible for coverage. Refer to the Formulary for a complete list of medications requiring Prior Authorization. The most current formulary can be obtained by visiting <http://info.kaiserpermanente.org/html/kpic-colorado>. If You have questions about the Prior Authorization or about outpatient prescription drugs covered under Your plan, you can call 1-800-788-2949 (Pharmacy Help Desk) or 711 (TTY) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (closed holidays).

### Definitions specific to the Prior Authorization of Outpatient Prescription Drug and Step Therapy provisions:

**“Prior Authorization”** means certain covered outpatient prescription drugs will require an approval where the prescribed medication will be reviewed by Us to determine Medical Necessity before the prescription is filled. This approval process is called the prior authorization process.

**“Urgent Prior Authorization Request”** means:

A request for prior authorization when based on the reasonable opinion of the Prescribing Provider with knowledge of the Covered Person’s medical condition, the time frames allowed for non-urgent prior authorization:

- a. Could seriously jeopardize the life or health of the covered person or the ability to regain maximum function; or
- b. The Covered Person is subject to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the drug benefit that is the subject of request for prior authorization.

**“KPIC’s Uniform Pharmacy Prior Authorization Request Form”** means the standardized prescription drug prior authorization form prescribed by the Colorado Division of Insurance (DOI) that will be used under applicable Colorado state law and regulation.

**“Prescribing Provider”** means a provider licensed and authorized to write a prescription pursuant to applicable state law to treat a medical condition of a Covered Person.

When an outpatient prescription drug requiring Prior Authorization has been prescribed, You or Your Prescribing Provider must notify the utilization management program as follows:

- 1 Complete and submit KPIC’s Uniform Pharmacy Prior Authorization Request Form available on-line at <http://info.kaiserpermanente.org/html/kpic-colorado> to the utilization management program as described in item 2 below. You or Your Prescribing Provider can also obtain a copy of KPIC’s Uniform

## BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)

- Prior Authorization Request Form by calling 1-800-788-2949. Prior authorization requests contained on a form other than KPIC's Uniform Pharmacy Prior Authorization Request Form will be rejected.
2. We will accept KPIC's Uniform Pharmacy Prior Authorization Request Form through any reasonable means of transmission, including, but not limited to, paper, electronic, or any other mutually accessible method of transmission, by sending it via fax at 1-858-790-7100.
  3. Within one (1) business day upon Our receipt of a completed Urgent Prior Authorization Request, We will process the Urgent Prior Authorization Request and we will notify You or Your Prescribing Provider and dispensing pharmacy (if applicable) that:
    - a) The request is approved; or
    - b) The request is denied for any of the following reasons:
      - (i) Not Medically Necessary;
      - (ii) The patient is no longer eligible for coverage;
      - (iii) The request is not submitted on the prescribed KPIC's Uniform Pharmacy Prior Authorization Request Form and must be resubmitted using the prescribed request form.
    - c) There is missing material information necessary to determine Medical Necessity. We will notify and request Your Prescribing Provider to submit additional information needed to process the Urgent Prior Authorization Request.
      - (i) Upon receipt of Our request for additional information, Your Prescribing Provider has a period of two (2) business days within which to submit the requested information; and
      - (ii) Upon Our receipt of the requested additional information from Your Prescribing Provider, we shall make a determination within one (1) business day of receipt.
      - (iii) However, upon failure by Your Prescribing Provider to submit the requested additional information within two (2) business days, the Urgent Prior Authorization Request shall be deemed denied; and
      - (iv) We will provide You, Your Prescribing Provider or dispensing pharmacy (if applicable) with the confirmation of the denial within one (1) business day from the date the Urgent Prior Authorization Request was deemed denied.
  4. Within two (2) business days upon receipt of a completed Non-Urgent Prior Authorization Request submitted electronically and within three (3) business days upon receipt of a completed Non-Urgent Prior Authorization Request submitted via fax or electronic mail or verbally with associated written confirmation, We will process and notify You, Your Prescribing Provider and dispensing pharmacy (if applicable) that:
    - a) The request is approved;
    - b) The request is denied for any of the following reasons:
      - (i) Not Medically Necessary;
      - (ii) The patient is no longer eligible for coverage;
      - (iii) The request is not submitted on the prescribed KPIC Uniform Pharmacy Prior Authorization Request Form and must be resubmitted using the prescribed request form.
    - c) There is missing material information necessary to determine Medical Necessity. We will notify and request Your Prescribing Provider to submit additional information needed to process the Non-Urgent Prior Authorization Request.
      - (i) Upon receipt of Our request for additional information, Your Prescribing Provider has a period of two (2) business days within which to submit the requested information; and
      - (ii) Upon Our receipt of the additional information from your Prescribing Provider, We shall make a determination within two (2) business days for Non-Urgent Prior Authorization Request submitted electronically and within three (3) business days for Non-Urgent Prior Authorization Request submitted via fax or electronic mail or verbally with associated written confirmation.
      - (iii) However, upon failure by Your Prescribing Provider to submit the requested additional information within two (2) business days, the Non-Urgent Prior Authorization Request shall be deemed denied.
      - (iv) We will provide You, Your Prescribing Provider and dispensing pharmacy (if applicable) with the confirmation of the denial within two (2) business days from the date the Non-Urgent Prior Authorization Request was deemed denied.

## BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)

5. The Request shall be deemed to have been approved for failure on Our part to:
  - a) Request additional information from Your Prescribing Provider; or
  - b) To provide the notification of approval to You and Your Prescribing Provider; or
  - c) To provide the notification of denial to You and Your Prescribing Provider within the required time frames set forth above from Our receipt of an Urgent Prior Authorization Request or a Non-Urgent Prior Authorization Request from Your Prescribing Provider.
6. We shall provide You, Your Prescribing Provider and the dispensing pharmacy (if applicable) with a confirmation of the deemed approval, as follows:
  - a) For Urgent Prior Authorization Request - within one (1) business day of the date the request was deemed approved;
  - b) For Non-Urgent Prior Authorization Request submitted electronically – within two (2) business days of the date the request was deemed approved; and
  - c) For Non-Urgent Prior Authorization Request submitted via fax or electronic mail or verbally with associated written confirmation – within three (3) business days of the date the request was deemed approved.
7. A Prior Authorization approval is valid for a period of one hundred eighty (180) days after the date of approval.
8. In the event Your Prescribing Provider's Prior Authorization Request is disapproved:
  - a) The notice of disapproval will contain an accurate and clear written explanation of the specific reasons for disapproving the request.
  - b) If the request is disapproved due to missing material information necessary to determine Medical Necessity, the notice of disapproval will contain an accurate and clear explanation that specifically identifies the missing material information.
9. Notices required to be sent to You or Your authorized representative or Your Prescribing Provider or dispensing pharmacy (if applicable) shall be delivered by Us in the same manner as the Prior Authorization Request Form was submitted to Us, or any other mutually agreeable accessible method of notification.
10. Prescription drug prior authorization procedures conducted electronically through a web portal, or any other manner of transmission mutually agreeable, shall not require You or Your Prescribing Provider to provide more information than is required by the KPIC's Uniform Pharmacy Prior Authorization Request Form.

### Exception Requests for Prior Authorization, Step Therapy, Quantity and Age Limits

You or Your authorized representative or the Prescribing Provider may request an exception or a waiver to the Outpatient Prescription Drug Prior Authorization Request, Step Therapy process, Quantity and Age Limits described above if You are already being treated for a medical condition and currently under medication of a drug subject to Prior authorization or step therapy, provided the drug is appropriately prescribed and is considered safe and effective for your condition.

You may request to waive Step Therapy if the drug is on Our Formulary, You have tried the step therapy-required prescription drug while under Your current or previous health insurance and such prescription drugs were discontinued due to lack of effectiveness, diminished effect or an adverse event. We may require you to submit relevant documentation to support Your request.

However, further Prior Authorization may be required for the continued coverage of a prescription drug prescribed pursuant to a Prior Authorization or Step Therapy process imposed from a prior insurance policy.

To request for an exception or waiver, please call: 1-800-788-2949 (Pharmacy Help Desk).

If Your request for Outpatient Prescription Drug Prior Authorization or waiver of the Step Therapy process, Quantity and Age limits, is denied, altered, or delayed, You have the right to appeal the denial, alteration

## BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)

or delay. Please refer to the **APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS** section for a detailed discussion of the grievance and appeals process and Your right to an External Review.

### Exclusions for Outpatient Prescription Drug Benefits.

The following are not covered under the Outpatient Prescription Drug Benefit:

- 1) Internally implanted time-release medications, except contraceptives required by law;
- 2) Compounded dermatological preparation, which must be prepared by a pharmacist in accord with a Physician's prescription, with ingredients of which are available over the counter;
- 3) Antacids;
- 4) For Covered Persons with enterostomies and urinary diversions, the following ostomy supplies and equipment:
  - a) Appliances;
  - b) Adhesives;
  - c) Skin barriers and skin care items;
  - d) Belts and clamps;
  - e) Internal and appliance deodorants;
- 5) Drugs when used for cosmetic purposes, including Loniten (Minoxidil) for the treatment of alopecia, Tretinon (Retin A) for individuals 26 years of age or older and anti-wrinkle agents (e.g., Renova);
- 6) Non-legend drugs and non-legend vitamins;
- 7) Therapeutic devices or appliances, support garments and other non-medical substances, regardless of intended use, unless specifically listed above;
- 8) Charges for the administration or injection of any drug;
- 9) Drugs labeled "Caution - limited by federal law to investigational use." or experimental drugs, even though a charge is made to the individual, unless for the treatment of cancer as specified in item 1 under Drugs Covered;
- 10) Hematinics;
- 11) DESI Drugs - drugs determined by the FDA as lacking substantial evidence of effectiveness;
- 12) Medication which is to be taken by or administered to an individual, in whole or in part, while he or she is a patient in a Hospital, rest home, sanitarium, extended care facility, convalescent hospital, nursing home or similar institutions which operates on its premises, or allows to be operated on its premises, a facility for dispensing pharmaceuticals;
- 13) Minerals;
- 14) Infertility medications;
- 15) Anorectic drugs (any drug used for the purpose of weight loss);
- 16) Fluoride supplements except as required by law.
- 17) Tobacco cessation products except as described under Preventive Care Services.

Dispensing Limitations: KPIC will not pay for more than the per prescription or refill supply set forth in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section. In no case, however, may the supply be larger than that normally prescribed by a Physician or other lawful prescriber.

### Direct Reimbursement

If you paid the full price for your prescription, you may request a direct reimbursement from us subject to the applicable Cost Share.

To submit a claim for direct reimbursement you may access the direct member reimbursement form via <https://mp.medimpact.com/mp/public/Frameset.jsp?forwardUrl=/mp/public/HelpDesk.jsp> to find the direct member reimbursement form or for assistance you may call the MedImpact Customer Contact Center 24 hours a day 7 days a week at 1-800-788-2949 (Pharmacy Help Desk) or email via [customerservice@medimpact.com](mailto:customerservice@medimpact.com).

### Mail Order

Check your **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pay What)** section to determine if you have mail order coverage. Certain maintenance medications are available by mail. A maintenance medication is a drug used on an ongoing basis. Not all maintenance medications are eligible for mail order such as controlled medications or those requiring refrigeration. If you have any questions about the mail order service please go online at [walgreens.com/mailemailservice](http://walgreens.com/mailemailservice) or call 1-866-525-1590 or 711 (TTY).

## **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)**

### **Durable Medical Equipment/External Prosthetics and Orthotics**

- 1) Rental of Durable Medical Equipment. Purchase of such equipment may be made if in the judgment of KPIC:
  - a) purchase of equipment would be less expensive than rental; or
  - b) such equipment is not available for rental.
- 2) Prosthetic devices (External) are covered including:
  - a) external prosthetics related to breast reconstruction resulting from a covered mastectomy;
  - b) when necessary, to replace, in whole or in part, an arm or a leg; or
  - c) required to treat cleft lip or cleft palate such as obturators, speech and feeding appliances.
- 3) Prosthetic devices (internally implanted) are covered as part of the surgical procedure to implant them.
- 4) Orthotics including diabetic shoes are covered. Repair or replacement of orthotic devices are covered when necessary due to growth. Arch supports and other devices for the foot, except for diabetic shoes, are not covered. Repair or replacement of orthotic devices due to loss or misuse is not covered.

### **Early Childhood Intervention Services**

Eligible Insured Dependents, from birth up to age three (3), who have significant delays in development or have a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in significant delays in development as defined by State law, are covered for Early Intervention Services (EIS) up to the maximum number of visits as determined by the State.

Coverage of Early Childhood Intervention Services does not include any of the following:

1. Respite care;
2. Non-emergency medical transportation;
3. Service coordination, as defined by applicable Colorado law; and
4. Assistive technology that is not included as Durable Medical Equipment, which is otherwise covered under the Group Policy.

### **Emergency Services**

Emergency Services are covered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, anywhere in the world. If You have an Emergency Medical Condition, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room.

If You receive Emergency Care/Services and cannot, at the time of emergency, reasonably reach a Participating Provider, that emergency care rendered during the course of the emergency will be paid for in accordance with the terms of the Group Policy, at benefit levels at least equal to those applicable to treatment by a Participating Provider for emergency care.

### **Family Planning Services – See Preventive Care and Services**

### **Hearing Services**

1. Hearing exams and tests by audiologist needed to determine the need for hearing correction.
2. For Minor Dependents under the age of 18 with a verified hearing loss, coverage shall also include:
  - a) Initial hearing aids and replacement hearing aids not more frequently than every five years;
  - b) A new hearing aid when alterations to the existing hearing aid cannot adequately meet the needs of the child; and
  - c) Services and supplies including, but not limited to, the initial assessment, fitting, adjustments, and auditory training that is provided according to accepted professional standards.

### **Home Health Care**

Home Health Services. The following services provided by a Home Health Agency under a plan of care to Covered Persons in their place of residence are covered:

- a) Skilled nursing services;
- b) Certified or licensed nurse aid services under the supervision of a Registered Nurse or a qualified therapist;
- c) Physical therapy;
- d) Occupational therapy;
- e) Speech therapy and audiology;
- f) Respiratory and inhalation therapy;
- g) Nutrition counseling by a nutritionist or dietitian;



## **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)**

- h) Medical social services;
- i) Medical supplies;
- j) Prosthesis and appliances suitable for home use;
- k) Rental or purchase of durable medical equipment; and
- l) Drugs, medicines, or insulin

Home health services do not include:

- a) Food services or meals, other than dietary counseling;
- b) Services or supplies for personal comfort or convenience, including Homemaker Services; and
- c) Services related to well-baby care.

Covered Home Health Services are limited to intermittent care services. Intermittent care services means services are limited to 28 hours per week and less than 8 hours a day.

Such services must be provided in the Covered Person's home and according to a prescribed treatment plan established by a Physician in collaboration with the home health provider. Home health care must be required in lieu of hospitalization or in place of hospitalization. Services of up to four hours by a home health aide shall be considered as one visit.

### **Hospice Care**

This provision only applies to a Terminally Ill Covered Person with a life expectancy of less than six (6) months receiving Medically Necessary care under a Hospice Care program. Benefits may exceed six (6) months should the Terminally Ill Covered Person continue to live beyond the prognosis for life expectancy. Covered Services include Hospice Care Benefits when a Covered Person's Physician provides KPIC a written certification of the Covered Person's Sickness along with a prognosis of life expectancy; and a statement that Hospice Care is Medically Necessary.

A copy of the Hospice program's treatment plan may be required before benefits will be payable.

Hospice Care benefits are limited to:

1. Physician services
2. Nursing care, including care provided by a Licensed Vocational Nurse or Certified Nurse's Aide, when under the supervision of a Registered Nurse or specialized rehabilitative therapist;
3. Physical, speech or occupational therapy and audiology;
4. Respiratory and inhalation therapy including oxygen and respiratory supplies;
5. Medical social services;
6. Nutrition counseling by a nutritionist or dietitian;
7. Rental or purchase of durable medical equipment;
8. Prosthetic and orthopedic appliances;
9. Medical supplies including drugs and biologicals;
10. Diagnostic testing necessary to manage the terminal illness;
11. Medically necessary transportation needed for hospice services;
12. Family counseling related to the Covered Person's terminal Sickness including bereavement support; and
13. Respite care.

Covered Persons who elect to receive Hospice Care are not entitled to any other benefits under the Group Policy for the terminal Sickness. Services and charges incurred by the Covered Person in connection with an unrelated illness will be processed in accordance with coverage provisions applicable to all other illnesses and/or injuries.

No payments will be made for expenses that are part of a Hospice Care program that started after coverage under the Group Policy ceases.

### **Infertility Services**

Services required to establish a diagnosis of infertility are covered. Services to treat infertility limited to the treatment of underlying medical conditions that cause infertility such as endometriosis and obstructed fallopian tubes are covered. Artificial insemination which includes intrauterine insemination (IUI) is

## BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)

covered.

### Preventive Care Services

Unless otherwise stated, the requirement that Medically Necessary Covered Services be incurred as a result of Injury or Sickness will not apply to the following Covered Services. Please refer to Your **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section regarding each benefit in this section:

As shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section as a Covered Service, the following Preventive Services are covered under this Policy and are not subject to Deductibles, Co-payments or Coinsurance if received from Participating Providers. Consult with Your physician to determine what preventive services are appropriate for You.

1. Exam:
  - a) Well-Baby, Child, Adolescent Exam according to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) guidelines
  - b) Well woman exam visits including preconception counseling and routine prenatal office visits. Routine prenatal office visits include the initial and subsequent histories, physical examinations, recording of weight, blood pressure, fetal heart tones, and routine chemical urinalysis according to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) guidelines.
2. Screening:
  - a) Abdominal aortic aneurysm screening
  - b) Asymptomatic bacteriuria screening
  - c) Breast cancer mammography screening
  - d) Cervical dysplasia screening including HPV screening
  - e) Colorectal cancer screening using fecal occult blood testing, sigmoidoscopy, or colonoscopy. This includes anesthesia required for colonoscopies, pathology for biopsies resulting from a screening colonoscopy, over the counter and prescription drugs necessary to prepare the bowel for the procedure, and a specialist consultation visit prior to the procedure
  - f) Depression screening
  - g) Diabetes screening for non-pregnant women with a history of diabetes who have not previously been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes mellitus
  - h) Gestational Diabetes screening
  - i) Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C virus infection screening
  - j) Hematocrit or Hemoglobin screening in children
  - k) High blood pressure screening
  - l) Lead Screening
  - m) Lipid disorders screening to determine need for statin use
  - n) Lung cancer screening with low-dose computed tomography including a counseling visit to discuss the screening (in adults who have a 30 pack-year smoking history and currently smoke or have quit within the past 15 years. One pack year is equal to smoking one pack per day for one year, or two packs per day for half a year)
  - o) Newborn congenital hypothyroidism screening
  - p) Newborn hearing loss screening
  - q) Newborn metabolic/hemoglobin screening
  - r) Newborn sickle cell disease screening
  - s) Newborn Phenylketonuria screening
  - t) Obesity screening
  - u) Osteoporosis screening
  - v) Rh (d) incompatibility screening for pregnant women
  - w) Sexually transmitted infection screening such as chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis and HIV screening
  - x) Type 2 diabetes mellitus screening
  - y) Tuberculin (TB) Testing
  - z) Urinary incontinence screening in women
  - aa) Visual impairment in children screening

## BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)

3. Health Promotion:
- a) Unhealthy alcohol use and drug misuse screening or assessment and behavioral counseling interventions in a primary care setting to reduce alcohol misuse.
  - b) Healthy diet behavioral counseling
  - c) Offer Intensive counseling and behavioral interventions to promote sustained weight loss for obese adults and children
  - d) Sexually transmitted infections counseling.
  - e) Tobacco use screening, tobacco use and tobacco-caused disease counseling and interventions including behavioral interventions, FDA- approved tobacco cessation prescription or over-the-counter medications prescribed by a licensed health care professional authorized to prescribe drugs are also covered for women who are not pregnant and men. **NOTE:** There are resources available to You under the Colorado Quit Line. Please call 1-800-QUIT-NOW or visit its website at <https://www.coquitline.org> for more information.
  - f) Referral for testing for breast and ovarian cancer susceptibility, referral for genetic risk assessment and BRCA mutation testing
  - g) Discuss chemoprevention with women at high risk for breast cancer and at low risk for adverse effects of chemoprevention and when prescribed by a physician for asymptomatic women, over age 35 with an increased risk of breast cancer and no history of breast cancer, risk reducing medication such as tamoxifen and raloxifene.
  - h) When prescribed by a licensed health care professional authorized to prescribe drugs:
    - (i) Aspirin in the prevention of cardiovascular disease, colorectal cancer and preeclampsia in pregnant women.
    - (ii) Iron supplementation for children from 6 months to 12 months of age.
    - (iii) Oral fluoride supplementation at currently recommended doses to preschool children older than 6 months of age whose primary water source is deficient in fluoride.
    - (iv) Topical fluoride varnish treatments applied in a primary care setting by primary care providers, within the scope of their licensure, for prevention of dental caries in children.
    - (v) Folic acid supplementation for women planning or capable of pregnancy.
  - i) Interventions to promote breastfeeding: interventions during pregnancy and counseling by a provider acting within the scope of his or her license or certified under applicable state law during pregnancy and/or in the postpartum period and the purchase of a breast pump. A hospital-grade electric breast pump, including any equipment that is required for pump functionality, is covered when Medically Necessary and prescribed by a physician. KPIC may decide to purchase the hospital-grade electric breast pump if purchase would be less expensive than rental or rental equipment is not available.
  - j) All prescribed FDA-approved methods of contraception for women with reproductive capacity, including but not limited to drugs, cervical caps, vaginal rings, continuous extended oral contraceptives and patches. Also included are contraceptives which require medical administration in Your doctor's office, implanted devices and professional services to implant them, female sterilization procedures, follow-up and management of side effects; counseling for continued adherence, device removal, patient education and counseling. Over the counter FDA-approved female contraceptive methods are covered only when prescribed by a licensed health care professional authorized to prescribe drugs. The benefit will be provided as follows:
    - (i) For a three-month period the first time the prescription contraceptive is dispensed; and
    - (ii) For a twelve-month period or through the end of Your coverage whichever is shorter for any subsequent dispensing of the same prescription contraceptive regardless of whether You were enrolled in the plan at the time the prescription coverage was dispensed.
    - (iii) For a three-month period for a prescribed vaginal contraceptive ring.In addition, fertility awareness-based methods, including the lactation amenorrhea method, although less effective, is covered for women desiring an alternative method.
  - k) Screening and counseling for interpersonal and domestic violence.
  - l) Physical therapy to prevent falls in community-dwelling adults aged 65 years or older who are at increased risk for falls. Community dwelling adults means those adults not living in assisted living, nursing homes or other institutions.
  - m) Counseling of parents of young children, children, adolescents, and young adults; from age 6 months to 24 years, who have fair skin about minimizing their exposure to ultraviolet radiation to reduce risk for skin cancer.

## BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)

- n) Counseling intervention for pregnant and postpartum persons who are at increased risk of perinatal depression.
4. Disease prevention:
- a) Immunizations as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and HRSA including the cervical cancer vaccine as required under state law.
  - b) Prophylactic gonorrhea medication for newborns to protect against gonococcal ophthalmia neonatorum.
  - c) Low to moderate dose statin drugs for the prevention of cardiovascular disease events and mortality when all the following criteria are met:
    - (i) individuals are aged 40-75 years;
    - (ii) they have 1 or more cardiovascular risk factors; and
    - (iii) they have a calculated 10-year risk of a cardiovascular event of 10% or greater.
  - d) Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) with effective antiretroviral therapy to persons who are at high risk of HIV acquisition effective July 1, 2020.

Preventive services may change upon Policy renewal according to federal guidelines in effect as of January 1 of each year in the calendar year in which this Group Policy renews. You will be notified at least sixty (60) days in advance, if any item or service is removed from the list of covered services. For a complete list of current preventive services required under the Patient Protection Affordable Care Act please call: 1-800-464-4000. You may also visit: [www.healthcare.gov/center/regulations/prevention.html](http://www.healthcare.gov/center/regulations/prevention.html). Please note, however, for recommendations that have been in effect for less than one year, KPIC will have one year from the effective date to comply.

**Note:** The following services are not Covered Services under this Preventive Exams and Services benefit but may be Covered Services elsewhere in this **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)** section:

- Lab, Imaging and other ancillary services associated with prenatal care not inclusive to routine prenatal care
  - Non-routine prenatal care visits
  - Non-preventive services performed in conjunction with a sterilization
  - Lab, Imaging and other ancillary services associated with sterilizations
  - Treatment for complications that arise after a sterilization procedure
5. Exclusions for Preventive Care
- a) Personal and convenience supplies associated with breast-feeding equipment, such as pads, bottles, and carrier cases;
  - b) Replacement or upgrades of purchased breast-feeding equipment.
6. Other Preventive Care including:
- a. Adult physical exam.
  - b. Annual Mental Wellness check-up.
  - c. Prostate Screening as follows when performed by a qualified medical professional, including but not limited to a urologist, internist, general practitioner, doctor of osteopathy, nurse practitioner, or Physician assistant:
    - i. For men age forty (40) through age forty-nine (49), one screening per Accumulation Period if the Covered Person's Physician determines he is at high risk of developing prostate cancer; and
    - ii. For men age fifty (50) and older, one screening per Accumulation Period.A prostate screening test consists of a prostate-specific antigen ("PSA") blood test and a digital rectal examination. Benefits are limited to a maximum payment of the lesser of the actual charge or \$65 per screening and are exempt from any Deductibles.
  - d. Colorectal screening services are covered for:
    - i. Asymptomatic average-risk adults, who are 50 years of age or older; and
    - ii. Covered Persons, who are at high risk for colorectal cancer. Such high-risk Covered Persons include those individuals who have:
      - 1. A family medical history of colorectal cancer;

## **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)**

2. A prior occurrence of cancer or precursor neo-plastic polyps;
3. A prior occurrence of a chronic digestive disease condition, such as inflammatory bowel disease, Crohn's disease, or ulcerative colitis, or other predisposing factors, as determined by a duly authorized provider.

Benefits are provided for tests, as determined by a duly authorized provider that detect adenomatous polyps or colorectal cancer consistent with modalities that are included in "A" Recommendation or a "B" Recommendation of the Task Force.

- e. Fecal DNA screening
- f. Family planning services:
  - i. Voluntary termination of pregnancy
  - ii. Vasectomies
- g. FDA-approved tobacco cessation prescription or over-the-counter medications prescribed by a licensed health care professional authorized to prescribe drugs for women who are pregnant.
- h. Iron deficiency anemia screening for pregnant women

### **Reconstructive Services**

1. Reconstructive surgery including reconstruction of both the diseased and non-diseased breast after mastectomy to produce symmetrical appearance; and treatment of physical complications at all stages of the mastectomy, including lymphedemas.
2. Treatment of Covered Persons, without regard to age, born with cleft lip and/or cleft palate, including the following procedures when found to be Medically Necessary: oral and facial surgery; surgical management and follow-up care by plastic surgeons and oral surgeons;
3. Treatment necessary for congenital hemangiomas and port wine stains.

### **Rehabilitation and Habilitation Services**

1. Physical therapy to restore, keep, learn or improve skills or functioning. Therapy must be provided as prescribed by the attending Physician.
2. Speech therapy to restore, keep, learn or improve skills or functioning. This includes speech and language therapy and audiologic assessments and treatments for cleft lip and cleft palate.
3. Occupational therapy to restore, keep, learn or improve skills or functioning. Occupational therapy is limited to services to achieve and maintain improved self-care and other customary activities of daily living. Therapy must be provided as prescribed by the attending Physician.
4. Multidisciplinary rehabilitation services while confined in a Hospital or any other licensed medical facility or through a comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation facility (CORF) or program to restore, keep, learn or improve skills or functioning.
5. Pulmonary therapy to restore respiratory function after an illness or injury.
6. Cardiac Rehabilitation.

### **Skilled Nursing Facility Care**

Room and Board and other services rendered in a Skilled Nursing Facility. Care must follow a Hospital Confinement, and the Skilled Nursing Facility confinement must be the result of an Injury or Sickness that was the cause of the Hospital Confinement. Benefits will not be paid for custodial care or maintenance care or when maximum medical improvement is achieved, and no further significant measurable improvement can be anticipated.

### **Substance Use Disorder Services** (formerly referred to as Chemical Dependency Services)

1. Inpatient services including services in a Residential Treatment facility and medical management of withdrawal symptoms in connection with Substance Use Disorder. Medical Services for alcohol and drug Detoxification are covered in the same way as for other medical conditions.
2. Outpatient treatment services including court-ordered services or supplies otherwise covered under the Group Policy if received in connection with Substance Use Disorder. Treatment is limited to a program of therapy in:
  - (a) A facility established primarily for the treatment of Substance Use Disorder; or
  - (b) A part of a Hospital used primarily for such treatment; or
  - (c) Any public or private facility providing services for the treatment of Substance Use Disorder, which is licensed by the Department of Health; or
  - (d) Any mental health facility approved by the Department of Institutions.

## **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)**

### **Transgender Surgery Services:**

Medically necessary surgery to treat gender dysphoria limited to genital surgery, mastectomy, tracheal shave and facial hair removal, is covered. Benefits for Covered Services, which are associated with transgender surgery are provided in the same manner as any other medical or surgical coverage, as set forth under this Certificate.

### **Transplant Services**

Transplant services in connection with an organ or tissue transplant procedure, including charges incurred by a donor or prospective donor who is not insured under this Group Policy. Covered Charges will be paid as though they were incurred by the insured provided that the services are directly related to the transplant. The Group policy will not cover any donor expenses, if the donor has coverage elsewhere that covers donor expenses.

### **Urgent Care Services**

Treatment in an Urgent Care Center.

### **Vision Services**

Unless otherwise stated, the requirement that Medically Necessary Covered Services be incurred as a result of Injury or Sickness will not apply to the following Covered Services.

Routine eye exams and refractive eye tests to determine the need for vision correction and to provide a prescription for eyeglasses or contact lenses.

All vision services not listed above are not covered, including but not limited to:

1. Laser Vision Correction
2. Orthoptics
3. Radial keratotomy or any other surgical procedure to treat a refractive error of the eye.
4. Lenses, frames or contacts or their replacements.
5. Contact lens modification, polishing and cleaning.
6. Optical Hardware
7. Low vision aids

### **X-ray, Laboratory and Special Procedures**

1. Diagnostic X-ray, pathology services and laboratory tests, Services and materials, including isotopes,
2. Electrocardiograms, electroencephalograms and mammograms.
3. Therapeutic X-ray Services and materials including radiation therapy. Radiation treatment is limited to:
  - a) X-ray therapy when used in lieu of generally accepted surgical procedures or for the treatment of malignancy; or
  - b) the use of isotopes, radium or radon for diagnosis or treatment.
4. Special procedures such as MRI, CT, PET and nuclear medicine.

## LIMITATIONS/EXCLUSIONS (What is Not Covered)

No payment will be made under any benefit of the Group Policy for Expenses Incurred in connection with the following, unless specifically stated otherwise in the Group Policy or elsewhere in this Certificate, or in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section, or any Rider or Endorsement that may be attached to the Group Policy. Refer to the **DEFINITIONS** section for the meaning of capitalized terms.

1. Charges in excess of the Maximum Allowable Charge.
2. Charges for non-Emergency Care in an Emergency Care setting.
3. Non-Emergency services outside the United States.
4. Weekend admission charges for non-Emergency Care Hospital services except when surgery is performed on the day of admission or the next day. This exclusion applies only to such admission charges for Friday through Sunday, inclusive.
5. Confinement, treatment, services or supplies which are not Medically Necessary. This exclusion does not apply to preventive or other health care services specifically covered under the Group Policy.
6. Confinement, treatment, services or supplies not prescribed, authorized or directed by a Physician or that are received while not under the care of a Physician.
7. Injury or Sickness for which the Covered Person has or had a right to payment under worker's compensation or similar law.
8. Injury or Sickness for which the law requires the Covered Person to maintain alternative insurance, bonding, or third-party coverage.
9. Injury or Sickness arising out of, or in the course of, past or current work for pay, profit or gain, unless workers' compensation or benefits under similar law are not required or available.
10. Injury or Sickness contracted while on duty with any military, naval, or air force of any country or international organization.
11. Treatment, services, or supplies provided by: (a) the Covered Person; (b) the Covered Person's spouse, partner in a civil union or Domestic Partner; (c) a child, sibling, or parent of the Covered Person or of the Covered Person's spouse, partner in a civil union or Domestic Partner; or (d) a person who resides in the Covered Person's home.
12. Confinement, treatment, services or supplies received where care is provided at government expense. This exclusion does not apply if: (a) there is a legal obligation for the Covered Person to pay for such treatment or service in the absence of coverage; or (b) payment is required by law.
13. Dental care and dental X-rays; dental appliances; orthodontia; and dental services resulting from medical treatment, including surgery on the jawbone and radiation treatment, except as provided for covered dependent children under the Hospitalization and Anesthesia for Dental Procedures provision and Medically necessary orthodontia for the treatment of cleft lip and palate.
14. Cosmetic Surgery, plastic surgery, or other services that are indicated primarily to improve the Covered Person's appearance and will not result in significant improvement in physical function. This exclusion does not apply to services that: (a) will correct significant disfigurement resulting from a non-congenital Injury or Medically Necessary surgery; (b) are incidental to a covered mastectomy; or (c) are necessary for treatment of congenital hemangioma and port wine stains.
15. Any drug, procedure or treatment for sexual dysfunction regardless of cause, including but not limited to Inhibited Sexual Desire, Female Sexual Arousal Disorder, Female Orgasmic Disorder, Vaginismus, Male Arousal Disorder, Erectile Dysfunction and Premature Ejaculation.
16. Non-prescription drugs or medicines; vitamins, nutrients, and food supplements even if prescribed or administered by a Physician.
17. Any treatment, procedure, drug, or equipment or device which KPIC determines to be experimental or investigational. This means that one of the following is applicable:
  - a. The service is not recognized in accordance with generally accepted medical standards as safe and effective for treating the condition in question, whether or not the service is authorized by law or used in testing or in other studies on human patients; or
  - b. The service requires approval by any governmental authority prior to use and such approval has not been granted when the service is to be rendered.

## LIMITATIONS/EXCLUSIONS (What is Not Covered)

- This exclusion will not apply to Clinical Trials covered in the **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)** section or to Routine Patient Care Costs related to clinical trials if the Covered Person's treating Physician recommends participation in the clinical trial after determining that participation in such clinical trial has the potential to provide a therapeutic health benefit to the Covered Person.
18. Special education and related counseling or therapy, or care for learning deficiencies or behavioral problems. This applies whether or not the services are associated with manifest Mental Health disorder or other disturbances.
  19. Services or supplies rendered for the treatment of obesity; however, Covered Charges made to diagnose the causes of obesity or charges made for treatment of diseases causing obesity or resulting from obesity are covered.
  20. Confinement, treatment, services or supplies that are required:
    - (a) Only for insurance, travel, employment, school, camp, government licensing, or similar purposes; or
    - (b) Only by a court of law except when medically necessary and otherwise covered under the plan.
  21. Personal comfort items such as telephones, radios, televisions, or grooming services.
  22. Custodial care. Custodial care is: (a) assistance with activities of daily living which include, but are not limited to, activities such as walking, getting in and out of bed, bathing, dressing, feeding, toileting, and taking drugs; or (b) care that can be performed safely and effectively by persons who, in order to provide the care, do not require licensure or certification or the presence of a supervising licensed nurse.
  23. Intermediate care. This is a level of care for which a Physician determines the facilities and services of a Hospital or a Skilled Nursing Facility are not Medically Necessary.
  24. Routine foot care such as trimming of corns and calluses.
  25. Confinement or treatment that is not completed in accordance with the attending Physician's orders.
  26. Hearing Therapy except where Medically Necessary to treat cleft lip and cleft palate.
  27. Hearing aids for adults age 18 and over.
  28. Services of a private-duty nurse in a Hospital, Skilled Nursing Facility or other licensed medical facility.
  29. Outpatient private duty nursing services.
  30. Acupuncture; biofeedback; massage therapy; or hypnotherapy.
  31. Health education, including but not limited to: (a) stress reduction; (b) weight reduction; or (c) the services of a dietitian.
  32. Medical social services except those services related to discharge planning in connection with: (a) a covered Hospital Confinement; (b) covered Home Health Agency Services; or (c) covered Hospice Care.
  33. Living expenses or transportation, except as provided for under Covered Services.
  34. Second surgical opinions, unless required under the Medical Review Program.
  35. Eye refractions, orthoptics, contact lenses, or the fitting of glasses or contact lenses; radial keratotomy or any other surgical procedures to treat a refractive error of the eye, except as specified in the **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)** section for Vision services.
  36. Reversal of sterilization.
  37. Services provided in the home other than Covered Services provided through a Home Health Agency or related to Hospice Care services, as set forth under the **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)** section.
  38. Repair or replacement of Prosthetics resulting from misuse or loss.
  39. Treatment for infertility not otherwise covered in the **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)** and the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** sections. Services not covered include: all Services and supplies (other than artificial insemination) related to conception by artificial means including but not limited to prescription drugs related to such Services, in vitro fertilization, ovum transplants, gamete intra fallopian transfer and zygote intra fallopian transfer, donor semen, donor eggs and Services related to their procurement and storage. These exclusions apply to fertile as well as infertile individuals or couples.
  40. Maintenance therapy for rehabilitation.
  41. Travel immunizations.
  42. Non-human and artificial organs and their implantation.



## LIMITATIONS/EXCLUSIONS (What is Not Covered)

43. Services in connection with a Surrogacy Arrangement, except for otherwise-Covered Services provided to a Covered Person who is a surrogate. A "Surrogacy Arrangement" is one in which a woman (the surrogate) agrees to become pregnant and 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. Please refer to "Surrogacy arrangements" under the **GENERAL POLICY PROVISIONS** section for information about your obligations to Us in connection with a Surrogacy Arrangement, including Your obligations to reimburse Us for any Covered Services We cover and to provide information about anyone who may be financially responsible for Covered Services the baby (or babies) receive.

**NOTE: This plan does not impose any Pre-existing condition exclusion.**

## MEMBER PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITY

### **Deductible**

Before any benefits will be payable during the Accumulation Period, a Covered Person must first satisfy the Deductible shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section. Unless otherwise specified in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section, the Deductible applies to all Covered Services. The Deductible will apply to each Covered Person separately and must be met within each Accumulation Period. When Covered Charges equal to the Deductible are incurred and submitted to Us, the Deductible will have been met for that Covered Person.

Payments under the Group Policy are based upon the Maximum Allowable Charge for Covered Services. The Maximum Allowable Charge may be less than the amount actually billed by the provider. Covered Persons are responsible for payment of Deductible and Coinsurance amounts and for Covered Services received from a Non-Participating Provider, any amounts in excess of the Maximum Allowable Charge for a Covered Service. (Refer to the definition of Maximum Allowable Charge shown in the **DEFINITIONS** section.)

### **Self-Only Deductible**

For a self-only enrollment (family of one Covered Person), there is only one Deductible known as Self-Only Deductible. When the Covered Person reaches his or her Self-Only Deductible, he or she will begin paying Copayments or Coinsurance.

### **Individual Deductible**

For family enrollment (family of two or more Covered Persons), there is a Deductible for each individual family member known as Individual Deductible. Unless otherwise indicated in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section or elsewhere in the Policy, the Accumulation Period Deductible as shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section applies to all Covered Charges incurred by a Covered Person during an Accumulation Period. The Deductible applies separately to each Covered Person during each Accumulation Period. When Covered Charges equal to the Deductible are incurred during the Accumulation Period and are submitted to Us, the Deductible will have been met for that Covered Person. Benefits will not be payable for Covered Charges applied to the Deductible.

### **Family Deductible Maximum**

The Deductible for a family has been satisfied for an Accumulation Period when a total of Covered Charges, shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section, has been applied toward the family members' Individual Deductibles.

If the Family Deductible Maximum shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section is satisfied in any one Accumulation Period by persons in covered family members, then the Individual Deductible will not be further applied to any other Covered Charges incurred during the remainder of that Accumulation Period by any other person in Your family.

### **Benefit-specific deductibles**

Some Covered Services are subject to additional or separate deductible amounts as shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section. These additional or separate deductibles do not contribute towards satisfaction of the Self-Only or Individual or Family Deductible.

**NOTE:** Please refer to the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section for the actual amount of Your Self-Only, Individual and Family Deductible.

### **Copayment/Coinsurance**

You must pay any Copayment, Coinsurance as well as Deductibles for Covered Services. These Cost Shares are paid directly to the provider or facility. Copayment, Coinsurance and Deductible amounts are

## MEMBER PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITY

listed in **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section. If You receive Covered Services at a Participating Provider facility from a Non-Participating Provider not chosen by You, You are liable only for the Participating Provider Cost Share for the Covered Services You receive. In this circumstance. You are not liable for the difference between the Participating Provider Cost Share and the Non-Participating Provider's billed charges. If you receive a bill from a Non-Participating Provider in the circumstances described above, please call **Customer Service** at 1-855-364-3184 for assistance.

### **Out-of-Pocket Maximums**

Any part of a charge that does not qualify as a Covered Charge, will not be applied toward satisfaction of the Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

Covered Charges applied to satisfy any Deductibles under this Group Policy count toward satisfaction of the Out-of-Pocket Maximum at the Participating Provider Tier. Covered Charges applied to satisfy any Deductibles under this Group Policy do not count toward satisfaction of the Out-of-Pocket Maximum at the Non-Participating Provider Tier.

Copayments and Coinsurance for Essential Health Benefits contribute toward satisfaction of the Out-of-Pocket Maximum at the Participating Provider Tier. Coinsurance for Essential Health Benefits contribute toward satisfaction of the Out-of-Pocket Maximum at the Non-Participating Provider Tier. Unless otherwise specified in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section Copayment amounts and pharmacy cost shares do not accumulate to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum at the Non-Participating Provider Tier.

Charges in excess of the Maximum Allowable Charge or Benefit Maximum and additional expenses a Covered Person must pay because Pre-certification was not obtained will not be applied toward satisfying the Deductible or the Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

### **Self-Only Out-of-Pocket Maximum**

For a self-only enrollment (family of one Covered Person), there is only one Out-of-Pocket Maximum known as Self-Only Out-of-Pocket Maximum. When the Covered Person reaches his or her Self-Only Out-of-Pocket Maximum, he or she no longer pays Copayments or Coinsurance for those covered services that apply towards the Out-of-Pocket Maximum for the rest of the Accumulation Period.

### **Individual Out-of-Pocket Maximums**

When the Covered Person's Cost Share equals the Out-of-Pocket Maximum shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section during an Accumulation Period, the Percentage Payable will increase to 100% of further Covered Charges incurred by that same Covered Person for the remainder of that Accumulation Period.

### **Family Out-of-Pocket Maximums**

When the family's Cost Share equals the Out-of-Pocket Maximum shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section during an Accumulation Period, the Percentage Payable will increase to 100% of further Covered Charges incurred by all family members for the remainder of that Accumulation Period.

**NOTE:** Please refer to the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section for the actual amount of Your Self-Only, Individual and Family Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

### **Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit**

Any Expenses Incurred by a Covered Person while covered under the Prior Coverage will be credited toward satisfaction of Deductibles and Out-of-Pocket Maximums, as applicable, under the Group Policy if:

1. The expenses were incurred during the 90 days before the Effective Date of the Group Policy;
2. The expenses were applied toward satisfaction of the deductibles or Out-of-Pocket Maximum under the Prior Coverage during the 90 days before the Effective Date of the Group Policy; and
3. The expenses would be considered Covered Charges under the Group Policy.

## MEMBER PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITY

For Group Policies with effective dates of coverage during the months of April through December, Expenses Incurred from January 1 of the current year through the effective date of coverage with KPIC may be eligible for credit.

For Group Policies with effective dates of coverage during the months of January through March, Expenses Incurred up to ninety (90) days prior to the effective date with KPIC may be eligible for credit.

You must submit all claims for the Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit within 90 days from the effective date of coverage with KPIC.

Prior Coverage means the Policyholder's group medical plan that the Group Policy replaced. KPIC will insure any eligible person under the Group Policy on its Effective Date, subject to the above provisions which apply only to Covered Persons who on the day before the Group Policy's Effective Date were covered under the Prior Coverage.

### **Maximum Allowable Charge**

Payments under the Plan are based upon the Maximum Allowable Charge for Covered Services. The Maximum Allowable Charge may be less than the amount actually billed by the provider. Covered Persons are responsible for payment of any amounts in excess of the Maximum Allowable Charge for a Covered Service from a Non-Participating Provider. (Refer to the definition of Maximum Allowable Charge shown in the **DEFINITIONS** section of the Certificate.)

### **Other Maximums**

To the extent allowed by law, certain treatments, services and supplies are subject to internal limits or maximums. These additional items are shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section.

**NOTE:** Please refer also to the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section at the beginning of this Certificate of Insurance.

## **CLAIMS PROCEDURE (How to File a Claim)**

All claims under the Group Policy will be administered by:

National Claims Administration - Colorado  
PO Box 373150  
Denver, CO 80237-9998  
1-855-364-3184 (Toll-free)  
711 (TTY)

### **Questions about Claims**

For assistance with questions regarding claims filed with KPIC, please have Your ID Card available when You call the number shown above, or You may write to the address shown above. Claim forms are available from Your employer.

You need to pay only Your Deductible and Coinsurance or Copayment.

### **Claim Filing Requirements**

Set forth below is a description of Our claim filing requirements. You may also request a separate copy of Our claim filing requirements by writing to Us. We will respond to such requests within fifteen (15) calendar days. If We change any of the requirements, We will provide You with a copy of the revised requirements within fifteen (15) calendar days of the revision.

### **Claim Forms**

We will provide the claimant with the notice of claim form. You must give Us written notice of claim within twenty (20) days after the occurrence or commencement of any loss covered by the Policy, or as soon as reasonably possible. You may give notice or may have someone do it for You. The notice should give Your name and Your policy number. The notice should be mailed to Us at Our mailing address or to Our Claims Administrator at the address provided above.

When We receive Your notice of claim, We will send You forms for filing Proof of Loss. The forms may be obtained from and must be filed with KPIC's Administrator's office at the address set forth above. If We do not send You these forms within fifteen (15) days after receipt of Your Notice of Claim, You shall be deemed to have complied with the Proof of Loss requirements by submitting written proof covering the occurrence, character and extent of the loss, the within the time limit stated in the Proof of Loss section. Clean Claims, as defined, will be paid, denied or settled within thirty (30) calendar days after receipt if submitted electronically, or within forty-five (45) calendar days, if the claim is submitted by any other means. If a claim is denied in whole or in part, the written notice of denial will contain: (1) reasons for the denial; (2) reference to the pertinent provisions of the Group Policy on which the denial is based; and (3) information concerning the Covered Person's right of appeal.

If additional information is required to complete the processing of Your Claim, We will request such information within thirty (30) calendar days after receiving Your Claim. We will provide a full explanation in writing as to what additional information is needed to resolve the claim from Your group or health care provider, or You. The person or entity receiving the request for additional information must submit all additional information to Us within thirty (30) calendar days after receiving the request. Under applicable Colorado law, We may deny a claim if You and/or the provider fail to submit the requested additional information in a timely manner. Absent fraud, all claims, except those considered to be Clean Claims, shall be paid, denied, or settled within ninety (90) calendar days after receipt by KPIC.

If the Covered Person is dissatisfied with the results of a review, the Covered Person may request a reconsideration. The request must be in writing and filed with KPIC's Administrator at the address set forth above. The written request for reconsideration must be filed within thirty (30) days after the notice of denial is received. A written decision on reconsideration will be issued within thirty (30) days after KPIC's Administrator receives the request for reconsideration.

## **CLAIMS PROCEDURE (How to File a Claim)**

### **Proof of Loss**

Written Proof of Loss must be sent to Us or to Our Administrator at the address shown on the preceding page within ninety (90) days after the day services were received. Failure to furnish such proof within the time required shall not invalidate nor reduce any claim if it was not reasonably possible to give proof within such time, provided such proof is furnished as soon as reasonably possible., but in no event, later than one year from the time proof is otherwise required, except in the absence of legal capacity. If You receive services from a Participating Provider, that provider will normally file the claim on Your behalf. At Your option, You may direct, in writing to KPIC, that benefits be paid directly to the provider.

### **Payment of Benefits**

Benefits will be payable to the Covered Person as they accrue and any balance remaining unpaid at termination of the period of liability will be paid to the Covered Person immediately upon receipt of due written proof of loss. The Covered Person, at his or her option, may assign, in writing to KPIC, all or part of such benefits directly to a person or institution on whose charges a claim is based.

A Covered Person may also authorize KPIC to pay benefits directly to a person or institution on whose charges a claim is based. Any such payments will discharge KPIC to the extent of payment made. Unless allowed by law, KPIC's payments may not be attached, nor be subject to, a Covered Person's debts.

At the Covered Person's option, any benefits for health expenses for covered medical transportation services may be assigned, in writing to KPIC, to the provider of these services. No benefits are payable to the Covered Person to the extent benefits for the same expenses are paid to the provider.

KPIC shall not retroactively adjust a claim based on eligibility if:

- (1) The provider received verification of eligibility within two (2) business days prior to delivery of services unless the Policyholder notified KPIC:
  - (a) That Employee is no longer eligible;
  - (b) That Policyholder no longer intends to maintain coverage for the Group;
  - (c) Within ten (10) business days after the date that Employee is no longer eligible or covered because the employee left employment without notice to the Policyholder/Employer or employment was terminated because of gross misconduct
- (2) The provision of benefit is a required policy provision pursuant to state law unless the Policyholder notified KPIC of Employee's ineligibility within the timeframe provided in (1) (c).

### **Reimbursement of Providers**

Reimbursement for services covered under this health insurance plan which are lawfully performed by a person licensed by the State of Colorado for the practice of osteopathy, medicine, dentistry, optometry, psychology, chiropractic, or podiatry shall not be denied when such services are rendered by a person so licensed. Licensed persons shall include registered professional nurses and licensed Clinical Social Workers within the scope of professional nursing or licensed social worker practice.

### **Legal Actions**

No action at law or in equity may be brought to recover under the Group Policy prior to the expiration of sixty (60) days after the claim has been filed as required by the Group Policy. Also, no action may be brought after three (3) years from the expiration of the time within which proof of loss is required by the Group Policy.

### **Time Limitations**

If any time limitation provided in the Group Policy for giving notice of claims, or for bringing any action at law or in equity, is less than that permitted by the applicable law, the time limitation provided in the Group Policy is extended to agree with the minimum permitted by the applicable law.

### **Assignment of Benefits to Colorado Department of Social Services**

If a Covered Person receives medical assistance from the State of Colorado, under Colorado law, the State is deemed to have an assignment on all benefit payments made for medical expenses on behalf of

## CLAIMS PROCEDURE (How to File a Claim)

the Covered Person or any other covered family member. The assignment remains in effect as long as the individual is eligible for and receives medical assistance benefits from the State. This means that KPIC may pay benefits directly to the State when KPIC is aware that the Covered Person is a medical assistance recipient. Any payments made by KPIC in good faith pursuant to the State's assignment will fully discharge KPIC's obligation to the extent of the payment.

**NOTE:** For general information on claims, and how to submit Pre-Service Claims, Concurrent Care Claims, and Post-Service Claims, see the **APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS** section. For covered Services by Non-Participating Providers, you may need to submit a claim on your own. Contact **Customer Service** for more information on how to submit such claims.

## GENERAL POLICY PROVISIONS

### **Time Effective**

The effective time for any dates used is 12:01 a.m. at the address of the Policyholder.

### **Incontestability**

Any statement made by the Policyholder or a Covered Person in applying for insurance under this Policy will be considered a representation and not a warranty. Its validity cannot be contested except for nonpayment of premiums or fraudulent misstatement as determined by a court of competent jurisdiction. Only statements that are in writing and signed by the Policyholder and/or Covered Person may be used in a contest.

This Policy shall not be contested, except for nonpayment of premiums, after it has been in force for two (2) years from its date of issue and that no statement made for the purpose of effecting insurance coverage under the policy with respect to a person shall be used to avoid the insurance with respect to which such statement was made or to reduce benefits under such policy after such insurance has been in force for a period of two years during the lifetime of the Covered Person unless such statement is contained in a written instrument signed by the person making such statement and a copy of that instrument is or has been furnished to the person making the statement or to the beneficiary of any such person.

### **Misstatement of Age**

If the age of any person insured under this health insurance plan has been misstated: 1) premiums shall be adjusted to correspond to his or her true age; and 2) if benefits are affected by a change in age, benefits will be corrected accordingly (in which case the premium adjustment will take the correction into account).

### **Medical Examination and Autopsy**

KPIC, at its own expense, shall have the right and opportunity to examine the person of any individual whose Injury or Sickness is the basis of a claim when and as often as it may reasonably require during the pendency of a claim hereunder and to make an autopsy in case of death, where it is not forbidden by law.

### **Money Payable**

All sums payable by or to KPIC or its Administrator must be paid in the lawful currency of the United States.

### **Rights of a Custodial Parent**

If the parents of a covered Dependent child are:

1. Divorced or legally separated; and
2. Subject to the same Order,

The custodial parent will have the rights stated below without the approval of the non-custodial parent. However, for this provision to apply, the non-custodial parent must be a Covered Person approved for family health coverage under the Policy, and KPIC must receive:

1. A request from the custodial parent, who is not a Covered Person under the policy; and
2. A copy of the Order.

If all of these conditions have been met, KPIC will:

1. Provide the custodial parent with information regarding the terms, conditions, benefits, exclusions, and limitations of the Policy;
2. Accept claim forms and requests for claim payment from the custodial parent; and
3. Make claim payments directly to the custodial parent for claims submitted by the custodial parent, subject to all the provisions stated in the Policy. Payment of claims to the custodial parent, which are made in good faith under this provision, will fully discharge KPIC's obligations under the Policy to the extent of the payment.



## GENERAL POLICY PROVISIONS

KPIC will continue to comply with the terms of the Order until We determine that:

1. The Order is no longer valid;
2. The Dependent child has become covered under other health insurance or health coverage;
3. In the case of employer-provided coverage, the employer has stopped providing family coverage for all employees; or
4. The Dependent child is no longer a Covered Person under the Policy.

### **Termination by KPIC**

KPIC may terminate the Group Policy or any insurance under the Group Policy on any premium due date by giving no less than 31 days written notice when the Policyholder:

1. Fails to pay premiums or contributions in accordance with the plan provisions, or KPIC does not receive premium payments in a timely manner; or
2. Commits an act or practice that constitutes fraud or makes an intentional misrepresentation of material fact under the terms of the Group Policy; or
3. Fails to comply with a material health benefit plan contract provision, including contribution or group participation rules; or
4. No longer has any Covered Persons living, residing or working in the service area of the Preferred Provider Organization with respect to a Group Policy providing coverage, in whole or in part, in connection with a Preferred Provider plan.

If KPIC decides to discontinue offering this particular health benefit plan in the group market, KPIC may discontinue all coverage under the Group Policy. KPIC will give written notice of this type of nonrenewal to each Policyholder 90 days before the date coverage terminates. KPIC will offer each Policyholder whose coverage is discontinued the option to purchase another group health benefits plan currently offered by KPIC in the applicable state without regard to any health status-related factor of any Covered Person, including any individuals who may become eligible for the replacement coverage. Health benefit plan under this section means a particular product and not a plan design.

If KPIC stops offering all health insurance coverage in the group market, in the applicable state, KPIC has the right not to renew all policies issued on this form. KPIC will give written notice of this type of nonrenewal to the Policyholders and all Covered Persons 180 days before the date coverage terminates. Notice to an Insured Employee will be deemed notice to the Insured Dependents of that Insured Employee.

The Policyholder will be liable for all unpaid premiums for the period during which the Group Policy was in force with respect to any Covered Person whose coverage terminates.

### **Completion of Covered Services by a Terminated Provider**

If You are inpatient in a Hospital, Skilled Nursing Facility, or a hospice for Hospice Care at the time of a Participating Provider's termination, You will continue to receive coverage for Covered Services until Your date of discharge from such inpatient facility consistent with applicable Colorado law.

**As to services other than inpatient services, We will advise You in writing as to the specific extension of time, under Colorado law, pertaining to the rendition of Covered Services by a terminated Participating Provider**

### **Coordination of Benefits Provisions Application**

This Coordination of Benefits ("COB") provision applies when the Covered Person has health care coverage under more than one Plan. Plan is defined below.

The order-of-benefit determination rules govern 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% of the total Allowable Expense.

## GENERAL POLICY PROVISIONS

### Definitions Related to Coordination of Benefits

- A. A **“plan”** is any of the following that provides benefits or services for medical or dental care or treatment. However, 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 insurance contracts, health maintenance organization (HMO) contracts, closed panel plans or other forms of group or group-type coverage (whether insured or uninsured); medical care components of long-term care contracts, such as skilled nursing care; medical benefits under group or individual automobile contracts; and Medicare or any other federal governmental plan, as permitted by law.
  2. “Plan” does not include: hospital indemnity coverage or other fixed indemnity coverage; accident only coverage; specified disease or specified accident coverage; limited benefit health coverage, as defined by state law; school accident type coverage; benefits for non-medical components of 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 payment rules** determine whether this plan is a “Primary plan” or “Secondary plan” when compared to another plan covering the person.

When this Plan is Primary, its benefits are determined before those of any other Plan and without considering any other Plan’s benefits. When this Plan is Secondary, its benefits are determined after those of another Plan and may be reduced because of the Primary plan’s benefits, so that all Plan benefits do not exceed 100% of the total Allowable expense.

- D. **Allowable Expense** is a health care service or 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 or service or portion of an expense that is not covered by any of the Plans 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 Covered 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 Covered 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

## GENERAL POLICY PROVISIONS

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. **Claim determination period** is usually a calendar year, but a Plan may use some other period of time that fits the coverage of the group contract. A person is covered by a plan during a portion of a claim determination period if that person's coverage starts or ends during the claim determination period. However, it does not include any part of a year during which a person has no coverage under this plan, or before the date this COB provision or a similar provision takes effect.
- F. **Closed Panel Plan** is a plan that provides health benefits to Covered Persons primarily in the form of services through a panel of providers that have contracted with either directly or indirectly or are employed by the Plan, and that limits or excludes benefits for services provided by other providers, except in cases of emergency or referral by a panel member.
- G. **Custodial parent** means a parent awarded primary custody by a court decree. In the absence of a court decree, it is the parent with whom the child resides more than one half of the calendar year without regard to any temporary visitation.

### Order-of-Benefit Payment Rules

When two or more plans pay benefits, the rules for determining the order of payment are as follows:

- A. The Primary plan pays or provides its benefits according to its terms of coverage and without regard to the benefits 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 being members in a group, and designed to supplement part of the basic package of benefits, may provide supplementary coverage that shall be in excess of 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 determining 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 Covered Person as a dependent is the Secondary plan. However, if the Covered 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

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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:
      - The Plan covering the custodial parent;
      - The Plan covering the spouse of the custodial parent;
      - The Plan covering the non-custodial parent; and then
      - 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.
- (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 Covered Person as a retired or laid-off employee is the Secondary plan. The same would hold true if a Covered Person is a dependent of an active employee and that same Covered 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 Covered 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 Covered 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, policyholder, 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.

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### 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. The claims administrator may get the facts it needs 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. The claims administrator need not tell, or get the consent of, any person to do this. Each Covered Person claiming benefits under this Plan must give the claims administrator any facts it needs 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, the claims administrator 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. The claims administrator will not have to pay that amount again. The term "payment made" includes providing benefits in the form of services, in which case "payment made" means reasonable cash value of the benefits provided in the form of services.

### Right of Recovery

If the amount of the payments made by the claims administrator is more than it should have paid under this COB provision, it 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.

### Surrogacy arrangements

If You enter into a Surrogacy Arrangement and You or any other payee are entitled to receive payments or other compensation under the Surrogacy Arrangement, You must reimburse Us for covered Services You receive related to conception, pregnancy, delivery, or postpartum care in connection with that arrangement ("Surrogacy Health Services") 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. Note: This "Surrogacy arrangements" provision does not affect Your obligation to pay Your Cost Share for these Covered Services. After You surrender the baby to the legal parents, You are not obligated to reimburse Us for any Covered Services that the baby receives after the date of surrender (the legal parents are financially responsible for any Covered 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)

## GENERAL POLICY PROVISIONS

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:

Equian  
Kaiser Permanente – Northern California Region  
Surrogacy Mailbox  
P.O. Box 36380  
Louisville KY 40233

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" section and to satisfy those rights. You may not agree to waive, release, or reduce our rights under this "Surrogacy arrangements" section without our prior, written consent.

If Your estate, parent, guardian, or conservator asserts a claim against a third party based on the surrogacy arrangement, Your estate, parent, guardian, or conservator and any settlement 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 the third party. We may assign our rights to enforce our liens and other rights.

If You have questions about Your obligations under this provision, please contact **Customer Service** at 1-855-364-3184.

## TERMINATION/NON-RENEWAL/CONTINUATION

### Termination of an Insured Employee's Insurance

Except as provided in the Continuation of Medical Benefits provision, Your insurance will automatically terminate on the earlier of:

1. The date You cease to be covered by KPIC;
2. The date the Group Policy is terminated;
3. The date You, or Your representative, commits an act of fraud or makes an intentional misrepresentation of a material fact;
4. The end of the grace period after the Policyholder fails to pay any required premium to KPIC when due or KPIC does not receive the premium payment in a timely fashion; or
5. The last day of the month You cease to qualify as an Eligible Employee.

In no event will Your insurance continue beyond the earlier of the date Your employer is no longer a Policyholder and the date the Group Policy terminates.

### Termination of Insured Dependent Coverage

An Insured Dependent's coverage will end on the earlier of:

1. The date You cease to be covered by KPIC;
2. The last day of the of the calendar month in which the person ceases to qualify as a Dependent;
3. The date Your insurance ends, unless continuation of coverage is available to the Dependent under the provisions of the Group Policy;
4. The end of the grace period after the Policyholder fails to pay any required premium to KPIC when due or KPIC does not receive the premium payment in a timely fashion;
5. The date the Group Policy is terminated;
6. The date the Dependent, or the Dependent's representative, commits an act of fraud or makes an intentional misrepresentation of a material fact;
7. The date the Dependent relocates to a place outside of the geographic service area of a provider network, if applicable, unless specifically provided otherwise in the Group Policy.

### Medically Necessary Leave of Absence for Student Dependent

If You, as a Dependent, are enrolled in a post-secondary educational institution, Your coverage will not terminate due to a Medically Necessary Leave of Absence before the date that is the earlier of: (a) one year after the first day of the Medically Necessary Leave of Absence or (b) the date coverage would otherwise terminate under the terms of the Group Policy.

### Continuation of Coverage during Layoff or Leave of Absence

If Your full-time work ends because of a disability, an approved leave of absence or layoff, You may be eligible to continue insurance for Yourself and Your Dependents up to a maximum of three (3) months if full-time work ends because of disability or two (2) months if work ends because of layoff or leave of absence other than family care leave of absence. These provisions apply as long as You continue to meet Your Group's written eligibility requirements and This health insurance plan has not terminated. You may be required to pay the full cost of the continued insurance during any such leave.

### Rescission for Fraud or Intentional Misrepresentation

Subject to any applicable state or federal law, if KPIC makes a determination that You performed an act, practice or omission that constitutes fraud or made an intentional misrepresentation of material fact under the terms of the Group Policy, KPIC may rescind Your coverage under the Group Policy by giving You no less than thirty-one (31) days advance written notice. The rescission will be effective, on:

1. The effective date of Your coverage, if we relied upon such information to provide coverage; or
2. The date the act of fraud or intentional misrepresentation of a material fact occurred, if the fraud or intentional misrepresentation of a material fact was committed after the Effective Date of Your coverage.

If Your or Your Dependent's Policy is rescinded, you have the right to appeal the rescission. Please refer to the **APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS** section of this Certificate for a detailed discussion of the

## TERMINATION/NON-RENEWAL/CONTINUATION

grievance and Appeals process and Your right to an Independent External Review.

### **CONTINUATION OF MEDICAL BENEFITS (FEDERAL)**

**This section only applies to Participating Employers who are subject to Public Law 99-271 (COBRA).**

#### **Eligibility for Continued Health Coverage**

A Covered Person whose group health coverage under the policy would end due to a qualifying event may have a right to elect continued Health Coverage for a limited period.

The phrase "health coverage" means the benefits of the policy that are based on Expenses Incurred for medical care.

A "Qualifying Event" is any one of the following events if it would cause the Covered Person to lose health coverage under the policy:

- "A" The death of the covered employee;
- "B" The termination (other than by reason of the covered employee's gross misconduct), or reduction in hours, of such employee's employment;
- "C" The divorce or legal separation of the covered employee and his or her spouse, partner in a civil union or Domestic Partner;
- "D" The covered employee's becoming entitled to Medicare benefits;
- "E" A child's ceasing to be an eligible Dependent under the terms of this health insurance plan.

#### **Written Notices and Election Required**

Covered Persons must notify their employers of a qualifying event set forth in "C" or "E". That notice must be given within sixty (60) days after the event occurs. If such timely notice is not given, the event will not entitle the Covered Person to continued health coverage.

The employer will notify Covered Persons who become entitled to elect continued health coverage. That notice will be furnished within fourteen (14) days of: (a) the date timely notice of a qualifying event set forth in "C" or "E" is received; or (b) the date any other qualifying event occurs. If that notice from the employer is not given or is late, the qualifying event will not entitle the Covered Person to continued health coverage. Should a court or government agency require KPIC to pay any benefits as though coverage had been continued, the employer will reimburse KPIC in the full amount that KPIC is required to pay.

A Covered Person will have sixty (60) days in which to elect continued health coverage. That sixty (60) days starts with the later of: (a) the date the qualifying event would cause the Covered Person to lose health coverage under this health insurance plan; or (b) the date the employer provides timely notice to the Covered Person of his or her right to elect continued health coverage. A Covered Person who does not make a timely written election will not receive continued health coverage unless included as a spouse, partner in a civil union or Domestic Partner or child in another family member's timely election.

#### **Effect of Other Continuations**

If this health insurance plan otherwise provides any health coverage after a qualifying event: (a) such coverage that is not an option will not defer or extend the maximum period of continued health coverage in this provision; and (b) such coverage that is an elected option will be deemed a waiver of continued health coverage under this provision. However, if a covered employee elects such alternate health coverage for a spouse, partner in a civil union or Domestic Partner or child; and while that coverage is in effect another qualifying event occurs; then the alternate health coverage for the spouse, partner in a civil union or Domestic Partner or child will not end sooner than it would have under this provision.

#### **Payment for Continued Health Coverage**

The employer may require a Covered Person to pay for this continued health coverage. That payment will not exceed 102 percent of the total employer and employee cost of providing the same benefits to a Covered Person who has not had a qualifying event. The Covered Person will not be required to make such payments less frequently than monthly



## TERMINATION/NON-RENEWAL/CONTINUATION

### **Benefits under Continued Health Coverage**

This continued health coverage will at all times provide the same health care benefits as would have been afforded to the Covered Person had a qualifying event not occurred. This includes any changes in the health coverage under this health insurance plan as may become effective while continued health coverage is in effect.

### **Termination of Continued Health Coverage**

A Covered Person's continued health coverage under this provision will end at the earliest of the following dates:

1. The date which ends the "Maximum Period" as defined below;
2. The date that This Plan no longer covers the employer that sponsored the coverage before the Qualifying Event;
3. The date ending the last period for which the Covered Person has made any required payment for continued Health Coverage on a timely basis; or
4. The date after electing continued Health Coverage on which the Covered Person first becomes:
  - a) covered under any other group health plan (as an employee or otherwise) which does not exclude or limit any pre-existing condition of the Covered Person; or
  - b) entitled to Medicare benefits.

The "Maximum Period" referred to above will start with the date of the Qualifying Event and will end: (a) with the date eighteen (18) months after a qualifying event set forth in "B"; or (b) with the date thirty-six (36) months after any other Qualifying Event. In applying this maximum period, if continued health coverage is already in effect when a qualifying event other than as set forth in "B" occurs, the maximum period will not end less than thirty-six (36) months from the date of the original qualifying event; and if a Qualifying Event set forth in "D" occurs, the Maximum Period as to the Covered Employee's spouse, partner in a civil union or Domestic Partner or child for that or any subsequent Qualifying Event will not end less than thirty-six (36) months from the date the Covered Employee became entitled to Medicare benefits.

### **Extension for Disabled Covered Persons**

If Social Security, under its rules, determines that a Covered Person was disabled when a Qualifying Event set forth in "B" occurred, the 18-month maximum period of continued health coverage for such a Qualifying Event may be extended to twenty-nine (29) months. To obtain that extension, the Covered Person must notify the employer of Social Security's determination before the initial 18-month maximum period ends.

For the continued health coverage of disabled Covered Persons that exceeds eighteen (18) months, KPIC may increase the premium it charges by as much as 50 percent. The employer may require the disabled Covered Persons to pay all or part of that total increased premium.

In no event will continued Health Coverage extend beyond the first month to begin more than thirty (30) days after Social Security determines that the Covered Person is no longer disabled. The Covered Person must notify the employer within thirty (30) days of the date of such a Social Security determination.

### **Continued Health Coverage from a Prior Plan**

Continued Health Coverage will also be provided if: (a) this health insurance plan replaced a prior benefit plan of the employer or an associated company; and (b) a person's continued health coverage under a provision of that prior plan similar to this ended due to the replacement of that prior plan. In such case, that person may obtain continued Health Coverage under this provision. It will be as though this health insurance plan had been in effect when the Qualifying Event occurred. But no benefits will be paid under this health insurance plan for health care Expenses Incurred before its effective date.

### **Continued Health Coverage under 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 Policy for a limited time after You would otherwise lose eligibility, if required by the federal USERRA law. You must submit a USERRA election form to Your Employer within 60 days after Your call

## TERMINATION/NON-RENEWAL/CONTINUATION

to active duty.

Please contact Your Employer to find out how to elect USERRA coverage and how much You must pay Your Employer.

### CONTINUATION OF MEDICAL BENEFITS (STATE)

#### Continuation of Health Coverage

A Covered Person must be given the option to elect continuation of this health insurance plan for himself or herself and any Dependents if:

1. The Covered Person's eligibility to receive coverage has ended for any reason other than discontinuance of the Group Policy in its entirety or with respect to an insured class;
2. Any premium or contribution required from or on behalf of the Covered Person has been paid to the termination date; and
3. The Covered Person has been continuously insured under the Group Policy, or under any Group Policy providing similar benefits which it replaces, for at least six (6) months immediately prior to termination.

A Covered Person has the right to continue coverage for: (a) a period of eighteen (18) months after termination of employment; or (b) until the Covered Person becomes re-employed, whichever occurs first. Should new coverage exclude a condition covered under the continued plan, coverage under the prior employer's plan may be continued for the excluded condition only for the eighteen (18) months or until the new plan covers the condition, whichever occurs first.

The Covered Person must elect to continue coverage and pay the applicable amount to apply toward the premium within twenty (20) days after termination of employment. If proper notification is not given to the Covered Person, the Covered Person may elect to continue coverage and pay the applicable amount to apply toward the insurance within thirty (30) days after termination of employment.

#### Reduced Work Hours

The Policyholder may elect to contract with KPIC to continue coverage under the same conditions and for the same premium for Covered Person, even if the Policyholder reduces the working hours of such Covered Person to less than thirty (30) hours per week, provided the following conditions are met:

1. The Covered Person has been continuously employed as a full-time employee of the Policyholder and has been insured under the Group Policy or any Group Policy providing similar benefits which said policy replaces, for at least 6 months immediately prior to such reduction in working hours;
2. The Policyholder has imposed such reduction in working hours due to economic conditions; and
3. The Policyholder intends to restore the Covered Person to a full 40-hour work schedule as soon as economic conditions improve.

## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

KPIC will review claims and appeals, and We may use medical experts to help Us review them. The following terms have the following meanings when used in this “**APPEALS and COMPLAINTS**” section:

1. A **Claim** is a request for us to:
  - a. Pay for a Service that You have not received (Pre-Service claim),
  - b. Continue to pay for a Service that You are currently receiving (Concurrent Care Claim), or
  - c. Pay for a Service that you have already received (Post-Service claim).
2. An **Adverse Benefit Determination** is Our decision to do any of the following:
  - a. Deny Your Claim, in whole or in part, including:
    - i) A denial, in whole or in part, of a Pre-Service Claim (preauthorization for a Service), a Concurrent Care Claim (continue to provide or pay for a Service that You are currently receiving) or a Post-Service Claim (a request to pay for a Service) in whole or in part; or
    - ii) A denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is not Medically Necessary, appropriate, effective or efficient or is not provided in or at the appropriate health care setting or level of care; or
    - iii) A denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is experimental or investigational.
  - b. Terminate Your coverage retroactively except as the result of non-payment of premiums (also known as Rescission or Retroactive Cancellation), or
  - c. Uphold Our previous Adverse Benefit Determination when You appeal.

In addition, when We deny a request for medical care because it is excluded under this policy and you present evidence from medical professional licensed pursuant to the Colorado Medical Practice Act acting within the scope of his or her license that there is a reasonable medical basis that the contractual exclusion does not apply to the denied medical care, then Our denial shall be considered an adverse benefit determination.

3. An **Appeal** is a request for Us to review Our initial Adverse Benefit Determination.

If You miss a deadline for making a Claim or Appeal, We may decline to review it.

Except when simultaneous External Review can occur, You must exhaust the Internal Claims and Appeals Procedure as described below in this “**APPEALS and COMPLAINTS**” section unless We fail to follow the claims and appeals process described in this Section.

If You miss a deadline for making a Claim or Appeal, We may decline to review it.

Except when simultaneous External Review can occur, You must exhaust the Internal Claims and Appeals Procedure as described below in this “**APPEALS and COMPLAINTS**” section unless We fail to follow the claims and appeals process described in this Section.

### **Language and Translation Assistance**

You may request language assistance with Your Claim and/or Appeal by calling **Member Services** at 1-800-632-9700 or 711 (TTY).

SPANISH (Español): Para obtener asistencia en Español, llame al 1-800-632-9700.

TAGALOG (Tagalog): Kung kailangan ninyo ang tulong sa Tagalog tumawag sa 1-800-632-9700.

CHINESE (中文): 如果需要中文的帮助, ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ 1-800-632-9700.

NAVAJO (Dine): Dinek'ehgo shika at'ohwol ninisingo, kwijijigo holne' 1-800-632-9700.

### **Appointing a Representative**

If You would like someone including your provider (medical facility or health care professional) to act on Your behalf regarding Your Claim, You may appoint an authorized or designated representative. You must

## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

make this appointment in writing. Please contact **Customer Service** at 1-855-364-3184 or 711 (TTY) 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**

You may contact the Colorado Division of Insurance at:

Colorado Division of Insurance  
1560 Broadway, Suite 850  
Denver, Colorado 80202  
(303) 894-7499

### **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. You may request our Authorization for Release of Appeal Information form by calling **Member Appeals Program** at 1-888-370-9858 or 1-303-344-7933 or 711 (TTY).

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 **Customer Service** at 1-855-364-3184 or 711 (TTY).

### **Providing Additional Information Regarding Your Claim and/or Appeal**

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, if You ask for one. Please send all additional information to the Department that issued the Adverse Benefit Determination.

When You appeal, You may give testimony in writing or by telephone. Please send Your written testimony to **Appeals Program**. To arrange to give testimony by telephone, you should contact **Appeals Program** at 1-888-370-9858 or 1-303-344-7933 or 711 (TTY).

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 Our next 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 next decision, that decision will be based on the information already in Your Claim file.

### **Internal Claims and Appeals Procedures**

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 **APPEALS and COMPLAINTS** section:

1. Pre-Service Claims (Urgent and Non-Urgent)
2. Concurrent Care Claims (Urgent and Non-Urgent)
3. Post-Service Claims

In addition, there is a separate appeals procedure for adverse benefit determinations due to a retroactive termination of coverage (rescission).

Your internal review process includes (a) one mandatory level of review which is the First Level Appeal and (b) a voluntary second level of review which is the Voluntary Second Level Appeal. The Voluntary Second

## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

Level Appeal may only occur at your option. If you disagree with our decision on your First Level Appeal, your adverse First Level Appeal decision notice will tell you how to submit a Voluntary Second Level Appeal.

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 he/she be the subordinate of someone who did participate in Our original decision.

### 1. Pre-Service Claims and Appeals

Pre-service Claims are requests that We pay for a Service that You have not yet received. Failure to receive authorization before receiving a Service that must be authorized or pre-certified in order to be a covered benefit may be the basis for Our denial of Your Pre-service Claim . 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 **Customer Service** at 1-855-364-3184 or 711 (TTY).

Here are the procedures for filing a Pre-service claim, a Non-urgent Pre-service Appeal, and an Urgent Pre-service Appeal.

#### a. Pre-Service Claim

Tell KPIC in writing that You want Us to pay for a Service You have not yet received. Your request and any related documents You give us constitute Your Claim. You or Your Provider must either mail or fax Your Claim to:

Permanente Advantage  
5855 Copley Drive, Suite 250  
San Diego, CA 92111  
1-888-525-1533 (office)  
1-866-338-0266 (fax)

If You want Us to consider Your Pre-service Claim on an Urgent basis, the request should tell us that. We will decide whether Your Claim is Urgent or Non-Urgent unless Your attending health care provider tells Us Your Claim is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function; or (b) If You have a physical or mental disability that creates an imminent and substantial limitation on Your existing ability to live independently; or (c) 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. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent claim and appeal thereof, to permit you to pursue an Expedited External Review.

#### Non-Urgent Pre-Service Claim

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 not later than five (5) business days after We receive Your Claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional fifteen (15) days if circumstances beyond Our control delay Our decision, so long as We notify You and inform You and Your Provider prior to the expiration of the initial five (5) day period and explain the circumstances for which we need the extension.

If We need more information, We will ask You and Your Provider for additional information within the initial five (5) business day decision period, and We will give You and Your Provider two (2) business days from receipt of Our request to send the additional information. We will make a decision within five (5) 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 the additional information (including documents) from You or Your Provider within two (2) business

## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

days after receipt of Our request, We will make a decision based on the information We have.

We will send written notice of Our decision to You and Your Provider.

### Urgent Pre-Service Claim

If Your Pre-service Claim was considered on an Urgent basis and We have all the information We need, We will notify You and Your Provider of Our decision (whether adverse or not) orally or in writing within two (2) business days but not later than seventy-two (72) hours after We receive Your Claim. Within twenty-four (24) hours after We receive Your Claim, We may ask You and Your Provider for more information. We will give You and Your Provider within two (2) business days from receipt of Our request to send the additional information. We will notify You and Your Provider of Our decision within two (2) business days but not longer than forty-eight (48) hours of receiving the first piece of requested information. If We do not receive the additional information (including documents) from You or Your Provider within two (2) business days after receipt of Our request, We will make a decision based on the information We have and We will notify You of Our decision either orally or in writing. If We notify You of Our decision orally, We will send You and Your Provider written confirmation within three (3) days after that.

Your Pre-Service Claim shall be deemed to have been approved for failure on Our part to:

- a) Request additional information needed to process the claim from You and Your Provider; or
- b) Provide the notification of approval to You and Your Provider; or
- c) Provide the notification of denial to You and Your Provider

within the required time frames set forth above.

### Validity of Approval of a Pre-Service Claim

An approval of a Pre-Service Claim is valid for a period of one hundred eighty (180) days after the date of approval and continues for the duration of the authorized course of treatment. Once approved, We cannot retroactively deny a Pre-certification request for a treatment or service. This 180-day approval does not apply if:

- a) The Pre-Service Claim approval was based on Fraud; or
- b) The provider never performed the services that were requested; or
- c) The service provided did not align with the service that was approved; or
- d) The person receiving the service no longer had coverage under the plan on or before the date the service was delivered; or
- e) The covered person's benefit maximums were reached on or before the date the service was delivered.

If We deny Your Claim (if We do not agree to 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.

### b. Non-Urgent Pre-Service First Level Appeal

Within one hundred eighty (180) days after You receive our Adverse Benefit Determination notice, You must tell us by either calling us or writing to us that You want to Appeal Our denial of Your Pre-service Claim. We will count the one hundred eighty (180) calendar starting five (5) business days from the date of the initial decision notice to allow for delivery time unless you can prove that you received the notice after that five (5) business day period.

Please include the following: (1) Your name and Medical 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.

## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

For medical benefits other than Outpatient Prescription Drugs, You must either mail or fax Your Appeal to the **Appeals Program** at:

Permanente Advantage  
5855 Copley Drive, Suite 250  
San Diego, CA 92111  
1-888-525-1533 (office)  
1-866-338-0266 (fax)

For Outpatient Prescription Drugs, You can appeal orally by calling 1-800-788-2949 (Pharmacy Help Desk) or in writing by mailing to:

KPIC Pharmacy Administrator  
Grievance and Appeals Coordinator  
10181 Scripps Gateway Court  
San Diego, CA 92131

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The members of the appeals committee who will review your appeal (who was not involved in our original decision regarding your claim) will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least five (5) days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that five-(5) day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review Your Appeal and send you a written decision within a reasonable period of time that is appropriate given your medical condition but not more than thirty (30) 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, that may be available to You.

c. Urgent Pre-Service First Level 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 Medical Record Number, (2) Your medical condition or 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.

For medical benefits other than Outpatient Prescription Drugs, You can appeal orally by calling **Customer Service** at 1-855-364-3184 or in writing by mailing or sending by fax to **Appeals Program** at.

Permanente Advantage  
5855 Copley Drive, Suite 250  
San Diego, CA 92111  
1-888-525-1533 (office)  
1-866-338-0266 (fax)

## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

For Outpatient Prescription Drugs, You can appeal orally by calling 1-800-788-2949 (Pharmacy Help Desk) or in writing by mailing to:

KPIC Pharmacy Administrator  
Grievance and Appeals Coordinator  
10181 Scripps Gateway Court  
San Diego, CA 92131

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 "**APPEALS and COMPLAINTS**" section), if Our internal Appeal decision is not in your favor.

We will decide whether Your Appeal is Urgent or Non-Urgent unless Your attending health care provider tells Us Your Appeal is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function; or (b) If You have a physical or mental disability that creates an imminent and substantial limitation on Your existing ability to live independently; or (c) 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. We may, but not required to waive the requirements related to an Urgent Appeal to permit you to pursue an Expedited External Review.

You do not have the right to attend or have counsel, advocates and health care professionals in attendance at the expedited review. You are, however, entitled to submit written comments, documents, records and other materials for the reviewer or reviewers to consider; and receive, upon request and free of charge, copies of all documents, records and other information regarding your request for benefits.

We will review Your Appeal and give You oral or written notice of Our decision as soon as Your clinical condition requires, but not later than seventy-two (72) hours after We received Your Appeal. If We notify You of Our decision orally, We will send You a written confirmation within three (3) days after that.

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, that may be available to You.

### 2. Concurrent Care Claims and Appeals.

Concurrent Care Claims are requests that KPIC continues to pay for an ongoing course of covered treatment or services for a period of time or number of treatments, when the course of treatment already being received will end. If You have any general questions about Concurrent Care Claims or Appeals, please call the **Customer Service** at 1-855-364-3184 or 711 (TTY).

Unless You are appealing an Urgent Concurrent 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 the authorized care that You are currently receiving is going to end early and You then appeal our decision (an Adverse Benefit Determination), 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 KPIC will only pay for the continuation of services until we notify you of our appeal decision.



## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

Here are the procedures for filing a Concurrent Care Claim, a Non-Urgent Concurrent Care Appeal, and an Urgent Concurrent Care Appeal:

a. Concurrent Care Claim

Tell us by either calling us or writing to 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 either mail or fax Your Claim to **Appeals Program** at:

Permanente Advantage  
5855 Copley Drive, Suite 250  
San Diego, CA 92111  
1-888-525-1533 (office)  
1-866-338-0266 (fax)

If You want us to consider Your Claim on an Urgent basis and You contact us at least twenty-four (24) hours before Your 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 unless Your attending health care provider tells us Your Claim is 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, health or ability to regain maximum function; or (b) If You have a physical or mental disability that creates an imminent and substantial limitation on Your existing ability to live independently; or (c) Would, in the opinion of a Physician with knowledge of Your medical condition, subject You to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without extending Your course of covered treatment.. We may, but not required to waive the requirements related to an Urgent appeal to permit you to pursue an expedited External Review.

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 twenty-four (24) hours or more before Your care is ending, We will make our decision before Your authorized care actually ends (that is, within 24 hours of receipt of Your claim). If Your authorized care ended before You submitted Your Claim, We will make our decision within a reasonable period of time but no later than fifteen (15) days after we receive Your Claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional fifteen (15) days if circumstances beyond Our control delay Our decision, if We send You notice before the initial fifteen-(15) day decision period ends and explain the circumstances and the reason for the extension and when we expect to make a decision.

If We tell You We need more information, We will ask You for the information before the initial decision period ends and We will give you until Your care is ending or, if Your care has ended, forty-five (45) days to send us the information. We will make our decision as soon as possible, if Your care has not ended, or within fifteen (15) 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 fifteen (15) days following the end of the forty-five (45) days that We gave you for sending the additional information.

We will send written notice of our decision to You and, if applicable to Your Provider, upon request. Please let Us know if You wish to have Our decision sent to Your Provider.

If We consider Your Concurrent Claim on an Urgent basis, We will notify You of Our decision orally or in writing as soon as Your clinical condition requires, but not later than twenty-four (24) hours after We received Your Appeal. If We notify You of Our decision orally, We will send You written confirmation within three (3) days after receiving Your Claim.

If We deny Your Claim (if we do not agree to pay for extending the ongoing course of treatment or

## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

services), our Adverse Benefit Determination notice will tell you why We denied Your Claim and how You can appeal.

b. Non-Urgent Concurrent Care First Level Appeal

Within one hundred eighty (180) days after you receive our Adverse Benefit Determination notice, you must tell us by either calling us or writing to us that you want to appeal our Adverse Benefit Determination. We will count the one hundred eighty (180) calendar days starting five (5) business days from the date of the initial decision notice to allow for delivery time unless you can prove that you received the notice after that 5-business day period. Please include the following: (1) Your name and Medical Record Number, (2) Your medical condition or 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 appeal to **Appeals Program** at:

Permanente Advantage  
5855 Copley Drive, Suite 250  
San Diego, CA 92111  
1-888-525-1533 (office)  
1-866-338-0266 (fax)

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The members of the appeals committee who will review your appeal will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least five (5) days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that five-day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review Your Appeal and send You a written decision as soon as possible if You care has not ended but not later than thirty (30) 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, that may be available to You.

c. Urgent Concurrent Care First Level 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 Medical Record Number, (2) Your medical condition or 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 can appeal orally by calling Member Services or in writing by mailing or sending by fax to the **Appeals Program** at:

Permanente Advantage  
5855 Copley Drive, Suite 250  
San Diego, CA 92111  
1-888-525-1533 (office)  
1-866-338-0266 (fax)

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

## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

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 “**APPEALS and COMPLAINTS**” section).

We will decide whether Your Appeal is Urgent or Non-Urgent unless Your attending health care provider tells Us Your Appeal is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function; or (b) If You have a physical or mental disability that creates an imminent and substantial limitation on Your existing ability to live independently; or (c) Would, in the opinion of a Physician with knowledge of Your medical condition, subject You to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without continuing Your course of covered treatment. We may, but not required to waive the requirements related to an Urgent appeal to permit you to pursue an Expedited External Review.

You do not have the right to attend or have counsel, advocates and health care professionals in attendance at the expedited review. You are, however, entitled to submit written complaints, documents, record and other materials for the reviewer or reviewers to consider; and to receive, upon request and free of charge, copies of all documents, records and other information regarding your request for benefits.

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 seventy-two (72) hours after we receive Your Appeal. If We notify You of Our decision orally, We will send You a written confirmation within three (3) days after that.

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.

### 3. Post-Service Claims and Appeals

Post-service Claims are requests that We for pay for Services You already received, including Claims for Emergency Services rendered by Non-Participating Providers. If You have any general questions about Post-Service Claims or Appeals, please call **Customer Service** at 1-855-364-3184 or 711 (TTY).

Here are the procedures for filing a Post-service Claim and a Post-service Appeal:

#### a. Post-Service Claim

Within twelve (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, and (4) Why You think We should pay for the Services. You must include a copy of the bill and any supporting documents. Your letter and the related documents constitute Your Claim. Or, You may contact **Customer Service** at 1-855-364-3184 or 711 (TTY) to obtain a Claims form. You must mail Your Claim to **Claims Department** at:

National Claims Administration -Colorado  
PO Box 373150  
Denver, CO 80237-9998

We will not accept or pay for Claims received from You after twelve (12) months from the date of Services.

We will review Your Claim, and if We have all the information We need We will send You a written decision within thirty (30) days after We receive Your Claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional fifteen (15) days if circumstances beyond Our control delay Our

## APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

decision, if We notify You within fifteen (15) days after We receive Your Claim and explain the circumstances and the reason for the extension and when we expect to make the decision.. If We tell You We need more information, We will ask You for the information and We will give you forty-five (45) days from the date of Your receipt of Our notice to send Us the information. We will make a decision within fifteen (15) 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 forty-five (45) days after We send Our request, We will make a decision based on the information We have within fifteen (15) days following the end of the forty-five (45) 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.

b. Post-Service First Level Appeal

Within one hundred eighty (180) days after You receive Our Adverse Benefit Determination, tell Us in writing that You want to appeal Our denial of Your Post-service Claim. We will count the one hundred eighty (180) calendar days starting five (5) business days from the date of the initial decision notice to allow for delivery time unless you can prove that you received the notice after that 5-business day period. Please include the following: (1) Your name and Medical Record Number, (2) Your medical condition or 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) Include all supporting documents such as medical records. Your request and the supporting documents constitute Your Appeal. You must either mail or fax Your Appeal to:

Member Appeals Program  
PO Box 378066  
Denver, CO 80237  
1-888-370-9858 (office)  
1-866-466-4042 (fax)

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The appeals committee members who will review your appeal (who were not involved in our original decision regarding your claim) will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least five (5) days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that 5-day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review Your Appeal and send You a written decision within thirty (30) 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.

### **Appeals of Retroactive Coverage Termination (Rescission or Retroactive Cancellation)**

We may terminate your coverage retroactively (see Rescission for Fraud or Intentional Misrepresentation under **TERMINATION/NON-RENEWAL/CONTINUATION** section). We will send you written notice at least thirty (30) days prior to the termination. If you have general questions about retroactive coverage terminations or appeals, please call the **Customer Service** at 1-855-364-3184.

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Here is the procedure for filing a First Level Appeal of a retroactive coverage termination:

Within one hundred eighty (180) days after you receive our Adverse Benefit Determination that your coverage will be terminated retroactively, you must tell us in writing that you want to appeal our termination of your coverage retroactively. Please include the following: (1) Your name and Medical Record Number, (2) All of the reasons why you disagree with our retroactive membership termination, and (3) All supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must mail your appeal to:

Member Services  
P.O. Box 378066  
Denver, CO 80237

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within thirty (30) 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, that may be available to you.

### **Voluntary Second Level Appeal**

A Voluntary Second Level Appeal is another review by Us that occurs after the mandatory internal Appeal decision is communicated to You if You remain dissatisfied with Our decision. This in-person review permits You to present evidence to the Second Level Appeal Panel and to ask questions. **Choosing a Voluntary Second Level Appeal will not affect Your right, if you have one, to request an independent External Review.**

Here is the procedure for a Voluntary Second Level of Appeal for medical benefits and Outpatient Prescription Drugs:

Within sixty (60) days from the date of Your receipt of Our notice regarding Your First Level of Appeal decision, we must receive your Voluntary Second Level Appeal requesting the review of the adverse decision. We will count the sixty (60) days starting five (5) business days from the date of the First Level of Appeal decision notice to allow for delivery time unless you can prove that you received the notice after that 5-business day period. Please include the following: (1) Your name and Medical 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 (mandatory internal Appeal decision), and (5) All supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute Your request for a Voluntary Second Level of Appeal. You must either mail or fax Your Appeal to:

Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company (KPIC)  
Grievance and Appeals Coordinator  
1800 Harrison Street, 20th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612  
1-877-727-9664 (fax)

Within sixty (60) calendar days following receipt of Your request, KPIC will hold a Voluntary Second Level Appeal meeting. KPIC shall notify You of the date on which the Voluntary Second Level Appeal Panel will meet at least twenty (20) days prior to the date of this in-person meeting. You have the right to request a postponement by calling **Member Appeals Program** at 1-888-370-9858 and your request cannot be unreasonably denied. You have the right to appear in person or by telephone conference at the review meeting. We will make our decision within seven (7) days of the completion of this meeting.

You may present Your Appeal in person before the Voluntary Second Level Appeal Panel, or request a file review. If You would like to present Your Appeal in person, but an in-person meeting is not practical, You may present Your Appeal by telephone by calling e **Member Appeals Program** at 1-888-370-9858. Please indicate in Your Appeal request how you want to present Your Appeal. Unless you request to be present

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for the special meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review.

You may request in writing that KPIC transmit all material that will be presented to the Voluntary Second Level Appeal Panel at least five (5) days prior to the date of the Voluntary Second Level Appeal meeting.

You may submit additional information with Your Appeal request, or afterwards but no later than five (5) days prior to the date of Your Voluntary Second Level Appeal meeting. Any additional new material developed after this deadline shall be provided to Us as soon as practicable. You may present Your case to the Voluntary Second Level Appeal Panel and ask questions of the Panel. You may be assisted or represented by an appointed representative of Your choice including an attorney (at Your own expense), other advocate or health care professional. If You decide to have an attorney present at the Voluntary Second Level Appeal meeting, then You must let Us know that at least seven (7) days prior to that meeting. You must appoint this attorney as Your representative in accordance with our procedures.

We will issue a written decision within seven (7) days of the completion of the Voluntary Second Level Appeal meeting.

If You would like further information about the Voluntary Second Level Appeal process, to assist You in making an informed decision about pursuing a Voluntary Second Level Appeal, please call **Member Appeals Program** at 1-888-370-9858. Your decision to pursue a Voluntary Second Level Appeal will have no effect on Your rights to any other benefits under this health insurance plan, the process for selecting the decision maker and/or the impartiality of the decision maker.

### External Review

Following receipt of an adverse First Level Appeal or Voluntary Second Level Appeal decision letter, You may have a right to request an External Review. There is no minimum dollar amount for a claim to be eligible for an External Review. You will not be responsible for the cost of the External Review.

You have the right to request an independent External Review of our decision if our decision involves an adverse benefit determination regarding a denial of a claim, in whole or in part, that is (1) A denial of a preauthorization for a Service; (2) A denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is not Medically Necessary, appropriate, effective or efficient or is not provided in or at the appropriate health care setting or level of care; and/or (3) A denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is experimental or investigational. If our final adverse decision does not involve an adverse benefit determination described in the preceding sentence, then your claim is **not** eligible for External Review. However, independent External Review is available when we deny your appeal because you request medical care that is excluded under your plan and you present evidence from a licensed Colorado professional that there is a reasonable medical basis that the exclusion does not apply.

To request External Review, You must submit a completed Independent External Review of Carrier's Final Adverse Determination form (you may call **Member Appeals Program** at 1-888-370-9858 to request another copy of this form) which will be included with the mandatory internal appeal decision letter and explanation of Your Appeal rights, to **Member Appeals Program** within four (4) months of the date of receipt of Our mandatory First Level Appeal decision or of Our Voluntary Second Level Appeal decision. We shall consider the date of receipt for Our notice to be three (3) days after the date on which Our notice was postmarked, unless You can prove that You received our notice after the three (3)-day period ends.

You must include in your written request a statement authorizing us to release your claim file with your health information including your medical records; or, you may submit a completed Authorization for Release of Appeal Information form which is included with the mandatory internal appeal decision letter and explanation of your appeal rights (you may call **Member Appeals Program** at 1-888-370-9858 to request a copy of this form)

If We do not receive Your External Review request form and/or authorization form to release your health information, then We will not be able to act on Your request. We must receive all of this information prior to the end of the applicable timeframe (4 months) for Your request of External Review.

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### **Expedited External Review**

You may request an Expedited External Review if (1) You have a medical condition for which the timeframe for completion of a standard review would seriously jeopardize Your life, health, or ability to regain maximum function; or, (2) If You have a physical or mental existing disability that creates an imminent and substantial limitation to Your existing ability to live independently, or (3) In the opinion of a Physician with knowledge of Your medical condition, the timeframe for completion of a standard review would subject You to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the medical services that You are seeking.

You may request Expedited External Review simultaneously with your expedited internal appeal as permitted under this Plan. A request for an Expedited External Review must be accompanied by a written statement from Your Physician that Your condition meets the expedited criteria. You must include the Physician's certification that You meet External Review criteria when You submit Your request for External Review along with the other required information (described, above). No Expedited External Review is available when You have already received the medical care that is the subject of Your request for External Review. If You do not qualify for Expedited External Review, We will treat Your request as a request for Standard External Review.

### **Additional Requirements for External Review regarding Experimental or Investigational Services**

You may request External Review or expedited External Review involving an adverse benefit determination based upon the Service being experimental or investigational. Your request for External Review or expedited External Review must include a written statement from your physician that either (a) Standard health care services or treatments have not been effective in improving your condition or are not medically appropriate for you, or (b) There is no available standard health care service or treatment covered under this plan that is more beneficial than the recommended or requested health care service (the physician must certify that scientifically valid studies using accepted protocols demonstrate that the requested health care service or treatment is more likely to be more beneficial to you than an available standard health care services or treatments), and the physician is a licensed, board-certified, or board-eligible physician to practice in the area of medicine to treat your condition. If you are requesting expedited External Review, then your physician must also certify that the requested health care service or treatment would be less effective if not promptly initiated. These certifications must be submitted with your request for External Review.

After we receive your request for External Review, we shall notify you of the information regarding the independent External Review entity that the Division of Insurance has selected to conduct the External Review.

If We deny Your request for Standard or Expedited External Review, including any assertion that We have not complied with the applicable requirements related to Our Internal Claims and Appeals Procedure, then We may notify You in writing and include the specific reasons for the denial. Our notice will include information about your right to appeal the denial to the Division of Insurance. At the same time that We send this denial notice to You, We will send a copy of it to the Division of Insurance.

You will not be able to present Your Appeal in person to the Independent External Review Organization. You may, however, send any additional information that is significantly different from information provided or considered during the Internal Claims and Appeal Procedure and, if applicable Voluntary Second Level of Appeal process. If You send new information, We may consider it and reverse our decision regarding Your Appeal.

You may submit Your additional information to the Independent External Review Organization for consideration during its review within five (5) working days of Your receipt of Our notice describing the Independent Review Organization that has been selected to conduct the External Review of Your Claim. Although it is not required to do so, the Independent Review Organization may accept and consider additional information submitted after this five (5) working day period ends.

The Independent External Review entity shall review information regarding Your benefit claim and shall base its determination on an objective review of relevant medical and scientific evidence. Within forty-five (45) days of the Independent External Review entity's receipt of Your request for Standard External Review,

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it shall provide written notice of its decision to You. If the Independent External Review entity is deciding Your Expedited External Review request, then the Independent External Review entity shall make its decision as expeditiously as possible and no more than seventy-two (72) hours after its receipt of Your request for External Review and within forty-eight (48) hours of notifying You orally of its decision provide written confirmation of its decision. This notice shall explain that the External Review decision is the final appeal available under state insurance law. An External Review decision is binding on KPIC and You except to the extent KPIC and You have other remedies available under federal or state law. You or your designated representative may not file a subsequent request for External Review involving the same adverse determination for which you have already received an External Review decision

If the Independent External Review Organization overturns Our denial of payment for care You have already received, We will issue payment within five (5) working days. If the Independent Review organization overturns Our decision not to authorize Pre-service or Concurrent Care Claims, KPIC will authorize care within one (1) working day. Such Covered Services shall be provided subject to the terms and conditions applicable to benefits under this health insurance plan.

Except when External Review is permitted to occur simultaneously with your urgent pre-service appeal or urgent concurrent care appeal, You must exhaust Our Internal Claims and Appeals Procedure (but not the Voluntary Second Level of Appeal) for Your Claim before You may request External Review, unless We have failed to comply with federal and/or state law requirements regarding Our Claims and Appeals Procedures.

### **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.



## INFORMATION ON POLICY AND RATE CHANGES

### Entire Contract and Changes

The Policyholder will act on behalf of all the Insured Employees in all matters pertaining to the Group Policy, and the following will be binding upon all Covered Persons: (1) every act done by the Policyholder; (2) every agreement between KPIC and the Policyholder; and (3) every notice given by either party to the other.

The entire contract between the Policyholder and KPIC consists of the Group Policy, certificates, amendments or riders incorporated by reference, the attached application of the Policyholder; and the applications, on file, if any, of the Insured Employees. All statements made by the Policyholder or Insured Employees will, in the absence of fraud, be deemed representations and not warranties. No statement made by the Policyholder or Insured Employees will be used in defense to a claim under the Group Policy, unless it is contained in a written application.

No change in the Group Policy will be valid unless:

1. It is noted on, or attached to, the Group Policy;
2. Signed by an executive officer of KPIC; and
3. Delivered to the Policyholder.

KPIC may change, cancel, or discontinue coverage, to the extent permitted by law, provided under the Group Policy without the consent of the Policyholder or Insured Employees. Payment of premium, after a change has been made and incorporated into the Group Policy, will be deemed acceptance of the changes made by KPIC. The Policyholder must mail or deliver notice of cancellation or discontinuance to all Insured Employees at least thirty-one (31) days prior to the date of cancellation or discontinuance of the Group Policy. Notice to the Insured Employee will be considered notice to any Insured Dependent of the Insured Employee.

No agent has the authority to:

1. Change the Group Policy;
2. Waive any provisions of the Group Policy;
3. Extend the time for payment of premiums; or
4. Waive any of KPIC's rights or requirements.

The Policyholder designates sole discretion to KPIC to interpret and determine provisions of the Group Policy.

### Premium Rates

KPIC may change any of the premium rates as of any Group Policy Anniversary, or at any other time by written agreement between the Policyholder and KPIC on any premium due date when:

1. The terms of the Group Policy are changed;
2. A division, a subsidiary or an affiliated company is added to the Group Policy; or
3. For reasons other than the above, such as, but not limited to, a change in factors bearing on the risk assumed. The rate may not be changed within the first six months following the Group Policy Effective Date.

KPIC will give the Policyholder thirty-one (31) days advance written notice of any change in premium.

KPIC will give the Policyholder a thirty-one (31) day grace period for the payment of any premium.

## DEFINITIONS

The following terms have special meaning throughout this Certificate. Other parts of this Certificate contain definitions specific to those provisions. Terms that are used only within one section of the Certificate are defined in those sections.

**“A” Recommendation** means a recommendation adopted by the Task Force, which strongly recommends that clinicians provide a preventive health care service because the Task Force found there is a high certainty that the net benefit of the preventive health care service is substantial.

**Accumulation Period** – The time period set forth in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section.

**ACIP** means the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the Federal Department of Health and Human Services, or any successor entity.

**Administrator** means Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado. KPIC reserves the right to change the Administrator at any time during the term of the Group Policy without prior notice. Neither KPIC nor its Administrator is the administrator of the Policyholder's employee benefit plan as that term is defined under Title 1 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) as then constituted or later amended.

**Applied Behavior Analysis** means the use of behavioral analytic methods and research findings to change socially important behaviors in meaningful ways.

**Approved Clinical Trial** means a phase I, phase II, phase III, or phase IV clinical trial that is conducted in relation to the prevention, detection, or treatment of cancer or other life-threatening disease or condition and is one of the following: (a) A federally funded or approved trial; (b) a clinical trial conducted under an FDA investigational new drug application; or (c) A drug that is exempt from the requirement of an FDA investigational new drug application.

**Autism Services Provider** means any person, who provides direct services to Covered Persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder, is licensed, certified, or registered by the applicable state licensing board or by a nationally recognized organization, and who meets one of the following:

1. Has a doctoral degree with a specialty in psychiatry, medicine, or clinical psychology, is actively licensed by the Colorado medical board, and has at least one (1) year of direct experience in behavioral therapies that are consistent with best practice and research on effectiveness for people with Autism Spectrum Disorders; or
2. Has a doctoral degree in one of the behavioral or health sciences and has completed one (1) year of experience in behavioral therapies that are consistent with best practice and research on effectiveness for people with Autism Spectrum Disorders; or
3. Has a master's degree or higher in behavioral sciences and is nationally certified as a “Board Certified Behavior Analyst” or certified by a similar nationally recognized organization; or
4. Has a master's degree or higher in one (1) of the behavior or health sciences, is credentialed as a “Related Services Provider,” and has completed one (1) year of direct supervised experience in behavioral therapies. Related Services Provider means physical therapist, an occupational therapist or speech therapist that are consistent with best practice and research on effectiveness for people with Autism Spectrum Disorders; or
5. Has a baccalaureate degree or higher in behavioral sciences and is nationally certified as a Board-Certified Associate Behavior Analyst or certified by a similarly recognized organization; or
6. Is nationally registered as a "registered behavior technician" by the behavior analyst certification board or by a similar nationally recognized organization and provides direct services to a person with an autism spectrum disorder under the supervision of an autism services provider described in sub-paragraph (1), (2), (3), (4), or (5) above.

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**Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)** means a disorder as defined in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders in effect at the time of the diagnosis; and includes the following disorders as defined in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders in effect at the time of the diagnosis: Autistic Disorder, Asperger's Disorder, and atypical Autism, as a diagnosis within pervasive developmental disorder, not otherwise specified.

**Autism Treatment Plan** means a plan developed for a Covered Person by an Autism Services Provider and prescribed by a Physician and licensed psychologist pursuant to comprehensive evaluation or reevaluation for a Covered Person consisting of the Covered Person's diagnosis, proposed treatment by type, frequency, and anticipated treatment; the anticipated outcomes stated as goals; and the frequency by which the plan will be updated. The Treatment Plan shall be developed in accordance with patient-centered medical home, as defined under applicable Colorado law

**"B" Recommendation** means a recommendation adopted by the Task Force, which recommends that clinicians provide a preventive health care service because the Task Force found there is high certainty that the net benefit is moderate or there is a moderate certainty that the net benefit is moderate to substantial.

**Behavioral Health, Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder:**

1. Means a condition or disorder, regardless of etiology, that maybe the result of a combination of genetic and environmental factors and that falls under any of the diagnostic categories listed in the Mental Disorders section of the most recent version of:
  - (a) The International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Health Related Problems;
  - (b) The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders; or
  - (c) The Diagnostic Classification of Mental Health and Developmental Disorders of Infancy and Early Childhood; and
2. Includes Autism Spectrum Disorder.

**Benefit Maximum** means a maximum amount of benefits that will be paid by KPIC for a specified type of Covered Charges incurred during a given period of time. The charges to which a Benefit Maximum applies are not considered Covered Charges after the Benefit Maximum has been reached. Covered Charges in excess of the Benefit Maximum will not be applied toward satisfaction of the Accumulation Period Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum. Benefit Maximum does not apply to Essential Health Benefits, as defined under this health insurance plan, received at either the Participating Provider level or the Non-Participating level.

**Birth Center** means an outpatient facility which:

1. Complies with licensing and other legal requirements in the jurisdiction where it is located;
2. Is engaged mainly in providing a comprehensive Birth Services program to pregnant individuals who are considered normal to low risk patients;
3. Has organized facilities for Birth Services on its premises;
4. Has Birth Services performed by a Physician specializing in obstetrics and gynecology, or at his or her direction, by a Licensed Midwife or Certified Nurse Midwife; and
5. Has 24-hour-a-day Registered Nurse services.

**Birth Services** means ante partum (before labor); intrapartum (during labor); and postpartum (after birth) care. This care is given with respect to: (1) uncomplicated pregnancy and labor; and (2) spontaneous vaginal delivery.

Benefits payable for the treatment of complications of pregnancy will be covered on the same basis as any other Sickness.

**Calendar Year** means a period of time: (1) beginning at 12:01 a.m. on January 1<sup>st</sup> of any year; and (2) terminating at midnight on December 31<sup>st</sup> of that same year.

**Certified Nurse-Midwife or Licensed Midwife** means any person duly certified or licensed as such in the state in which treatment is received and is acting within the scope of his or her license at the time

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the treatment is performed.

**Certified Nurse Practitioner** means a Registered Nurse duly licensed in the state in which the treatment is received who has completed a formal educational nurse practitioner program. He or she must be certified as such by the: (1) American Nurses' Association; (2) National Board of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners and Associates; or (3) Nurses' Association of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

**Certified Psychiatric-Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist** means any Registered Nurse licensed in the state in which the treatment is received who: (1) has completed a formal educational program as a psychiatric-mental health clinical nurse specialist; and (2) is certified by the American Nurses' Association.

**Child Health Supervision Services** means those preventive services and immunizations required to be provided in a Colorado basic and standard health benefit plan in accordance with Colorado Code Section 10-16-105 (7.2), as then constituted and later amended to covered Dependent children up through age twelve (12). Services must be provided by a Physician or pursuant to a physician's supervision or by a primary health care provider who is a Physician's assistant or Registered Nurse who has additional training in child health assessment and who is working in collaboration with a Physician.

**Clean Claim** means a claim for payment of health care expenses that is submitted to KPIC or its administrator on its standard claim form with all required fields completed with correct and complete information in accordance with KPIC's published filing requirements. A Clean Claim does not include a claim for payment of expenses incurred during a period of time for which premiums are delinquent, except to the extent otherwise required by law.

**Clinical Social Worker** means a person who is licensed as a clinical social worker, and who has at least five years of experience in psychotherapy (as defined by the state of Colorado) under appropriate supervision, beyond a master's degree.

**Clinical Trial** means an experiment, in which a drug or device is administered to dispensed to, or used by one or more human subjects. An experiment may include the use of a combination of drugs, as well as the use of drug in combination with alternative therapy or dietary supplement.

**Coinsurance** means a percentage of charges that You must pay as shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section when You receive a Covered Service as described under the **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)** section and the Policy Schedule. Coinsurance amount is applied against the Covered Charge.

**Complications of Pregnancy** means (1) conditions when the pregnancy is not terminated and whose diagnoses are distinct from pregnancy but are adversely affected by pregnancy or are caused by pregnancy, such as acute nephritis, nephrosis, cardiac decompensation, missed abortion, pre-eclampsia, intrauterine fetal growth retardation, and similar medical and surgical conditions of comparable severity; (2) Non-elective cesarean section, ectopic pregnancy which is terminated and spontaneous termination of pregnancy, which occurs during a period of gestation in which a viable birth is not possible.

Complications of Pregnancy will not include conditions such as false labor, occasional spotting, physician prescribed rest during the period of pregnancy, morning sickness, hyperemesis gravidarum, and similar conditions associated with the management of a difficult pregnancy not constituting a nosologically distinct complication of pregnancy.

Complications of Pregnancy are covered under this Certificate as any other Sickness or Injury.

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**Comprehensive Rehabilitation Facility** means a facility primarily engaged in providing diagnostic, therapeutic, and restorative services through licensed health care professionals to injured, ill or disabled individuals. The facility must be accredited for the provision of these services by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities or the Professional Services Board of the American Speech-Language Hearing Association.

**Confinement** means physically occupying a room and being charged for room and board in a Hospital or other covered facility on a twenty-four hour a day basis as a registered inpatient upon the order of a Physician.

**Copayment** means the predetermined amount, as shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section, which is to be paid by the Insured for a Covered Service, usually at the time the health care is rendered. All Copayments applicable to the Covered Services are shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section.

**Cosmetic Surgery** means surgery that: (a) is performed to alter or reshape normal structures of the body in order to improve the Covered Person's appearance; and (b) will not result in significant improvement in physical function. Cosmetic Surgery is not covered under this Policy.

**Cost Share** means a Covered Person's share of Covered Charges. Cost Share includes and is limited only to the following: 1) Coinsurance; 2) Copayment; 3) per benefit deductibles; and 4) Deductible.

**Covered Charge or Covered Charges** means the Maximum Allowable Charge(s) for a Covered Service.

**Covered Person** means a person covered under the terms of the Group Policy. A Covered Person who is enrolled as an Insured Employee or Insured Dependent under the Plan. Also, sometimes referred to as member. No person may be covered as both an Insured Employee and a Dependent at the same time under a single Group Policy.

**Covered Services** means those services which a Covered Person is entitled to receive pursuant to the Group Policy and are defined and listed under the section entitled **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)**.

**Deductible** means the amount of Covered Charges a Covered Person must incur, while insured under the Group Policy, before any benefits will be payable during that Accumulation Period. The Deductible will apply to each Covered Person separately, and must be met within each Accumulation Period. When Covered Charges equal to the Deductible are incurred and submitted to Us, the Deductible will have been met for that Covered Person.

Some Covered Services are subject to additional or separate deductible amounts as shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section. These additional or separate deductibles are neither subject to, nor do they contribute towards the satisfaction of the Self-Only Deductible or Individual Deductible or the Family Deductible Maximum.

**Dependent** means:

1. Your lawful spouse, partner in a civil union or Domestic Partner (if Domestic Partner is covered under this plan); or
2. Your or Your spouse's, Your partner in a civil union or Your Domestic Partner natural or adopted or foster child, if that child is under age of 26.
3. Other unmarried dependent person who meet all of the following requirements:
  - a. Is under the dependent limiting age specified in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section; and
  - b. You or Your Spouse, Your partner in a civil union or Your Domestic Partner is the court-appointed permanent legal guardian or was before the person reached age 18.
4. Your or Your Spouse's Your partner in a civil union, Your Domestic Partner unmarried child of any age; who is medically certified as disabled and dependent upon You, Your Spouse, Your partner in

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a civil union or Your Domestic Partner, are eligible to enroll or continue coverage as Your Dependents if the following requirements are met:

- a. They are dependent on You or Your Spouse, Your partner in a civil union or Your Domestic Partner; and
- b. You give us proof of the Dependent's disability and dependency annually if We request it.

**Detoxification** means the process of removing toxic substances from the body.

**Domestic Partner** means an unmarried adult who resides with the Insured Employee for at least six months in a committed relationship. A Domestic Partner may be regarded as a Dependent, upon meeting Our prescribed requirements, which include the following:

1. Both persons must have a common residence for a period of at least six months prior to eligibility for this coverage;
2. Both persons must agree to be jointly responsible for each other's basic living expenses incurred during the domestic partnership;
3. Neither person is married nor a member of another domestic partnership or have been a party to a domestic partnership that was terminated within twelve (12) months before becoming eligible for this coverage;
4. The two persons are not related by blood in a way that would prevent them from being married to each other in conformity with state law;
5. Both persons must be at least 18 years of age and be the same sex;
6. Both persons must be capable of consenting to the domestic partnership;
7. Neither person is legally married to or legally separated from another person; and
8. Both persons must have duly executed a declaration of domestic partnership on a form agreed to by Us.

**Durable Medical Equipment** means equipment which:

1. Is designed for repeated use;
2. Can mainly and customarily be used for medical purposes;
3. Is not generally of use to a person in the absence of a Sickness or Injury;
4. Is approved for coverage under Medicare, including insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies;
5. Is not primarily or customarily for the convenience of the Covered Person;
6. Provides direct aid or relief of the Covered Person's medical condition;
7. Is Appropriate for use in the home;
8. Serves a specific therapeutic purpose in the treatment of an illness or injury; and
9. Is an infant apnea monitor.

Durable Medical Equipment does not include:

1. Oxygen tents;
2. Equipment generally used for comfort or convenience that is not primarily medical in nature (e.g., bed boards, bathtub lifts, adjust-a-beds, telephone arms, air conditioners, and humidifiers);
3. Deluxe equipment such as motor driven wheelchairs and beds, except when such deluxe features are necessary for the effective treatment of a Covered Person's condition and in order for the Covered Person to operate the equipment;
4. Disposable supplies, exercise and hygiene equipment, experimental or research equipment, and devices not medical in nature such as sauna baths, elevators, or modifications to the home or automobile. This exclusion does not apply to disposable diabetic supplies;
5. Devices for testing blood or other body substances, except diabetic testing equipment and supplies;
6. Electronic monitors of bodily functions, except infant apnea monitors;
7. Replacement of lost equipment;
8. Repair, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse;
9. More than one piece of Durable Medical Equipment serving essentially the same function; except for replacements other than those necessitated by misuse or loss; and
10. Spare or alternate use equipment.

**Early Childhood Intervention Services** means services as defined by the Colorado Department of Human Services in accordance with Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004,

## DEFINITIONS

as then constituted and later amended, that are authorized through an Insured Dependent's Individualized Family Service Plan, but excluding non-emergency medical transportation; respite care; service coordination, as defined under applicable federal regulation; and assistive technology.

**Eligible Employee** means a person who, at the time of original enrollment: (a) is working for a Policyholder as a full-time employee as described below or is entitled to coverage under an employment contract; (b) by virtue of such employment or contract enrolls under the Group Policy and (c) reached an eligibility date. Eligible Employee includes sole proprietors, partners of a partnership, or independent contractor if they are included as employees under a health benefit plan of the Policyholder, engaged on a full-time basis in the employer's business or are entitled to coverage under an employment contract. The term Eligible Employee does not include employees who work on a temporary seasonal or substitute basis.

**Eligible Insured Dependent** means an infant or toddler, from birth up to the child's third birthday, who has significant delays in development or has a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has high probability or resulting in significant delays in development or who is applicable is eligible for Early Childhood Intervention Services pursuant to applicable Colorado law. Please refer to the definition of Insured Dependent.

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

1. A medical screening examination (as required under the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act) that is within the capability of the emergency department of a hospital, including ancillary services routinely available to the emergency department to evaluate the Emergency Medical Condition.
2. Within the capabilities of the staff and facilities available at the hospital, the further medical examination and treatment that the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act requires to Stabilize the patient.

**Emergency Medical Condition:** A medical condition, including psychiatric conditions, manifesting 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:

1. Placing the person's health (or, with respect to a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child) in serious jeopardy
2. Serious impairment to bodily functions
3. Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part

**Essential Health Benefits** means the general categories of benefits including the items and services covered within these categories of benefits that comprise an essential health benefit package as defined under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (PPACA) as then constituted or later amended.

**Expense(s) Incurred** means expenses a Covered Person incurs for Covered Services. An expense is deemed incurred as of the date of the service, treatment, or purchase.

**Formulary** means a list of prescription drugs we cover.

**Free-Standing Surgical Facility** means a legally operated institution which is accredited by the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Health Organizations (JCAHO) or other similar organization approved by KPIC that:

1. Has permanent operating rooms;
2. Has at least one recovery room;
3. Has all necessary equipment for use before, during and after surgery;
4. Is supervised by an organized medical staff, including Registered Nurses available for care in an operating or recovery room;
5. Has a contract with at least one nearby Hospital for immediate acceptance of patients requiring

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- Hospital care following care in the Free-Standing Surgical Facility;
6. Is other than: a) a private office or clinic of one or more Physicians; or b) part of a Hospital; and
  7. Requires that admission and discharge take place within the same working day.

**Group Policy** means the health insurance contract issued by KPIC to the Policyholder that establishes the rights and obligations of KPIC and the Policyholder.

**Habilitative Services** means services and devices that help a person retain, 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 and occupational therapy, speech-language pathology and other services for people with disabilities in a variety of outpatient settings.

**Health Plan** means Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado.

**Home Health Agency** means an agency which has been certified by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment as meeting the provisions of Title XVIII of the Federal "Social Security Act," as amended, for home health agencies and is engaged in arranging and providing nursing services, Home Health Services, and other therapeutic and related services.

**Home Health Visit** is each visit by a member of the home health team, provided on a part-time and intermittent basis as included in the plan of care. Services of up to four hours by a home health aide shall be considered as one visit

**Homemaker Services** means services provided to a Covered Person for Hospice Care which include:

1. General household activities including the preparation of meals and routine household care; and
2. Teaching, demonstrating and providing the Covered Person or their family with household management techniques that promote self-care, independent living and good nutrition.

**Hospice Care** means home-based palliative and supportive care by a licensed hospice for terminally ill patients. The care must be provided: (1) directly; or (2) on a consulting basis with the patient's Physician or another community agency, such as a visiting nurses' association. For Hospice Care, a terminally ill patient is any patient whose life expectancy, as determined by a Physician, is not greater than 6 months.

**Hospital** means an institution which is accredited by the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Health Organizations (JCAHO) or other similar organization approved by KPIC that:

1. Is legally operated as a Hospital in the jurisdiction where it is located;
2. Is engaged mainly in providing inpatient medical care and treatment for Injury and Sickness in return for compensation;
3. Has organized facilities for diagnosis and major surgery on its premises;
4. Is supervised by a staff of at least two Physicians;
5. Has 24-hour-a-day nursing service by Registered Nurses; and
6. Is not: a facility specializing in dentistry; or an institution which is mainly a rest home; a home for the aged; a place for drug addicts; a place for alcoholics; a convalescent home; a nursing home; or a Skilled Nursing Facility or similar institution.

The term **Hospital** will also include a psychiatric health facility which is currently licensed or certified by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment pursuant to the Department's authority under applicable Colorado law.

**Hospital Confinement** means being registered as an inpatient in a Hospital upon the order of a Physician.

**Individualized Education Plan** means a written plan for an Insured Dependent with a disability that is developed, reviewed, and revised in accordance with Colorado's applicable statutory and regulatory standards.



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**Individualized Family Service Plan** is a written plan developed pursuant of to applicable federal statutory and regulatory standards, which authorizes the provision of Early Childhood Intervention Services to an Eligible Insured Dependent and to his or her family.

**Individualized Plan** means a written plan designed by an interdisciplinary team for the purpose of identifying the following: (a) needs of the Covered Person or family receiving the services; (b) the specific services and supports appropriate to meet such needs; (c) the projected date of initiation of services and supports; and (d) the anticipated results to be achieved by receiving the services and supports.

**Injury** means accidental bodily Injury of a Covered Person.

**Insured Dependent** means a Covered Person who is a Dependent of an Insured Employee.

**Insured Employee** means a Covered Person who is an Eligible Employee of the Policyholder or is one entitled to coverage under a welfare trust agreement.

**Intensive Care Unit** means a section, ward or wing within the Hospital which:

1. Is separated from other Hospital facilities;
2. Is operated exclusively for the purpose of providing professional care and treatment for critically-ill patients;
3. Has special supplies and equipment necessary for such care and treatment available on a standby basis for immediate use;
4. Provides Room and Board; and
5. Provides constant observation and care by Registered Nurses or other specially trained Hospital personnel.

**Interdisciplinary Team** means a group of qualified individuals, which includes, but is not limited to, a Physician, Registered Nurse, clergy/counselors, volunteer director and/or trained volunteers, and appropriate staff who collectively have expertise in meeting the special needs of Hospice patients and their families.

**Intractable Pain** means a pain state in which the cause of the pain cannot be removed and which in the generally accepted course of medical practice no relief or cure of the cause of the pain is possible or none has been found after reasonable efforts including, but not limited to, evaluation by the attending Physician and one or more Physicians specializing in the treatment of the area, system, or organ of the body perceived as the source of the pain.

**Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN)** means an individual who has (1) specialized nursing training; (2) vocational nursing experience; and (3) is duly licensed to perform nursing service by the state in which he or she performs such service.

**Maximum Allowable Charge** means:

1. For Covered Services from Participating Providers, the Negotiated Rate as defined under Paragraph 4 (b).
2. For Covered Services from Non-Participating Providers rendering the following services in the state of Colorado:
  - (a) Emergency or Non-Emergency Services rendered in Participating facilities by physicians and other professionals that are Non-Participating Providers;
  - (b) Emergency Services rendered in a non-Denver Health Hospital Authority operated Non-Participating facility.
  - (c) Emergency Services rendered in a Denver Health Hospital Authority operated Non-Participating Provider facility.the reimbursement rate according to state law.

Other than applicable cost sharing (Deductible, Coinsurance or Copayments) Non-Participating Providers rendering services in the state of Colorado may not balance bill a Covered Person for the

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difference between the Maximum Allowable Charge and the Actual Billed Charges. However, a Non-Participating Provider may balance bill a Covered Person when the Covered Person chooses to use the Non-Participating Provider.

3. For Emergency Services rendered by Non-Participating Providers outside the state of Colorado, the following rules apply:

If the amount payable by KPIC is less than the Actual Billed Charges by Non-Participating Providers for Emergency Service, KPIC will pay no less than the greatest of the following:

- (a) The Negotiated Rate for the service. If there is more than one Negotiated Rate with a Participating Provider for a particular service, then such amount is the median of these Negotiated Rate, treating the Negotiated Rate with each provider as a separate Negotiated Rate, and using an average of the middle two Negotiated Rates if there is an even number of Negotiated Rates.
  - (b) The amount it would pay for the service if it used the same method (for example, Usual and Customary charges) that it generally uses to determine payments for services rendered by Non- Participating Providers and if there were no Cost Share (for example, if it generally pays 80% of UCR and the Cost Share is 20%, this amount would be 100% of UCR).
  - (c) The amount that Medicare (Part A or B) would pay for the service.
4. For all other Covered Services from a Non-Participating Provider, the lesser of:
- (a) The Usual, Customary and Reasonable Charge (UCR):  
The Usual, Customary & Reasonable (UCR) Charge is the lesser of: or
    - (i) The charge generally made by a Physician or other supplier of services, medicines, or supplies;
    - (ii) The general level of charge made by Physicians or other suppliers within an area in which the charge is incurred for a Covered Service comparable in severity and nature to the Injury of Sickness being treated. The general level of charges is determined in accord with schedules on file with the authorized Claims Administrator. For charges not listed in the schedules, KPIC will establish the UCR. KPIC reserves the right to periodically adjust the charges listed in the schedules.

The term "area" as it would apply to any particular service, medicine or supply means a city or such greater area as is necessary to obtain a representative cross section of level of charges.

If the Maximum Allowable Charge is the UCR, the Covered Person will be responsible for payment to the Non-Participating Provider of any amount in excess of the UCR when the UCR is less than the actual billed charges. Such difference will not apply towards satisfaction of the Out-of-Pocket Maximum nor any Deductible under the Group Policy.

- (b) The Negotiated Rate:  
KPIC or its authorized Administrator may have a contractual arrangement with the provider or supplier of Covered Services under which discounts have been negotiated for certain services or supplies. Any such discount is referred to as the Negotiated Rate.

If there is a Negotiated Rate, the provider will accept the Negotiated Rate as payment in full for Covered Services, subject to the payment of Deductibles and coinsurance by the Covered Person.

- (c) The Actual Billed Charges for the Covered Services:  
The charges billed by the provider for Covered Services.

**IMPORTANT:** Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Maximum Allowable Charge for a Hospital or other licensed medical facility confinement may not exceed:

Hospital Routine Care Daily Limit:	the Hospital's average semi-private room rate
Intensive Care Daily Limit:	the Hospital's average Intensive Care Unit room rate
Other licensed medical facility Daily Limit:	the facility's average semi-private room rate

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**Maximum Benefit While Insured** means the dollar limitation of Covered Charges as shown in the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section that will be paid for a Covered Person, while covered under the Group Policy. Essential Health Benefits, as defined under the Policy are not subject to the Maximum Benefit While Insured at the Participating Provider level.

**Medical Foods** means prescription metabolic formulas and their modular counterparts, obtained through a pharmacy, that are specifically designated and manufactured for the treatment of inherited enzymatic disorders caused by single gene defects involved in the metabolism of amino, organic, and fatty acids and for severe allergic conditions, if diagnosed by a board-certified allergist or board-certified gastroenterologist, for which medically standard methods of diagnosis, treatment, and monitoring exist. Such formulas are specifically processed or formulated to be deficient in one or more nutrients. The formulas for severe food allergies contain only singular form elemental amino acids. The formulas are to be consumed or administered enterally either via a tube or oral route under the direction of Participating Physician. This definition shall not be construed to apply to cystic fibrosis patients or lactose- or soy-intolerant patients.

**Medically Necessary** means services that, in the judgment of KPIC, are:

1. Essential for the diagnosis or treatment of a Covered Person's Injury or Sickness;
2. In accord with generally accepted medical practice and professionally recognized standards in the community;
3. Appropriate with regard to standards of medical care;
4. Provided in a safe and appropriate setting given the nature of the diagnosis and the severity of the symptoms;
5. Not provided solely for the convenience of the Covered Person or the convenience of the health care provider or facility;
6. Not primarily custodial care;
7. Not experimental or investigational; and
8. Provided at the most appropriate supply, level and facility. When applied to Confinement in a Hospital or other facility, this test means that the Covered Person needs to be confined as an inpatient due to the nature of the services rendered or due to the Covered Person's condition and that the Covered Person cannot receive safe and adequate care through outpatient treatment.

The fact that a Physician may prescribe, authorize, or direct a service does not of itself make it Medically Necessary or covered by the Group Policy.

**Medically Necessary Leave of Absence or Medical Leave of Absence** means a leave of absence from a post-secondary educational institution or a change in enrollment of the dependent at the institution that: (a) begins while the Dependent is suffering from a serious illness; (b) is medically necessary, and (c) causes the Dependent to lose student status for the purpose of Dependent coverage

**Medical Review Program** means the organization or program that (1) evaluates proposed treatments and/or services to determinate Medical Necessity; and (2) assures that the care received is appropriate and Medically Necessary to the Covered Person's health care needs. If the Medical Review Program determines that the care is not Medically Necessary, Pre-certification will be denied. The Medical Review Program may be contacted twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week.

**Medical Social Services** means those services provided by an individual who possesses a baccalaureate degree in social work, psychology, or counseling, or the documented equivalent in a combination of education, training, and experience. Such services are provided at the recommendation of a Physician for the purpose of assisting a Covered Person or the family in dealing with a specific medical condition.

**Medicare** means the Health Insurance for the Aged Act, Title XVIII of the Social Security Amendments of 1965, as then constituted or later amended.

**Mental Health--** Please refer to the definition of **Behavioral Health, Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder** above.

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**Month** means a period of time: (1) beginning with the date stated in the Group Policy; and (2) terminating on the same date of the succeeding calendar month. If the succeeding calendar month has no such date, the last day of the month will be used.

**Necessary Services and Supplies** means Medically Necessary Covered Services and supplies actually administered during any covered confinement or administered during other covered treatment. Only drugs and materials that require supervision or administration by medical personnel during a covered confinement or other covered treatment are covered as Necessary Services and Supplies. Necessary Services and Supplies include, but are not limited to, surgically implanted prosthetic devices, F, blood, blood products, and biological sera. The term does not include charges for: (1) Room and Board; (2) an Intensive Care Unit; or (3) the services of a private duty nurse, Physician, or other practitioner.

**Negotiated Rate** means the fees KPIC has negotiated with a Provider to accept as payment in full for Covered Services rendered to Covered Persons.

**Non-Participating Pharmacy** means a pharmacy that does not have a Participating Pharmacy agreement with KPIC or its administrator in effect at the time services are rendered. Please consult with Your group administrator for a list of Participating Pharmacies.

**Non-Participating Provider** means a Hospital, Physician or other duly licensed health care provider or facility that does not have a participation agreement with KPIC or KPIC's Provider network in effect at the time services are rendered. In most instances, You will be responsible for a larger portion of Your bill when You visit a Non-Participating Provider. Participating Providers are listed in the Participating Provider directory.

**Open Enrollment Period** means a fixed period of time, occurring at least once annually, during which Eligible Employees of the Policyholder may elect to enroll under this health insurance plan without incurring the status of being a Late Enrollee.

**Orthotics** means rigid or semi rigid external devices which: a) support or correct a defective form or function of an inoperative or malfunctioning body part; or b) restrict motion in a diseased or injured part of the body. Orthotics do not include casts.

**Out-of-Pocket** means the Cost Share incurred by a Covered Person.

**Out-of-Pocket Maximum** means the maximum amount of Cost Share a Covered Person will be responsible for in an Accumulation Period.

**Palliative Services** means those services and/or interventions which produce the greatest degree of relief from the symptoms of a terminal Sickness.

**Partial Hospitalization** means continuous treatment for at least three (3) hours, but not more than twelve (12) hours, in any 24-hour period.

**Participating Pharmacy** means a pharmacy which has a Participating Pharmacy agreement in effect with KPIC at the time services are rendered. Please consult with Your group administrator for a list of Participating Pharmacies.

**Participating Provider** means a health care provider duly licensed in the state in which such provider is practicing, including a Primary Care Physician, Specialty Care Physician, Hospital, Participating Pharmacy, laboratory, other similar entity under a written contract with a Preferred Provider Organization (PPO), KPIC or its Administrator. Please consult with Your group administrator for a list of Participating Providers.

**Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA)** – means Title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act (PHS), as then constituted or later amended.

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**Percentage Payable** means that percentage of Covered Charges to be paid by KPIC. The Percentage Payable is applied against the Maximum Allowable Charge for Covered Services.

**Physician** means a practitioner who is duly licensed as a Physician in the state in which the treatment is received. He or she must be practicing within the scope of that license. The term does not include a practitioner who is defined elsewhere in this **DEFINITIONS** section.

**Placement for Adoption** means circumstances under which a person assumes or retains a legal obligation to partially or totally support a child in anticipation of the child's adoption. A placement terminates at the time such legal obligation terminates.

**Plan/This health insurance plan** means the part of the Group Policy that provides benefits for health care expenses. If "Plan" has a different meaning for another section of this Certificate, the term will be defined within that section and that meaning will supersede this definition only or that section.

**Policyholder** means the employer(s) or trust(s) or other entity noted in the Group Policy as the Policyholder who conforms to the administrative and other provisions established under the Group Policy.

**Policy Year** means a period of time: (1) beginning with this health insurance plan Effective Date of any year; and (2) terminating, unless otherwise noted on the Group Policy, on the same date shown on the **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section. If this health insurance plan Effective Date is February 29, such date will be considered to be February 28 in any year having no such date.

**Pre-certification** means the required assessment of the necessity, efficiency and or appropriateness of specified health care services or treatment other than outpatient prescription drugs, made by the Medical Review Program. Consistent with applicable Colorado law, the sole responsibility for obtaining any necessary Pre-certification rests with the Participating Provider, who recommends or orders Covered Services, and not with the Covered Person.

Pre-certification will not result in payment of benefits that would not otherwise be covered under the Group Policy.

**Preferred Brand Name Prescription Drug** means a prescription drug that has been patented and is only produced by one manufacturer and is listed in Our Preferred Drug List of preferred prescribed medication.

**Preferred Drug List** is a listing of preferred prescribed medications that are covered under Your group coverage. Such listing is subject to change on a quarterly basis. Any product, which is not indicated in the listing or in updates thereof, will be considered a non-preferred medication. You may request a copy of the **Preferred Drug List**, Our Formulary, by calling toll-free at (800) 788-2949 (Pharmacy Help Desk), Monday through Friday.

**Preferred Generic Prescription Drug** means a prescription drug which does not bear the trademark of a specific manufacturer. Such drug is also listed in Our drug formulary of preferred prescribed medication.

**Preferred Provider Organization (PPO)** means a KPIC plan type, in which Covered Persons have access to a network of contracted providers and facilities referred to as preferred or Participating Providers. Generally, a higher level of benefits applies to Covered Services received from preferred or Participating Providers and facilities. The **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section shows the plan type under which the Covered Person is insured.

**Pregnancy** means the physical condition of being pregnant, but does not include Complications of Pregnancy.

**Preventive Care** means measures taken to prevent diseases rather than curing them or treating their symptoms. Preventive care:

- 1) protects against disease such as in the use of immunizations,

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- 2) promotes health, such as counseling on tobacco use, and
- 3) detects disease in its earliest stages before noticeable symptoms develop such as screening for breast cancer.

Unless otherwise specified, the requirement that Medically Necessary Covered Services be incurred as a result of Injury or Sickness will not apply to Preventive Care.

**Primary Care Physician/Provider** means a Physician or other licensed provider specializing in internal medicine, family practice, general practice, internal medicine, and pediatrics.

**Prosthetic Devices (External)** means a device that is located outside of the body which replaces all or a portion of a body part or that replaces all or portion of the function of a permanently inoperative or malfunctioning body part. Examples of external prosthetics includes artificial limbs, parental and enteral nutrition, urinary collection and retention systems, colostomy bags and other items and supplies directly related to ostomy care and eyeware after cataract surgery or eyeware to correct aphakia. Supplies necessary for the effective use of prosthetic device are also considered prosthetics.

**Prosthetic Devices (Internally implanted)** means a device that replaces all or part of a body organ or that replaces all or part of the function of a permanently inoperative or malfunctioning body organ. We cover internally implanted prosthetic devices that replace the function of all or part of an internal body organ, including internally implanted breast prostheses following a covered mastectomy. The devices must be approved for coverage under Medicare and for general use by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Examples of internally implanted prosthetics include pacemakers, surgically implanted artificial hips and knees and intraocular lenses.

**Psychiatric Care** means direct or consultative services provided by a psychiatrist, who is duly licensed by the State Board of Medical Examiner in accordance with applicable Colorado law.

**Psychological Care** means direct or consultative services provided by a psychologist, who is licensed by the State Board of Psychologist Examiners pursuant to applicable Colorado law or a social worker, who is licensed by the State Board of Social Work Examiners pursuant to applicable Colorado law.

**Reconstructive Surgery** means a surgery performed to correct or repair abnormal structures of the body caused by congenital defects, developmental abnormalities, trauma, infection, tumors, or disease to do either of the following: (1) to improve function; or (2) to create a normal appearance to the extent possible.

**Registered Nurse (RN)** means a duly licensed nurse acting within the scope of his or her license at the time the treatment or service is performed in the state in which services are provided.

**Rehabilitation** means services and devices provided to restore previously existing physical function which has been lost as a result of illness or injury when a physician determines that therapy will result in a practical improvement in the level of functioning within a reasonable period of time.

**Residential Treatment** means Medically Necessary services provided in a licensed residential treatment facility that provides 24-hour individualized Substance Use Disorder or Mental Health treatment. Services must be above the level of custodial care and include:

1. room and board;
2. individual and group Substance Use Disorder therapy and counseling;
3. individual and group mental health therapy and counseling;
4. physician services;
5. medication monitoring;
6. social services; and
7. drugs prescribed by a physician and administered during confinement in the residential facility.

**Room and Board** means all charges commonly made by a Hospital or other inpatient medical facility on its own behalf for room and meals essential to the care of registered bed patients.

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**Routine Patient Care Costs** means the costs associated with the provision of health care services, including drugs, items, devices, and services that would otherwise be covered under the plan or contract if those drugs, items, devices, and services were not provided in connection with an Approved Clinical Trial program, including the following:

1. Health care services typically provided absent a clinical trial.
2. Health care services required solely for the provision of the investigational drug, item, device, or service.
3. Health care services required for the clinically appropriate monitoring of the investigational item or service.
4. Health care services provided for the prevention of complications arising from the provision of the investigational drug item, device, or service.
5. Health care services needed for the reasonable and necessary care arising from the provision of the investigational drug, item, device, or service, including the diagnosis or treatment of the complications.

Routine Patient Care Costs do not include the costs associated with the provision of any of the following:

1. Drugs or devices that have not been approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration and that are associated with the clinical trial.
2. Services other than health care services, such as travel, housing, companion expenses, and other non-clinical expenses, that a Covered Person may require as a result of the treatment being provided for purposes of the clinical trial.
3. Any item or service that is provided solely to satisfy data collection and analysis needs and that is not used in the clinical management of the patient.
4. Health care services which, except for the fact that they are not being provided in a clinical trial, are otherwise specifically excluded from coverage under the Group Policy.
5. Health care services customarily provided by the research sponsors free of charge for any enrollee in the trial.

**Sickness** means an illness or a disease of a Covered Person. Sickness will include congenital defects or birth abnormalities.

**Skilled Nursing Facility** means an institution (or a distinct part of an institution) which:

1. provides 24-hour-a-day licensed nursing care;
2. has in effect a transfer agreement with one or more Hospitals;
3. is primarily engaged in providing skilled nursing care as part of an ongoing therapeutic regimen; and
4. is licensed under applicable state law.

**Specialty Care Physician/Provider** means a Physician or other licensed provider whose practice is limited to a certain branch of medicine, which includes non-standard medical-surgical services because of the specialized knowledge required for service delivery and management. Such services may include consultations with Physicians other than Primary Care Physicians in departments other than those listed under the definition of Primary Care Physician.

**Specialty Care Visits** means consultations with Specialty Care Physicians.

**Specialty Drugs** means prescribed medications such as self-injectable medications, as listed in Our Drug Preferred List. The level of coverage of Specialty Drugs is set forth in Your **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (Who Pays What)** section.

**Stabilize** means to provide the medical treatment of the Emergency Medical 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 (including the placenta).

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**Substance Use Disorder** (formerly referred to as **Chemical Dependency**) – Please refer to the definition of **Behavioral Health, Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder** above.

**Task Force** means the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, or any successor organization, sponsored by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the health services research arm of the federal Department of Health and Human Services

**Telehealth** means a mode of delivery of health care services through telecommunications systems, including information, electronic, and communication technologies, to facilitate the assessment, diagnosis, consultation, treatment, education, care management, or self-management of a covered person's health while the covered person is located at an originating site and the provider is located at a distant site. Telehealth includes: (a) synchronous interactions; (b) store and forward transfers; and (c) health care services provided through a HIPAA-compliant interactive audio-visual communication or the use of a HIPAA-compliant application via a cellular telephone. "Telehealth" does not include the delivery of health care services via: (a) voice-only telephone communication or text messaging with a health care provider via a cellular telephone; (b) facsimile machine; or (c) electronic mail systems.

**Terminally Ill** means that a Covered Person's life expectancy, as determined by a Physician, is not greater than six months.

**Urgent Care** means non-life threatening medical and health services. Urgent Care services may be covered under the Group Policy the same as a Sickness or an Injury.

**Urgent Care Center** means a facility that meets all of the tests that follow:

1. It mainly provides urgent or emergency medical treatment for acute conditions;
2. It does not provide services or accommodations for overnight stays;
3. It is open to receive patients each day of a calendar year;
4. It has on duty at all times a Physician trained in emergency medicine and nurses and other supporting personnel who are specially trained in emergency care;
5. It has: x-ray and laboratory diagnostic facilities; and emergency equipment, trays, and supplies for use in life threatening events;
6. It has a written agreement with a local acute care hospital for the immediate transfer of patients who require greater care than can be furnished at the facility; written guidelines for stabilizing and transporting such patients; and direct communication channels with the acute care hospital that are immediate and reliable;
7. It complies with all licensing and other legal requirements.

**Well-child Care Services** means those preventive services and immunization services as set forth in the **BENEFITS/COVERAGE (What is Covered)** section of this Certificate. Services must be provided by a Physician or pursuant to Physician's supervision or by a primary health care provider who is a Physician's assistant or Registered Nurse, who has additional training in child health assessment and who is working in collaboration with a Physician.

**Well-child Visit** means a visit to a primary care provider that includes the following elements:

1. Age appropriate physical exam, but not a complete exam, unless the exam is age appropriate;
2. History;
3. Anticipatory guidance and education (e.g., examine family functioning and dynamics, injury prevention counseling, discuss dietary issues, review age appropriate behavior, etc.);
4. Growth and development assessment, which also includes safety and health education counseling for other children.

**You/Your** refers to the Insured Employee who is enrolled for benefits under this health insurance plan.



Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company One  
Kaiser Plaza  
Oakland, CA 94612  
KPIC-GC-PPO-LG-2020-CO-NGF



## Additional Information and Forms Applicable to Your Insurance Coverage

Please note the following pages are not part of the employer group insurance policy.

The following pages contain information we are required to provide you.



## PRIVACY NOTICE

### Privacy Policy and Practices

This notice describes the privacy policy and practices regarding non-public personal information followed by Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company (herein referred to as "KPIC", "we", "us", and "our"). This notice is provided to you in compliance with the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Financial Services Modernization Act.

### Collection of Non-public Personal Information

The types of non-public personal information that we may collect includes, but are not limited to:

- Information we receive from you as part of application forms, enrollment forms, claims forms, pre-certification/utilization reviews, etc, including, but not limited to, your name, address, sex, date of birth, Social Security number, marital status, dependents, and the identity of your employer.
- Information otherwise legally obtained by us, including information you authorize us to receive and/or resulting from your transactions with us, our affiliates, or non-affiliated third parties, including, but not limited to, medical information and claims history.

### Disclosure of Non-public Personal Information

Unless otherwise authorized by you, KPIC will not disclose your non-public personal information except to affiliates and non-affiliated third parties as necessary to administer, underwrite, process, service, reinsure or market its own insurance products, or as necessary to effect, administer, or enforce a transaction authorized by you. When KPIC must release non-public personal information to non-affiliated third parties, as noted above, such third parties will subject to contractual agreements that require the third parties to maintain the confidentiality of such non-public personal information. If, at a future date, KPIC determines there is a need to share your non-public personal information with a non-affiliated third party, other than as described above, we will provide you with an advance opportunity to direct us not share such information.

KPIC may also disclose non-public personal information to authorized persons or entities to comply with: federal, state, or local laws, including any properly authorized civil, criminal, or regulatory investigation or subpoena or summons; or respond to judicial process or government regulatory authorities having jurisdiction over us for examination, compliance, or other purposes as authorized by law.

### Non-public Personal Information Regarding Former Customers

Any non-public personal information KPIC maintains on former customers will be maintained on a confidential and secure basis. Any disclosure of that information will only be made in keeping with the privacy policy and practices described in this notice or as otherwise permitted or required by law.

### Confidentiality and Security of Non-public Personal Information

KPIC is committed to protecting the confidentiality and security of non-public personal information. In collaboration with our affiliates, we maintain physical, electronic, and procedural safeguards that comply with federal and state standards regarding the protection of such information. To insure that your information is not misused and is properly protected, KPIC has instituted the following:

- Employees are required to comply with our policies and procedures that exist to protect the confidentiality of customer information. Any employee who violates our privacy policy and practices is subject to a disciplinary process. Our policy requires medical records to be maintained in secure areas not accessible to the public.
- Employee access to information is provided on a business need-to-know basis such as: to facilitate administration, make benefit determinations, pay claims, managed care, underwrite coverage, or provide customer service.
- Mail and electronic security procedures to maintain confidentiality of the information we collect and to guard against its unauthorized access. Such methods include locked files, user authentication, encryption, and firewall technology.
- Contractual agreements with its non-affiliated third parties that require such third parties to maintain the confidentiality of non-public personal information.

### Where to Write For More Information

If you have any questions about KPIC's privacy policy and practices, please write to the address listed below:

Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company  
Attention: President  
One Kaiser Plaza, 25 B  
Oakland, California 94612



# HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practices

KAISER PERMANENTE INSURANCE COMPANY (“KPIC”)

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

In this Notice we use the terms "we," "us" and "our" to describe KPIC.

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## I. WHAT IS “PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION”?

Your protected health information (“PHI”) is individually identifiable health information, including demographic information, about your past, present or future physical or mental health or condition, health care services you receive, and past, present or future payment for your health care. Demographic information means information such as your name, social security number, address, and date of birth.

PHI may be in oral, written or electronic form. Examples of PHI include your medical record, claims record, enrollment or disenrollment information, and communications between you and your health care provider about your care.

With the exception of those insured in California, your individually identifiable health information ceases to be PHI 50 years after your death.

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## II. ABOUT OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT YOUR PHI

By law, we must

1. protect the privacy of your PHI;
2. tell you about your rights and our legal duties with respect to your PHI;
3. notify you if there is a breach of your unsecured PHI; and
4. tell you about our privacy practices and follow our Notice currently in effect.

We take these responsibilities seriously, and have put in place administrative safeguards (such as security awareness training and policies and procedures), technical safeguards (such as encryption and passwords), and physical safeguards (such as locked areas and requiring badges) to protect your PHI and, as in the past, we will continue to take appropriate steps to safeguard the privacy of your PHI.

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### **III. YOUR RIGHTS REGARDING YOUR PHI**

This section tells you about your rights regarding your PHI, and describes how you can exercise these rights.

#### **Your right to access and amend your PHI**

Subject to certain exceptions, you have the right to view or get a copy of your PHI that we maintain in records relating to your care or decisions about your care or payment for your care. Requests must be in writing.

After we receive your written request, we will let you know when and how you can see or obtain a copy of your record. If you agree, we will give you a summary or explanation of your PHI instead of providing copies. We may charge you a fee for the copies, summary or explanation.

If we do not have the record you asked for but we know who does, we will tell you who to contact to request it. In limited situations, we may deny some or all of your request to see or receive copies of your records, but if we do, we will tell you why in writing and explain your right, if any, to have our denial reviewed.

If you believe there is a mistake in your PHI or that important information is missing, you may request that we correct or add to the record. Requests must be in writing, telling us what corrections or additions you are requesting, and why the corrections or additions should be made. We will respond in writing after reviewing your request. If we approve your request, we will make the correction or addition to your PHI. If we deny your request, we will tell you why and explain your right to file a written statement of disagreement.

Submit all written requests to us at:

Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company  
Attention Privacy Director  
One Kaiser Plaza (25 B)  
Oakland, CA 94612

#### **Your right to choose how we send PHI to you or someone else**

You may ask us to send your PHI to you at a different address (for example, your work address) or by different means (for example, fax instead of regular mail).

If your PHI is stored electronically, you may request a copy of the records in an electronic format offered by KPIC. You may also make a specific written request to KPIC to transmit the electronic copy to a designated third party.



If the cost of meeting your request involves more than a reasonable amount, we are permitted to charge you our costs that exceeds that amount.

**Your right to an accounting of disclosures of PHI**

You may ask us for a list of our disclosures of your PHI. Write to us at:

Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company  
Attention Privacy Director  
One Kaiser Plaza (25 B)  
Oakland, CA 94612

You are entitled to one disclosure accounting in any 12-month period at no charge. If you request any additional accountings less than 12 months later, we may charge a fee.

An accounting does not include certain disclosures, for example, disclosures:

- to carry out treatment, payment and health care operations;
- for which KPIC had a signed authorization;
- of your PHI to you;
- for notifications for disaster relief purposes;
- to persons involved in your care and persons acting on your behalf; or
- not covered by the right to an accounting.

**Your right to request limits on uses and disclosures of your PHI**

You may request that we limit our uses and disclosures of your PHI for treatment, payment and health care operations purposes. We will review and consider your request. You may write to us at:

Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company  
Attention Privacy Director  
One Kaiser Plaza (25 B)  
Oakland, CA 94612

**Your right to receive a paper copy of this Notice**

You have a right to receive a paper copy of this Notice upon request.

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**IV. HOW WE MAY USE AND DISCLOSE YOUR PHI**

Your confidentiality is important to us. Our employees are required to maintain the confidentiality of the PHI of our insureds and we have policies and procedures and other safeguards to help protect your PHI from improper use and disclosure. Sometimes we are allowed by law to use and disclose certain PHI without your written permission. We briefly describe these uses and disclosures below and give you some examples.

How much PHI is used or disclosed without your written permission will vary depending, for example, on the intended purpose of the use or disclosure. Sometimes we may only need to use or disclose a limited amount of PHI, such as to confirm that you are KPIC-insured. At other times, we may need to use or disclose more PHI such as when we assist in resolving an appeal or grievance.

- **Payment:** Your PHI may be needed to determine our responsibility to pay for, or to permit us to bill and collect payment for, treatment and health-related services that you receive. When you or a provider sends us the bill for health care services, we use and disclose your PHI to determine how much, if any, of the bill we are responsible for paying.
- **Health care operations:** We may use and disclose your PHI for certain health care operations, for example, quality assessment and improvement, licensing, accreditation, activities relating to the creation, renewal or replacement of health insurance or health benefits; conducting medical review; legal services; auditing functions, including fraud and abuse detection and compliance programs; customer service, underwriting, and determining premiums and other costs of providing health care.
- **Business associates:** We may contract with business associates to perform certain functions or activities on our behalf, such as payment and health care operations. These business associates must agree to safeguard your PHI.
- **Specific types of PHI:** There are stricter requirements for use and disclosure of some types of PHI, for example, mental health and drug and alcohol abuse patient information, mental health records, and HIV tests, and genetic testing information. However, there are still circumstances in which these types of information may be used or disclosed without your authorization.
- **Underwriting:** We may use and disclose your PHI, to the extent permitted under applicable law, for underwriting purposes, including the determination of benefit eligibility and costs of coverage and to perform other activities related to issuing a benefit policy. However, we are prohibited from using or disclosing your genetic information for underwriting purposes. Your genetic information includes information about your genetic tests, your family members' genetic tests, and requests for or receipt of genetic services by you or any family members.
- **Communications with family and others when you are present:** Sometimes a family member or other person involved in your care will be present when we are discussing your PHI with you. If you object, please tell us and we won't discuss your PHI or we will ask the person to leave.
- **Communications with family and others when you are not present:** There may be times when it is necessary to disclose your PHI to a family member or other

person involved in your care because there is an emergency, you are not present, or you lack the decision-making capacity to agree or object. In those instances, we will use our professional judgment to determine if it's in your best interest to disclose your PHI. If so, we will limit the disclosure to the PHI that is directly relevant to the person's involvement with your health care. For example, we may allow someone to pick up a prescription for you.

- **Disclosure in case of disaster relief:** We may disclose your name, city of residence, age, gender, and general condition to a public or private disaster relief organization to assist disaster relief efforts, unless you object at the time.
- **Disclosures to parents as personal representatives of minors:** In most cases, we may disclose your minor child's PHI to you. In some situations, however, we are permitted or even required by law to deny your access to your minor child's PHI. Examples of when we must deny such access include your minor child's PHI regarding drug or addiction, certain mental health services, and venereal disease.
- **Public health activities:** Public health activities cover many functions performed or authorized by government agencies to promote and protect the public's health and may require us to disclose your PHI.
  - For example, we may disclose your PHI as part of our obligation to report to public health authorities certain diseases, injuries, conditions, and vital events such as births. Sometimes we may disclose your PHI to someone you may have exposed to a communicable disease or who may otherwise be at risk of getting or spreading the disease.
  - The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is responsible for tracking and monitoring certain medical products, such as pacemakers and hip replacements, to identify product problems and failures and injuries they may have caused. If you have received one of these products, we may use and disclose your PHI to the FDA or other authorized persons or organizations, such as the maker of the product.
  - We may use and disclose your PHI as necessary to comply with federal and state laws that govern workplace safety.
- **Health oversight:** As a health insurer, we are subject to oversight conducted by federal and state agencies. These agencies may conduct audits of our operations and activities and in that process, they may review your PHI.
- **Disclosures to your employer or your employee organization:** If you are enrolled in a KPIC health insurance plan through your employer or employee organization, we may share certain PHI with them without your authorization, but only when allowed by law. For example, we may disclose your PHI for a workers' compensation claim or to determine whether you are enrolled in the plan or whether premiums have been paid on your behalf. For other purposes, such as for

inquiries by your employer or employee organization on your behalf, we will obtain your authorization when necessary under applicable law.

- **Workers' compensation:** We may use and disclose your PHI in order to comply with workers' compensation laws. For example, we may communicate your medical information regarding a work-related injury or illness to claims administrators, insurance carriers, and others responsible for evaluating your claim for workers' compensation benefits.
- **Military activity and national security:** We may sometimes use or disclose the PHI of armed forces personnel to the applicable military authorities when they believe it is necessary to properly carry out military missions. We may also disclose your PHI to authorized federal officials as necessary for national security and intelligence activities or for protection of the President and other government officials and dignitaries.
- **Required by law:** In some circumstances federal or state law requires that we disclose your PHI to others. For example, the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services may review our compliance efforts, which may include seeing your PHI.
- **Lawsuits and other legal disputes:** We may use and disclose PHI in responding to a court or administrative order, a subpoena, or a discovery request. We may also use and disclose PHI to the extent permitted by law without your authorization, for example, to defend a lawsuit or arbitration.
- **Law enforcement:** We may disclose PHI to authorized officials for law enforcement purposes, for example, to respond to a search warrant, report a crime on our premises, or help identify or locate someone.
- **Abuse or neglect:** By law, we may disclose PHI to the appropriate authority to report suspected child abuse or neglect or to identify suspected victims of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence.
- **Coroners and funeral directors:** We may disclose PHI to a coroner or medical examiner to permit identification of a body, determine cause of death, or for other official duties. We may also disclose PHI to funeral directors.
- **Inmates:** Under the federal law that requires us to give you this Notice, inmates do not have the same rights to control their PHI as other individuals. If you are an inmate of a correctional institution or in the custody of a law enforcement official, we may disclose your PHI to the correctional institution or the law enforcement official for certain purposes, for example, to protect your health or safety or someone else's.

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## **V. ALL OTHER USES AND DISCLOSURES OF YOUR PHI REQUIRE YOUR PRIOR WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION**

Except for those uses and disclosures described above, we will not use or disclose your PHI without your written authorization. Some instances in which we may request your authorization for use or disclosure of PHI are:

- **Marketing:** We may ask for your authorization in order to provide information about products and services that you may be interested in purchasing or using. Note that marketing communications do not include our contacting you with information about treatment alternatives, prescription drugs you are taking or health-related products or services that we offer or that are available only to our health plan enrollees. Marketing also does not include any face-to-face discussions you may have with your providers about products or services.
- **Sale of PHI:** We may only sell your PHI if we received your prior written authorization to do so.

When your authorization is required and you authorize us to use or disclose your PHI for some purpose, you may revoke that authorization by notifying us in writing at any time. Please note that the revocation will not apply to any authorized use or disclosure of your PHI that took place before we received your revocation. Also, if you gave your authorization to secure a policy of insurance, including health insurance from us, you may not be permitted to revoke it until the insurer can no longer contest the policy issued to you or a claim under the policy.

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## **VI. HOW TO CONTACT US ABOUT THIS NOTICE OR TO COMPLAIN ABOUT OUR PRIVACY PRACTICES**

If you have any questions about this Notice, or want to lodge a complaint about our privacy practices, please let us know by calling or writing to:

Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company  
Attention Privacy Director  
One Kaiser Plaza (25 B)  
Oakland, CA 94612

You also may notify the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

We will not take retaliatory action against you if you file a complaint about our privacy practices.

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**VII. CHANGES TO THIS NOTICE**

We may change this Notice and our privacy practices at any time, as long as the change is consistent with state and federal law. Any revised notice will apply both to the PHI we already have about you at the time of the change, and any PHI created or received after the change takes effect. If we make an important change to our privacy practices, we will promptly change this Notice and notify you via the U.S. Postal Service that the change has been made along with instructions for obtaining the new notice.

Except for changes required by law, we will not implement an important change to our privacy practices before we revise this Notice.

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**VIII. EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS NOTICE**

This Notice is effective on September 23, 2013.

**KAISER PERMANENTE INSURANCE COMPANY**

One Kaiser Plaza  
Oakland, CA 94612

**IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING  
YOUR HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

**Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998**

The Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 (the Act) was passed into law on October 21, 1998. The law requires group and individual health plans that provide mastectomy coverage, such as your plan coverage, to also provide coverage for:

1. reconstruction of both the diseased and non-diseased breast to produce symmetrical appearance; and
2. prostheses and treatment of physical complications at all stages of the mastectomy, including lymphedemas.

The Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company plan under which you are insured provides coverage for mastectomy and includes the services listed above when performed following a covered mastectomy.

If you have any questions about the coverage provided under the Act and your plan of insurance, please do not hesitate to contact us at the number listed on your insurance card.





# NOTES

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# NOTES

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**Kaiser Permanente**  
2500 S. Havana St.  
Aurora, CO 80014-1622

PRESORTED  
FIRST-CLASS  
MAIL  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
LOS ANGELES CA  
PERMIT NO.300

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

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DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT



**KAISER PERMANENTE**  
Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company

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**TITLE PAGE (Cover Page)**

# **Important Benefit Information Enclosed Evidence of Coverage**

**About this Evidence of Coverage (EOC)**

This Evidence of Coverage (EOC) describes the health care coverage provided under the Agreement between Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado and your Group. In this EOC, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado is sometimes referred to as “Kaiser Permanente,” “Kaiser,” “Health Plan,” “we,” or “us.” Members are sometimes referred to as “you.” Out-of-Health Plan is sometimes referred to as “out-of-Plan.” Some capitalized terms have special meaning in this EOC; please see the “Definitions” section for terms you should know.

This EOC is for your Group’s 2020 contract year.



## NONDISCRIMINATION NOTICE

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (Kaiser Health Plan) complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Kaiser Health Plan does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. 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 **1-800-632-9700** (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, or sex, you can file a grievance by mail at: Customer Experience Department, Attn: Kaiser Permanente Civil Rights Coordinator, 2500 South Havana, Aurora, CO 80014, or by phone at Member Services: 1-800-632-9700.

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, 1-800-368-1019, 1-800-537-7697 (TDD). Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.

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## HELP IN YOUR LANGUAGE

**ATTENTION:** If you speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**አማርኛ (Amharic) ማስታወሻ:** የሚናገሩት ቋንቋ አማርኛ ከሆነ የትርጉም እርዳታ ድርጅቶች፣ በነጻ ሊያገዝዎት ተዘጋጅተዋል። ወደ ሚከተለው ቁጥር ይደውሉ **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**)።

**العربية (Arabic) ملحوظة:** إذا كنت تتحدث العربية، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**Bàsòò Wùdù (Bassa) Dè dɛ nià kɛ dyédé gbo:** ɔ jũ ké ñ Bàsòò-wùdù-po-nyò jũ ní, nií, à wuɖu kà kò dò po-poò béin ñ gbo kpáa. Đá **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**)。

**فارسی (Farsi) توجه:** اگر به زبان فارسی گفتگو می کنید، تسهیلات زبانی بصورت رایگان برای شما فراهم می باشد. با **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) تماس بگیرید.

**Français (French) ATTENTION:** Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**Deutsch (German) ACHTUNG:** Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung.  
Rufnummer: **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**Igbo (Igbo) NRUBAMA:** O bụrụ na ị na asụ Igbo, ọrụ enyemaka asụsụ, n'efu, dijiri gi. Kpọọ **1-800-632-9700** (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。 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

**한국어 (Korean) 주의:** 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) 번으로 전화해 주십시오.

**Naabeehó (Navajo) Díí baa akó nínízin:** Díí saad bee yáníłti'go Diné Bizaad, saad bee áká'ánída'áwo'déé', t'áá jiik'eh, éi ná hóló, kobji' hódíílnih **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**नेपाली (Nepali) ध्यान दिनुहोस्:** तपाईंले नेपाली बोल्नुहुन्छ भने तपाईंको निम्ति भाषा सहायता सेवाहरू निःशुल्क रूपमा उपलब्ध छ । **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) फोन गर्नुहोस् ।

**Afaan Oromoo (Oromo) XIYYEEFFANNAA:** Afaan dubbattu Oroomiffa, tajaajila gargaarsa afaanii, kanfaltiidhaan ala, ni argama. Bilbilaa **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**Русский (Russian) ВНИМАНИЕ:** если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**Español (Spanish) ATENCIÓN:** si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**Yorùbá (Yoruba) AKIYESI:** Ti o ba nso ede Yoruba ofe ni iranlowo lori ede wa fun yin o. E pe ero ibanisoro yi **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).



**DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT  
NON-MEDICARE EMPLOYEES  
EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE AMENDMENT - 2020**

**I. The following definitions are *in addition* to those detailed in this Evidence of Coverage (EOC).**

- 1) "Child" shall mean a primary insured's natural child, adopted child, or the natural child or adopted child of either a primary insured's spouse, or primary insured's partner in a civil union.
- 2) "Eligible dependent" shall mean the primary insured's child or spouse
  - a) An eligible dependent may not also be a primary insured on the same insurance plan.
  - b) If spouses are each eligible employees, each may enroll in medical or dental coverage as either a primary insured or eligible dependent, but not both.
  - c) An eligible dependent shall not include any form of grandchild of a primary insured or spouse, unless the primary insured or spouse has a court order of adoption.
  - d) An eligible dependent may be covered by one (1) primary insured only for each insurance plan.
- 3) "Eligible employee" shall mean:
  - a) Members of the classified service of the fire department.
- 4) "Employee only" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee only.
- 5) "Employee plus children" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and one (1) or more eligible dependents other than a spouse.
- 6) "Employee plus spouse" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and a spouse.
- 7) "Employer contribution" shall mean funds paid by the city for insurance programs approved by the employee health insurance committee.
- 8) "Family" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and a spouse or spousal equivalent and one (1) or more other eligible dependent.
- 9) "Primary insured" shall mean an eligible employee who enrolls for insurance coverage.
  - a) A primary insured may not also be an eligible dependent on the same insurance.
- 10) "Spouse" shall mean an eligible employee's lawful spouse, a lawful partner in a civil union in accordance with the Colorado Civil Union Act or spousal equivalent.
- 11) "Spousal equivalent" shall mean an adult of the same gender with whom the employee is in an exclusive committed relationship, who is not related to the employee and who shares basic living expenses with the intent for the relationship to last indefinitely. A spousal equivalent cannot be related by blood to a degree which would prevent marriage in Colorado and cannot be married to another person. An employee claiming a spousal equivalent as an eligible dependent shall file with the Department of Safety Human Resources department, an affidavit of spousal equivalency or may register as a committed partnership with the clerk's office.

**II. The following definition is removed from those detailed in this Evidence of Coverage (EOC).**

- c. Other dependent persons (but not including foster children) who meet all of the following requirements:
  - i. They are under the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)"; and
  - ii. You or your Spouse is the court-appointed permanent legal guardian (or was before the person reached age 18).

## SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (WHO PAYS WHAT)

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This Schedule of Benefits discusses:

- I. DEDUCTIBLES (if applicable)
- II. ANNUAL OUT-OF-POCKET MAXIMUMS (OPM)
- III. COPAYMENTS AND COINSURANCE
- IV. DEPENDENT LIMITING AGE

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION: PLEASE READ

This Schedule of Benefits does not fully describe the Services covered under this EOC. ***For a complete understanding of the benefits, limitations and exclusions that apply to your coverage under this plan, it is important to read this EOC in conjunction with this Schedule of Benefits.*** Please refer to the identical heading in the "Benefits/Coverage (What Is Covered)" section and to the "Limitations/Exclusions (What Is Not Covered)" section of this EOC.

Services received may be described in multiple sections of this Schedule of Benefits (for example, Office Services, Durable Medical Equipment, X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures may all apply to a broken arm). See the appropriate sections for applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and Deductible information.

You are responsible for any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for Services performed as part of or in conjunction with other outpatient Services, including but not limited to: office visits, Emergency Services, urgent care, and outpatient surgery.

Here is some important information to keep in mind as you read this Schedule of Benefits:

1. For a Service to be a covered Service:
  - a. The Service must be Medically Necessary (refer to the "Definitions" section in this EOC); **and**
  - b. The Service must be provided, prescribed, recommended, or directed by a Plan Provider; **and**
  - c. The Service must be described in this EOC as covered. Refer to the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.
2. The Charges for your Services are not always known at the time you receive the Service. You **will get a bill** for any Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance that are not known at the time you receive the Service.
3. The Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance listed here apply to covered Services provided to Members enrolled in this plan. Only covered Services apply to the Deductible and OPM. Non-covered Services will not apply to the Deductible and OPM.
4. Copayments for Services are due at the time you receive the Service. Deductibles or Coinsurance for Services may also be due at the time you receive the Service.
5. Except for #6 below, you may be responsible for any amounts over eligible Charges in addition to any Copayment or Coinsurance.
6. With respect to Emergency Services received in a non-Plan Facility, or Services rendered by a non-Plan Provider in a Plan Facility, you will not be balance billed by either the non-Plan Provider or non-Plan Facility. You are responsible for the same Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance amounts that you would pay if the care was provided in a Plan Facility or provided by a Plan Provider.
7. You may be charged separate Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance for additional Services you receive during your visit or if you receive Services from more than one provider during your visit.
8. We reserve the right to reschedule non-emergency, non-routine care if you do not pay all amounts due at the time you receive the Service.
9. For items ordered in advance, you pay the Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance in effect on the order date.
10. You, as the Subscriber, are responsible for any Deductibles, Copayments, and/or Coinsurance incurred by your Dependents enrolled in the Plan.

11. If you are the only person on your plan, your plan will become a family plan upon the addition of any eligible Dependent to your plan. This includes, but is not limited to, any temporary additions to your plan, such as the coverage of a newborn for 31 days as required by state law.

## **I. DEDUCTIBLES**

There is no medical Deductible. If your Group has purchased a supplemental prescription drug benefit with a pharmacy Deductible, payments made for prescription drugs apply *only* to the pharmacy Deductible.

The pharmacy Deductible represents the full amount you must pay for prescription drugs before any Copayment or Coinsurance applies. Prescription drugs may or may not be subject to the pharmacy Deductible. It depends on the plan your Group has purchased.

- A. For prescription drugs that **ARE** subject to the pharmacy Deductible:
  1. You must pay full charges for prescription drugs until your pharmacy Deductible is satisfied. Please see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”, “Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements” to find out which prescription drugs are subject to the pharmacy Deductible.
  2. Once you have met your pharmacy Deductible for the Accumulation Period, you will then pay, for the rest of the Accumulation Period, your applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for those prescriptions drugs subject to the pharmacy Deductible (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”, “Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements”).
  3. Your applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and pharmacy Deductible may not apply to your annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum (OPM) (see “II. Annual Out-of-Pocket Maximums”).
- B. For prescription drugs that **ARE NOT** subject to the pharmacy Deductible: Your Copayment or Coinsurance will always apply, as listed in “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”, “Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements.”

## **II. ANNUAL OUT-OF-POCKET MAXIMUMS**

The OPM limits the total amount you must pay during the Accumulation Period for certain covered Services. Covered Services may or may not apply to the OPM (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”). It depends on the plan your Group has purchased.

For covered Services that apply to the OPM, any amounts you pay over eligible Charges will not apply toward the OPM.

- A. For covered Services that **APPLY** to the OPM.
  1. The only Copayments or Coinsurance **that apply** toward the OPM are those made for covered Services listed as **applying** to the OPM (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”).
  2. Once your OPM is met, you will no longer pay for covered Services **that apply** to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period.
- B. For covered Services that do **NOT APPLY** to the OPM.
  1. The only Copayments or Coinsurance that **do not apply** toward the OPM are those made for covered Services listed as **not** applying to the OPM (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”).
  2. Once your OPM is met, you will continue to pay for covered Services that **do not apply** to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period.

### **Tracking Pharmacy Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Amounts**

Once you have received Services and we have processed the claim for Services rendered, we will provide an Explanation of Benefits (EOB). The EOB will list the Services you received, the cost of those Services, and the payments made for the Services. It will also include information regarding what portion of the payments were applied to your pharmacy Deductible and/or OPM amounts.

For more information about your Deductible or OPM amounts, please call **Member Services** or go to **kp.org**.

# Benefits for DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

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## III. COPAYMENTS AND COINSURANCE

**Note:** Day, visit, and dollar limits, Deductibles, and Out-of-Pocket Maximums are based on a calendar year Accumulation Period.

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

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EMBEDDED OPM

\$2,000/Individual per Accumulation Period

\$4,500/Family per Accumulation Period

An Embedded OPM means:

- Each individual family Member has his or her own OPM.
  - If a family Member reaches his or her individual OPM before the family OPM is met, he or she will no longer pay Copayments or Coinsurance for those covered Services that apply to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period.
  - After the family OPM is met, all covered family Members will no longer pay Copayments or Coinsurance for those covered Services that apply to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period. This is true even for family Members who have not met their individual OPM.
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<b>Office Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.	
Primary care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$20 Copayment each visit
Specialty care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$30 Copayment each visit
Consultations with clinical pharmacists <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$20 Copayment each visit
Allergy evaluation and testing	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>• Specialty care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: \$20 Copayment each visit  Visit: \$30 Copayment each visit
Allergy injections <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$20 Copayment each visit Copayment may apply for allergy serum
Gynecology care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$30 Copayment each visit
Routine prenatal and postpartum visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
Office-administered drugs <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance (prostate cancer drugs only) All other office-administered drugs @ No Charge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel immunizations <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	No Charge
<b>Virtual Care Services</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Email               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Primary care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>○ Specialty care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Chat with a doctor online via kp.org               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Primary care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>○ Specialty care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Telephone visits               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Primary care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>○ Specialty care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Video visits               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Primary care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>○ Specialty care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	No Charge  No Charge  No Charge  No Charge  No Charge  No Charge  No Charge  No Charge

<b>Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.	
Outpatient surgery at Plan Facilities <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$300 Copayment each surgery

Outpatient hospital Services <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance up to \$300
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<b>Hospital Inpatient Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(See Hospital Inpatient Care in "Benefits/Coverage (What Is Covered)" in this EOC for the list of covered Services.)</i>	\$750 Copayment per admission
<i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	

Inpatient professional Services <i>(See above line under "Hospital Inpatient Care" for Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See above line under "Hospital Inpatient Care" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
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<b>Alternative Medicine</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
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Chiropractic care	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluation and/or manipulation <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	\$20 Copayment each visit Limited to 20 visits per Accumulation Period See Additional Provisions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Laboratory Services or x-rays required for chiropractic care <i>(See "X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures" for Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i></li> </ul>	See "X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.

Acupuncture Services <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
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<b>Ambulance Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
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<i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance Up to \$500 per trip
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<b>Bariatric Surgery</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
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<i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	30% Coinsurance
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<b>Dental Services following Accidental Injury</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
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<i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
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<b>Dialysis Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
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<i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$30 Copayment each visit
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<b>Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Prosthetics and Orthotics</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
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Durable Medical Equipment <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance See Additional Provisions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Breast pumps <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	No Charge

Prosthetic devices	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internally implanted prosthetic devices <i>(See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i></li> </ul>	See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for applicable Copayment(s) and/or Coinsurance.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prosthetic arm or leg <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	20% Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All other prosthetic devices <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	20% Coinsurance

Orthotic devices <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Oxygen <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
Maximum limit paid by Health Plan for Durable Medical Equipment, certain prosthetic devices, and orthotic devices	Not Applicable

<b>Emergency Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.	
Plan and non-Plan emergency room visits and related covered Services unless otherwise noted (covered 24 hours a day) <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$250 Copayment each visit Excludes X-ray special procedures. Copayment waived if directly admitted as an inpatient. If the above amount is a Coinsurance, the Coinsurance amount is not waived if directly admitted as an inpatient.  If X-ray special procedures are excluded, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures” for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.

<b>Urgent Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.	
Plan Facility within Service Area <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$50 Copayment each visit Urgent care may require additional Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits (for example: Office Services, Durable Medical Equipment, X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures). See the appropriate section for applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and Deductible information.
Urgent care outside Service Area <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$50 Copayment each visit Urgent care may require additional Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits (for example: Office Services, Durable Medical Equipment, X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures). See the appropriate section for applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and Deductible information.

- Covered only if all the following requirements are met:
- The care is required to prevent serious decline of health
  - The need for care results from an unforeseen illness or injury when temporarily away from our Service Area
  - The care cannot be delayed until you return to our Service Area

<b>Family Planning and Sterilization Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Family planning counseling <i>(See "Office Services" for Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Office Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
Associated outpatient surgery procedures <i>(See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" for Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
<b>Health Education Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Training in self-care and preventive care <i>(See "Office Services" for Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Office Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
<b>Hearing Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction when performed by an audiologist <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$20 Copayment each visit
Hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction when performed by a specialist other than an audiologist <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$30 Copayment each visit
Hearing aids for Members up to age 18 <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$20 Copayment each visit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fitting and recheck visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	\$20 Copayment each visit
Hearing aids for Members age 18 and over <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fitting and recheck visits <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<b>Home Health Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Home health Services provided in your home and prescribed by a Plan Physician <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<b>Hospice Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Special Services program for hospice-eligible Members who have not yet elected hospice care <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
Hospice care for terminally ill patients <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge



<b>Mental Health Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Inpatient psychiatric hospitalization <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$750 Copayment per admission
• Inpatient day limit	Not Applicable
Inpatient professional Services for psychiatric hospitalization <i>(See above line under "Mental Health Services" "Inpatient psychiatric hospitalization" for Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See above line under "Mental Health Services" "Inpatient psychiatric hospitalization" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
Outpatient individual therapy or intensive outpatient therapy <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$20 Copayment each visit \$20 Copayment per partial hospitalization day
Outpatient group therapy <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	50% of individual therapy Copayment
<b>Out-of-Area Benefit</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
The following Services are limited to Dependents up to the age of 26 outside the Service Area	
Outpatient office visits <i>(Combined office visit limit between primary care, specialty care, outpatient mental health and substance use disorder services, gynecology care, hearing exam, prevention immunizations, preventive care, and the administration of allergy injections. Office visits do not include: allergy evaluation, routine prenatal and postpartum visits, chiropractic care, acupuncture services, hearing aids, hearing tests, home health visits, hospice services, and applied behavioral analysis (ABA))</i> Visit: <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> Other Services: <i>(Do not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> Preventive immunizations: <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit limit: Limited to 5 visits per Accumulation Period Visit: \$20 Copayment Other Services received during an office visit: Not Covered  Preventive immunizations: No Charge
Diagnostic X-ray Services <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Diagnostic X-ray Services limit: Limited to 5 diagnostic X-rays per Accumulation Period 20% Coinsurance
Outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Therapy visit limit: Limited to 5 therapy visits (any combination) per Accumulation Period Visit: \$20 Copayment
Outpatient prescription drugs	Prescription drug fills: Limited to 5 prescription drug fills (any combination) per Accumulation Period
• Copayment/Coinsurance (except as listed below) <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	50% Coinsurance Generic/50% Coinsurance Brand name/50% Coinsurance Non-preferred/50% Coinsurance Specialty
• Prescribed diabetic supplies <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
• Preventive drugs	No Charge
o Contraceptive drugs <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	
o Over the counter (OTC) items: <i>(Federally mandated over the counter items)</i> <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
o Tobacco cessation drugs <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge

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**Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy  
and Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services**

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**You Pay**

Inpatient treatment in a multidisciplinary rehabilitation program provided in a designated rehabilitation facility  
*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

No Charge  
Up to 60 days per condition per Accumulation Period

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Short-term outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits  
*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

- Habilitative Services
  
- Rehabilitative Services

\$20 Copayment each visit  
Limited to 20 visits per therapy per Accumulation Period  
\$20 Copayment each visit  
Limited to 20 visits per therapy per Accumulation Period

Outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits to treat Autism Spectrum Disorder  
*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

\$20 Copayment each visit

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Applied Behavioral Services

- Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)  
*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

\$20 Copayment each visit

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Pulmonary rehabilitation  
*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

\$20 Copayment each visit

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**Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements****You Pay**

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## Outpatient prescription drugs

*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

- Pharmacy Deductible Not Applicable
  
- Copayment/Coinsurance (except as listed below): \$15 Generic/\$30 Brand
  
- Infertility drugs Not Covered  
*(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
  
- Insulin Applicable Copayment/Coinsurance not to exceed \$100 up to a 30-day supply  
20% Coinsurance
  - o Prescribed supplies 20% Coinsurance  
*(When obtained from sources designated by Kaiser Permanente)*  
*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
  
- Over the counter (OTC) items: No Charge  
*(Federally mandated over the counter (OTC) items. OTCs require a prescription and must be filled at a Kaiser Permanente pharmacy.)*
  
- Prescription contraceptives No Charge  
*(Supply limit according to applicable law)*  
*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
  
- Preventive tier drugs See applicable Outpatient prescription drug Copayment/Coinsurance  
*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
  
- Sexual dysfunction drugs Not Covered  
*(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
  
- Specialty drugs See applicable Outpatient prescription drug Copayment/Coinsurance  
*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
  
- Tobacco cessation drugs No Charge  
*(Not subject to pharmacy Deductible)*

## Supply Limit

- Day supply limit 30 days
  - Mail-order supply limit \$30 Generic/\$60 Brand  
Up to 90 days  
See Additional Provisions
-

<b>Preventive Care Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Preventive care visits <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult preventive care exams and screenings</li> <li>• Behavioral health screening</li> <li>• Well-woman care exams and screenings</li> <li>• Well-child care exams</li> <li>• Immunizations</li> </ul>	
Colorectal cancer screenings <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colonoscopies</li> <li>• Flexible sigmoidoscopies</li> </ul>	No Charge No Charge
Preventive Virtual Care Services <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Email</li> <li>• Chat with a doctor online via kp.org</li> <li>• Telephone</li> <li>• Video visits</li> </ul>	
Non-preventive covered Services received in conjunction with preventive care exam	See "Office Services" or "Laboratory Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance
<b>Reconstructive Surgery</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
<b>Reproductive Support Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Covered Services for diagnosis and treatment of infertility (including lab and X-ray) <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	50% Coinsurance See Additional Provisions
Intrauterine insemination (IUI) <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	50% Coinsurance See Additional Provisions
In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
Gamete Intrafallopian Transfer (GIFT) <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
Zygote Intrafallopian Transfer (ZIFT) <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<b>Skilled Nursing Facility Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge Limited to 100 days per Accumulation Period
<b>Substance Use Disorder Services (formerly Chemical Dependency Services)</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Inpatient medical detoxification <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$750 Copayment per admission

Inpatient professional Services for medical detoxification <i>(See above line under "Chemical Dependency Services" "Inpatient medical detoxification" for Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See above line under "Chemical Dependency Services" "Inpatient medical detoxification" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
Outpatient individual therapy or intensive outpatient therapy <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$20 Copayment each visit \$20 Copayment per partial hospitalization day
Outpatient group therapy <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	50% of individual therapy Copayment
Residential rehabilitation <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$750 Copayment per inpatient admission

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### **Transplant Services**

### **You Pay**

*(See "Office Services", "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services", or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)*

See "Office Services", "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services", or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance

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### **Vision Services and Optical**

### **You Pay**

Eye exams for treatment of injuries and/or diseases	See "Office Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
Routine eye exam when performed by an Optometrist	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members up to the end of the calendar year he/she turns age 19 <i>Visit: (Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: \$20 Copayment each visit Test: \$20 Copayment each visit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members age 19 and over <i>Visit: (Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: \$20 Copayment each visit Test: \$20 Copayment each visit
Routine eye exam when performed by an Ophthalmologist	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members up to the end of the calendar year he/she turns age 19 <i>Visit: (Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: \$30 Copayment each visit Test: \$30 Copayment each visit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members age 19 and over <i>Visit: (Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: \$30 Copayment each visit Test: \$30 Copayment each visit
Optical hardware	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members up to the end of the calendar year he/she turns age 19 <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members age 19 and over <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered

<b>X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Diagnostic laboratory Services <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
Diagnostic X-ray Services <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
Therapeutic X-ray Services <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$30 Copayment each visit
X-ray special procedures including but not limited to CT, PET, MRI, nuclear medicine <i>(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$100 Copayment per procedure Copayment waived if X-ray special procedure is performed during an Emergency Room visit and you are directly admitted as an inpatient. If the above amount is a Coinsurance, the Coinsurance amount is not waived if directly admitted as an inpatient.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diagnostic procedures include administered drugs</li> <li>• Therapeutic procedures may incur an additional charge for administered drugs. <i>(See "Office Services" for "Office-administered Drugs".)</i></li> </ul>	
<b>Plus Benefit</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Maximum limit per Accumulation Period	Not Applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preventive care visits with a non-Plan Provider <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>• Primary care and allergy injection visits, hearing exams, outpatient mental health and substance use disorder individual therapy visits, and short-term outpatient physical, occupational, or speech therapy visits with a non-Plan Provider. Visits include phone or email virtual care Services. <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>• Specialty and gynecology care visits, hearing exams, and allergy testing and evaluations with a non-Plan Provider. Visits include phone or email virtual care Services. <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>• Covered Services received during an office visit with a non-Plan Provider, allergy injections, durable medical equipment, diagnostic X-ray and laboratory Services, and implantable or injectable contraceptives. <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
Prescription Drug fill maximum per Accumulation Period	Not Applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outpatient prescription drugs filled at a non-Plan Pharmacy <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
Outpatient prescription drugs prescribed by a non-Plan Provider and filled at a Plan Pharmacy <i>(Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered

#### **IV. DEPENDENT LIMITING AGE**

The Dependent limiting age as described under Dependents in the "Eligibility" section of the EOC is the end of the month in which age 26 is reached. A Dependent child will continue to be eligible until the Dependent child reaches this age, if he or she continues to meet all other eligibility requirements. For additional information regarding eligible Dependents, including certain Dependents over the limiting age, please refer to the "Eligibility" section in the EOC.

#### **Additional Provisions**

Please see "Additional Provisions" for any supplemental information that applies to your coverage.

**CONTACT US**

**Appointments and Medical Advice (Advice Nurses) – Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week**

**CALL**      *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-338-4545** or toll-free **1-800-218-1059**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-800-218-1059**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **970-207-7171** or toll-free **1-800-218-1059**

**TTY**      **711**  
 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**Behavioral Health**

**CALL**      *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-471-7700**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-866-702-9026**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-866-359-8299**

**TTY**      **711**  
 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**Member Services**

**CALL**      *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-338-3800** or toll-free **1-800-632-9700**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-888-681-7878**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-844-201-5824**

**TTY**      **711**  
 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**FAX**      **303-338-3444**

**WRITE**      **Member Services**  
**Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado**  
**2500 South Havana Street**  
**Aurora, CO 80014-1622**

**WEBSITE**      [kp.org](http://kp.org)

**Appeals Program**

<b>CALL</b>	<b>303-344-7933</b> or toll free <b>1-888-370-9858</b>
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
<b>FAX</b>	<b>1-866-466-4042</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	<b>Appeals Program</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 378066</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-8066</b>

**Claims Department**

<b>CALL</b>	<i>Denver/Boulder</i> Members: <b>303-338-3600</b> or toll-free <b>1-800-382-4661</b> <i>Southern Colorado</i> Members: <b>1-888-681-7878</b> <i>Northern Colorado</i> Members: <b>1-800-382-4661</b>
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
<b>WRITE</b>	<i>Denver/Boulder</i> Members: <b>Claims Department</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 373150</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-3150</b>  <i>Southern Colorado</i> Members: <b>Claims Department</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 372910</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-6910</b>  <i>Northern Colorado</i> Members: <b>Claims Department</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 373150</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-3150</b>

**Membership Administration**

<b>WRITE</b>	<b>Membership Administration</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 203004</b> <b>Denver, CO 80220-9004</b>
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**Patient Financial Services**

**CALL** *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-743-5900**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-888-681-7878**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-844-201-5824**

**TTY** **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**WRITE** **Patient Financial Services**  
**Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado**  
**2500 South Havana Street, Suite 500**  
**Aurora, CO 80014-1622**

**Personal Physician Selection Services**

**CALL** *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-338-4477**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-855-208-7221**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-855-208-7221**

**TTY** **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**WEBSITE** [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations) for a list of providers and facilities

**Transplant Administrative Offices**

**CALL** **303-636-3131**

**TTY** **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.



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## I. ELIGIBILITY

### A. Who Is Eligible

#### 1. General

To be eligible to enroll and to remain enrolled in this health benefit plan, you must meet the following requirements:

- a. You must meet your Group's eligibility requirements that we have approved. Your Group is required to inform Subscribers of the Group's eligibility requirements; and
- b. You must also meet the Subscriber or Dependent eligibility requirements as described below; and
- c. The Subscriber must live or reside in our Service Area. Our Service Area is described in the "Definitions" section.

#### 2. Subscribers

You may be eligible to enroll as a Subscriber if you are entitled to Subscriber coverage under your Group's eligibility requirements. An example would be an employee of your Group who works at least the number of hours stated in those requirements.

#### 3. Dependents

If you are a Subscriber, the following persons may be eligible to enroll as your Dependents under this plan:

- a. Your Spouse. (Spouse includes a partner in a valid civil union under state law.)
- b. Your or your Spouse's children (including adopted children and children placed with you for adoption) who are under the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)."
- c. Other dependent persons (but not including foster children) who meet all of the following requirements:
  - i. They are under the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)"; and
  - ii. You or your Spouse is the court-appointed permanent legal guardian (or was before the person reached age 18).
- d. Your or your Spouse's unmarried children over the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" who are medically certified as disabled and dependent upon you or your Spouse are eligible to enroll or continue coverage as your Dependents if the following requirements are met:
  - i. They are dependent on you or your Spouse; and
  - ii. You give us proof of the Dependent's disability and dependency annually if we request it.
- e. Subscriber's designated beneficiary prescribed by Colorado law, if your employer elects to cover designated beneficiaries as dependents.

**Students on Medical Leave of Absence.** Dependent children who lose dependent student status at a postsecondary educational institution due to a Medically Necessary leave of absence may remain eligible for coverage until the earlier of: (i) one year after the first day of the Medically Necessary leave of absence; or (ii) the date dependent coverage would otherwise terminate under this EOC. We must receive written certification by a treating physician of the dependent child which states 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.

If your plan has different eligibility requirements, please see "Additional Provisions."

### B. Enrollment and Effective Date of Coverage

Eligible people may enroll as follows, and membership begins at 12:00 a.m. on the membership effective date:

#### 1. New Employees and their Dependents

If you are a new employee, you may enroll yourself and any eligible Dependents by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application to your Group within 31 days after you become eligible. You should check with your Group to see when new employees become eligible. Your membership will become effective on the date specified by your Group.

#### 2. Members Who are Inpatient on Effective Date of Coverage

If you are an inpatient in a hospital or institution when your coverage with us becomes effective and you had other coverage when you were admitted, state law will determine whether we or your prior carrier will be responsible for payment for your care until your date of discharge.

#### 3. Special Enrollment Due to Newly Acquired Dependents

You may enroll as a Subscriber (along with any eligible Dependents), and existing Subscribers may add eligible Dependents, by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application to your Group within 31 days after a Dependent becomes newly eligible.

The membership effective date for the Dependents (and, if applicable, the new Subscriber) will be:

- a. For newborn children, the moment of birth. Your newborn child is covered for the first 31 days following birth. This coverage is required by state law, whether or not you intend to add the newborn to this plan.  
For existing Subscribers:

- i. If the addition of the newborn child to the Subscriber's coverage will change the amount the Subscriber is required to pay for that coverage, then the Subscriber, in order for the newborn to keep coverage beyond the first 31-day period of coverage, is required to: (A) pay the new amount due for coverage after the first 31-day period of coverage; and (B) notify Health Plan within 31 days of the newborn's birth.
    - ii. If the addition of the newborn child to the Subscriber's coverage will not change the amount the Subscriber pays for coverage, the Subscriber must still notify Health Plan after the birth of the newborn to get the newborn enrolled onto the Subscriber's Health Plan coverage.
  - b. For newly adopted children (including children newly placed for adoption), the date of the adoption or placement for adoption. An eligible adopted child must be enrolled within 31 days from the date the child is placed in your custody or the date of the final decree of adoption.  
For existing Subscribers:
    - i. If the addition of the newly adopted child to the Subscriber's coverage will change the amount the Subscriber is required to pay for that coverage, then the Subscriber, in order for the newly adopted child to continue coverage beyond the initial 31-day period of coverage, is required to: (A) pay the new amount due for coverage after the initial 31-day period of coverage; and (B) notify Health Plan within 31 days of the child's adoption or placement for adoption.
    - ii. If the addition of the newly adopted child to the Subscriber's coverage will not change the amount the Subscriber pays for coverage, the Subscriber must still notify Health Plan after the adoption or placement for adoption of the child to get the child enrolled onto the Subscriber's Health Plan coverage.
  - c. For all other Dependents, if enrolled within 31 days of becoming eligible, no later than the first day of the month following the date your Group receives the enrollment application. Your Group will let you know the membership effective date. Employees and Dependents who are not enrolled when newly eligible must wait until the next open enrollment period to become Members of Health Plan, unless: (i) they enroll under special circumstances, as agreed to by your Group and Health Plan; or (ii) they enroll under the provisions described in "Special Enrollment".
4. Special Enrollment  
You or your Dependent may experience a triggering event that allows a change in your enrollment. Examples of triggering events are the loss of coverage, a Dependent's aging off this plan, marriage, and birth of a child. The triggering event results in a special enrollment period that usually (but not always) starts on the date of the triggering event and lasts for 30 days. During the special enrollment period, you may enroll your Dependent(s) in this plan or, in certain circumstances, you may change plans (your plan choice may be limited). There are requirements that you must meet to take advantage of a special enrollment period including showing proof of your own or your Dependent's triggering event. To learn more about triggering events, special enrollment periods, how to enroll or change your plan (if permitted), timeframes for submitting information to Health Plan and other requirements, call **Member Services** to obtain a copy of Health Plan's *Special Enrollment Guide*.
5. Open Enrollment  
You may enroll as a Subscriber (along with any eligible Dependents), and existing Subscribers may add eligible Dependents, by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application to your Group during the open enrollment period. Your Group will let you know when the open enrollment period begins and ends and the membership effective date.
6. Persons Barred from Enrolling  
You cannot enroll if you have had your entitlement to receive Services through Health Plan terminated for cause.

## II. HOW TO ACCESS YOUR SERVICES AND OBTAIN APPROVAL OF BENEFITS

As a Member, you are selecting our medical care program to provide your health care. You must receive all covered Services from Plan Providers inside your home Service Area, except as described under the following headings:

- "Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)" in "Emergency Services and Urgent Care" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.
- "Urgent Care Outside the Service Area" in "Emergency Services and Urgent Care" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.
- "Out-of-Area Benefit" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.
- "Access to Other Providers" in this section.
- "Cross Market Access" in this section.
- "Visiting Other Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Areas" in this section.
- "Plus Benefit" if purchased by your Group. See the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" to determine if your Group has purchased this coverage.



Your home Service Area is printed on your Health Plan Identification (ID) card. For more information about your ID card, please refer to the “Using Your Health Plan Identification Card” section.

In some circumstances, you might receive emergency or non-emergency Services from a non-Plan Provider or non-Plan Facility. **Non-emergency Services from non-Plan Providers are not covered unless they are authorized by us.** If Services from a non-Plan Provider are authorized, the Deductible, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance for these authorized Services are the same as for covered Services received from a Plan Provider. You have the right and responsibility to request a Plan Provider to provide Services.

**Note:** *Denver/Boulder* Members do not have access to Affiliated Providers within the *Denver/Boulder* Service Area unless authorized by Health Plan. *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Members do have access to Affiliated Providers within their home Service Area.

## A. Your Primary Care Provider

Your primary care provider (PCP) plays an important role in coordinating your health care needs. This includes hospital stays and referrals to specialists. Every member of your family should have his or her own PCP.

### 1. Choosing Your Primary Care Provider

You may select a PCP from family medicine, pediatrics, or internal medicine within your home Service Area. You may also receive a second medical opinion from a Plan Physician upon request. Please refer to the “Second Opinions” section.

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

You may choose your PCP from our provider directory. To review a list of Plan Providers and their biographies, visit our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). You can also get a copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. To choose a PCP, sign in to your account online or call **Personal Physician Selection Services**. This team will help you choose a primary care provider, accepting new patients, based on your health care needs.

#### b. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

You must choose a PCP when you enroll. If you do not select a PCP upon enrollment, we will assign you one near your home.

Medical Group contracts with a panel of Affiliated Physicians, specialists, and other health care professionals to provide medical Services in the *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Service Areas. You may choose your PCP from our panel of *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* providers.

You can find these physicians, along with a list of affiliated specialists and ancillary providers, in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your specific home Service Area. You can review a list of *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Plan Providers by visiting our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). You can also get a copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. To choose a PCP, call **Personal Physician Selection Services**. This team will help you choose a primary care provider, accepting new patients, based on your health care needs.

If you are seeking routine or specialty care in *Denver/Boulder*, you must have a referral from your local PCP with an Authorization from Health Plan. If you do not have an Authorization, you will be billed for the full amount of the office visit Charges. If you are visiting in the *Denver/Boulder* Service Area and need urgent or emergency care, you can visit a *Denver/Boulder* Plan Facility without a referral. For a referral from a specialist, see the “Access to Other Providers” section. For care in *Denver/Boulder* Plan Medical Offices, see “Cross Market Access”.

### 2. Changing Your Primary Care Provider

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

Please call **Personal Physician Selection Services** to change your PCP. You may also change your PCP online or when visiting a Plan Facility. You may change your PCP at any time.

#### b. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

Please call **Personal Physician Selection Services** to change your PCP. Notify us of your new PCP choice by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month. Your selection will be effective on the first day of the following month.

## B. Access to Other Providers

### 1. Referrals and Authorizations

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

If your Medical Group physician decides that you need covered Services not available from us, he or she will request a referral for you to see a non-Medical Group physician inside or outside our Service Area. This referral request will result in an Authorization or a denial. However, there may be circumstances where Health Plan will partially authorize your provider’s referral request.

An Authorization is a referral request that has received approval from Health Plan. An Authorization is limited to a specific Service, treatment or series of treatments, and period of time. The provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider’s information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the

Authorization is valid. Copayments or Coinsurance for authorized Services are the same as those required for Services provided by a Medical Group physician.

An Authorization is required for Services provided by non-Plan Providers, non-Medical Group physicians, or non-Plan Facilities. If your provider refers you to a non-Medical Group physician, non-Plan Provider, or non-Plan Facility, inside or outside our Service Area, you must have a written Authorization in order for us to cover the Services.

All referral Services must be requested and authorized in advance. We will not pay for any care rendered by a provider unless the care is specifically authorized by Health Plan and approved in advance. A written or verbal recommendation by a provider that you get non-covered Services (whether Medically Necessary or not) is not considered an Authorization, and is **not** covered.

b. **Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas**

If your Medical Group physician decides that you need covered Services not available from us, he or she will request a referral for you to see a non-Medical Group physician inside or outside our Service Area. This referral request will result in an Authorization or a denial. However, there may be circumstances where Health Plan will partially authorize your provider's referral request.

An Authorization is a referral request that has received approval from Health Plan. An Authorization is limited to a specific Service, treatment or series of treatments, and period of time. The provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid. Copayments or Coinsurance for authorized Services are the same as those required for Services provided by a Medical Group physician.

An Authorization is required for Services provided by non-Plan Providers, non-Medical Group physicians, or non-Plan Facilities. If your provider refers you to a non-Medical Group physician, non-Plan Provider, or non-Plan Facility, inside or outside our Service Area, you must have a written Authorization in order for us to cover the Services.

All referral Services must be requested and authorized in advance. We will not pay for any care rendered by a provider unless the care is specifically authorized by Health Plan and approved in advance. A written or verbal recommendation by a provider that you get non-covered Services (whether Medically Necessary or not) is not considered an Authorization, and is **not** covered.

2. **Specialty Self-Referrals**

a. **Denver/Boulder Service Area**

In some cases you can refer yourself for consultation (routine office) visits to specialty-care departments within Kaiser Permanente, with the exception of certain specialty-care departments such as the anesthesia clinical pain department. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to eye care services from a Plan Provider. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a Plan Provider who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology.

You will find specialty-care providers in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your home Service Area. The Provider Directory is available on our website, [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). If you need a printed copy of the Provider Directory, please call **Member Services**.

A self-referral provides coverage for routine office visits only. Certain Services other than those provided as part of a routine office visit will not be covered unless authorized by Kaiser Permanente before Services are rendered.

Authorization from Kaiser Permanente is required for: (i) Services in addition to those provided as part of the visit, such as surgery; and (ii) visits to specialty-care Plan Providers not eligible for self-referrals; and (iii) non-Plan Providers. The request for these Services can be generated by either your PCP or by a specialty-care provider. If the request is approved, the provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid.

A Plan Provider can directly refer you for some laboratory or radiology Services and for specialty procedures such as a CT scan or MRI. However, certain laboratory or radiology Services and specialty procedures will still require an Authorization.

b. **Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas**

In some cases you can refer yourself for consultation (routine office) visits to specialty-care departments within Kaiser Permanente, with the exception of certain specialty-care departments such as the anesthesia clinical pain department. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to eye care services from a Plan Provider. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a Plan Provider who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology.

You will find specialty-care providers in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your home Service Area. The Provider Directory is available on our website, [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). If you need a printed copy of the Provider Directory, please call **Member Services**.

A self-referral provides coverage for routine office visits only. Certain Services other than those provided as part of a routine office visit will not be covered unless authorized by Kaiser Permanente before Services are rendered.

Authorization from Kaiser Permanente is required for: (i) Services in addition to those provided as part of the visit, such as surgery; and (ii) visits to specialty-care Plan Providers not eligible for self-referrals; and (iii) non-Plan Providers. The request for these Services can be generated by either your PCP or by a specialty-care provider. If the request is approved, the provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid.

A Plan Provider can directly refer you for some laboratory or radiology Services and for specialty procedures such as a CT scan or MRI. However, certain laboratory or radiology Services and specialty procedures will still require an Authorization.

**Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Members may be able to self-refer to Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices in the **Denver/Boulder** Service Area (see "Cross Market Access" in this section).

### 3. Second Opinions

Upon request and subject to payment of any applicable Copayments or Coinsurance, you may get a second opinion from a Plan Physician about any proposed covered Services.

If the recommendations of the first and second physician differ regarding the need for surgery (or other major procedure), a third opinion may be covered if authorized by Health Plan. Third medical opinions are not covered unless authorized by Health Plan before Services are rendered.

## C. Plan Facilities

Plan Facilities are Plan Medical Offices or Plan Hospitals in our Service Area that we contract with to provide covered Services to our Members.

### 1. Denver/Boulder Service Area

We offer health care at Plan Medical Offices conveniently located throughout the **Denver/Boulder** Service Area. At most of our Plan Facilities, you can usually receive all the covered Services you need. This includes specialized care. You are not restricted to a certain Plan Facility. We encourage you to use the Plan Facility in your home Service Area that will be most convenient for you.

Plan Facilities are listed in our provider directory, which we update regularly. You can get a current copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. You can also get a list of Plan Facilities on our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations).

### 2. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

When you select your PCP, you will receive your Services at that provider's office. You can find **Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Plan Physicians and their facilities, along with a list of affiliated specialists and ancillary providers, in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your specific home Service Area. You can get a copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. You can also get a list from our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations).

## D. Getting the Care You Need

Emergency care is covered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week anywhere in the world. **If you think you have a Life or Limb Threatening Emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room.** For coverage information about emergency care, including out-of-Plan Emergency Services, and emergency benefits away from home, please refer to "Emergency Services" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.

If you need urgent care, you may use one of the designated urgent care Plan Facilities. The Copayment or Coinsurance for urgent care received in Plan Facilities listed in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" will apply. For additional information about urgent care, please refer to "Urgent Care" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.

Urgent care received at a non-Plan Facility inside your Service Area is **not covered**. If you receive care for minor medical problems at non-Plan Facilities inside your Service Area, you will be responsible for payment for any treatment received.

There may be instances when you need to receive unauthorized urgent care outside your Service Area. Please see "Urgent Care" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section for coverage information about urgent care Services outside the Service Area.

## E. Visiting Other Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Areas

You may receive visiting member services from another Kaiser regional health plan as directed by that other plan so long as such services would be covered under this EOC. Kaiser regional health plan service areas may change at any time. Currently they are: the District of Columbia and parts of California, Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Maryland, Oregon, Virginia, and

Washington. For more information, please call **Member Services**. Visiting member services shall be subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this EOC including but not limited to those pertaining to prior Authorization, Deductible, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance, as further described in the Visiting Member Brochure available online at [kp.org/travel](http://kp.org/travel). Certain services are not covered as visiting member services.

For more information about receiving visiting member services in other Kaiser regional health plan service areas, including 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).

#### **F. Moving Outside of our Service Area**

If you move to an area not within any Kaiser regional health plan service area, your membership may be terminated. We will provide you with thirty (30) days' notice of termination which will include the reason for termination.

#### **G. Using Your Health Plan Identification Card**

Each Member is issued a Health Plan Identification (ID) card with a Health Record Number on it. This is useful when you call for advice, make an appointment, or go to a Plan Provider for care. The Health Record Number is used to identify your medical records and membership information. You should always have the same Health Record Number. Please call **Member Services** if: (1) we ever inadvertently issue you more than one Health Record Number; or (2) you need to replace your Health Plan ID card.

Your Health Plan ID card is for identification only. To receive covered Services, you must be a current Health Plan Member. Anyone who is not a Member will be billed as a non-Member for any Services we provide. In addition, claims for Emergency or non-emergency care Services from non-Plan Providers will be denied. If you let someone else use your Health Plan ID card, we may keep your card and terminate your membership upon 30 days written notice that will include the reason for termination.

When you receive Services, you will need to show photo identification along with your Health Plan ID card. This allows us to ensure proper identification and to better protect your coverage and medical information from fraud. If you suspect you or your membership is a victim of fraud, please call **Member Services** to report your concern.

#### **H. Cross Market Access**

Members may access certain Services at Kaiser Permanente Colorado Plan Medical Offices outside of their home Service Area.

##### **1. Denver/Boulder Members**

**Denver/Boulder** Members have access for certain Services at designated Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices in the **Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Service Areas. **Denver/Boulder** Members do not have access to Affiliated Providers in **Southern** and **Northern Colorado** unless authorized by Health Plan.

##### **2. Southern and Northern Colorado Members**

**Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Members have access for certain Services at any Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Office in the **Denver/Boulder**, **Southern**, and **Northern Colorado** Service Areas. **Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Members do not have access to Affiliated Providers outside their home Service Area unless authorized by Health Plan.

Services available to Members at Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices outside of their home Service Area include: primary care; specialty care; urgent care; pharmacy; laboratory; X-ray; vision; and hearing Services. These Services may not be available at all Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices and are subject to change. For more information on what Services you may access outside your designated home Service Area and at which Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices you may receive Services please call **Member Services**.

### **III. BENEFITS/COVERAGE (WHAT IS COVERED)**

The Services described in this "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section are covered only if all the following conditions are satisfied:

- The Services are Medically Necessary; and
- The Services are provided, prescribed, recommended, or directed by a Plan Provider. This does not apply where specifically noted to the contrary in the following sections of this EOC: (a) "Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)"; and "Urgent Care Outside the Service Area" in "Emergency Services and Urgent Care"; and (b) "Out-of-Area Benefit"; and (c) "Plus Benefit" if purchased by your Group (see the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" to determine if your Group has purchased this coverage); and
- You receive the Services from Plan Providers inside our Service Area. This does not apply where noted to the contrary in the following sections of this EOC: (a) "Referrals and Authorizations" and "Specialty Self-Referrals"; and (b) "Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)" and "Urgent Care Outside the Service Area" in "Emergency Services and Urgent Care"; and (c) "Out-of-Area Benefit"; and (d) "Visiting Other Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Areas"; and (e) "Plus Benefit" if purchased by your Group (see the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" to determine if your Group has purchased this coverage); and

- Your provider has received prior Authorization for your Services, as appropriate; and
- You have met any Deductible requirements described in the “Schedule of Benefits (What is Covered).”

Exclusions and limitations that apply only to a certain benefit are described in this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section. Exclusions, limitations, and reductions that apply to all benefits are described in the “Limitations/Exclusions (What is Not Covered)” section.

**Note:** Copayments or Coinsurance may apply to the benefits and are described below. For a complete list of Copayment and Coinsurance requirements, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” You are responsible for any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for Services performed as part of or in conjunction with other outpatient Services, including but not limited to: office visits, Emergency Services, urgent care, and outpatient surgery.

## A. Office Services

### Office Services for Preventive Care, Diagnosis, and Treatment

We cover, under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section and subject to any specific limitations, exclusions, or exceptions as noted throughout this EOC, the following office services for preventive care, diagnosis, and treatment, including professional medical Services of physicians and other health care professionals in the physician’s office, during medical office consultations, in a Skilled Nursing Facility, or at home:

1. Primary care visits: Services from family medicine, internal medicine, and pediatrics.
2. Specialty care visits: Services from providers that are not primary care, as defined above.
3. Routine prenatal and postpartum visits: The routine prenatal benefit covers office exams, routine chemical urinalysis and fetal stress tests performed during the office visit. See the applicable section of your “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for the Copayment and/or Coinsurance for all other Services received during a prenatal visit.
4. Consultations with clinical pharmacists (*Denver/Boulder* Members only).
5. Other covered Services received during an office visit or a scheduled procedure visit.
6. Outpatient hospital clinic visits with an Authorization from Health Plan.
7. Blood, blood products, and their administration.
8. Second opinion.
9. House calls when care can best be provided in your home as determined by a Plan Physician.
10. Medical social Services.
11. Preventive care Services (see “Preventive Care Services” in this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section for more details).
12. Professional review and interpretation of patient data from a remote monitoring device.
13. Virtual care Services.
14. Office-administered drugs.

**Note:** If the following are administered in a Plan Medical Office or during home visits, and administration or observation by medical personnel is required, they are covered at the applicable office-administered drug Copayment or Coinsurance shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” This Copayment or Coinsurance may be in addition to your Office Services Copayment or Coinsurance.

Drugs and injectables; radioactive materials used for therapeutic purposes; vaccines and immunizations approved for use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA); and allergy test and treatment materials.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” If your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, you must meet Medical Group’s criteria to be eligible for coverage.

## B. Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services

### Outpatient Services at Designated Facilities

We cover, only as described under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section and subject to any specific limitations, exclusions, or exceptions as noted throughout this EOC, the following outpatient Services for diagnosis and treatment, including professional medical Services of physicians:

1. Outpatient surgery at designated Plan Facilities, including an ambulatory surgical center, surgical suite, or outpatient hospital facility. Kaiser Permanente applies Medicare global surgery guidelines in accordance with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).
2. Outpatient hospital Services at designated facilities, including but not limited to: electroencephalogram, sleep study, stress test, pulmonary function test, any treatment room, or any observation room. You may be charged an additional Copayment or Coinsurance for any Service which is listed as a separate benefit under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” If your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, you must meet Medical Group’s criteria to be eligible for coverage.

## C. Hospital Inpatient Care

### 1. Inpatient Services in a Plan Hospital

We cover, only as described under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section and subject to any specific limitations, exclusions or exceptions as noted throughout this EOC, the following inpatient Services in a Plan Hospital, when the Services are generally and customarily provided by acute care general hospitals in our Service Areas:

- a. Room and board, such as semiprivate accommodations or, when it is Medically Necessary, private accommodations or private duty nursing care.
- b. Intensive care and related hospital Services.
- c. Professional Services of physicians and other health care professionals during a hospital stay.
- d. General nursing care.
- e. Obstetrical care and delivery. This includes Cesarean section. If the covered stay for child birth ends after 8 p.m., coverage will be continued until 8 a.m. the following morning. **Note:** If you are discharged within 48 hours after delivery (or 96 hours if delivery is by Cesarean section), your Plan Physician may order a follow-up visit for you and your newborn to take place within 48 hours after discharge. If your newborn remains in the hospital following your discharge, Charges incurred by the newborn are subject to all Health Plan provisions. This includes the newborn’s own Deductible, Out-of-Pocket Maximum, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance requirements. This applies even if the newborn is covered only for the first 31 days that is required by state law.
- f. Meals and special diets.
- g. Other hospital Services and supplies, such as:
  - i. Operating, recovery, maternity, and other treatment rooms.
  - ii. Prescribed drugs and medicines.
  - iii. Diagnostic laboratory tests and X-rays.
  - iv. Blood, blood products and their administration.
  - v. Dressings, splints, casts, and sterile tray Services.
  - vi. Anesthetics, including nurse anesthetist Services.
  - vii. Medical supplies, appliances, medical equipment, including oxygen, and any covered items billed by a hospital for use at home.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” If your group has the bariatric surgery benefit, you must meet Medical Group’s criteria to be eligible for coverage.

### 2. Hospital Inpatient Care Exclusions

- a. Dental Services are excluded, except that we cover hospitalization and general anesthesia for dental Services provided to Members as required by state law.
- b. Cosmetic surgery related to bariatric surgery.

## D. Ambulance Services and Other Transportation

### 1. Coverage

We cover ambulance Services only if your condition requires the use of medical Services that only a licensed ambulance can provide. Kaiser Permanente applies Medicare guidelines for ambulance Services in accordance with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

### 2. Ambulance Services Exclusions

- a. Non-emergency routine ambulance services to home or other non-acute health care setting are not covered.
- b. Transportation by other than a licensed ambulance is not covered. Transportation by car, taxi, bus, gurney van, minivan, or any other type of transportation is not covered, even if it is the only way to travel to a Plan Provider.

**Note:** Health Plan will cover certain non-emergent, non-ambulance transportation when there is prior Authorization by Health Plan.

## E. Clinical Trials

**Note:** We cover the initial evaluation for eligibility and acceptance into a clinical trial only if authorized by Health Plan.

### 1. Coverage (applies to non-grandfathered health plans only)

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

- a. We would have covered the Services if they were not related to a clinical trial.
- b. You are eligible to participate in the clinical trial according to the trial protocol with respect to treatment of cancer or other life-threatening condition (a condition from which the likelihood of death is probable unless the course of the condition is interrupted), as determined in one of the following ways:
  - i. A Plan Provider makes this determination.
  - ii. You provide us with medical and scientific information establishing this determination.
- c. If any Plan 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 Plan Provider unless the clinical trial is outside the state where you live.

- d. The clinical trial is a phase I, phase II, phase III, or phase IV clinical trial related to the prevention, detection, or treatment of cancer or other life-threatening condition and it meets one of the following requirements:
  - i. The study or investigation is conducted under an investigational new drug application reviewed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
  - ii. The study or investigation is a drug trial that is exempt from having an investigational new drug application.
  - iii. The study or investigation is approved or funded by at least one of the following:
    - (a) The National Institutes of Health.
    - (b) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
    - (c) The Agency for Health Care Research and Quality.
    - (d) The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.
    - (e) A cooperative group or center of any of the above entities or of the Department of Defense or the Department of Veterans Affairs.
    - (f) A qualified non-governmental research entity identified in the guidelines issued by the National Institutes of Health for center support grants.
    - (g) 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:
      - (i) It is comparable to the National Institutes of Health system of peer review of studies and investigations.
      - (ii) 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 applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” that you would pay if the Services were not related to a clinical trial. For example, see “Hospital Inpatient Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for the Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible that apply to hospital inpatient care.

## 2. Clinical Trials Exclusions

- a. The investigational Service.
- b. Services provided solely for data collection and analysis and that are not used in your direct clinical management.

## F. **Dialysis Care**

We cover dialysis Services related to acute renal failure and end-stage renal disease if the following criteria are met:

1. The Services are provided inside our Service Area; and
2. You meet all medical criteria developed by Medical Group and by the facility providing the dialysis; and
3. The facility is certified by Medicare and contracts with Health Plan; and
4. A Plan Physician provides a written referral for care at the facility.

After the referral to a dialysis facility, we cover at no Charge: equipment; training; and medical supplies required for home dialysis.

## G. **Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Prosthetics and Orthotics**

We cover DME and prosthetics and orthotics, when prescribed by a Plan Physician as described below; when prescribed by a Plan Physician during a covered stay in a Skilled Nursing Facility, but only if Skilled Nursing Facilities ordinarily furnish the DME or prosthetics and orthotics.

Health Plan uses Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) and National Coverage Determinations (NCD) (hereinafter referred to as Medicare Guidelines) for our DME, prosthetic, and orthotic formulary guidelines. These are guidelines only. Health Plan reserves the right to exclude items listed in the Medicare Guidelines. Please note that this EOC may contain some, but not all, of these exclusions.

**Limitations:** Coverage is limited to the standard item of DME, prosthetic device, or orthotic device that adequately meets your medical needs.

### 1. Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

#### a. Coverage

DME, with the exception of the following, is **not** covered unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for DME, including prosthetic and orthotic devices. See “Additional Provisions.”

- i. Oxygen dispensing equipment and oxygen used in your home are covered. Oxygen refills are covered while you are temporarily outside the Service Area. To qualify for coverage, you must have a pre-existing oxygen order and must obtain your oxygen from the vendor designated by Health Plan.
- ii. Insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iii. Infant apnea monitors are provided.

- iv. Enteral nutrition, medical foods, and related feeding equipment and supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
  - b. Durable Medical Equipment Exclusions
    - i. All other DME not described above, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for DME. See “Additional Provisions.”
    - ii. Replacement of lost or stolen equipment.
    - iii. Repair, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.
    - iv. Spare equipment or alternate use equipment.
    - v. More than one piece of DME serving essentially the same function, except for replacements.
2. Prosthetic Devices
- a. Coverage  
We cover the following prosthetic devices, including repairs, adjustments, and replacements other than those necessitated by misuse, theft, or loss, when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan:
    - i. Internally implanted devices for functional purposes, such as pacemakers and hip joints.
    - ii. Prosthetic devices for Members who have had a mastectomy. Medical Group or Health Plan will designate the source from which external prostheses can be obtained. Replacement will be made when a prosthesis is no longer functional. Custom-made prostheses will be provided when necessary.
    - iii. Prosthetic devices, such as obturators and speech and feeding appliances, required for treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
    - iv. Prosthetic devices intended to replace, in whole or in part, an arm or leg when prescribed by a Plan Physician, as Medically Necessary and provided in accordance with this EOC, including repairs and replacements of such prosthetic devices.

Your Group may have purchased additional coverage for prosthetic devices. See “Additional Provisions.”
  - b. Prosthetic Devices Exclusions
    - i. All other prosthetic devices not described above, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for prosthetic devices. See “Additional Provisions.” Your Plan Physician can provide the Services necessary to determine your need for prosthetic devices and help you make arrangements to obtain such devices at a reasonable rate.
    - ii. Internally implanted devices, equipment, and prosthetics related to treatment of sexual dysfunction, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for this benefit.
3. Orthotic Devices  
Orthotic devices are **not** covered unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for DME, including prosthetic and orthotic devices. See “Additional Provisions.”

## H. Early Childhood Intervention Services

- 1. Coverage  
Covered children, from birth up to age three (3), who have significant delays in development or have a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in significant delays in development as defined by state law, are covered for the number of Early Intervention Services (EIS) visits as required by state law. EIS are not subject to any Copayments or Coinsurance, or to any annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum or Lifetime Maximum.  
**Note:** You may be billed for any EIS received after the number of visits required by state law is satisfied.
- 2. Limitations  
The number of visits as required by state law does not apply to:
  - a. Rehabilitation or therapeutic Services which are necessary as the result of an acute medical condition or post-surgical rehabilitation;
  - b. Services provided to a child who is not an eligible child and whose services are not provided pursuant to an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP); and
  - c. Assistive technology covered by the durable medical equipment benefit provisions of this EOC.
- 3. Early Childhood Intervention Services Exclusions
  - a. Respite care;
  - b. Non-emergency medical transportation;
  - c. Service coordination other than case management services; or
  - d. Assistive technology, not to include durable medical equipment that is otherwise covered under this EOC.

## I. Emergency Services and Urgent Care



1. Emergency Services

Emergency Services are available at all times - 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK. If you have an Emergency Medical Condition or mental health emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest hospital emergency department. You do not need prior Authorization for Emergency Services. When you have an Emergency Medical Condition, we cover Emergency Services you receive from Plan Providers and non-Plan Providers anywhere in the world, as long as the Services would have been covered under your plan if you had received them from Plan Providers. For information about emergency benefits away from home, please call **Member Services**.

You will pay your plan's Deductible, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance for covered Emergency Services, regardless of whether the Services are provided by a Plan Provider or a non-Plan Provider.

Please note that in addition to any Copayment or Coinsurance that applies under this section, you may incur additional Copayment or Coinsurance amounts for Services and procedures covered under other sections of this EOC.

a. Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)

“Out-of-Plan Emergency Services” are Emergency Services that are not provided by a Plan Physician. There may be times when you or a family member may receive Emergency Services from non-Plan Providers. The patient's medical condition may be so critical that you cannot call or come to one of our Plan Medical Offices or the emergency room of a Plan Hospital, or the patient may need Emergency Services while traveling outside our Service Area.

**Please refer to “ii. Emergency Services Limitation for non-Plan Providers” if you are hospitalized for Emergency Services.**

i. We cover out-of-Plan Emergency Services as follows:

A. Outside our Service Area. If you are injured or become unexpectedly ill while you are outside our Service Area, we will cover out-of-Plan Emergency Services that could not reasonably be delayed until you could get to a Plan Hospital, a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, or a Plan Facility, only if a prudent layperson having average knowledge of health services and medicine and acting reasonably would have believed that an Emergency Medical Condition or Life or Limb Threatening Emergency existed. Covered benefits include Medically Necessary out-of-Plan Emergency Services for conditions that arise unexpectedly, including but not limited to myocardial infarction, appendicitis, or premature delivery.

B. Inside our Service Area. If you are inside our Service Area, we will cover out-of-Plan Emergency Services only if a prudent layperson would have reasonably believed that the delay in going to a Plan Hospital, a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, or a Plan Facility for treatment would result in death or serious impairment of health.

ii. Emergency Services Limitation for non-Plan Providers

If you are admitted to a non-Plan Hospital, non-Plan Facility, or a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, you or someone on your behalf must notify us within 24 hours, or as soon as reasonably possible. Please call the **Telephonic Medicine Center at 303-743-5763**.

We will decide whether to make arrangements for necessary continued care where you are, or to transfer you to a Plan Facility we designate once you are Stabilized. If you are admitted to a non-Plan Hospital, non-Plan Facility, or a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, we may transfer you to a Plan Hospital or Plan Facility. By notifying us of your hospitalization as soon as possible, you will protect yourself from potential liability for payment for Services you receive after transfer to one of our Plan Facilities would have been possible.

b. Emergency Services Limitations

Continuing or follow-up treatment: We cover only the Emergency Services that are required before you could have been moved to a Plan Facility we designate either inside or outside our Service Area. If you are admitted to a Plan Facility, we may transfer you to another Plan Facility. When approved by Health Plan, we will cover ambulance Services or other transportation Medically Necessary to move you to a designated Plan Facility for continuing or follow-up treatment.

c. Payment

Our payment is reduced by:

- i. any applicable Copayment and/or Coinsurance for Emergency Services and X-ray special procedures performed in the emergency room. The emergency room and X-ray special procedures Copayments, if applicable, are waived if you are admitted directly to the hospital as an inpatient; and
- ii. the Copayment or Coinsurance for ambulance Services, if any; and
- iii. coordination of benefits; and
- iv. all amounts paid or payable, or which in the absence of this EOC would be payable, for the Services in question, under any insurance policy or contract, or any other contract, or any government program except Medicaid; and
- v. amounts you or your legal representative recover from motor vehicle insurance or because of third party liability.

**Note:** If you receive out-of-Plan Emergency Services, our payment is also reduced by any other payments you would have had to make if you received the same Services from our Plan Providers. The procedure for receiving reimbursement for out-of-Plan Emergency Services is described in the “Appeals and Complaints” section regarding “Post-Service Claims and Appeals.”

**Note:** As part of an emergent care episode, Medically Necessary DME and prosthetics and orthotics following Stabilization will be covered if authorized by Health Plan.

## 2. Urgent Care

### a. Urgent Care Provided by Plan Providers

#### i. Denver/Boulder Service Area

Urgent care Services are Services that are not Emergency Services, are required to prevent serious deterioration of your health, and that are required as a result of an unforeseen illness, injury, or condition.

Urgent care that cannot wait for a scheduled visit with your PCP or specialist can be received at one of our designated urgent care Plan Facilities. In some circumstances, you may be able to receive care in your home. For Copayment and Coinsurance information, see “Urgent Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. For information regarding the designated urgent care Plan Facilities, please call **Member Services** during normal business hours. You can also go to our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org), for information on designated urgent care facilities.

You may call **Advice Nurses** at any time, and one of our advice nurses can speak with you. Our advice nurses are registered nurses (RNs) specially trained to help assess medical symptoms and provide advice over the phone, when medically appropriate. They can often answer questions about a minor concern or advise you about what to do next, including making an appointment for you if appropriate.

#### ii. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

Urgent care Services are Services that are not Emergency Services, are required to prevent serious deterioration of your health, and that are required as a result of an unforeseen illness, injury, or condition.

Urgent care that cannot wait for a scheduled visit with your PCP or specialist can be received at one of our designated urgent care Plan Facilities. In some circumstances, you may be able to receive care in your home. For Copayment and Coinsurance information, see “Urgent Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. For information regarding the designated urgent care Plan Facilities, please call **Member Services** during normal business hours. You can also go to our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org), for information on designated urgent care facilities.

You may call **Advice Nurses** at any time, and one of our advice nurses can speak with you. Our advice nurses are registered nurses (RNs) specially trained to help assess medical symptoms and provide advice over the phone, when medically appropriate. They can often answer questions about a minor concern or advise you about what to do next, including making an appointment for you if appropriate.

### b. Urgent Care Outside the Service Area

There may be situations when it is necessary for you to receive unauthorized urgent care outside your Service Area. Urgent care received from non-Plan Providers outside your Service Area is covered only if all of the following requirements are met:

- i. The care is required to prevent serious deterioration of your health; and
- ii. The need for care results from an unforeseen illness or injury when you are temporarily away from our Service Area; and
- iii. The care cannot be delayed until you return to our Service Area.

**Note:** If you receive urgent care outside the Service Area, you may be responsible for any amounts over eligible Charges, in addition to any Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance. The procedure for receiving reimbursement for urgent care Services outside the Service Area is described in the “Appeals and Complaints” section regarding “Post-Service Claims and Appeals”.

**Note:** As part of an urgent care episode, Medically Necessary DME and prosthetics and orthotics following Stabilization will be covered if authorized by Health Plan.

## J. **Family Planning and Sterilization Services**

### 1. Coverage

- a. Family planning counseling. This includes counseling and information on birth control.
- b. Tubal ligations.
- c. Vasectomies.

**Note:** The following are covered, but not under this section: diagnostic procedures, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”; contraceptive drugs and devices, see the “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements” section.

2. Family Planning and Sterilization Services Exclusions

- a. Any and all Services to reverse voluntary, surgically induced sterilization.
- b. Acupuncture for the treatment of infertility.
- c. Donor semen or eggs.
- d. Any and all Services, supplies, office administered drugs and prescription drugs related to the procurement and/or storage of semen and/or eggs.
- e. Any and all Services, supplies, office administered drugs and prescription drugs received from the pharmacy that are related to intrauterine insemination or conception by artificial means. This includes, but is not limited to: in vitro fertilization, ovum transplants, gamete intra fallopian transfer, and zygote intra fallopian transfer.

**Note:** See “Additional Provisions” for additional coverage or exclusions, if applicable to your Group.

**K. Health Education Services**

We provide health education appointments to support understanding of chronic diseases such as diabetes and hypertension. We also teach self-care on topics such as stress management and nutrition.

**L. Hearing Services**

1. Members up to Age 18

We cover hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction. For minor children with a verified hearing loss, coverage shall also include:

- a. Initial hearing aids and replacement hearing aids not more frequently than every five (5) years;
- b. A new hearing aid when alterations to the existing hearing aid cannot adequately meet the needs of the child; and
- c. Services and supplies including, but not limited to, the initial assessment, fitting, adjustments, and auditory training that is provided according to accepted professional standards.

2. Members Age 18 Years and Older

a. Coverage

We cover hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction. Your Group may have purchased additional coverage for hearing aids. See “Additional Provisions.”

b. Hearing Services Exclusions

- i. Tests to determine an appropriate hearing aid model, unless your Group has purchased that coverage.
- ii. Hearing aids and tests to determine their usefulness, unless your Group has purchased that coverage.

**M. Home Health Care**

1. Coverage

We cover skilled nursing care, home health aide Services, home infusion therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, and medical social Services:

- a. only on a Part-Time Care or Intermittent Care basis; and
- b. only within our Service Area; and
- c. only to an eligible Member when ordered by a Plan Physician and either self-administered or administered by a Plan Provider. Care must be provided under a home health care plan established by the Plan Physician and the approved Plan Provider; and
- d. only if a Plan Physician determines that it is feasible to maintain effective supervision and control of your care in your home.

Part-Time Care or Intermittent Care means part-time or intermittent skilled nursing and home health aide Services.

**Note:** Services that are performed in the home, but that do not meet the Home Health Care requirements above, will be covered at the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance and limits for the Service performed (e.g. urgent care, physical, occupational, and/or speech therapy). See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”.

**Note:** X-ray, laboratory, and X-ray special procedures are not covered under this section. See “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”.

2. Home Health Care Exclusions

- a. Custodial care.
- b. Homemaker Services.
- c. Care that Medical Group determines may be appropriately provided in a Plan Facility or Skilled Nursing Facility, if we offer to provide that care in one of these facilities.

**N. Hospice Special Services and Hospice Care**

1. Hospice Special Services

If you have been diagnosed with a life limiting illness with a life expectancy of 24 months or less, but are not yet ready to elect hospice care, you are eligible for the Special Services Program (“Program”). Coverage of hospice care is described below.

Hospice Special Services give you and your family time to become more familiar with hospice-type Services and to decide what is best for you. It helps you bridge the gap between your diagnosis and preparing for the end of life.

The difference between Hospice Special Services and regular Home Health Care visiting nurse visits is that: you may or may not be homebound or have skilled nursing care needs; or you may only require spiritual or emotional care. Services available through this program are provided by professionals with specific training in end-of-life issues.

2. Hospice Care

We cover hospice care for terminally ill Members inside our Service Area. If a Plan Physician diagnoses you with a terminal illness and determines that your life expectancy is six (6) months or less, you can choose hospice care instead of traditional Services otherwise provided for your illness.

If you elect to receive hospice care, you will not receive **additional** benefits for the terminal illness. However, you can continue to receive Health Plan benefits for conditions other than the terminal illness.

We cover the following Services and other benefits when: (1) prescribed by a Plan Physician and the hospice care team; and (2) received from a licensed hospice approved, in writing, by Kaiser Permanente:

- a. Physician care.
- b. Nursing care.
- c. Physical, occupational, speech, and respiratory therapy.
- d. Medical social Services.
- e. Home health aide and homemaker Services.
- f. Medical supplies, drugs, biologicals, and appliances.
- g. Palliative drugs in accordance with our drug formulary guidelines.
- h. Short-term inpatient care including respite care, care for pain control, and acute and chronic pain management.
- i. Counseling and bereavement Services.
- j. Services of volunteers.

**O. Mental Health Services**

1. Coverage

We cover mental health Services as shown below. Coverage includes evaluation and Services for conditions which, in the judgment of a Plan Physician, would respond to therapeutic management. Mental health includes but is not limited to biologically based illnesses or disorders.

a. Outpatient Therapy

We cover: diagnostic evaluation; individual therapy; intensive outpatient therapy; psychiatric treatment; crisis intervention and stabilization for acute episodes; and psychiatrically oriented child and teenage guidance counseling.

Visits for the purpose of monitoring drug therapy are covered.

Psychological testing as part of diagnostic evaluation is covered.

b. Inpatient Services

We cover psychiatric hospitalization in a facility designated by Medical Group or Health Plan. Hospital Services for psychiatric conditions include all Services of Plan Physicians and mental health professionals and the following Services and supplies as prescribed by a Plan Physician while you are a registered bed patient: room and board; psychiatric nursing care; group therapy; electroconvulsive therapy; occupational therapy; drug therapy; and medical supplies.

c. Partial Hospitalization

We cover partial hospitalization in a Plan Hospital-based program.

We cover mental health Services, whether they are voluntary or are court-ordered as a result of contact with the criminal justice or juvenile justice system, when they are Medically Necessary and otherwise covered under the plan, and when rendered by a Plan Provider. We do not cover court-ordered treatment that exceeds the scope of coverage of this health benefit plan.

2. Mental Health Services Exclusions

- a. Evaluations for any purpose other than mental health treatment. This includes evaluations for: child custody; disability; or fitness for duty/return to work, unless Medically Necessary.
- b. Court-ordered testing and testing for ability, aptitude, intelligence, or interest.
- c. Services which are custodial or residential in nature.

**P. Out-of-Area Benefit**

A limited benefit is available to Dependents, up to the age of 26, receiving care outside any Kaiser regional health plan service area.

1. Coverage

The Out-of-Area Benefit is limited to certain office visits, diagnostic X-rays, physical, occupational, and speech therapy, and prescription drug fills as covered under this EOC:

- a. Office visit exam limited to:
  - i. Primary care visit.
  - ii. Specialty care visit.
  - iii. Preventive care visit.
  - iv. Gynecology care visit.
  - v. Hearing exam.
  - vi. Mental health visit.
  - vii. Substance use disorder visit.
  - viii. The administration of allergy injections.
  - ix. Prevention immunizations pursuant to the schedule established by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).
- b. Diagnostic X-rays.
- c. Physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits.
- d. Prescription drug fills.

See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for more details.

2. Out-of-Area Benefit Exclusions and Limitations

The Out-of-Area Benefit does not include the following Services:

- a. Other Services provided during a covered office visit such as, but not limited to: procedures, laboratory tests, and office administered drugs and devices, except for allergy injections and prevention immunizations as listed in the “Coverage” section of this benefit.
- b. Services received outside the United States.
- c. Transplant Services.
- d. Services covered outside the Service Area under another section of this EOC (e.g., Emergency Services and Urgent Care).
- e. Allergy evaluation, routine prenatal and postpartum visits, chiropractic care, acupuncture services, applied behavior analysis (ABA), hearing tests, hearing aids, home health visits, hospice services, and travel immunizations.
- f. X-ray special procedures, including but not limited to CT, PET, MRI, nuclear medicine.
- g. Any and all Services not listed in the “Coverage” section of this benefit.

**Q. Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy and Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services**1. Coveragea. Hospital Inpatient Care, Care in a Skilled Nursing Facility, and Home Health Care

We cover physical, occupational, and speech therapy as part of your Hospital Inpatient Care, Skilled Nursing Facility, and Home Health Care benefit. Therapies that are performed in the home, but that do not meet the Home Health Care requirements, will be covered at the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance and limits for the therapy performed (i.e., physical, occupational, and/or speech). See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”.

b. Outpatient Care

We cover three (3) types of outpatient therapy (i.e., physical, occupational, and speech therapy) in a Plan Facility or other location approved by Health Plan, to improve or develop skills or functioning due to medical deficits, illness, or injury. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

c. Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services

We will cover treatment in an organized, multidisciplinary rehabilitation Services program in a designated facility or a Skilled Nursing Facility. We also cover multidisciplinary rehabilitation Services without Charge while you are an inpatient in a designated facility. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

d. Pulmonary Rehabilitation

Treatment in a pulmonary rehabilitation program is provided if prescribed or recommended by a Plan Physician and provided by therapists at designated facilities.

e. Therapies for Congenital Defects and Birth Abnormalities

After the first 31 days of life, the limitations and exclusions applicable to this EOC apply, except that Medically Necessary physical, occupational, and speech therapy for the care and treatment of congenital defects and birth

abnormalities for covered children from age three (3) to age six (6) shall be provided. The benefit level shall be the greater of the number of such visits provided under this health benefit plan or 20 therapy visits per Accumulation Period for each physical, occupational, and speech therapy. Such visits shall be distributed as Medically Necessary throughout the Accumulation Period without regard to whether the condition is acute or chronic and without regard to whether the purpose of the therapy is to maintain or improve functional capacity. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**Note 1:** This benefit is also available for eligible children under the age of three (3) who are not participating in Early Intervention Services.

**Note 2:** The visit limit for therapy to treat congenital defects and birth abnormalities is not applicable if such therapy is Medically Necessary to treat autism spectrum disorders.

f. Therapies for the Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders

For the treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders when prescribed by a Plan Physician and Medically Necessary, we cover:

- i. Outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy in a Plan Medical Office or other location approved by Health Plan. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”
- ii. Applied behavior analysis, including consultations, direct care, supervision, or treatment, or any combination thereof by autism services providers. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

2. Limitations

Occupational therapy is limited to treatment to achieve improved self-care and other customary activities of daily living.

3. Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy and Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services Exclusions

- a. Long-term rehabilitation, not including treatment for autism spectrum disorders.
- b. Speech therapy that is not Medically Necessary, such as: (i) therapy for educational placement or other educational purposes; or (ii) training or therapy to improve articulation in the absence of injury, illness, or medical condition affecting articulation; or (iii) therapy for tongue thrust in the absence of swallowing problems.

**R. Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements**

We use drug formularies. A drug formulary includes the list of prescription drugs that have been approved by our formulary committees for our Members. Our committees are comprised of Plan Physicians, pharmacists, and a nurse practitioner. The committees select prescription drugs for our drug formularies based on a number of factors, including safety and effectiveness as determined from a review of medical literature and research. The committees meet regularly to consider adding and removing prescription drugs on the drug formularies. If you would like information about whether a particular drug is included in our drug formularies, please call **Member Services**.

If your prescription drug has a Copayment shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” and it exceeds the Charges for your prescribed medication, then you pay Charges for the medication instead of the Copayment. The drug formulary, discussed above, also applies.

1. Coverage

a. Limited Drug Coverage Under Your Basic Drug Benefit

If your Group has not purchased supplemental prescription drug coverage, then prescribed drug coverage under your basic drug benefit is limited. It includes base drugs such as: contraceptives; orally administered anti-cancer medication; and post-surgical immunosuppressive drugs required after a transplant. These base drugs are available only when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies. You may obtain these drugs at the Copayment or Coinsurance shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” The amount covered cannot exceed the day supply for each maintenance drug or up to the day supply for each non-maintenance drug. Any amount you receive that exceeds the day supply will not be covered. If you receive more than the day supply, you will be charged as a non-Member for any amount that exceeds that limit. Each prescription refill is provided on the same basis as the original prescription.

If your Group has purchased supplemental prescription drug coverage, the applicable generic or brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance and any pharmacy Deductible apply for these types of drugs. For more information, please refer to the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”.

**Note:** Kaiser Permanente may, in its sole discretion, establish quantity limits for specific prescription drugs, regardless of whether your Group has limited or supplemental prescription drug coverage.

i. We cover:

- (a) prescription contraceptives intended to last:
  - (i) for a three-month period the first time the prescription contraceptive is dispensed to the covered person; and
  - (ii) for a twelve-month period or through the end of the covered person’s coverage under the policy, contract, or plan, whichever is shorter, for any subsequent dispensing of the same prescription contraceptive to

the covered person, regardless of whether the covered person was enrolled in the policy, contract, or plan at the time the prescription contraceptive was first dispensed; or

(b) a prescribed vaginal contraceptive ring intended to last for a three-month period.

For Copayment or Coinsurance information related to contraceptive drugs and certain devices, please refer to your “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

ii. We cover a five-day supply of an FDA-approved drug for the treatment of opioid dependence without prior authorization, except that the drug supply is limited to a first request within a twelve-month period.

b. Outpatient Prescription Drugs

Unless your Group has purchased additional outpatient prescription drug coverage, we do not cover outpatient drugs except as provided in other provisions of this “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements” section. If your Group has purchased additional coverage for outpatient prescription drugs, see “Additional Provisions.” The drug formulary, discussed above, also applies.

i. Prescriptions by Mail

If requested, refills of maintenance drugs will be mailed through Kaiser Permanente’s mail-order prescription service by First-Class U.S. Mail with no charge for postage and handling. Refills of maintenance drugs prescribed by Plan Physicians or Affiliated Physicians may be obtained for up to the day supply by mail order, at the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance. Maintenance drugs are determined by Health Plan. Certain drugs and supplies may not be available through our mail-order service, for example, drugs that require special handling or refrigeration, have a significant potential for waste or diversion, or are high cost. Drugs and supplies available through our mail-order prescription service are subject to change at any time without notice. For information regarding our mail-order prescription service and specialty drugs not available by mail order, please contact **Member Services**.

ii. Specialty Drugs

Prescribed specialty drugs, including self-administered injectable drugs, are provided at the specialty drug Copayment or Coinsurance up to the maximum amount per drug dispensed shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

c. Food Supplements

We cover prescribed amino acid modified products used in the treatment of congenital errors of amino acid metabolism and severe protein allergic conditions, elemental enteral nutrition, and parenteral nutrition. Such products are covered for self-administered use upon payment of a \$3.00 Copayment per product, per day. Food products for enteral feedings are not covered.

d. Prescribed Supplies and Accessories

Prescribed supplies, when obtained at Plan Pharmacies or from sources designated by Health Plan, will be provided. Such items include, but may not be limited to:

- i. home glucose monitoring supplies;
- ii. disposable syringes for the administration of insulin;
- iii. glucose test strips;
- iv. acetone test tablets and nitrate screening test strips for pediatric patient home use.

For more information, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” If your Group has purchased supplemental prescription drug coverage, see “Additional Provisions.”

2. Limitations

- a. Adult and pediatric immunizations are limited to those that are not experimental, are medically indicated and are consistent with accepted medical practice.
- b. Some drugs may require prior authorization.
- c. If applicable, we may apply Step Therapy to certain drugs. You or your Plan Provider may request an exception if you previously tried a drug and your use of the drug was discontinued due to lack of efficacy or effectiveness, diminished effect, or an adverse event.
- d. Coverage determinations for the off-label use of medications will be consistent with Medicare compendia, and coverage determinations for the off-label use of oncologic agents will be consistent with the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) of 2008.

3. Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements Exclusions

- a. Drugs for which a prescription is not required by law.
- b. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze, tape, antiseptics, dressing and ace-type bandages.
- c. Drugs or injections for treatment of sexual dysfunction, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage, which is described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”
- d. Any packaging except the dispensing pharmacy’s standard packaging.

- e. Replacement of prescription drugs for any reason. This includes spilled, lost, damaged, or stolen prescriptions.
- f. Drugs or injections for the treatment of infertility, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage, which is described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” and “Additional Provisions”.
- g. Drugs to shorten the length of the common cold.
- h. Drugs to enhance athletic performance.
- i. Drugs for the treatment of weight control.
- j. Drugs available over the counter and by prescription for the same strength.
- k. Individual drugs determined excluded by our Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.
- l. Unless approved by Health Plan, drugs not approved by the FDA.
- m. Non-preferred drugs, except those prescribed and authorized through the non-preferred drug process.
- n. Prescription drugs necessary for Services excluded under this EOC.
- o. Drugs administered during a medical office visit. See “Office Services”.
- p. Medical Foods and Medical Devices. See “Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Prosthetics and Orthotics”.

**S. Preventive Care Services**

If your plan has a different preventive care Services benefit, please see “Additional Provisions.”

We cover certain preventive care Services that do one or more of the following:

- 1. Protect against disease;
- 2. Promote health; and/or
- 3. Detect disease in its earliest stages before noticeable symptoms develop.

If you receive any other covered Services during a preventive care visit, you may pay the applicable Copayment and Coinsurance for those Services.

**T. Reconstructive Surgery**

1. Coverage

We cover reconstructive surgery when it: (a) will correct significant disfigurement resulting from an injury or Medically Necessary surgery; or (b) will correct a congenital defect, disease, or anomaly to produce major improvement in physical function; or (c) will treat congenital hemangioma and port wine stains. Following Medically Necessary removal of all or part of a breast, we also cover reconstruction of the breast, surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance, and treatment of physical complications, including lymphedemas. An Authorization is required for all types of reconstructive surgeries.

2. Reconstructive Surgery Exclusions

Plastic surgery or other cosmetic Services and supplies primarily to change your appearance. This includes cosmetic surgery related to bariatric surgery.

**U. Reproductive Support Services**

Reproductive Support Services are not covered unless your Group has purchased additional supplemental coverage.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the Reproductive Support Services benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**V. Skilled Nursing Facility Care**

1. Coverage

We cover skilled inpatient Services in a licensed Skilled Nursing Facility. Prior Authorization is required for all Skilled Nursing Facility admissions. The skilled inpatient Services must be those usually provided by Skilled Nursing Facilities.

A prior three (3)-day stay in an acute care hospital is not required. We cover the following Services:

- a. Room and board.
- b. Nursing care.
- c. Medical social Services.
- d. Medical and biological supplies.
- e. Blood, blood products, and their administration.

A Skilled Nursing Facility is an institution that: provides skilled nursing or skilled rehabilitation Services, or both; provides Services on a daily basis 24 hours a day; is licensed under applicable state law; and is approved in writing by Medical Group.

**Note:** The following are covered, but not under this section: drugs, see “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements”; DME and prosthetics and orthotics, see “Durable Medical Equipment and Prosthetics and Orthotics”; X-ray, laboratory, and X-ray special procedures, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”.

2. Skilled Nursing Facility Care Exclusion

Custodial Care, as defined in “Exclusions” under the “Limitations/Exclusions (What is Not Covered)” section.



## W. Substance Use Disorder Services

### 1. Inpatient Medical and Hospital Services

We cover Services for the medical management of withdrawal symptoms. Medical Services for alcohol and drug detoxification are covered the same way as any other medical condition. Detoxification is the process of removing toxic substances from the body.

### 2. Residential Rehabilitation

The determination of the need for Services of a residential rehabilitation program and referral to such a facility or program is made by or under the supervision of a Plan Physician.

We cover inpatient Services and partial hospitalization in a residential rehabilitation program authorized by Health Plan for the treatment of alcoholism, drug abuse, or drug addiction.

### 3. Outpatient Services

Outpatient rehabilitative Services for the treatment of alcohol and drug dependency are covered when referred by a Plan Physician.

We cover substance use disorder Services, whether they are voluntary or are court-ordered as a result of contact with the criminal justice or juvenile justice system, when they are Medically Necessary and otherwise covered under the plan, and when rendered by a Plan Provider. We do not cover court-ordered treatment that exceeds the scope of coverage of this health benefit plan.

Mental health Services required in connection with treatment for substance use disorder are covered as provided in the “Mental Health Services” section.

### 4. Substance Use Disorder Services Exclusion

Counseling for a patient who is not responsive to therapeutic management, as determined by a Plan Physician.

## X. Transgender Services

We cover transgender Services when Medically Necessary to treat gender dysphoria or gender identity disorder. Prior Authorization may be required. You must meet all medical criteria developed by Medical Group to be eligible for coverage. Coverage includes, but is not limited to: office Services, hormone therapy, outpatient surgery, and hospital inpatient care. You pay the applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. For example, see “Hospital Inpatient Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for the Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible that apply to hospital inpatient care.

## Y. Transplant Services

### 1. Coverage

Transplants are covered on a limited basis as follows:

- a. Covered transplants are limited to: kidney transplants; heart transplants; heart-lung transplants; liver transplants; liver transplants for children with biliary atresia and other rare congenital abnormalities; small bowel transplants; small bowel and liver transplants; lung transplants; cornea transplants; simultaneous kidney-pancreas transplants; and pancreas alone transplants.
- b. Bone marrow transplants (autologous stem cell or allogenic stem cell) associated with high dose chemotherapy for germ cell tumors and neuroblastoma in children and bone marrow transplants for aplastic anemia, leukemia, severe combined immunodeficiency disease, and Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome.
- c. If all medical criteria developed by Medical Group are met, we cover: stem cell rescue; and transplants of organs, tissue, or bone marrow.

### 2. Related Prescription Drugs

Prescribed post-surgical immunosuppressive outpatient drugs required after a transplant are provided at the applicable outpatient prescription drug Copayment or Coinsurance and are subject to any pharmacy Deductible shown in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

### 3. Terms and Conditions

- a. Health Plan, Medical Group, and Plan Physicians do not undertake: to provide a donor or donor organ or bone marrow or cornea; or to assure the availability of a donor or donor organ or bone marrow or cornea; or to assure the availability or capacity of referral transplant facilities approved by Medical Group. In accordance with our guidelines for living transplant donors, we provide certain donation-related Services for a donor, or a person Medical Group or a Plan Physician identifies as a potential donor, even if the donor is not a Member. These Services must be directly related to a covered transplant for you. For information specific to your situation, please call your assigned Transplant Coordinator or the **Transplant Administrative Offices**.
- b. Plan Physicians must determine that the Member satisfies Medical Group medical criteria before the Member receives Services.

- c. A Plan Physician must provide a written referral for care at a transplant facility. The transplant facility must be from a list of approved facilities selected by Medical Group. The referral may be to a transplant facility outside our Service Area. Transplants are covered only at the facility Medical Group selects for the particular transplant, even if another facility within the Service Area could also perform the transplant.
  - d. After referral, if a Plan Physician or the medical staff of the referral facility determines the Member does not satisfy its respective criteria for the Service, Health Plan’s obligation is only to pay for covered Services provided prior to such determination.
4. Transplant Services Exclusions and Limitations
- a. Bone marrow transplants, associated with high dose chemotherapy for solid tissue tumors, (except bone marrow transplants covered under this EOC) are excluded.
  - b. Non-human and artificial organs and their implantation are excluded.
  - c. Pancreas alone transplants are limited to patients without renal problems who meet set criteria.
  - d. Travel and lodging expenses are excluded, except that in some situations, when Medical Group or a Plan Physician refers you to a non-Plan Provider outside our Service Area for transplant Services, as described in “Access to Other Providers” in the “How to Access Your Services and Obtain Approval of Benefits” section, we may pay certain expenses we preauthorize under our internal travel and lodging guidelines. For information specific to your situation, please call your assigned Transplant Coordinator or the **Transplant Administrative Offices**.

**Z. Vision Services**

1. Coverage

We cover routine and non-routine eye exams. Refraction tests to determine the need for vision correction and to provide a prescription for eyeglasses are covered unless specifically excluded in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. We also cover professional exams and the fitting of Medically Necessary contact lenses when a Plan Physician or Plan Optometrist prescribes them for a specific medical condition.

Professional Services for exams and fitting of contact lenses that are not Medically Necessary are provided at an additional Charge when obtained at Health Plan Medical Offices.

2. Vision Services Exclusions

- a. Eyeglass lenses and frames.
- b. Contact lenses.
- c. Professional exams for fittings and dispensing of contact lenses except when Medically Necessary as described above.
- d. All Services related to eye surgery for the purpose of correcting refractive defects such as myopia, hyperopia, or astigmatism (for example, radial keratotomy, photo-refractive keratectomy, and similar procedures).
- e. Orthoptic (eye training) therapy or low vision therapy.

Your Group may have purchased additional optical coverage. See “Additional Provisions.”

**AA. X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures**

1. Coverage

a. Outpatient

We cover the following Services:

- i. Diagnostic X-ray tests, Services, and materials, including but not limited to isotopes, mammograms, and ultrasounds.
- ii. Laboratory tests, Services, and materials, including but not limited to electrocardiograms.  
**Note:** We use a laboratory formulary. A laboratory formulary is a list of laboratory tests, Services, and other materials that have been approved by Health Plan for our Members. If you would like information about whether a particular test or Service is included in our laboratory formulary, please call **Member Services**.
- iii. Therapeutic X-ray Services and materials.
- iv. X-ray special procedures such as MRI, CT, PET, and nuclear medicine.

**Note:** For X-ray special procedures, you will be billed for each individual procedure performed. As such, if more than one procedure is performed in a single visit, more than one Copayment will apply. A procedure is defined in accordance with the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) medical billing codes published annually by the American Medical Association. You are responsible for any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for X-ray special procedures performed as a part of or in conjunction with other outpatient Services, including but not limited to Emergency Services, urgent care, and outpatient surgery.

Diagnostic procedures include administered drugs. Therapeutic procedures may incur an additional charge for administered drugs.

- b. Inpatient  
During hospitalization, prescribed diagnostic X-ray and laboratory tests, Services and materials, including diagnostic and therapeutic X-rays and isotopes, electrocardiograms, electroencephalograms, MRI, CT, PET, and nuclear medicine are covered under your hospital inpatient care benefit.
- 2. X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures Exclusions
  - a. Testing of a Member for a non-Member's use and/or benefit.
  - b. Testing of a non-Member for a Member's use and/or benefit.

## IV. LIMITATIONS/EXCLUSIONS (WHAT IS NOT COVERED)

### A. Exclusions

The Services listed below are not covered. These exclusions apply to all covered Services under this EOC. Additional exclusions that apply only to a particular Service are listed in the description of that Service in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.

1. **Alternative Medical Services.** The following are not covered unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for these Services See the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" to determine if your Group has purchased additional coverage.
  - a. Acupuncture Services.
  - b. Naturopathy Services.
  - c. Massage therapy.
  - d. Chiropractic Services and supplies that are not provided by a Plan Provider under this Agreement.
2. **Behavioral Problems.** Any treatment or Service for a behavioral problem not associated with a manifest mental disorder or condition.
3. **Cosmetic Services.** Services that are intended: primarily to change or maintain your appearance; and that will not result in significant improvement in physical function. This includes cosmetic surgery related to bariatric surgery. Exception: Services covered under "Reconstructive Surgery" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.
4. **Cryopreservation.** Any and all Services related to cryopreservation, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage. This excludes, but is not limited to, the procurement and/or storage of semen, sperm, eggs, reproductive materials, and/or embryos. See "Additional Provisions" for additional coverage or exclusions, if applicable to your Group.
5. **Custodial or Residential Care.** Assistance with activities of daily living or care that can be performed safely and effectively by people who, in order to provide the care, do not require medical licenses or certificates or the presence of a supervising licensed nurse. Assistance with activities of daily living include: walking; getting in and out of bed; bathing; dressing; feeding; toileting; and taking medicine.
6. **Dental Services.** Dental Services and dental X-rays, including: dental Services following injury to teeth; dental appliances; implants; orthodontia; TMJ; and dental Services as a result of and following medical treatment such as radiation treatment. This exclusion does not apply to: (a) Medically Necessary Services for the treatment of cleft lip or cleft palate when prescribed by a Plan Physician, unless the Member is covered for these Services under a dental insurance policy or contract; or (b) hospitalization and general anesthesia for dental Services, prescribed or directed by a Plan Physician for Dependent children who: (i) have a physical, mental, or medically compromising condition; or (ii) have dental needs for which local anesthesia is ineffective because of acute infection, anatomic variations, or allergy; or (iii) are extremely uncooperative, unmanageable, anxious, or uncommunicative with dental needs deemed sufficiently important that dental care cannot be deferred; or (iv) have sustained extensive orofacial and dental trauma. Unless otherwise specified herein, (a) and (b) must be received at a Plan Facility or Skilled Nursing Facility.  
  
The following Services for TMJ may be covered if determined Medically Necessary: diagnostic X-rays; laboratory testing; physical therapy; and surgery.
7. **Directed Blood Donations.**
8. **Disposable Supplies.** Disposable supplies for home use such as:
  - a. Bandages;
  - b. Gauze;
  - c. Tape;
  - d. Antiseptics;
  - e. Dressings;
  - f. Ace-type bandages; and
  - g. Any other supplies, dressings, appliances, or devices not specifically listed as covered in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.

9. **Educational Services.** Educational services are not health care services and are not covered. Examples include, but are not limited to:
- a. Items and services to increase academic knowledge or skills;
  - b. Special education or care for learning deficiencies, whether or not associated with a manifest mental disorder or condition, including but not limited to attention deficit disorder, learning disabilities, and developmental delays;
  - c. Teaching and support services to increase academic performance;
  - d. Academic coaching or tutoring for skills such as grammar, math, and time management;
  - e. Speech training that is not Medically Necessary, and not part of an approved treatment plan, and not provided by or under the direct supervision of a Plan Provider acting within the scope of his or her license under Colorado law that is intended to address speech impediments;
  - f. Teaching you how to read, whether or not you have dyslexia;
  - g. Educational testing;
  - h. Teaching (or any other items or services associated with) activities such as art, dance, horse riding, music, swimming, or teaching you how to play.

10. **Employer or Government Responsibility.** Financial responsibility for Services that an employer or a government agency is required by law to provide.

11. **Experimental or Investigational Services:**

- a. A Service is experimental or investigational for a Member’s condition if any of the following statements apply at the time the Service is or will be provided to the Member. The Service:
  - i. Has not been approved or granted by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA); or
  - ii. Is the subject of a current new drug or new device application on file with the FDA; or
  - iii. Is provided as part of a Phase I or Phase II clinical trial, as the experimental or research arm of a Phase III clinical trial or in any other manner that is intended to determine the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of the Service; or
  - iv. Is provided pursuant to a written protocol or other document that lists an evaluation of the Service’s safety, toxicity, or efficacy as among its objectives; or
  - v. Is subject to the approval or review of an Institutional Review Board (IRB) or other body that approves or reviews research on the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of Services; or
  - vi. The Service has not been recommended for coverage by the Regional New Technology and Benefit Interpretation Committee, the Interregional New Technology Committee or the Medical Technology Assessment Unit based on analysis of clinical studies and literature for safety and appropriateness, unless otherwise covered by Health Plan; or,
  - vii. Is provided pursuant to informed consent documents that describe the Service as experimental or investigational or in other terms that indicate that the Service is being looked at for its safety, toxicity, or efficacy; or
  - viii. Is part of a prevailing opinion among experts as expressed in the published authoritative medical or scientific literature that (A) use of the Service should be substantially confined to research settings or (B) further research is needed to determine the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of the Service.
- b. In determining whether a Service is experimental or investigational, the following sources of information will be solely relied upon:
  - i. The Member’s medical records; and
  - ii. The written protocol(s) or other document(s) under which the Service has been or will be provided; and
  - iii. Any consent document(s) the Member or the Member’s representative has executed or will be asked to execute to receive the Service; and
  - iv. 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; and
  - v. The published authoritative medical or scientific literature on the Service as applied to the Member’s illness or injury; and
  - vi. Regulations, records, applications and other documents or actions issued by, filed with, or taken by the FDA, or other agencies within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, or any state agency performing similar functions.
- c. If two (2) or more Services are part of the same plan of treatment or diagnosis, all of the Services are excluded if one of the Services is experimental or investigational.
- d. Health Plan consults Medical Group and then uses the criteria described above to decide if a particular Service is experimental or investigational.

**Note:** For non-grandfathered health plans only, this exclusion does not apply to Services covered under “Clinical Trials” in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.

12. **Genetic Testing.** Genetic testing unless determined to be: Medically Necessary; and meets Medical Group criteria.

13. **Infertility Services.** All Services related to the diagnosis or treatment of infertility unless your Group has purchased additional supplemental coverage.
14. **Intermediate Care.** Care in an intermediate care facility.
15. **Routine Foot Care Services.** Routine foot care Services that are not Medically Necessary.
16. **Services for Members in the Custody of Law Enforcement Officers.** Non-Plan Provider Services provided or arranged by criminal justice institutions for Members in the custody of law enforcement officers, unless the Services are covered as out-of- Plan Emergency Services or urgent care outside the Service Area.
17. **Services Not Available in our Service Area.** Services not generally and customarily available in our Service Area, except when it is a generally accepted medical practice in our Service Area to refer patients outside our Service Area for the Service.
18. **Services Related to a Non-Covered Service.** When a Service is not covered, all Services related to the non-covered Service are excluded. This does not include Services we would otherwise cover to treat complications as a result of the non-covered Service.
19. **Third Party Requests or Requirements.** Physical exams, tests, or other services that do not directly treat an actual illness, injury, or condition, and any related reports or paperwork in connection with third party requests or requirements, including but not limited to those for:
  - a. Employment;
  - b. Participation in employee programs;
  - c. Insurance;
  - d. Disability;
  - e. Licensing;
  - f. School events, sports, or camp;
  - g. Governmental agencies;
  - h. Court order, parole, or probation;
  - i. Travel.
20. **Travel and Lodging Expenses.** Travel and lodging expenses are excluded. We may pay certain expenses we preauthorize in accordance with our internal travel and lodging guidelines in some situations, when Medical Group refers you to a non-Plan Provider outside our Service Area as described under “Access to Other Providers” in the “How to Access Your Services and Obtain Approval of Benefits” section.
21. **Unclassified Medical Technology Devices and Services.** Medical technology devices and Services which have not been classified as durable medical equipment or laboratory by a National Coverage Determination (NCD) issued by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), unless otherwise covered by Health Plan.
22. **Weight Management Facilities.** Services received in a weight management facility.
23. **Workers’ Compensation or Employer’s Liability.** Financial responsibility for Services for any illness, injury, or condition, to the extent a payment or any other benefit, including any amount received as a settlement (collectively referred to as “Financial Benefit”), is provided under any workers’ compensation or employer’s liability law. We will provide Services even if it is unclear whether you are entitled to a Financial Benefit, but we may recover Charges for any such Services from the following sources:
  - a. Any source providing a Financial Benefit or from whom a Financial Benefit is due.
  - b. You, to the extent that a Financial Benefit is provided or payable or would have been required to be provided or payable if you had diligently sought to establish your rights to the Financial Benefit under any workers’ compensation or employer’s liability law.

## B. Limitations

We will use our best efforts to provide or arrange covered Services in the event of unusual circumstances that delay or render impractical the provision of Services. Examples include: major disaster; epidemic; war; riot; civil insurrection; disability of a large share of personnel at a Plan Facility; complete or partial destruction of facilities; and labor disputes not involving Health Plan, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals or Medical Group. In these circumstances, Health Plan, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, Medical Group and Medical Group Plan Physicians will not have any liability for any delay or failure in providing covered Services. In the case of a labor dispute involving Health Plan, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, or Medical Group, we may postpone care until the dispute is resolved if delaying your care is safe and will not result in harmful health consequences.

## C. Reductions

### 1. Coordination of Benefits (COB)

The Services covered under this EOC are subject to Coordination of Benefit (COB) rules. If you have health care coverage with another health plan or insurance company, we will coordinate benefits with the other coverage under the COB guidelines below.

This 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 govern 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% 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. However, 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.
  - i. **Plan** includes: group insurance contracts, health maintenance organization (HMO) contracts, closed panel plans or other forms of group or group-type coverage (whether insured or uninsured); medical care components of long-term care contracts, such as skilled nursing care; medical benefits under group or individual automobile contracts; and Medicare or any other federal governmental plan, as permitted by law.
  - ii. **Plan** does not include: hospital indemnity coverage or other fixed indemnity coverage; accident only coverage; specified disease or specified accident coverage; limited benefit health coverage, as defined by state law; school accident type coverage; benefits for non-medical components of 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 i. or ii. 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 determine whether **This plan** is a **Primary plan** or **Secondary plan** when the person has health coverage under more than one **Plan**.

When **This plan** is primary, its benefits are determined before those of any other **Plan** and without considering any other **Plan's** benefits. When **This plan** is secondary, its benefits are determined after those of another **Plan** and may be reduced because of the **Primary plan's** benefits, so that all **Plan** benefits do not exceed 100% 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**:

- i. 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 or the patient's stay is medically necessary in terms of generally accepted medical practice or the hospital does not have a semi-private room.
- ii. 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**.
- iii. 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**.
- iv. 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.
- v. 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. **Claim determination period** is usually a calendar year, but a **Plan** may use some other period of time that fits the coverage of the group contract. A person is covered by a **Plan** during a portion of a **Claim determination period** if that person's coverage starts or ends during the **Claim determination period**. However, it does not include any part of a year during which a person has no coverage under **This plan**, or before the date this **COB** provision or a similar provision takes effect.
  - f. **Closed panel plan** is a **Plan** that provides health benefits to covered persons primarily in the form of services through a panel of providers that have contracted with either directly or indirectly or are employed by the **Plan**, and that limits or excludes benefits for services provided by other providers, except in cases of emergency or referral by a panel member.
  - g. **Custodial parent** means a parent awarded primary custody by a court decree. In the absence of a court decree, it is the parent with whom the child resides more than one half of the calendar year without regard to 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 payment are as follows:

- a. The **Primary plan** pays or provides its benefits according to its terms of coverage and without regard to the benefits under any other **Plan**.
- b.
  - i. Except as provided in paragraph ii., a **Plan** that does not contain a coordination of benefits provision that is consistent with these rules is always primary unless the provisions of both **Plans** state that the complying **Plan** is primary.
  - ii. Coverage that is obtained by virtue of being members in a group, and designed to supplement part of the basic package of benefits, may provide supplementary coverage that shall be in excess of 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 determining 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:
  - i. 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**.
  - ii. 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:
      - 1. The **Plan** of the parent whose birthday (month and day) falls earlier in the calendar year is the **Primary plan**; or
      - 2. 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:
      - 1. 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;
      - 2. 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;

3. 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
  4. 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:
    - The **Plan** covering the **Custodial parent**;
    - The **Plan** covering the spouse of the **Custodial parent**;
    - The **Plan** covering the **non-custodial parent**; and then
    - 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.
- iii. 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.
  - iv. 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.
  - v. Longer or Shorter Length of Coverage. The **Plan** that covered the person as an employee, member, policyholder, subscriber or retiree longer is the **Primary plan** and the **Plan** that covered the person the shorter period of time is the **Secondary plan**.
  - vi. 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 Health Plan 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, Health Plan 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**. Health 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 reasonable cash value of the benefits provided in the form of services.



## **RIGHT OF RECOVERY**

If the amount of the payments made by Health Plan is more than it should have paid under this **COB** provision, we may recover the excess from one or more of the persons we have paid or for whom we have 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.

If you have any questions about COB, please call or write **Patient Financial Services**.

### 2. Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties

You must ensure we receive the maximum reimbursement allowed by law for covered Services you receive for an injury or illness that is alleged to be caused by another party. You do not have to reimburse us more than you receive from or on behalf of any other party, insurance company or organization as a result of the injury or illness. Our right to reimbursement shall include all sources as allowed by law. This includes, but is not limited to, any recovery you receive from: (a) uninsured motorist coverage; or (b) underinsured motorist coverage; or (c) automobile medical payment coverage; or (d) workers’ compensation coverage; or (e) any other liability coverage; or (f) any responsible party or entity.

**Note:** This “Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties” section does not affect your obligation to pay your Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible for these Services. The amount of reimbursement due the Plan is not limited by or subject to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum provision.

To the extent allowed 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 the other 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.

We shall have a first priority lien on the proceeds of any judgment or settlement, whether by compromise or otherwise, you obtain against or from any other party, entity or insurer, regardless of whether the other party, entity or insurer admits fault. Proceeds of such judgment, award or settlement in your or your attorney’s possession shall be held in trust for our benefit.

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

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

For us to determine the existence of any rights we may have and to satisfy those rights, you must complete and send to Equian: all consents; releases; authorizations; assignments; and other documents, including lien forms directing your attorney, any other party or entity and any respective insurer to pay us or our legal representatives directly. You must cooperate to protect our interests under this “Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties” provision and must not take any action prejudicial to our rights.

If your estate, parent, guardian or conservator asserts a claim against another party, entity or insurer based on your injury or illness, your estate, parent, guardian or conservator and any settlement 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. We may assign our rights to enforce our liens and other rights.

Some providers have contracted with Kaiser Permanente to provide certain Services to Members at rates that are typically less than the fees that the providers normally charge to the general public (“General Fees”). However, these contracts may allow providers to assert any independent lien rights they may have to recover their General Fees from a judgment or settlement that you receive from or on behalf of another party, entity or insurer. For Services the provider furnished, our recovery and the provider’s recovery together will not exceed the provider’s General Fees.

If you are entitled to Medicare, Medicare law may apply with respect to Services covered by Medicare.

### 3. Traditional or Gestational Surrogacy

In situations where you receive monetary compensation to act as either a traditional or gestational surrogate, Health Plan will seek reimbursement for covered Services you receive that are associated with conception, pregnancy and/or delivery of the child, except that we will recover no more than half of the monetary compensation you receive. A surrogate arrangement is one in which a woman agrees to become pregnant and to surrender the baby to another person or persons who intend to raise the child. 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 applies to both traditional surrogacy and gestational carriers.

**Note:** This "Traditional or Gestational Surrogacy" section does not affect your obligation to pay your Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible for these Services.

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) receives, including names, addresses, and telephone numbers for any health insurance that will cover Services that the baby (or babies) receives
- 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:

Equian, LLC  
Attn: Surrogacy Subrogation Operations  
PO Box 36380  
Louisville, KY 40233  
Fax: 502-214-1291

## V. MEMBER PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITY

Information on Member payment responsibility, including applicable Deductibles, annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum, Copayments, and Coinsurance, is located in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)." Payment responsibility information for Emergency Services and urgent care is located in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section. For additional questions, contact **Member Services**.

Our contracts with Plan Providers provide that you are not liable for any amounts we owe them for covered Services. However, you may be liable for the cost of non-covered Services or Services you obtain from non-Plan Providers. If our contract with any Plan Provider terminates while you are under the care of that provider, we will retain financial responsibility for covered Services you receive from that provider, in excess of any applicable Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance amounts, until we make arrangements for the Services to be provided by another Plan Provider and so notify the Subscriber.

## VI. CLAIMS PROCEDURE (HOW TO FILE A CLAIM)

Plan Providers submit claims for payment for covered Services directly to Health Plan. For general information on claims, and how to submit pre-service claims, concurrent care claims, and post-service claims, see the "Appeals and Complaints" section. For covered Services by non-Plan Providers, you may need to submit a claim on your own. Contact **Member Services** for more information on how to submit such claims. Health Plan complies with the time frames for resolution and payment of filed claims as required by state law.

## VII. GENERAL POLICY PROVISIONS

### A. Access Plan

Colorado law requires that an Access Plan be available that describes Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado's network of provider Services. To obtain a copy, please call **Member Services**.

### B. Access to Services for Foreign Language Speakers

1. **Member Services** will provide a telephone interpreter to assist Members who speak limited or no English.
2. Plan Physicians have telephone access to interpreters in over 150 languages.
3. Plan Physicians can also request an onsite interpreter for an appointment, procedure, or Service.
4. Any interpreter assistance we arrange or provide will be at no Charge to the Member.

### C. Administration of Agreement

We may adopt reasonable policies, procedures, and interpretations to promote efficient administration of the Group Agreement and this EOC.

### D. Advance Directives

Federal law requires Kaiser Permanente to tell you about your right to make health care decisions.

Colorado law recognizes the right of an adult to accept or reject medical treatment, artificial nourishment and hydration, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Each adult has the right to establish, in advance of the need for medical treatment, any directives and instructions for the administration of medical treatment in the event the person lacks the decisional capacity to provide informed consent to or refusal of medical treatment. (Colorado Revised Statutes, Section 15-14-504)

Kaiser Permanente will not discriminate against you whether or not you have an advance directive. We will follow the requirements of Colorado law respecting advance directives. If you have an advance directive, please give a copy to the Kaiser Permanente medical records department or to your provider.

A health care provider or health care facility shall provide for the prompt transfer of the principal to another health care provider or health care facility if such health care provider or health care facility wishes not to comply with an agent's medical treatment decision on the basis of policies based on moral convictions or religious beliefs. (Colorado Revised Statutes, Section 15-14-507)

Two (2) brochures are available: *Your Right to Make Health Care Decisions* and *Making Health Care Decisions*. For copies of these brochures or for more information, please call **Member Services**.

**E. Agreement 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.

**F. Amendment of Agreement**

Your Group's Agreement with us will change periodically. If these changes affect this EOC, your Group is required to notify you of them. If it is necessary to make revisions to this EOC, we will issue revised materials to you.

**G. 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.

**H. Assignment**

You may assign, in writing, payments due under the policy to a licensed hospital, other licensed health care provider, an occupational therapist, or a massage therapist, for covered Services provided to you. You may not assign this EOC or any other rights, interests, or obligations hereunder without our prior written consent.

**I. Attorney Fees and Expenses**

In any dispute between a Member and Health Plan or Plan Providers, each party will bear its own attorneys' fees and other expenses.

**J. Claims Review Authority**

We are responsible for determining whether you are entitled to benefits under this EOC. We have the authority to review and evaluate claims that arise under this EOC. We conduct this evaluation independently by interpreting the provisions of this EOC. If this EOC is part of a health benefit plan that is subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), then we are a "named fiduciary" to review claims under this EOC.

**K. Contracts with Plan Providers**

Plan Providers are paid in a number of ways, including: salary; capitation; per diem rates; case rates; fee for service; and incentive payments. If you would like further information about the way Plan Providers are paid to provide or arrange medical and hospital care for Members, please call **Member Services**.

Our contracts with Plan Providers provide that you are not liable for any amounts we owe. However, you may be liable for the cost of non-covered Services or Services you obtain from non-Plan Providers. If our contract with any Plan Provider terminates while you are under the care of that provider, we will retain financial responsibility for covered Services you receive from that provider, in excess of any applicable Copayments and Coinsurance, until we make arrangements for the Services to be provided by another Plan Provider and so notify the Subscriber.

**L. Governing Law**

Except as preempted by federal law, this EOC will be governed in accordance with Colorado law. Any provision that is required to be in this EOC by state or federal law shall bind Members and Health Plan whether or not set forth in this EOC.

**M. Group and Members are not Health Plan's Agents**

Neither your Group nor any Member is the agent or representative of Health Plan.

**N. 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.

## O. Nondiscrimination

We do not discriminate in our employment practices or in the delivery of health care Services on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or physical or mental disability.

## P. Notices

Our notices to you will be sent to the most recent address we have for the Subscriber. The Subscriber is responsible for notifying us of any change in address. Members who move should call **Member Services** as soon as possible to give us their new address.

## Q. Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit

Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit is a one-time event which may occur at the point of the initial open enrollment. It applies only to:

1. Members of new groups enrolling with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado for the first time. (In this situation, Members must have been covered under one of the group's other carriers at the time of the group's enrollment.)
2. Members of new or current groups who move from non-sole carrier status to sole-carrier status with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado. Non-sole carrier status refers to when an employee has the option of choosing a group health plan either through Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado or through another carrier. (In this situation, Members must have been covered under one of the group's other carriers at the time the group moved to sole-carrier status.)

A credit may be applied toward your Out-of-Pocket Maximum with Health Plan for certain eligible expenses accumulated toward your out-of-pocket maximum under your prior coverage. In order for expenses to be considered for this credit, you must submit an Explanation of Benefits ("EOB") issued by your prior carrier showing that the expense was applied toward your out-of-pocket maximum under your prior coverage. All such expenses must be for Services that are covered and subject to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum under this EOC.

For groups with effective dates of coverage during the months of April through December, expenses incurred from January 1 of the current year through the effective date of coverage with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado may be eligible for credit.

For groups with effective dates of coverage during the months of January through March, expenses incurred up to 90 days prior to the effective date of coverage with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan may be eligible for credit.

You must submit all claims for Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit within 90 days from the effective date of coverage with Health Plan. To submit a claim, send all EOBs along with a completed Prior Carrier Information Cover Form to the **Kaiser Permanente Claims Department**. To get a copy of the Prior Carrier Information Cover Form, please call the **Claims Department**.

## R. Overpayment Recovery

We may recover any overpayment we make for Services from anyone who receives such an overpayment, or from any person or organization obligated to pay for the Services.

## S. Privacy Practices

Kaiser Permanente will protect the privacy of your Protected Health Information (PHI). We also require contracting providers to protect your PHI. PHI is health information that includes your name, Social Security number or other information that reveals who you are. 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, and health care operations purposes, including health research and measuring the quality of care and Services. We are sometimes required by law to give PHI to government agencies or in judicial actions. In addition, we may share your PHI with employers 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* (see below). Giving us authorization is at your discretion.

**This is only a brief summary of some of our key privacy practices. Our *Notice of Privacy Practices* explains our privacy practices in detail. To request a copy, please call Member Services. You can also find the *Notice of Privacy Practices* on our website at [kp.org](http://kp.org).**

## T. Value-Added Services

In addition to the Services we cover under this EOC, we make available a variety of value-added services. Value-added services are not covered by your plan. They are intended to give you more options for a healthy lifestyle. Examples may include:

1. Certain health education classes not covered by your plan;
2. Certain health education publications;
3. Discounts for fitness club memberships;
4. Health promotion and wellness programs; and
5. Rewards for participating in those programs.

Some of these value-added services are available to all Members. Others may be available only to Members enrolled through certain groups or plans. To take advantage of these services, you may need to:

1. Show your Health Plan ID card, and
2. Pay the fee, if any,

to the company that provides the value-added service. Because these services are not covered by your plan, any fees you pay will not count toward any coverage calculations, such as Deductible or Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

To learn about value-added services and which ones are available to you, please check our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org).

These value-added services are neither offered nor guaranteed under your Health Plan coverage. Health Plan may change or discontinue some or all value-added services at any time and without notice to you. Value-added services are not offered as inducements to purchase a health care plan from us. Although value-added services are not covered by your plan, we may have included an estimate of their cost when we calculated Premiums.

Health Plan does not endorse or make any representations regarding the quality or medical efficacy of value-added services, or the financial integrity of the companies offering them. We expressly disclaim any liability for the value-added services provided by these companies. If you have a dispute regarding a value-added service, you must resolve it with the company offering such service. Although Health Plan has no obligation to assist with this resolution, you may call **Member Services**, and a representative may try to assist in getting the issue resolved.

#### **U. Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act**

In accordance with the "Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998," and as determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient, we provide the following coverage after a mastectomy:

1. Reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy was performed.
2. Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical (balanced) appearance.
3. Prostheses (artificial replacements).
4. Services for physical complications resulting from the mastectomy.

### **VIII. TERMINATION/NONRENEWAL/CONTINUATION**

Your Group is required to inform the Subscriber of the date coverage terminates. If your membership terminates, all rights to benefits end at 11:59 p.m. on the termination date. Dependents' memberships end at the same time the Subscriber's membership ends. You will be billed as a non-Member for any Services you receive after your membership terminates. Health Plan and Plan Providers have no further responsibility under this EOC after your membership terminates, except as provided under "Termination of Group Agreement" in this "Termination of Membership" section.

This section describes: how your membership may end; and explains how you may maintain Health Plan coverage if your membership under this EOC ends.

#### **A. Termination Due to Loss of Eligibility**

If you no longer meet the eligibility requirements in the "Eligibility" section, we or your Group will provide 30 days' advance written notice of termination.

#### **B. Termination of Group Agreement**

If your Group's Agreement with us terminates for any reason, your membership ends on the same date.

If your Group's Agreement terminates for reasons other than nonpayment of Premiums, fraud or abuse, while you are inpatient in a hospital or institution, your coverage will continue until your date of discharge.

#### **C. Termination for Cause**

We may terminate the memberships in your Family Unit if anyone in your Family Unit commits any of the following acts.

1. We will send written notice that will include the reason for termination to the Subscriber at least 30 days before the termination date if:
  - a. You are disruptive, unruly, or abusive so that Health Plan's or a Plan Provider's ability to provide Services to you, or to other Members, is seriously impaired; or
  - b. You fail to establish and maintain a satisfactory provider-patient relationship, after the Plan Provider has made reasonable efforts to promote such a relationship; or
2. We will send written notice that will include the reason for termination to the Subscriber at least 30 days before the termination date if:
  - a. You knowingly: (a) misrepresent membership status; (b) present an invalid prescription or physician order; (c) misuse (or let someone else misuse) a Health Plan ID card; or (d) commit any other type of fraud in connection with your membership (including your enrollment application), Health Plan or a Plan Provider; or
  - b. You knowingly: furnish incorrect or incomplete information to us; or fail to notify us of changes in your family status or Medicare coverage that may affect your eligibility or benefits.

Termination of membership for any one of these reasons applies to all members of your Family Unit. All rights to benefits cease on the date of termination. You will be billed as a non-Member for any Services received after the termination date. You have the right to appeal such a termination. To appeal, please call **Member Services**; or you can call the Colorado Division of Insurance.

We may report any member fraud to the authorities for prosecution. We may also pursue appropriate civil remedies.

**D. Termination for Nonpayment**

You are entitled to coverage only for the period for which we have received the appropriate Premiums from your Group. If your Group fails to pay us the appropriate Premiums for your Family Unit, we will terminate the memberships of everyone in your Family Unit.

After termination of your enrollment for nonpayment of Premiums, Health Plan may require payment of any outstanding Premiums for prior coverage if permitted by applicable law.

**E. Termination of a Product or all Products (applies to non-grandfathered health plans only)**

We may terminate a particular product or all products offered in the group market as permitted or required by law. If we discontinue offering a particular product in the group market, we will terminate just the particular product by sending you written notice at least 90 days before the product terminates. If we discontinue offering all products in the group market, we may terminate your Group's Agreement by sending you written notice at least 180 days before the Agreement terminates.

**F. Rescission of Membership**

We may rescind your membership after it is effective if you or anyone on your behalf did one of the following with respect to your membership (or application) prior to your membership effective date:

1. Performed an act, practice, or omission that constitutes fraud; or
2. Misrepresented a material fact with intent, such as an omission on the application.

We will send written notice to the Subscriber in your Family at least 30 days before we rescind your membership. The rescission will cancel your membership so no coverage ever existed. You will be required to pay as a non-Member for any Services we covered. We will refund all applicable Premiums, less any amounts you owe us.

**G. Continuation of Group Coverage Under Federal Law, State Law or USERRA**

1. Federal Law (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. Please contact your Group if you want to know how to elect COBRA coverage or how much you will have to pay your Group for it.

2. State Law

If you are not eligible to continue uninterrupted group coverage under federal law (COBRA), you may be eligible to continue group coverage under Colorado law. Colorado law states that if you have been a Member for at least six (6) consecutive months immediately prior to termination of employment, continue to meet the eligibility requirements of Group and Health Plan and continue to pay applicable monthly Premiums to your Group, you may continue uninterrupted group coverage. If loss of eligibility occurs because of the following reasons, you and/or your Dependents may continue group coverage subject to the terms below:

- a. Your coverage is through a Subscriber who dies, divorces or legally separates, or becomes entitled to Medicare or Medicaid benefits; or
- b. You are a Subscriber (or your coverage is through a Subscriber) whose employment terminates, including voluntary termination or layoff, or whose hours of employment have been reduced.

You may enroll children born or placed for adoption with you during the period of continuation coverage. The enrollment and effective date shall be as specified under the "Eligibility" section.

To continue coverage, you must request continuation of group coverage on a form furnished by and returned to your Group along with payment of applicable Premiums, no later than 30 days after the date on which your Group coverage would otherwise terminate.

**Termination of State Continuation Coverage.** Continuation of coverage under this provision continues upon payment of the applicable Premiums to your Group and terminates on the earlier of:

- a. 18 months after your coverage would have otherwise terminated because of termination of employment; or
- b. The date you become covered under another group medical plan; or
- c. The date Health Plan terminates its contract with the Group.

We may terminate your continuation coverage if payment is not received when due.

If you have chosen an alternate health care plan offered through your Group but elect during open enrollment to receive continuation coverage through Health Plan, you will only be entitled to continued coverage for the remainder of the 18-month maximum coverage period.

3. **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 the federal USERRA law. You must submit a 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 or how much you will have to pay your Group for it.

## H. Moving to Another Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Area

You must notify us immediately if you permanently move outside the Service Area. If you move to another Kaiser regional health plan service area, you should contact your Group's benefits administrator before you move to learn about your Group health care options. You will be terminated from this plan, but you may be able to transfer your group membership if there is an arrangement with your Group in the new service area. However, eligibility requirements, benefits, Premiums, Copayments and Coinsurance may not be the same in the other service area.

## IX. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

### A. Claims and Appeals

Health Plan will review claims and appeals, and we may use medical experts to help us review them. The following terms have the following meanings when used in this "Appeals and Complaints" section:

1. A **claim** is a request for us to:
  - a. provide or pay for a Service that you have not received (pre-service claim),
  - b. continue to provide or pay for a Service that you are currently receiving (concurrent care claim), or
  - c. pay for a Service that you have already received (post-service claim).
2. An **adverse benefit determination** is our decision to do any of the following:
  - a. deny your claim, in whole or in part, including (1) a denial, in whole or in part, of a pre-service claim (preauthorization for a Service), a concurrent care claim (continue to provide or pay for a Service that you are currently receiving) or a post-service claim (a request to pay for a Service) in whole or in part; (2) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is not Medically Necessary, appropriate, effective or efficient or is not provided in or at the appropriate health care setting or level of care; or, (3) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is experimental or investigational,
  - b. terminate your membership retroactively except as the result of non-payment of Premiums (also called rescission or cancellation retroactively),
  - c. deny your (or, if applicable, your dependent's) application for individual plan coverage,
  - d. uphold our previous adverse benefit determination when you appeal.

In addition, when we deny a request for medical care because it is excluded under this EOC, and you present evidence from a Colorado medical professional that there is a reasonable medical basis that the contractual exclusion does not apply to the denied medical care, then our denial shall be considered an adverse benefit determination

3. An **appeal** is a request for us to review our initial adverse benefit determination.

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

Except when simultaneous external review can occur, you must exhaust the internal claims and appeals procedure as described in this "Appeals and Complaints" section unless we fail to follow the claims and appeals process described in this Section IX.

### **Language and Translation Assistance**

You may request language assistance with your claim and/or appeal by calling **Member Services**.

SPANISH (Español): Para obtener asistencia en Español, llame al 303-338-3800.

TAGALOG (Tagalog): Kung kailangan ninyo ang tulong sa Tagalog tumawag sa 303-338-3800.

CHINESE (中文): 如果需要中文的帮助, 请拨打这个号码 303-338-3800.

NAVAJO (Dine): Dinek'ehgo shika at'ohwol ninisingo, kwijijigo holne' 303-338-3800.

### **Appointing a Representative**

If you would like someone (including your provider (medical facility or health care professional)) to act on your behalf regarding your claim, you may appoint an authorized representative. You must make this appointment in writing. Please 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**

You may contact the Colorado Division of Insurance at:

Colorado Division of Insurance  
1560 Broadway, Suite 850  
Denver, Colorado 80202  
(303) 894-7499

### **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. You may request our Authorization for Release of Appeal Information form by calling the **Appeals Program**.

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 and/or Appeal**

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, if you ask for one. Please send all additional information to the Department that issued the adverse benefit determination.

When you appeal, you may give testimony in writing or by telephone. Please send your written testimony to the **Appeals Program**. To arrange to give testimony by telephone, you should contact the **Appeals Program**.

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 our next 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 next decision, that decision will be based on the information already in your claim file.

### **Internal Claims and Appeals Procedures**

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:

1. Pre-service claims (urgent and non-urgent)
2. Concurrent care claims (urgent and non-urgent)
3. Post-service claims

In addition, there is a separate appeals procedure for adverse benefit determinations due to a retroactive termination of membership (rescission) or a denial of an application for individual plan coverage.

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 he/she be the subordinate of someone who did participate in our original decision.

#### **1. 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 or pre-certified in order to be a covered Service may be the basis for our denial of your pre-service claim. 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 pre-service claim, a non-urgent pre-service appeal, and an urgent pre-service appeal.

##### **a. Pre-Service Claim**

Tell Health Plan in writing that you want 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 must either mail or fax your claim to **Member Services**.

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 unless your attending health care provider tells us your claim is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, creates an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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. We



may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent claim and appeal, to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

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 not later than 15 days after we receive your claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, so long as we notify you prior to the expiration of the initial 15-day period and explain the circumstances for which we need the extra time and when we expect to make a decision. If we tell you we need more information, we will ask you for the information within 15 days of receiving your claim, and we will give you 45 days to send the information. We will make a decision within 15 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 all of the information that you send us when we make our decision. If we do not receive any of the requested information (including documents) within 45 days after we send our request, we will make a decision based on the information we have within 15 days following the end of the 45-day period.

We will send written notice of our decision to you and, if applicable to your provider. Please let us know if you wish to have our decision sent to your provider.

If your pre-service claim was considered on an urgent basis, we will notify you of our decision (whether adverse or not) orally or in writing within a timeframe appropriate to your clinical condition but not later than 72 hours after we receive your claim. Within 24 hours after we receive your claim, we may ask you for more information. We will notify you of our decision within 48 hours of receiving the first piece of requested information. If we do not receive any of the requested information, then we will notify you of our decision within 48 hours after making our request. If we notify you of our decision orally, we will send you written confirmation within three (3) days after that.

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.

b. Non-Urgent Pre-Service Appeal

Within 180 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 Medical 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 denial, and (5) all supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must either mail or fax your appeal to the **Appeals Program**.

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The members of the appeals committee who will review your appeal will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least 5 days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that 5 day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within a reasonable period of time that is appropriate given your medical condition but not more than 30 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, that may be available to you.

c. 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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 may submit your appeal orally, by mail or by fax to the **Appeals Program**.

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 “Appeals and Complaints” section), if our internal appeal decision is not in your favor.

We will decide whether your appeal is urgent or non-urgent unless your attending health care provider tells us your appeal is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, create an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent appeal to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

You do not have the right to attend or have counsel, advocates and health care professionals in attendance at the expedited review. You are, however, entitled to submit written comments, documents, records and other materials for the reviewer or reviewers to consider; and receive, upon request and free of charge, copies of all documents, records and other information regarding your request for benefits.

We will review your appeal and give you oral or written notice of our decision as soon as your clinical condition requires, but not 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 (3) days after that.

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, that may be available to you.

2. Concurrent Care Claims and Appeals.

Concurrent care claims are requests that Health Plan continue to provide, or pay for, an ongoing course of covered treatment or Services for a period of time or number of treatments or Services, when the course of treatment already being received will end. If you have any general questions about concurrent care claims or appeals, please call **Member Services**.

Unless you are appealing an urgent care concurrent 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 then appeal our decision (an adverse benefit determination), 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 we will only pay for the continuation of Services until we notify you of our appeal decision.

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

a. Concurrent Care Claim

Tell us in writing 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 either mail or fax your claim to **Member Services**.

If you want us to consider your claim on an urgent basis and you contact us at least 24 hours before your 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 unless your attending health care provider tells us your claim is 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, health or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, create an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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 extending your course of covered treatment. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent claim or an appeal thereof, to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

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 care is ending, we will make our decision before your authorized care actually ends (that is, within 24 hours of receipt of your claim). If your authorized care ended before you submitted your claim, we will make our decision within a reasonable period of time but no later than 15 days after we receive your claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, if we send you notice before the initial 15 days end and explain why we need the extra time and when we expect to make a decision. If we tell you we need more information, we will ask you for the information before the initial decision period ends, and we will give you until your care is ending or, if your care has ended, 45 days to send us the information. We will make our decision as soon as possible, if your care has not ended, or within 15 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 days following the end of the 45 days that we gave you for sending the additional information.

We will send written notice of our decision to you and, if applicable to your provider, upon request. Please let us know if you wish to have our decision sent to your provider.

If we consider your concurrent claim on an urgent basis, we will notify you of our decision orally or in writing as soon as your clinical condition requires, but not later than 24 hours after we received your appeal. If we notify you of our decision orally, we will send you written confirmation within three (3) days after receiving your claim.

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

b. Non-Urgent Concurrent Care Appeal

Within 180 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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 the **Appeals Program**.

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The members of the appeals committee who will review your appeal will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least 5 days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that 5 day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision as soon as possible if your care has not ended but not later than 30 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, that may be available to you.

c. 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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 may submit your appeal orally, by mail or by fax to the **Appeals Program**.

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 “Appeals and Complaints” section).

We will decide whether your appeal is urgent or non-urgent unless your attending health care provider tells us your appeal is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, create an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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 continuing your course of covered treatment. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent appeal to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

You do not have the right to attend or have counsel, advocates and health care professionals in attendance at the expedited review. You are, however, entitled to submit written comments, documents, records and other materials for the reviewer or reviewers to consider; and receive, upon request and free of charge, copies of all documents, records and other information regarding your request for benefits.

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 (3) days after that.

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.

3. 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:

a. Post-Service Claim

Within twelve (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, and (4) why you think we should pay for the Services. You must include a copy of the bill, your medical record(s) and any supporting documents. Your letter and the related documents constitute your claim. Or, you may contact **Member Services** to obtain a claims form. You must either mail or fax your claim to the **Claims Department**.

We will not accept or pay for claims received from you after twelve (12) months from the date of Services.

We will review your claim, and if we have all the information we need we will send you a written decision within 30 days after we receive your claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, if we notify you within 15 days after we receive your claim and explain the circumstances for which we need the extra time and when we expect to make a decision. If we tell you we need more information, we will ask you for the information, and we will give you 45 days to send us the information. We will make a decision within 15 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 days after we send our request, we will make a decision based on the information we have within 15 days following the end of the 45-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.

b. Post-Service Appeal

Within 180 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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) include all supporting documents such as medical records. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must either mail or fax your appeal to the **Appeals Program**.

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The appeals committee members who will review your appeal (who were not involved in our original decision regarding your claim) will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least 5 days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that 5 day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within 30 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.

Voluntary Second Level of Appeal

Within 60 days after you receive our adverse decision regarding your appeal, you may ask us to review our adverse benefit decisions again. We will schedule a review of your second appeal within 60 days of receiving your request, and we will notify you about the date and time of this review no less than 20 days before it occurs. You have the right to request a postponement. You have the right to appear in person or by telephone conference at the meeting. We will make our decision within 7 days of the completion of this meeting.

Appeals of Retroactive Membership Termination (rescission or cancellation retroactively)

We may terminate your membership retroactively (see “Rescission of Membership” under the “Termination/Nonrenewal/Continuation” section). We will send you written notice at least 30 days prior to the termination. If you have general questions about retroactive membership terminations or appeals, please call **Member Services**.

Here is the procedure for filing an appeal of a retroactive membership termination:

Within 180 days after you receive our adverse benefit determination that your membership will be terminated retroactively, you must tell us in writing that you want to appeal our termination of your membership retroactively. Please include the following: (1) your name and Medical Record Number, (2) all of the reasons why you disagree with our retroactive membership termination, and (3) all supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must mail your appeal to **Member Services**.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within 30 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, that may be available to you.

#### **Appeals of Denial of Individual Plan Application**

Here is the procedure for filing an appeal of our denial of an individual plan application:

Within 180 days after you receive our adverse benefit determination regarding your individual plan application, you must tell us in writing that you want to appeal our denial of an individual plan application. Please include the following: (1) your name and application reference number, (2) all of the reasons why you disagree with our adverse benefit determination, and (3) all supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must mail your appeal to:

Member Services  
P.O. Box 203004  
Denver, CO 80220-9004

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within 30 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 that may be available to you.

#### **External Review**

Following receipt of an adverse decision letter regarding your First Level Appeal or Voluntary Second Level Appeal, you may have a right to request an external review.

You have the right to request an independent external review of our decision if our decision involves an adverse benefit determination regarding a denial of a claim, in whole or in part, that is (1) a denial of a preauthorization for a Service; (2) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is not Medically Necessary, appropriate, effective or efficient or is not provided in or at the appropriate health care setting or level of care; and/or (3) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is experimental or investigational. If our final adverse decision does not involve an adverse benefit determination described in the preceding sentence, then your claim is **not** eligible for external review provided, however, independent external review is available when we deny your appeal because you request medical care that is excluded under your Kaiser Permanente plan and you present evidence from a licensed Colorado professional that there is a reasonable medical basis that the exclusion does not apply.

You will not be responsible for the cost of the external review. There is no minimum dollar amount for a claim to be eligible for an external review.

To request external review, you must:

1. Submit a completed Independent External Review of Carrier's Final Adverse Determination form which will be included with the mandatory internal appeal decision letter and explanation of your appeal rights (you may call the **Appeals Program** to request a copy of this form) to the **Appeals Program** within four (4) months of the date of receipt of the mandatory internal appeal decision or Voluntary Second Level Appeal decision. We shall consider the date of receipt for our notice to be three (3) days after the date on which our notice was drafted, unless you can prove that you received our notice after the three (3) day period ends.
2. Include in your written request a statement authorizing us to release your claim file with your health information including your medical records; or, you may submit a completed Authorization for Release of Appeal Information form which is included with the mandatory internal appeal decision letter and explanation of your appeal rights (you may call **Appeals Program** to request a copy of this form).

If we do not receive your external review request form and/or authorization form to release your health information, then we will not be able to act on your request. We must receive all of this information prior to the end of the applicable timeframe (4 months) for your request of external review.

#### **Expedited External Review**

**You may request an expedited review if (1) you have a medical condition for which the timeframe for completion of a standard review would seriously jeopardize your life, health, or ability to regain maximum function, or, if you have a physical or mental disability, would create an imminent and substantial limitation to your existing ability to live independently, or (2) in the opinion of a physician with knowledge of your medical condition, the timeframe for completion of a standard review would subject you to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the medical services that**

you are seeking. A request for an expedited external review must be accompanied by a written statement from your physician that your condition meets the expedited criteria. You must include the physician's certification that you meet expedited external review criteria when you submit your request for external review along with the other required information (described, above).

#### **Additional Requirements for External Review regarding Experimental or Investigational Services**

You may request external review or expedited external review involving an adverse benefit determination based upon the Service being experimental or investigational. Your request for external review or expedited external review must include a written statement from your physician that either (a) standard health care services or treatments have not been effective in improving your condition or are not medically appropriate for you, or (b) there is no available standard health care service or treatment covered under this EOC that is more beneficial than the recommended or requested health care service (the physician must certify that scientifically valid studies using accepted protocols demonstrate that the requested health care service or treatment is more likely to be more beneficial to you than an available standard health care services or treatments), and the physician is a licensed, board-certified, or board-eligible physician to practice in the area of medicine to treat your condition. If you are requesting expedited external review, then your physician must also certify that the requested health care service or treatment would be less effective if not promptly initiated. These certifications must be submitted with your request for external review.

No expedited external review is available when you have already received the medical care that is the subject of your request for external review. If you do not qualify for expedited external review, we will treat your request as a request for standard external review.

After we receive your request for external review, we shall notify you of the information regarding the independent external review entity that the Division of Insurance has selected to conduct the external review.

If we deny your request for standard or expedited external review, including any assertion that we have not complied with the applicable requirements related to our internal claims and appeals procedure, then we may notify you in writing and include the specific reasons for the denial. Our notice will include information about your right to appeal the denial to the Division of Insurance. At the same time that we send this denial notice to you, we will send a copy of it to the Division of Insurance.

**You will not be able to present your appeal in person to the independent external review organization. You may, however, send any additional information that is significantly different from information provided or considered during the internal claims and appeal procedure and, if applicable Voluntary Second Level of Appeal process. If you send new information, we may consider it and reverse our decision regarding your appeal.**

**You may submit your additional information to the independent external review organization for consideration during its review within five (5) working days of your receipt of our notice describing the independent review organization that has been selected to conduct the external review of your claim. Although it is not required to do so, the independent review organization may accept and consider additional information submitted after this five (5) working day period ends.**

The independent external review entity shall review information regarding your benefit claim and shall base its determination on an objective review of relevant medical and scientific evidence. Within 45 days of the independent external review entity's receipt of your request for standard external review, it shall provide written notice of its decision to you. If the independent external review entity is deciding your expedited external review request, then the independent external review entity shall make its decision as expeditiously as possible and no more than 72 hours after its receipt of your request for external review and within 48 hours of notifying you orally of its decision provide written confirmation of its decision. This notice shall explain the external review entity's decision and that the external review decision is the final appeal available under state insurance law. An external review decision is binding on Health Plan and you except to the extent Health Plan and you have other remedies available under federal or state law. You or your designated representative may not file a subsequent request for external review involving the same Health Plan adverse determination for which you have already received an external review decision.

**If the independent external review organization overturns our denial of payment for care you have already received, we will issue payment within five (5) working days. If the independent review organization overturns our decision not to authorize pre-service or concurrent care claims, Kaiser Permanente will authorize care within one (1) working day. Such covered services shall be provided subject to the terms and conditions applicable to benefits under your plan.**

Except when external review is permitted to occur simultaneously with your urgent pre-service appeal or urgent concurrent care appeal, you must exhaust our internal claims and appeals procedure (but not the Voluntary Second Level of Appeal) for your claim before you may request external review unless we have failed to substantially comply with federal and/or state law requirements regarding our claims and appeals procedures.

#### **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.

## B. Complaints

1. If you are not satisfied with the Services received at a particular Plan 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:
  - a. Sending your written complaint to **Member Services**;
  - b. Requesting to meet with a Member Services Liaison at the Health Plan Administrative Offices; or
  - c. Telephoning **Member Services**.
2. After you notify us of a complaint, this is what happens:
  - a. A Member Services Liaison reviews the complaint and conducts an investigation, verifying all the relevant facts.
  - b. The Member Services Liaison or a Plan Physician evaluates the facts and makes a recommendation for corrective action, if any.
  - c. When you file a written complaint, we usually respond in writing within 30 calendar days, unless additional information is required.
  - d. When you make a verbal complaint, a verbal response is usually made within 30 calendar days.
3. If you are dissatisfied with the resolution, you have the right to request a second review. Please put your request in writing to **Member Services**. **Member Services** will respond to you in writing within 30 calendar days of receipt of your request.

We want you to be satisfied with our Plan Facilities, Services, and Plan Physicians. 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. Please call **Member Services**.

## X. INFORMATION ON POLICY AND RATE CHANGES

Your Group's Agreement with us will change periodically. If these changes affect this EOC or your Premiums, your Group is required to notify you of them. If it is necessary to make revisions to this EOC, we will issue revised materials to you.

## XI. DEFINITIONS

The following terms, when capitalized and used in any part of this EOC, have the following meaning:

**Accumulation Period:** As stated in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)," the period of time during which benefits are paid and are counted toward the maximum allowed for the specific benefit.

**Affiliated Physician:** Any doctor of medicine contracting with Medical Group to provide covered Services to Members under this EOC.

**Affiliated Provider:** A health care provider that we designate as an Affiliated Provider.

**Authorization:** A referral request that has received approval from Health Plan.

### Charge(s):

1. For Services provided by Plan Providers or Medical Group, the charges in Health Plan's schedule of Medical Group and Health Plan charges for Services provided to Members; or
2. For Services for which a provider (other than Medical Group or Health Plan) is compensated on a capitation basis, the charges in the schedule of charges that Kaiser Permanente negotiates with the capitated provider; or
3. For items obtained at a Plan Pharmacy, the amount the Plan Pharmacy would charge a Member for the item if a Member's benefit plan did not cover the item (this amount is an estimate of: the cost of acquiring, storing, and dispensing drugs, the direct and indirect costs of providing Kaiser Permanente pharmacy Services to Members, and the Plan Pharmacy program's contribution to the net revenue requirements of Health Plan); or
4. For all other Services, the payments that Health Plan makes for the Services (or, if Health Plan subtracts a Copayment, Coinsurance or Deductible from its payment, the amount Health Plan would have paid if it did not subtract the Copayment, Coinsurance or Deductible).

**CMS:** The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the federal agency responsible for administering Medicare.

**Coinsurance:** A percentage of Charges that you must pay when you receive a covered Service, as listed in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)."

**Copayment:** The specific dollar amount you must pay for a covered Service, as listed in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)."

**Dependent:** A Member whose relationship to a Subscriber is the basis for membership eligibility and who meets the eligibility requirements as a Dependent. For Dependent eligibility requirements, see "Who Is Eligible" in the "Eligibility" section).

**Emergency Medical Condition:** A medical condition that manifests itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity, including severe pain, that a prudent layperson with an average knowledge of health and medicine could reasonably expect, in the absence of immediate medical attention, to result in:

1. Serious jeopardy to the health of the individual or, with respect to a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child;
2. Serious impairment to bodily functions; or
3. Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part.

**Emergency Services:** With respect to an Emergency Medical Condition:

1. A medical screening examination that is within the capability of the emergency department of a hospital, including ancillary services routinely available to the emergency department to evaluate the Emergency Medical Condition; and
2. Within the capabilities of the staff and facilities available at the hospital, further medical examination and treatment as required to stabilize the patient 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 individual from a facility.

**Family Unit:** A Subscriber and all of his or her Dependents.

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

**Health Plan:** Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado, a Colorado nonprofit corporation.

**Kaiser Permanente:** Health Plan and Medical Group.

**Life or Limb Threatening Emergency:** Any event that a prudent layperson would believe threatens his or her life or limb in such a manner that a need for immediate medical care is created to prevent death or serious impairment of health.

**Medical Group:** The Colorado Permanente Medical Group, P.C., a for-profit medical corporation.

**Medically Necessary** services or supplies are those that are determined by Health Plan to be all of the following:

- Required to prevent, diagnose, or treat your condition or clinical symptoms; and
- In accordance with generally accepted standards of medical practice; and
- Not solely for the convenience of you, your family, and/or your provider; and
- The most appropriate level of care that can safely be provided to you.

The fact that a Plan or non-Plan Provider prescribes, recommends, or refers you to a Service does not make that Service Medically Necessary or covered under this EOC.

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

**Member:** A person who is eligible and enrolled under this EOC, and for whom we have received applicable Premiums. This EOC sometimes refers to a Member as “you” or “your.”

**Out-of-Pocket Maximum:** The annual limit to the total amount of Deductible (if any), certain Copayments and certain Coinsurance you must pay in an Accumulation Period for covered Services, as described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**Plan Facility:** A Plan Medical Office or Plan Hospital.

**Plan Hospital:** Any hospital listed as a Plan Hospital in our provider directory. Plan Hospitals are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Plan Medical Office:** Any medical office listed in our provider directory, including any outpatient facility designated by Health Plan. Plan Medical Offices are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Plan Optometrist:** Any licensed optometrist who is an employee of Health Plan or any licensed optometrist who contracts to provide Services to Members.

**Plan Pharmacy:** A pharmacy owned and operated by Kaiser Permanente or another pharmacy that we designate. Plan Pharmacies are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Plan Physician:** Any licensed physician who is an employee of Medical Group, an Affiliated Physician or any licensed physician who contracts to provide Services to Members (but not including physicians who contract only to provide referral Services).

**Plan Provider:** A Plan Hospital, Plan Physician, or other health care provider that we designate as Plan Provider, except that Plan Providers are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Premiums:** Periodic membership charges paid by Group.



**Service Area:**

The **Denver/Boulder** Service Area is that portion of Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Clear Creek, Denver, Douglas, Elbert, Gilpin, Jefferson, Larimer, Park, Teller, and Weld counties within the following zip codes: 80001, 80002, 80003, 80004, 80005, 80006, 80007, 80010, 80011, 80012, 80013, 80014, 80015, 80016, 80017, 80018, 80019, 80020, 80021, 80022, 80023, 80024, 80025, 80026, 80027, 80030, 80031, 80033, 80034, 80035, 80036, 80037, 80038, 80040, 80041, 80042, 80044, 80045, 80046, 80047, 80102, 80104, 80107, 80108, 80109, 80110, 80111, 80112, 80113, 80116, 80117, 80120, 80121, 80122, 80123, 80124, 80125, 80126, 80127, 80128, 80129, 80130, 80131, 80134, 80135, 80137, 80138, 80150, 80151, 80155, 80160, 80161, 80162, 80163, 80165, 80166, 80201, 80202, 80203, 80204, 80205, 80206, 80207, 80208, 80209, 80210, 80211, 80212, 80214, 80215, 80216, 80217, 80218, 80219, 80220, 80221, 80222, 80223, 80224, 80225, 80226, 80227, 80228, 80229, 80230, 80231, 80232, 80233, 80234, 80235, 80236, 80237, 80238, 80239, 80241, 80243, 80244, 80246, 80247, 80248, 80249, 80250, 80251, 80256, 80257, 80259, 80260, 80261, 80262, 80263, 80264, 80265, 80266, 80271, 80273, 80274, 80281, 80290, 80291, 80293, 80294, 80299, 80301, 80302, 80303, 80304, 80305, 80306, 80307, 80308, 80309, 80310, 80314, 80401, 80402, 80403, 80419, 80421, 80422, 80425, 80427, 80433, 80436, 80437, 80439, 80444, 80452, 80453, 80454, 80455, 80457, 80465, 80466, 80470, 80471, 80474, 80481, 80501, 80502, 80503, 80504, 80510, 80514, 80516, 80520, 80530, 80533, 80540, 80544, 80601, 80602, 80603, 80614, 80621, 80640, 80642, 80643.

The **Northern Colorado** Service Area is that portion of Adams, Boulder, Larimer, Morgan, and Weld counties within the following zip codes: 69128, 69145, 80511, 80512, 80513, 80515, 80517, 80521, 80522, 80523, 80524, 80525, 80526, 80527, 80528, 80532, 80534, 80535, 80536, 80537, 80538, 80539, 80541, 80542, 80543, 80545, 80546, 80547, 80549, 80550, 80551, 80553, 80610, 80611, 80612, 80615, 80620, 80622, 80623, 80624, 80631, 80632, 80633, 80634, 80638, 80639, 80644, 80645, 80646, 80648, 80649, 80650, 80651, 80652, 80654, 80729, 80732, 80742, 80754, 82063, 82070, 82082.

The **Southern Colorado** Service Area is that portion of Crowley, Custer, Douglas, El Paso, Elbert, Fremont, Huerfano, Las Animas, Lincoln, Otero, Park, Pueblo, and Teller counties within the following zip codes: 80106, 80118, 80132, 80133, 80808, 80809, 80813, 80814, 80816, 80817, 80819, 80820, 80827, 80829, 80831, 80832, 80833, 80840, 80841, 80860, 80863, 80864, 80866, 80901, 80902, 80903, 80904, 80905, 80906, 80907, 80908, 80909, 80910, 80911, 80912, 80913, 80914, 80915, 80916, 80917, 80918, 80919, 80920, 80921, 80922, 80923, 80924, 80925, 80926, 80927, 80928, 80929, 80930, 80931, 80932, 80933, 80934, 80935, 80936, 80937, 80938, 80939, 80941, 80942, 80946, 80947, 80949, 80950, 80951, 80960, 80962, 80970, 80977, 80995, 80997, 81001, 81002, 81003, 81004, 81005, 81006, 81007, 81008, 81009, 81010, 81011, 81012, 81019, 81022, 81023, 81025, 81039, 81062, 81069, 81212, 81215, 81221, 81222, 81223, 81226, 81232, 81233, 81240, 81244, 81253, 81290.

**Services:** Health care services or items.

**Skilled Nursing Facility:** A facility that is licensed as such by the state of Colorado, certified by Medicare and approved by Health Plan. The facility's primary business must be the provision of 24-hour-a-day licensed skilled nursing care for patients who need skilled nursing or skilled rehabilitation care, or both, on a daily basis, as part of an ongoing medical treatment plan.

**Spouse:** Your partner in marriage or a civil union as determined by state law.

**Stabilize:** To provide the medical treatment of the Emergency Medical 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 (including the placenta).

**Step Therapy:** A protocol that requires a covered person to use a prescription drug or sequence of prescription drugs, other than the drug that the covered person's health care provider recommends for the covered person's treatment, before the carrier provides coverage for the recommended prescription drug.

**Subscriber:** A Member who is eligible for membership on his or her own behalf and not by virtue of Dependent status and who meets the eligibility requirements as a Subscriber (for Subscriber eligibility requirements, see "Who Is Eligible" in the "Eligibility" section).

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## ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

Please refer to the Summary Chart in this booklet for specific charges and other limitations that may apply to the coverage(s) described below.

### DOMESTIC PARTNER COVERAGE

Your Group coverage includes health benefits for same-sex domestic partners. To be covered they must meet:

- (1) the eligibility requirements as described in the “Eligibility” section of this EOC; and
- (2) the conditions for domestic partnership as described in the Affidavit of Domestic Partnership.

You are required to complete and submit an Affidavit of Domestic Partnership to Health Plan. Please check with your Group's benefit administrator for details.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for same-sex domestic partners. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

DOMP0AA (01-18)

### SURVIVING DEPENDENTS

Your Group coverage includes health benefit coverage for surviving Dependents.

Surviving Dependents include your:

1. Spouses; and
2. Other eligible Dependents.

Their coverage may continue based on the Group's personnel policy.

SRDC0AE (01-12)

WOR0AA

### ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT

**(Does not apply to Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage HMO Plan)**

The following paragraph of your EOC is amended, as follows:

#### I. Eligibility

##### A. Who Is Eligible

###### 1. General

To be eligible to enroll and to remain enrolled in this health benefit plan, you must meet the following requirements:

- a. You must meet your Group's eligibility requirements that we have approved. Your Group is required to inform Subscribers of the Group's eligibility requirements; and
- b. You must also meet the Subscriber or Dependent eligibility requirements as described below; and
- c. The Subscriber must live, reside, or work in our Service Area. Our Service Area is described in the “Definitions” section.

This rider amends the general eligibility provision of the EOC. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

WOR0AA (01-20)

### CHIROPRACTIC CARE

#### 1. Coverage

Chiropractic Services are covered as shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” when provided by contracted providers. Coverage includes:

- a. Evaluation;

- b. Manual and manipulative therapy of the spinal and extraspinal regions.

You may self-refer for visits to contracted providers.

**Note:** The following are covered, but not under this section: X-ray and laboratory tests, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”.

2. Exclusions

- a. Hypnotherapy.
- b. Behavior training.
- c. Sleep therapy.
- d. Weight loss programs.
- e. Services related to the treatment of the musculoskeletal system, except for the spinal and extraspinal regions.
- f. Vocational rehabilitation Services.
- g. Thermography.
- h. Air conditioners, air purifiers, therapeutic mattresses, supplies, or any other similar devices and appliances.
- i. Transportation costs. This includes local ambulance charges.
- j. Prescription drugs, vitamins, minerals, food supplements, or other similar products.
- k. Educational programs.
- l. Non-medical self-care or self-help training.
- m. All diagnostic testing related to these excluded Services.
- n. MRI and/or other types of diagnostic radiology.
- o. Physical or massage therapy that is not a part of the manual and manipulative therapy.
- p. Durable medical equipment (DME) and/or supplies for use in the home.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for Chiropractic Care. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

CHIR0AA (01-18)  
DMES0AB

**DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT (DME) AND  
PROSTHETIC AND ORTHOTIC DEVICES**

When prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan on either a purchase or rental basis, as determined by Health Plan, DME, prosthetics and orthotics, including replacements other than those necessitated by misuse, theft, or loss, are provided as shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for your use during the period prescribed. Necessary fittings, repairs and adjustments, other than those necessitated by misuse, are covered. Health Plan may repair or replace a device at its option. Repair or replacement of defective equipment is covered at no additional charge.

Health Plan uses Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) and National Coverage Determinations (NCD) (hereinafter referred to as Medicare Guidelines) for our DME, prosthetic, and orthotic formulary guidelines. These are guidelines only. Health Plan reserves the right to exclude items listed in the Medicare Guidelines (does not apply to Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage plans). Please note that this EOC may contain some, but not all, of these exclusions.

**Limitations:** Coverage is limited to a standard item of DME, prosthetic device, or orthotic device that adequately meets your medical needs.

1. Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

a. Coverage

- i. DME is equipment that is appropriate for use in the home, able to withstand repeated use, Medically Necessary, not of use to a person in the absence of illness or injury, and approved for coverage under Medicare. It includes, but is not limited to, infant apnea monitors, insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies, and oxygen and oxygen dispensing equipment.
- ii. Insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iii. When use is no longer prescribed by a Plan Physician, DME must be returned to Health Plan or its designee. If the equipment is not returned, you must pay Health Plan or its designee the fair market price, established by Health Plan, for the equipment.

b. Limitation: Coverage is limited to the lesser of the purchase or rental price, as determined by Health Plan.

c. Durable Medical Equipment Exclusions

- i. Electronic monitors of bodily functions, except infant apnea monitors are covered.
- ii. Devices to perform medical testing of body fluids, excretions or substances, except nitrate urine test strips for home use for pediatric patients are covered.
- iii. Non-medical items such as sauna baths or elevators.

- iv. Exercise or hygiene equipment.
- v. Comfort, convenience, or luxury equipment or features.
- vi. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze\*, tape, antiseptics, dressings, and ace-type bandages.  
\*Gauze not excluded in Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Part D plans.
- vii. Replacement of lost or stolen equipment.
- viii. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.
- ix. More than one piece of DME serving essentially the same function, except for replacements.
- x. Spare equipment or alternate use equipment is not covered.

## 2. Prosthetic Devices

### a. Coverage

Prosthetic devices are those rigid or semi-rigid external devices that are required to replace all or part of a body organ or extremity. Coverage of prosthetic devices includes:

- i. Internally implanted devices for functional purposes, such as pacemakers and hip joints.
- ii. Prosthetic devices for Members who have had a mastectomy. Medical Group or Health Plan will designate the source from which external prostheses can be obtained. Replacement will be made when a prosthesis is no longer functional. Custom-made prostheses will be provided when necessary.
- iii. Prosthetic devices, such as obturators and speech and feeding appliances, required for the treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate are covered when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iv. Prosthetic devices intended to replace, in whole or in part, an arm or leg when prescribed by a Plan Physician, as Medically Necessary and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.

### b. Prosthetic Devices Exclusions

- i. Dental prostheses, except for Medically Necessary prosthodontic treatment for treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate, as described above.
- ii. Internally implanted devices, equipment, and prosthetics related to treatment of sexual dysfunction.
- iii. More than one prosthetic device for the same part of the body, except for replacements.
- iv. Spare devices or alternate use devices.
- v. Replacement of lost or stolen prosthetic devices.
- vi. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.

## 3. Orthotic Devices

### a. Coverage

Orthotic devices are those rigid or semi-rigid external devices that are 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.

### b. Orthotic Devices Exclusions

- i. Corrective shoes and orthotic devices for podiatric use and arch supports, except for diabetic shoes in accordance with clinical guidelines and therapeutic shoes for patients with a diagnosis of peripheral vascular disease or peripheral neuropathy.
- ii. Dental devices and appliances except that Medically Necessary treatment of cleft lip or cleft palate is covered when prescribed by a Plan Physician, unless you are covered for these Services under a dental insurance policy or contract.
- iii. Experimental and research braces.
- iv. More than one orthotic device for the same part of the body, except for covered replacements.
- v. Spare devices or alternate use devices.
- vi. Replacement of lost or stolen orthotic devices.
- vii. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and prosthetic and orthotic devices. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

DMES0AB (01-20)

## **FIRST RESPONDER BENEFIT**

### Coverage

Your Group has purchased additional coverage for employees who qualify as first responders. The following screening tests and medical Services are covered at no charge\* when performed at a Plan Medical Office:

- a. Annual health maintenance examination with a primary care provider;
- b. Annual fasting cholesterol profile and fasting blood sugar;
- c. Routine laboratory tests (CBC, UA);
- d. Liver test (ALT) and kidney function test (CR);
- e. Heavy metal screening;
- f. HIV, Hepatitis C screening (available upon request, or as indicated by current CDC guidelines);

- g. Appropriate immunizations as recommended by your PCP;
- h. One baseline ECG;
- i. Cardiac testing (stress test or coronary artery calcium test);
- j. Standard Kaiser Permanente cancer screenings for colon, prostate (PSA testing based on informed decision making), cervical, and breast cancer.

**\*Note:** If you are enrolled in a High Deductible Health Plan, Services that are non-preventive may be subject to your Deductible, Coinsurance, and/or Copayment.

The following Services may incur Deductible, Coinsurance, and/or Copayment amounts, depending on your plan type:

- a. Behavioral health, chemical dependency, or sleep apnea screening (referral needed)
- b. Eye exam (without a referral)
- c. Hearing exam (available yearly, without a referral)
- d. Any other test or screening based on recommendations from your PCP

If you have questions about the First Responder benefit, please call **Member Services**.

This rider amends the EOC to provide additional coverage for first responders. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

FRST0AA (01-19)

### REPRODUCTIVE SUPPORT SERVICES

1. Coverage

We cover the following Services as shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”:

- a. Services for diagnosis and treatment of involuntary infertility (including X-ray and laboratory tests).
- b. Intrauterine insemination (IUI).
- c. Office administered drugs supplied and used during an office visit for IUI.

**Note:** Prescription drugs are not covered under this section. See “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if you have coverage for prescription drugs received from a Plan Pharmacy for IUI.

2. Limitations

- a. IUI coverage is limited to three (3) treatment cycles per lifetime.
- b. Services are covered only for the person who is the Member.

3. Exclusions

These exclusions apply to fertile as well as infertile individuals or couples.

- a. Any and all Services to reverse voluntary, surgically induced infertility.
- b. Acupuncture for the treatment of infertility, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for this service. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if your Group has the acupuncture benefit.
- c. Donor semen, sperm, or eggs.
- d. Any and all Services, supplies, office administered drugs, and prescription drugs received from a pharmacy related to the procurement and/or storage of semen, sperm, eggs, reproductive materials, and/or embryos, except as listed in the “Coverage” section of this benefit.
- e. Prescription drugs received from a pharmacy for infertility services unless prescription drug coverage for infertility is purchased.
- f. Any and all Services, supplies, office administered drugs, and prescription drugs received from a pharmacy that are related to conception by artificial means, except as listed in the “Coverage” section of this benefit.

This rider amends the EOC to provide limited coverage for Reproductive Support Services. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

INFT0AA (01-20)

### PREVENTIVE SERVICES RIDER

Preventive care services, as defined under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, are provided at no charge including those shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” when prescribed by a Plan Physician. Please contact **Member Services** for a complete list of covered Preventive Services.

**Note:** If you receive any other covered Services before, during, or after a preventive care visit, you may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, and Coinsurance for those Services. For example:

- You schedule a routine physical maintenance exam. During your preventive exam your provider finds a problem with your health and orders non-preventive Services to diagnose your problem (such as laboratory or radiology tests). You may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance for these additional diagnostic Services.
- You schedule a routine preventive exam. Your provider orders laboratory tests that are not preventive care Services according to the guidelines below. You may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance for these additional non-preventive Services.
- You schedule a routine well-person exam. During your exam, you discuss new symptoms with your provider, or new health concerns are discovered. You may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance for this visit.

Coverage includes, but is not limited to, preventive health care Services for the following in accordance with the A or B recommendations of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, the Health Resources Services Administration women’s preventive services guidelines, and those preventive services mandates required by state law, for the particular preventive health care Service:

1. Office visits for preventive care Services.
2. Alcohol misuse screening and behavioral counseling interventions for adults by your primary care provider.
3. Cervical cancer screening.
4. Breast cancer screening.
5. Blood pressure screening.
6. Cholesterol screening.
7. Colorectal cancer screening.
8. Prostate cancer screening.
9. Immunizations pursuant to the schedule established by the ACIP.
10. Tobacco use screening, counseling, cessation attempt services, FDA-approved tobacco cessation medications, and the Colorado QuitLine.
11. Type 2 diabetes screening for adults with high blood pressure.
12. Diet counseling for adults with hyperlipidemia and at higher risk for cardiovascular and diet-related chronic disease.
13. Cervical cancer vaccines.
14. Influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations.
15. Approved Affordable Care Act contraceptive categories.

“ACIP” means the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention in the federal Department of Health and Human Services, or any successor entity. Go to [cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/](http://cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/). For a list of preventive services that have a rating of A or B from the U.S. Preventive Task Force, go to [uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Name/uspstf-a-and-b-recommendations/](http://uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Name/uspstf-a-and-b-recommendations/). For the Health Resources and Services Administration women’s preventive services guidelines, go to [hrsa.gov/womensguidelines/](http://hrsa.gov/womensguidelines/).

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for preventive Services. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

PV0AD (01-20)

RX0BL

### PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT

**NOTE:** When used in this Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement, the term “preferred” refers to drugs that are included in the Health Plan drug formulary. The term “non-preferred” refers to drugs that are not included in the Health Plan drug formulary.

Please refer to the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” in this booklet for the specific Copayments, Coinsurance, Deductible, and supply limits that apply to the covered prescription drugs described below.

#### 1. Coverage

Prescribed covered drugs are provided at the applicable prescription drug Copayment or Coinsurance for each tier of drug coverage. This may include: a preferred generic drug tier; a tier for preferred brand-name drugs or medications not having a generic or a generic equivalent; a tier for prescribed non-preferred drugs authorized through the non-preferred drug process; and a tier for certain specialty drugs. **Note:** Some specialty drugs are available in other tiers. To learn more, please visit our website at [kp.org/formulary](http://kp.org/formulary).

#### Non-Formulary Drug Exception Process:

You, your designee, or your Plan Provider may request access to clinically appropriate drugs not otherwise covered by Health Plan (non-formulary drugs) through a special exception process. We will make a coverage determination within 72 hours of receipt for standard requests and within 24 hours of receipt for expedited requests. As long as you are an active Member and the exception request is granted, Health Plan will provide coverage of the non-formulary drug for the duration of the prescription. If the exception request is denied, you, your designee, or your Plan Provider may request an external review of the decision by an

independent review organization. For additional information about the prescription drug exception processes for non-formulary drugs, please contact **Member Services**.

Prescribed supplies and accessories include, but may not be limited to:

- a. Home glucose monitoring supplies.
- b. Glucose test strips.
- c. Acetone test tablets.
- d. Nitrate urine test strips for pediatric patients.
- e. Disposable syringes for the administration of insulin.

Such items are provided when obtained at Plan Pharmacies or from sources designated by Health Plan.

For Copayment or Coinsurance information related to contraceptive drugs and certain devices please refer to your “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

For each drug, the amount covered will be the lesser of the quantity prescribed or the day supply limit. Any amount you receive that exceeds the day supply will not be covered. If you receive more than the day supply limit, you will be charged as a non-Member for any prescribed amount exceeding the limit. Certain drugs have a significant potential for waste and diversion. Those drugs will be provided for up to a 30-day supply. Each prescription refill is provided on the same basis as the original prescription. Kaiser Permanente may, in its sole discretion, establish quantity limits for specific prescription drugs.

Generic drugs that are available in the United States only from a single manufacturer and that are not listed as generic in the then-current commercially available drug database(s) to which Health Plan subscribes are provided at the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance. The amount covered will be the lesser of the quantity prescribed or the day supply limit.

Prescription drugs are covered only when prescribed by a:

- a. Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies; or
- b. Physician to whom a Member has been referred by a Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies; or
- c. Dentist (when prescribed for acute conditions) and obtained at Plan Pharmacies.

Covered drugs include:

- a. Drugs for which a prescription is required by law. Plan Pharmacies may substitute a generic equivalent for a brand-name drug unless prohibited by the Plan Physician. If you request a brand-name drug when a generic equivalent drug is the preferred product, you must pay the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance, plus any difference in price between the preferred generic equivalent drug prescribed by the Plan Physician and the requested brand-name drug. If the brand-name drug is prescribed due to Medical Necessity, you pay only the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance.
- b. Insulin.
- c. Renewal of prescription eye drops and one additional bottle of prescription eye drops in accordance with state law.
- d. Compounded medications. **Note:** In all Service Areas, if you use a Kaiser Permanente pharmacy, compounded medications must be picked up or mailed from the pharmacy that is designated by Health Plan. Refills of compounded medications cannot be ordered on [kp.org](http://kp.org), by mail order, or through the automated refill line. Please call **303-764-4900 (TTY 711)** and press “0” to speak to the pharmacy staff for assistance. In the *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Service Areas, you may fill or refill compounded medications at a network pharmacy.

## 2. Limitations

- a. Some drugs may require prior authorization. You do not need prior authorization for any FDA-approved prescription drug listed on our formulary, for the treatment of substance use disorder.
- b. With the exception of substance use disorder drugs, we may apply Step Therapy to certain drugs. You or your Plan Provider may request an exception if you previously tried a drug and your use of the drug was discontinued due to lack of efficacy or effectiveness, diminished effect, or an adverse event.
- c. Coverage determinations for the off-label use of medications will be consistent with Medicare compendia, and coverage determinations for the off-label use of oncologic agents will be consistent with the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) of 2008.

### 3. Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements Exclusions

- a. Drugs for which a prescription is not required by law.
- b. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze, tape, antiseptics, dressing and ace-type bandages.
- c. Prescription drugs necessary for Services excluded in the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement.
- d. Non-preferred drugs, except those prescribed and authorized through the non-preferred drug process.
- e. Any drugs listed as not covered in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”.
- f. Drugs to shorten the length of the common cold.
- g. Drugs to enhance athletic performance.
- h. Drugs available over the counter and by prescription for the same strength.
- i. Individual drugs determined excluded by our Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.
- j. Drugs for the treatment of weight control.
- k. Any prescription drug packaging except the dispensing pharmacy's standard packaging.
- l. Replacement of prescription drugs for any reason. This includes spilled, lost, damaged, or stolen prescriptions.



- m. Drugs administered during a medical office visit.
- n. Medical Foods and Medical Devices.
- o. Unless approved by Health Plan, drugs not approved by the FDA.

This rider amends the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement to provide coverage for Prescription Drugs. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

RX0BL (01-20)

# NOTES

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**Kaiser Foundation Health  
Plan of Colorado**  
2500 S. Havana St.  
Aurora, CO 80014-1622

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DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Important plan information

**TITLE PAGE (Cover Page)**

# **Important Benefit Information Enclosed Evidence of Coverage**

**About this Evidence of Coverage (EOC)**

This Evidence of Coverage (EOC) describes the health care coverage provided under the Agreement between Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (Health Plan) and your Group. In this EOC, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado is sometimes referred to as “Kaiser Permanente,” “Kaiser,” “Health Plan,” “we,” or “us.” Members are sometimes referred to as “you.” Out-of-Health Plan is sometimes referred to as “out-of-Plan.” Some capitalized terms have special meaning in this EOC; please see the “Definitions” section for terms you should know.

This EOC is for your Group's 2020 contract year.



## NONDISCRIMINATION NOTICE

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (Kaiser Health Plan) complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Kaiser Health Plan does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. 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 **1-800-632-9700** (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, or sex, you can file a grievance by mail at: Customer Experience Department, Attn: Kaiser Permanente Civil Rights Coordinator, 2500 South Havana, Aurora, CO 80014, or by phone at Member Services: 1-800-632-9700.

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, 1-800-368-1019, 1-800-537-7697 (TDD). Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.

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## HELP IN YOUR LANGUAGE

**ATTENTION:** If you speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**አማርኛ (Amharic) ማስታወሻ:** የሚናገሩት ቋንቋ አማርኛ ከሆነ የትርጉም እርዳታ ድርጅቶች፣ በነጻ ሊያገዝዎት ተዘጋጅተዋል። ወደ ሚከተለው ቁጥር ይደውሉ **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**)።

**العربية (Arabic) ملحوظة:** إذا كنت تتحدث العربية، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**Bàsòò Wùdù (Bassa) Dè dɛ nià kɛ dyédé gbo:** ɔ jũ ké ñ Bàsòò-wùdù-po-nyò jũ ní, nií, à wuɖu kà kò dò po-poò béin ñ gbo kpáa. Đá **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**)。

**فارسی (Farsi) توجه:** اگر به زبان فارسی گفتگو می کنید، تسهیلات زبانی بصورت رایگان برای شما فراهم می باشد. با **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711) تماس بگیرید.

**Français (French) ATTENTION:** Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Deutsch (German) ACHTUNG:** Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung.  
Rufnummer: **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Igbo (Igbo) NRUBAMA:** O bụrụ na ị na asụ Igbo, ọrụ enyemaka asụsụ, n'efu, dijiri gi. Kpọọ **1-800-632-9700** (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。 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711) まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

**한국어 (Korean) 주의:** 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711) 번으로 전화해 주십시오.

**Naabeehó (Navajo) Díí baa akó nínízin:** Díí saad bee yáníłti'go Diné Bizaad, saad bee áká'ánída'áwo'déé', t'áá jiik'eh, éi ná hóló, kobji' hódíílnih **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**नेपाली (Nepali) ध्यान दिनुहोस्:** तपाईंले नेपाली बोल्नुहुन्छ भने तपाईंको निम्ति भाषा सहायता सेवाहरू निःशुल्क रूपमा उपलब्ध छ । **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711) फोन गर्नुहोस् ।

**Afaan Oromoo (Oromo) XIYYEEFFANNAA:** Afaan dubbattu Oroomiffa, tajaajila gargaarsa afaanii, kanfaltiidhaan ala, ni argama. Bilbilaa **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Русский (Russian) ВНИМАНИЕ:** если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Español (Spanish) ATENCIÓN:** si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).

**Yorùbá (Yoruba) AKIYESI:** Ti o ba nso ede Yoruba ofe ni iranlowo lori ede wa fun yin o. E pe ero ibanisoro yi **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: 711).



**DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT  
NON-MEDICARE EMPLOYEES  
EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE AMENDMENT - 2020**

**I. The following definitions are *in addition* to those detailed in this Evidence of Coverage (EOC).**

- 1) "Child" shall mean a primary insured's natural child, adopted child, or the natural child or adopted child of either a primary insured's spouse, or primary insured's partner in a civil union.
- 2) "Eligible dependent" shall mean the primary insured's child or spouse
  - a) An eligible dependent may not also be a primary insured on the same insurance plan.
  - b) If spouses are each eligible employees, each may enroll in medical or dental coverage as either a primary insured or eligible dependent, but not both.
  - c) An eligible dependent shall not include any form of grandchild of a primary insured or spouse, unless the primary insured or spouse has a court order of adoption.
  - d) An eligible dependent may be covered by one (1) primary insured only for each insurance plan.
- 3) "Eligible employee" shall mean:
  - a) Members of the classified service of the police department.
- 4) "Employee only" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee only.
- 5) "Employee plus children" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and one (1) or more eligible dependents other than a spouse.
- 6) "Employee plus spouse" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and a spouse.
- 7) "Employer contribution" shall mean funds paid by the city for insurance programs approved by the employee health insurance committee.
- 8) "Family" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and a spouse or spousal equivalent and one (1) or more other eligible dependent.
- 9) "Primary insured" shall mean an eligible employee who enrolls for insurance coverage.
  - a) A primary insured may not also be an eligible dependent on the same insurance.
- 10) "Spouse" shall mean an eligible employee's lawful spouse, a lawful partner in a civil union in accordance with the Colorado Civil Union Act or spousal equivalent.
- 11) "Spousal equivalent" shall mean an adult of the same gender with whom the employee is in an exclusive committed relationship, who is not related to the employee and who shares basic living expenses with the intent for the relationship to last indefinitely. A spousal equivalent cannot be related by blood to a degree which would prevent marriage in Colorado and cannot be married to another person. An employee claiming a spousal equivalent as an eligible dependent shall file with the Department of Safety Human Resources department, an affidavit of spousal equivalency or may register as a committed partnership with the clerk's office.

**II. The following definition is removed from those detailed in this Evidence of Coverage (EOC).**

- c. Other dependent persons (but not including foster children) who meet all of the following requirements:
  - i. They are under the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)"; and
  - ii. You or your Spouse is the court-appointed permanent legal guardian (or was before the person reached age 18).

## SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (WHO PAYS WHAT)

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This Schedule of Benefits discusses:

- I. DEDUCTIBLES (if applicable)
- II. ANNUAL OUT-OF-POCKET MAXIMUMS (OPM)
- III. COPAYMENTS AND COINSURANCE
- IV. DEPENDENT LIMITING AGE

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION: PLEASE READ

This Schedule of Benefits does not fully describe the Services covered under this EOC. ***For a complete understanding of the benefits, limitations and exclusions that apply to your coverage under this plan, it is important to read this EOC in conjunction with this Schedule of Benefits.*** Please refer to the heading in the "Benefits/Coverage (What Is Covered)" section and to the "Limitations/Exclusions (What Is Not Covered)" section of this EOC.

Services received may be described in multiple sections of this Schedule of Benefits (for example, Office Services, Durable Medical Equipment, X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures may all apply to a broken arm). See the appropriate sections for applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and Deductible information.

You are responsible for any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for Services performed as part of or in conjunction with other outpatient Services, including but not limited to: office visits, Emergency Services, urgent care, and outpatient surgery.

Here is some important information to keep in mind as you read this Schedule of Benefits:

1. For a Service to be a covered Service:
  - a. The Service must be Medically Necessary (refer to the "Definitions" section in this EOC); **and**
  - b. The Service must be provided, prescribed, recommended, or directed by a Plan Provider; **and**
  - c. The Service must be described in this EOC as covered. Refer to the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.
2. The Charges for your Services are not always known at the time you receive the Service. You **will get a bill** for any Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance that are not known at the time you receive the Service.
3. The Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance listed here apply to covered Services provided to Members enrolled in this plan. Only covered Services apply to the Deductible and OPM. Non-covered Services will not apply to the Deductible and OPM.
4. Copayments for Services are due at the time you receive the Service. Deductibles or Coinsurance for Services may also be due at the time you receive the Service.
5. Except for #6 below, you may be responsible for any amounts over eligible Charges in addition to any Copayment or Coinsurance.
6. With respect to Emergency Services received in a non-Plan Facility, or Services rendered by a non-Plan Provider in a Plan Facility, you will not be balance billed by either the non-Plan Provider or non-Plan Facility. You are responsible for the same Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance amounts that you would pay if the care was provided in a Plan Facility or provided by a Plan Provider.
7. You may be charged separate Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance for additional Services you receive during your visit or if you receive Services from more than one provider during your visit.
8. We reserve the right to reschedule non-emergency, non-routine care if you do not pay all amounts due at the time you receive the Service.
9. For items ordered in advance, you pay the Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance in effect on the order date.
10. You, as the Subscriber, are responsible for any Deductibles, Copayments, and/or Coinsurance incurred by your Dependents enrolled in the Plan.

11. If you are the only person on your plan, your plan will become a family plan upon the addition of any eligible Dependent to your plan. This includes, but is not limited to, any temporary additions to your plan, such as the coverage of a newborn for 31 days as required by state law.

## **I. DEDUCTIBLES**

- A. The medical Deductible represents the full amount you must pay for certain covered Services during the Accumulation Period before any Copayment or Coinsurance applies. Covered Services may or may not be subject to the medical Deductible. It depends on the plan your Group has purchased.

For covered Services that are subject to the medical Deductible, any amounts you pay over eligible Charges will not apply toward the medical Deductible.

1. For covered Services that **ARE** subject to the medical Deductible:
  - a. You must pay full charges for covered Services until your medical Deductible is satisfied. Please see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance” to find out which covered Services are subject to the medical Deductible.
  - b. Once you have met your medical Deductible for the Accumulation Period, you will then pay, for the rest of the Accumulation Period, your applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for those covered Services subject to the medical Deductible (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”).
  - c. Your applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and medical Deductible may apply to your annual OPM (see “II. Annual Out-of-Pocket Maximums”).
2. For covered Services that **ARE NOT** subject to the medical Deductible: Your Copayment or Coinsurance will apply, as listed in “III. Copayments and Coinsurance.”

- B. If your Group has purchased a supplemental prescription drug benefit with a pharmacy Deductible, payments made for prescription drugs apply only to the pharmacy Deductible.

The pharmacy Deductible represents the full amount you must pay for prescription drugs before any Copayment or Coinsurance applies. Prescription drugs may or may not be subject to the pharmacy Deductible. It depends on the plan your Group has purchased.

1. For prescription drugs that **ARE** subject to the pharmacy Deductible:
  - a. You must pay full charges for prescription drugs until your pharmacy Deductible is satisfied. Please see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”, “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements” to find out which prescription drugs are subject to the pharmacy Deductible.
  - b. Once you have met your pharmacy Deductible for the Accumulation Period, you will then pay, for the rest of the Accumulation Period, your applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for those prescriptions drugs subject to the pharmacy Deductible (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”, “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements”).
  - c. If your Group purchased a plan with a pharmacy Deductible, payments made for prescription drugs will be applied only to the pharmacy Deductible. Your pharmacy Deductible does not apply to the medical Deductible and accumulates separately from the medical Deductible.
  - d. Your applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or pharmacy Deductible may not apply to your annual OPM (see “II. Annual Out-of-Pocket Maximums”).
2. For prescription drugs that **ARE NOT** subject to the pharmacy Deductible: Your Copayment or Coinsurance will apply, as listed in “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”, “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements.”

## **II. ANNUAL OUT-OF-POCKET MAXIMUMS**

The OPM limits the total amount you must pay during the Accumulation Period for certain covered Services. Covered Services may or may not apply to the OPM (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”). It depends on the plan your Group has purchased.

For covered Services that apply to the OPM, any amounts you pay over eligible Charges will not apply toward the OPM.

- A. Your Deductible(s) may apply to the OPM (see “I. Deductibles”).
- B. For covered Services that **APPLY** to the OPM.

1. The only Copayments or Coinsurance **that apply** toward the OPM are those made for covered Services listed as **applying** to the OPM (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”).
  2. Once your OPM is met, you will no longer pay for covered Services **that apply** to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period.
- C. For covered Services that do **NOT APPLY** to the OPM.
1. The only Copayments or Coinsurance that **do not apply** toward the OPM are those made for covered Services listed as **not** applying to the OPM (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”).
  2. Once your OPM is met, you will continue to pay for covered Services that **do not apply** to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period.

### **Tracking Deductible(s) and Out-of-Pocket Amounts**

Once you have received Services and we have processed the claim for Services rendered, we will provide an Explanation of Benefits (EOB). The EOB will list the Services you received, the cost of those Services, and the payments made for the Services. It will also include information regarding what portion of the payments were applied to your Deductible(s) and/or OPM amounts.

For more information about your Deductible or OPM amounts, please call **Member Services** or go to **kp.org**.

# Benefits for DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

68 - 030

## III. COPAYMENTS AND COINSURANCE

**Note:** Day, visit, and dollar limits, Deductibles, and Out-of-Pocket Maximums are based on a calendar year Accumulation Period.

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### **Medical Deductible**

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EMBEDDED Medical Deductible  
*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

\$500/Individual per Accumulation  
Period  
\$1,000/Family per Accumulation  
Period

An Embedded Medical Deductible means:

- Each individual family Member has his or her own medical Deductible.
  - If a family Member reaches his or her individual medical Deductible before the family medical Deductible is met, he or she will begin paying Copayments or Coinsurance for most covered Services for the rest of the Accumulation Period.
  - After the family medical Deductible is met, all covered family Members will begin paying Copayments or Coinsurance for most covered Services for the rest of the Accumulation Period. This is true even for family Members who have not met their individual medical Deductible.
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### **Out-of-Pocket Maximum**

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EMBEDDED OPM

\$4,500/Individual per Accumulation  
Period  
\$9,000/Family per Accumulation  
Period

An Embedded OPM means:

- Each individual family Member has his or her own OPM.
  - If a family Member reaches his or her individual OPM before the family OPM is met, he or she will no longer pay Copayments or Coinsurance for those covered Services that apply to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period.
  - After the family OPM is met, all covered family Members will no longer pay Copayments or Coinsurance for those covered Services that apply to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period. This is true even for family Members who have not met their individual OPM.
-

Office Services	You Pay
Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.	
Primary care visits <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Other covered Services: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: No Charge Covered Services received during a visit: 20% Coinsurance
Specialty care visits <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Other covered Services: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: \$75 Copayment each visit Covered Services received during a visit: 20% Coinsurance
Consultations with clinical pharmacists <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Other covered Services: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: No Charge Covered Services received during a visit: 20% Coinsurance
Allergy evaluation and testing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>• Specialty care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: No Charge  Visit: \$75 Copayment each visit
Allergy injections <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Other covered Services: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: \$30 Copayment each visit Covered Services received during a visit: 20% Coinsurance Copayment may apply for allergy serum.
Gynecology care visits <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Other covered Services: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: \$50 Copayment each visit Covered Services received during a visit: 20% Coinsurance
Routine prenatal and postpartum visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Office-administered drugs <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel immunizations <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<b>Virtual Care Services</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Email               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Primary care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>○ Specialty care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Chat with a doctor online via kp.org               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Primary care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>○ Specialty care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Telephone visits               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Primary care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>○ Specialty care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Video visits               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Primary care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>○ Specialty care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	No Charge No Charge  No Charge No Charge  No Charge No Charge  \$30 Copayment each visit \$50 Copayment each visit

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Covered Services not otherwise listed in this Schedule of Benefits received during an office visit, a scheduled procedure visit, video visit, or provided by a Plan Medical Office <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
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**Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services**

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**You Pay**

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Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.

Outpatient surgery at Plan Facilities <i>(Copayment not subject to medical Deductible; Coinsurance subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Ambulatory surgical center: \$500 Copayment each surgery
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Outpatient hospital Services <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
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**Hospital Inpatient Care**

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**You Pay**

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*(See Hospital Inpatient Care in "Benefits/Coverage (What Is Covered)" in this EOC for the list of covered Services.)*

<i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
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Inpatient professional Services <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
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**Alternative Medicine**

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**You Pay**

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Chiropractic care

- Evaluation and/or manipulation  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

• Laboratory Services or x-rays required for chiropractic care <i>(See "X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information)</i>	\$30 Copayment each visit
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• Laboratory Services or x-rays required for chiropractic care <i>(See "X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information)</i>	Limited to 20 visits per Accumulation Period
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• Laboratory Services or x-rays required for chiropractic care <i>(See "X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information)</i>	See Additional Provisions
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• Laboratory Services or x-rays required for chiropractic care <i>(See "X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information)</i>	See "X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
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Acupuncture Services <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
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**Ambulance Services**

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**You Pay**

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<i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
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	Up to \$500 per trip
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**Bariatric Surgery**

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**You Pay**

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<i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	50% Coinsurance
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**Dental Services following Accidental Injury**

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**You Pay**

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<i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
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**Dialysis Care**

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**You Pay**

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<i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
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**Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Prosthetics and Orthotics**

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**You Pay****Durable Medical Equipment**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

- **Breast pumps**

*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

See Additional Provisions

No Charge

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**Prosthetic devices**

- **Internally implanted prosthetic devices**

*(See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" and "Hospital Inpatient Care" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)*

See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" and "Hospital Inpatient Care" for applicable Copayment(s) and/or Coinsurance.

- **Prosthetic arm or leg**

*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

- **All other prosthetic devices**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

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**Orthotic devices**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

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**Oxygen**

*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

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Maximum limit paid by Health Plan for Durable Medical Equipment, certain prosthetic devices, and orthotic devices

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Not Applicable

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**Emergency Services**

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**You Pay**

Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this

Schedule of Benefits.

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Plan and non-Plan emergency room visits and related covered Services unless otherwise noted (covered 24 hours a day)

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Copayment waived if directly admitted as an inpatient. If the above amount is a Coinsurance, the Coinsurance amount is not waived if directly admitted as an inpatient.

If X-ray special procedures are excluded, see "X-ray, Laboratory and X-ray Special Procedures" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.

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**Urgent Care**

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**You Pay**

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Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.

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**Plan Facility within Service Area**

*Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

*Other covered Services: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

No Charge

Urgent care may require additional Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits (for example: Office Services, Durable Medical Equipment, X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures). See the appropriate section for applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and Deductible information.

Covered Services received during a visit: 20% Coinsurance

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**Urgent care outside Service Area**

*Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

*Other covered Services: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

No Charge

Urgent care may require additional Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits (for example: Office Services, Durable Medical Equipment, X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures). See the appropriate section for applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and Deductible information.

Covered Services received during a visit: 20% Coinsurance

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Covered only if all the following requirements are met:

- The care is required to prevent serious decline of health
  - The need for care results from an unforeseen illness or injury when temporarily away from our Service Area
  - The care cannot be delayed until you return to our Service Area
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**Family Planning and Sterilization Services**

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**You Pay**

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**Family planning counseling**

*(See "Office Services" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)*

See "Office Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.

**Associated outpatient surgery procedures**

*(See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)*

See "Office Services" or "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.

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**Health Education Services**

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**You Pay**

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**Training in self-care and preventive care**

*(See "Office Services" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)*

See "Office Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.

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<b>Hearing Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction when performed by an audiologist <i>Exam: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Other covered Services: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Exam: No Charge Covered Services received during a visit: No additional charge
Hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction when performed by a specialist other than an audiologist <i>Exam: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Other covered Services: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Exam: \$75 Copayment each visit Covered Services received during a visit: 20% Coinsurance
Hearing aids for Members up to age 18 <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fitting and Recheck visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	No Charge
Hearing aids for Members age 18 and over <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fitting and Recheck visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<b>Home Health Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Home health Services provided in your home and prescribed by a Plan Physician <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<b>Hospice Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Special Services program for hospice-eligible Members who have not yet elected hospice care <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
Hospice care for terminally ill patients <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<b>Mental Health Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Inpatient psychiatric hospitalization <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inpatient day limit</li> </ul>	Not Applicable
Inpatient professional Services for psychiatric hospitalization <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Outpatient individual therapy or intensive outpatient therapy <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Other covered Services: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: No Charge including partial hospitalization Covered services received during a Visit: 20% Coinsurance
Outpatient group therapy <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Other covered Services: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: No Charge Covered Services received during a visit: 20% Coinsurance

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**Out-of-Area Benefit****You Pay**

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The following Services are limited to Dependents up to the age of 26 outside the Service Area.

**Outpatient office visits**

*(Combined office visit limit between primary care, specialty care, outpatient mental health and substance use disorder services, gynecology care, hearing exam, prevention immunizations, preventive care, and the administration of allergy injections. Office visits do not include: allergy evaluation, routine prenatal and postpartum visits, chiropractic care, acupuncture services, hearing aids, hearing tests, home health visits, hospice services, and applied behavioral analysis (ABA).)*

*Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

*Other Services: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

*Preventive immunizations: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

Visit limit: Limited to 5 visits per Accumulation Period

Visit: \$20 Copayment

Other Services received during an office visit: Not Covered

Preventive Immunizations:  
No Charge

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**Diagnostic X-ray Services**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

Diagnostic X-ray services limit:

Limited to 5 diagnostic X-rays per Accumulation Period

20% Coinsurance

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**Outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits**

*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

Therapy visit limit: Limited to 5 therapy visits (any combination) per Accumulation Period

Visit: \$20 Copayment

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**Outpatient prescription drugs**

*(Not subject to pharmacy Deductible)*

- Copayment/Coinsurance (except as listed below)  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
- Prescribed diabetic supplies  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
- Preventive drugs
  - o Contraceptive drugs  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
  - o Over the counter (OTC) items:  
*(Federally mandated over the counter items)*  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
  - o Tobacco cessation drugs  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

Prescription drug fills: Limited to 5 prescription drug fills (any combination) per Accumulation Period

50% Coinsurance Generic/50%  
Coinsurance Brand name/50%  
Coinsurance Non-preferred/50%  
Coinsurance Specialty

20% Coinsurance

No Charge

No Charge

No Charge

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**Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy and Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services**

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**You Pay**

Inpatient treatment in a multidisciplinary rehabilitation program provided in a designated rehabilitation facility

20% Coinsurance; Up to 60 days per condition per Accumulation Period

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

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Short-term outpatient physical, occupational and speech therapy visits

- **Habilitative Services**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Limited to 20 visits per therapy per Accumulation Period

- **Rehabilitative Services**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Limited to 20 visits per therapy per Accumulation Period

Outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits to treat Autism Spectrum Disorder

20% Coinsurance

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

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Applied Behavioral Services

- **Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)**

*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

\$30 Copayment each visit

Pulmonary rehabilitation

20% Coinsurance

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

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**Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements****You Pay**

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**Outpatient prescription drugs**

*(Prescriptions are not subject to the medical Deductible. Prescriptions are subject to the pharmacy Deductible except as otherwise listed in this "Prescription Drugs, Supplies and Supplements" section. Prescription copayment or coinsurance: Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

- Pharmacy Deductible  
*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)* Not Applicable
- Copayment/Coinsurance (except as listed below) \$10 Generic/\$35 Brand name/\$60 Non-Preferred
- Infertility drugs  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)* Not Covered
- Insulin  
Applicable Copayment/Coinsurance not to exceed \$100 up to a 30-day supply  
20% Coinsurance
  - o Prescribed supplies  
*(When obtained from sources designated by Kaiser Permanente)*  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
- Over the counter (OTC) items:  
*(Federally mandated over the counter (OTC) items. OTCs require a prescription and must be filled at a Kaiser Permanente pharmacy.)*  
*(Not subject to medical or pharmacy Deductible)* No Charge
- Prescription contraceptives  
*(Supply limit according to applicable law)*  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)* No Charge
- Preventive tier drugs  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)* See applicable Outpatient prescription drug Copayment/Coinsurance
- Sexual dysfunction drugs  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)* Not Covered
- Specialty drugs  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)* Up to \$100 per drug dispensed
- Tobacco cessation drugs  
*(Not subject to medical or pharmacy Deductible)* No Charge

**Supply Limit**

- Day supply limit 30 days
  - Mail-order supply limit \$20 Generic/\$70 Brand name/\$120 Non-Preferred  
Up to 90 days  
See Additional Provisions
-

<b>Preventive Care Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Preventive care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult preventive care exams and screenings</li> <li>• Behavioral health screening</li> <li>• Well-woman care exams and screenings</li> <li>• Well-child care exams</li> <li>• Immunizations</li> </ul>	
Colorectal cancer screenings <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colonoscopies</li> <li>• Flexible sigmoidoscopies</li> </ul>	No Charge
Preventive Virtual Care Services <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Email</li> <li>• Chat with a doctor online via kp.org</li> <li>• Telephone</li> <li>• Video visits</li> </ul>	
Non-preventive covered Services received in conjunction with preventive care exam <i>(See "Office Services" or "Laboratory Services" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Office Services" or "Laboratory Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
<b>Reconstructive Surgery</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
<b>Reproductive Support Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Covered Services for diagnosis and treatment of infertility (including lab and X-ray) <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	50% Coinsurance See Additional Provisions
Intrauterine insemination (IUI) <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	50% Coinsurance See Additional Provisions
In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
Gamete Intrafallopian Transfer (GIFT) <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
Zygote Intrafallopian Transfer (ZIFT) <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<b>Skilled Nursing Facility Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance Limited to 100 days per Accumulation Period

<b>Substance Use Disorder Services (formerly Chemical Dependency Services)</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Inpatient medical detoxification <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Inpatient professional Services for medical detoxification <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Outpatient individual therapy or intensive outpatient therapy <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Other covered Services: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: 20% Coinsurance including partial hospitalization Covered Services received during a visit: No additional charge
Outpatient group therapy <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Other covered Services: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: No Charge Covered Services received during a visit: No additional charge
Residential rehabilitation <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance per inpatient admission
<b>Transplant Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(See "Office Services", "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services", or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Office Services", "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services", or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
<b>Vision Services and Optical</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Eye exams for treatment of injuries and/or diseases	See "Office Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
Routine eye exam when performed by an Optometrist	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members up to the end of the calendar year he/she turns age 19 <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>Members age 19 and over <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: No Charge Test: No Charge Visit: No Charge Test: No Charge
Routine eye exam when performed by an Ophthalmologist	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members up to the end of the calendar year he/she turns age 19 <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>Members age 19 and over <i>Visit: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: \$75 Copayment each visit Test: 20% Coinsurance Visit: \$75 Copayment each visit Test: 20% Coinsurance
Covered Services not otherwise listed in this Schedule of Benefits received during an office visit, a scheduled procedure visit, or provided by a Plan Medical Office <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Optical hardware	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members up to the end of the calendar year he/she turns age 19 <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>Members age 19 and over <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered Not Covered

<b>X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Diagnostic laboratory Services received during an office visit, in a Plan Medical Office, or in a contracted free-standing facility (excluding Plan Hospitals) <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$25 Copayment each visit
Diagnostic laboratory Services received in the outpatient department of a Plan Hospital <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$25 Copayment each visit
Diagnostic X-ray Services received during an office visit, in a Plan Medical Office, or in a contracted free-standing facility (excluding Plan Hospitals) <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
Diagnostic X-ray Services received in the outpatient department of a Plan Hospital <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
Therapeutic X-ray Services received during an office visit, in a Plan Medical Office, in a contracted free-standing facility, or a Plan Hospital <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	\$25 Copayment each visit
X-ray special procedures including but not limited to CT, PET, MRI, nuclear medicine <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diagnostic procedures include administered drugs</li> <li>• Therapeutic procedures may incur an additional charge for administered drugs.</li> </ul> <i>(See "Office Services" for "Office-administered Drugs")</i>	\$250 Copayment per procedure Copayment waived if X-ray special procedure is performed during an Emergency Room visit and you are directly admitted as an inpatient. If the above amount is a Coinsurance, the Coinsurance amount is not waived if directly admitted as an inpatient.



<b>Plus Benefit</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Maximum limit per Accumulation Period	Not Applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preventive care visits with a non-Plan Provider <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary care and allergy injection visits, hearing exams, outpatient mental health and substance use disorder individual therapy visits, and short-term outpatient physical, occupational, or speech therapy visits with a non-Plan Provider. <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Specialty and gynecology care visits, hearing exams, and allergy testing and evaluations with a non-Plan Provider. Visits include phone or email virtual care Services. <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Covered Services received during an office visit with a non-Plan Provider, allergy injections, durable medical equipment, diagnostic X-ray and laboratory Services, and implantable or injectable contraceptives. <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
Prescription Drug fill maximum per Accumulation Period	Not Applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outpatient prescription drugs filled at a non-Plan Pharmacy <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
Outpatient prescription drugs prescribed by a non-Plan Provider and filled at a Plan Pharmacy <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered

#### **IV. DEPENDENT LIMITING AGE**

The Dependent limiting age as described under Dependents in the "Eligibility" section of the EOC is the end of the month in which age 26 is reached. A Dependent child will continue to be eligible until the Dependent child reaches this age, if he or she continues to meet all other eligibility requirements. For additional information regarding eligible Dependents, including certain Dependents over the limiting age, please refer to the "Eligibility" section in the EOC.

#### **Additional Provisions**

Please see "Additional Provisions" for any supplemental information that applies to your coverage.



**CONTACT US**

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**Appointments and Medical Advice (Advice Nurses) – Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week**

**CALL**      *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-338-4545** or toll-free **1-800-218-1059**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-800-218-1059**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **970-207-7171** or toll-free **1-800-218-1059**

**TTY**      **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**Behavioral Health**

**CALL**      *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-471-7700**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-866-702-9026**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-866-359-8299**

**TTY**      **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**Member Services**

**CALL**      *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-338-3800** or toll-free **1-800-632-9700**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-888-681-7878**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-844-201-5824**

**TTY**      **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**FAX**      **303-338-3444**

**WRITE**      **Member Services**  
**Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado**  
**2500 South Havana Street**  
**Aurora, CO 80014-1622**

**WEBSITE**      [kp.org](http://kp.org)

**Appeals Program**

<b>CALL</b>	<b>303-344-7933</b> or toll free <b>1-888-370-9858</b>
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
<b>FAX</b>	<b>1-866-466-4042</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	<b>Appeals Program</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 378066</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-8066</b>

**Claims Department**

<b>CALL</b>	<i>Denver/Boulder</i> Members: <b>303-338-3600</b> or toll-free <b>1-800-382-4661</b> <i>Southern Colorado</i> Members: <b>1-888-681-7878</b> <i>Northern Colorado</i> Members: <b>1-800-382-4661</b>
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
<b>WRITE</b>	<i>Denver/Boulder</i> Members: <b>Claims Department</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 373150</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-3150</b>  <i>Southern Colorado</i> Members: <b>Claims Department</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 372910</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-6910</b>  <i>Northern Colorado</i> Members: <b>Claims Department</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 373150</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-3150</b>

**Membership Administration**

<b>WRITE</b>	<b>Membership Administration</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 203004</b> <b>Denver, CO 80220-9004</b>
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**Patient Financial Services**

**CALL** *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-743-5900**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-888-681-7878**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-844-201-5824**

**TTY** **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**WRITE** **Patient Financial Services**  
**Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado**  
**2500 South Havana Street, Suite 500**  
**Aurora, CO 80014-1622**

**Personal Physician Selection Services**

**CALL** *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-338-4477**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-855-208-7221**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-855-208-7221**

**TTY** **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**WEBSITE** [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations) for a list of providers and facilities

**Transplant Administrative Offices**

**CALL** **303-636-3131**

**TTY** **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.



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## I. ELIGIBILITY

### A. Who Is Eligible

#### 1. General

To be eligible to enroll and to remain enrolled in this health benefit plan, you must meet the following requirements:

- a. You must meet your Group's eligibility requirements that we have approved. Your Group is required to inform Subscribers of the Group's eligibility requirements; and
- b. You must also meet the Subscriber or Dependent eligibility requirements as described below; and
- c. The Subscriber must live or reside in our Service Area. Our Service Area is described in the "Definitions" section.

#### 2. Subscribers

You may be eligible to enroll as a Subscriber if you are entitled to Subscriber coverage under your Group's eligibility requirements. An example would be an employee of your Group who works at least the number of hours stated in those requirements.

#### 3. Dependents

If you are a Subscriber, the following persons may be eligible to enroll as your Dependents under this plan:

- a. Your Spouse. (Spouse includes a partner in a valid civil union under state law.)
- b. Your or your Spouse's children (including adopted children and children placed with you for adoption) who are under the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)."
- c. Other dependent persons (but not including foster children) who meet all of the following requirements:
  - i. They are under the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)"; and
  - ii. You or your Spouse is the court-appointed permanent legal guardian (or was before the person reached age 18).
- d. Your or your Spouse's unmarried children over the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" who are medically certified as disabled and dependent upon you or your Spouse are eligible to enroll or continue coverage as your Dependents if the following requirements are met:
  - i. They are dependent on you or your Spouse; and
  - ii. You give us proof of the Dependent's disability and dependency annually if we request it.
- e. Subscriber's designated beneficiary prescribed by Colorado law, if your employer elects to cover designated beneficiaries as dependents.

**Students on Medical Leave of Absence.** Dependent children who lose dependent student status at a postsecondary educational institution due to a Medically Necessary leave of absence may remain eligible for coverage until the earlier of: (i) one year after the first day of the Medically Necessary leave of absence; or (ii) the date dependent coverage would otherwise terminate under this EOC. We must receive written certification by a treating physician of the dependent child which states 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.

If your plan has different eligibility requirements, please see "Additional Provisions."

### B. Enrollment and Effective Date of Coverage

Eligible people may enroll as follows, and membership begins at 12:00 a.m. on the membership effective date:

#### 1. New Employees and their Dependents

If you are a new employee, you may enroll yourself and any eligible Dependents by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application to your Group within 31 days after you become eligible. You should check with your Group to see when new employees become eligible. Your membership will become effective on the date specified by your Group.

#### 2. Members Who are Inpatient on Effective Date of Coverage

If you are an inpatient in a hospital or institution when your coverage with us becomes effective and you had other coverage when you were admitted, state law will determine whether we or your prior carrier will be responsible for payment for your care until your date of discharge.

#### 3. Special Enrollment Due to Newly Acquired Dependents

You may enroll as a Subscriber (along with any eligible Dependents), and existing Subscribers may add eligible Dependents, by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application to your Group within 31 days after a Dependent becomes newly eligible.

The membership effective date for the Dependents (and, if applicable, the new Subscriber) will be:

- a. For newborn children, the moment of birth. Your newborn child is covered for the first 31 days following birth. This coverage is required by state law, whether or not you intend to add the newborn to this plan.

For existing Subscribers:

- i. If the addition of the newborn child to the Subscriber's coverage will change the amount the Subscriber is required to pay for that coverage, then the Subscriber, in order for the newborn to keep coverage beyond the first 31-day period of coverage, is required to: (A) pay the new amount due for coverage after the first 31-day period of coverage; and (B) notify Health Plan within 31 days of the newborn's birth.
  - ii. If the addition of the newborn child to the Subscriber's coverage will not change the amount the Subscriber pays for coverage, the Subscriber must still notify Health Plan after the birth of the newborn to get the newborn enrolled onto the Subscriber's Health Plan coverage.
- b. For newly adopted children (including children newly placed for adoption), the date of the adoption or placement for adoption. An eligible adopted child must be enrolled within 31 days from the date the child is placed in your custody or the date of the final decree of adoption.

For existing Subscribers:

- i. If the addition of the newly adopted child to the Subscriber's coverage will change the amount the Subscriber is required to pay for that coverage, then the Subscriber, in order for the newly adopted child to continue coverage beyond the initial 31-day period of coverage, is required to: (A) pay the new amount due for coverage after the initial 31-day period of coverage; and (B) notify Health Plan within 31 days of the child's adoption or placement for adoption.
  - ii. If the addition of the newly adopted child to the Subscriber's coverage will not change the amount the Subscriber pays for coverage, the Subscriber must still notify Health Plan after the adoption or placement for adoption of the child to get the child enrolled onto the Subscriber's Health Plan coverage.
- c. For all other Dependents, if enrolled within 31 days of becoming eligible, no later than the first day of the month following the date your Group receives the enrollment application. Your Group will let you know the membership effective date. Employees and Dependents who are not enrolled when newly eligible must wait until the next open enrollment period to become Members of Health Plan, unless: (i) they enroll under special circumstances, as agreed to by your Group and Health Plan; or (ii) they enroll under the provisions described in "Special Enrollment".

4. Special Enrollment

You or your Dependent may experience a triggering event that allows a change in your enrollment. Examples of triggering events are the loss of coverage, a Dependent's aging off this plan, marriage, and birth of a child. The triggering event results in a special enrollment period that usually (but not always) starts on the date of the triggering event and lasts for 30 days. During the special enrollment period, you may enroll your Dependent(s) in this plan or, in certain circumstances, you may change plans (your plan choice may be limited). There are requirements that you must meet to take advantage of a special enrollment period including showing proof of your own or your Dependent's triggering event. To learn more about triggering events, special enrollment periods, how to enroll or change your plan (if permitted), timeframes for submitting information to Health Plan and other requirements, call **Member Services** to obtain a copy of Health Plan's *Special Enrollment Guide*.

5. Open Enrollment

You may enroll as a Subscriber (along with any eligible Dependents), and existing Subscribers may add eligible Dependents, by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application to your Group during the open enrollment period. Your Group will let you know when the open enrollment period begins and ends and the membership effective date.

6. Persons Barred from Enrolling

You cannot enroll if you have had your entitlement to receive Services through Health Plan terminated for cause.

## II. HOW TO ACCESS YOUR SERVICES AND OBTAIN APPROVAL OF BENEFITS

As a Member, you are selecting our medical care program to provide your health care. You must receive all covered Services from Plan Providers inside your home Service Area, except as described under the following headings:

- "Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)" in "Emergency Services and Urgent Care" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.
- "Urgent Care Outside the Service Area" in "Emergency Services and Urgent Care" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.
- "Out-of-Area Benefit" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.
- "Access to Other Providers" in this section.
- "Cross Market Access" in this section.
- "Visiting Other Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Areas" in this section.

- “Plus Benefit” if purchased by your Group. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if your Group has purchased this coverage.

Your home Service Area is printed on your Health Plan Identification (ID) card. For more information about your ID card, please refer to the “Using Your Health Plan Identification Card” section.

In some circumstances, you might receive emergency or non-emergency Services from a non-Plan Provider or non-Plan Facility. **Non-emergency Services from non-Plan Providers are not covered unless they are authorized by us.** If Services from a non-Plan Provider are authorized, the Deductible, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance for these authorized Services are the same as for covered Services received from a Plan Provider. You have the right and responsibility to request a Plan Provider to provide Services.

**Note:** *Denver/Boulder* Members do not have access to Affiliated Providers within the *Denver/Boulder* Service Area unless authorized by Health Plan. *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Members do have access to Affiliated Providers within their home Service Area.

## A. Your Primary Care Provider

Your primary care provider (PCP) plays an important role in coordinating your health care needs. This includes hospital stays and referrals to specialists. Every member of your family should have his or her own PCP.

### 1. Choosing Your Primary Care Provider

You may select a PCP from family medicine, pediatrics, or internal medicine within your home Service Area. You may also receive a second medical opinion from a Plan Physician upon request. Please refer to the “Second Opinions” section.

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

You may choose your PCP from our provider directory. To review a list of Plan Providers and their biographies, visit our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). You can also get a copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. To choose a PCP, sign in to your account online or call **Personal Physician Selection Services**. This team will help you choose a primary care provider, accepting new patients, based on your health care needs.

#### b. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

You must choose a PCP when you enroll. If you do not select a PCP upon enrollment, we will assign you one near your home.

Medical Group contracts with a panel of Affiliated Physicians, specialists, and other health care professionals to provide medical Services in the *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Service Areas. You may choose your PCP from our panel of *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* providers.

You can find these physicians, along with a list of affiliated specialists and ancillary providers, in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your specific home Service Area. You can review a list of *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Plan Providers by visiting our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). You can also get a copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. To choose a PCP, call **Personal Physician Selection Services**. This team will help you choose a primary care provider, accepting new patients, based on your health care needs.

If you are seeking routine or specialty care in *Denver/Boulder*, you must have a referral from your local PCP with an Authorization from Health Plan. If you do not have an Authorization, you will be billed for the full amount of the office visit Charges. If you are visiting in the *Denver/Boulder* Service Area and need urgent or emergency care, you can visit a *Denver/Boulder* Plan Facility without a referral. For a referral from a specialist, see the “Access to Other Providers” section. For care in *Denver/Boulder* Plan Medical Offices, see “Cross Market Access”.

### 2. Changing Your Primary Care Provider

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

Please call **Personal Physician Selection Services** to change your PCP. You may also change your PCP online or when visiting a Plan Facility. You may change your PCP at any time.

#### b. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

Please call **Personal Physician Selection Services** to change your PCP. Notify us of your new PCP choice by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month. Your selection will be effective on the first day of the following month.

## B. Access to Other Providers

### 1. Referrals and Authorizations

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

If your Medical Group physician decides that you need covered Services not available from us, he or she will request a referral for you to see a non-Medical Group physician inside or outside our Service Area. This referral request will result in an Authorization or a denial. However, there may be circumstances where Health Plan will partially authorize your provider’s referral request.

An Authorization is a referral request that has received approval from Health Plan. An Authorization is limited to a specific Service, treatment or series of treatments, and period of time. The provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid. Copayments or Coinsurance for authorized Services are the same as those required for Services provided by a Medical Group physician.

An Authorization is required for Services provided by non-Plan Providers, non-Medical Group physicians, or non-Plan Facilities. If your provider refers you to a non-Medical Group physician, non-Plan Provider, or non-Plan Facility, inside or outside our Service Area, you must have a written Authorization in order for us to cover the Services.

All referral Services must be requested and authorized in advance. We will not pay for any care rendered by a provider unless the care is specifically authorized by Health Plan and approved in advance. A written or verbal recommendation by a provider that you get non-covered Services (whether Medically Necessary or not) is not considered an Authorization, and is **not** covered.

b. **Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas**

If your Medical Group physician decides that you need covered Services not available from us, he or she will request a referral for you to see a non-Medical Group physician inside or outside our Service Area. This referral request will result in an Authorization or a denial. However, there may be circumstances where Health Plan will partially authorize your provider's referral request.

An Authorization is a referral request that has received approval from Health Plan. An Authorization is limited to a specific Service, treatment or series of treatments, and period of time. The provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid. Copayments or Coinsurance for authorized Services are the same as those required for Services provided by a Medical Group physician.

An Authorization is required for Services provided by non-Plan Providers, non-Medical Group physicians, or non-Plan Facilities. If your provider refers you to a non-Medical Group physician, non-Plan Provider, or non-Plan Facility, inside or outside our Service Area, you must have a written Authorization in order for us to cover the Services.

All referral Services must be requested and authorized in advance. We will not pay for any care rendered by a provider unless the care is specifically authorized by Health Plan and approved in advance. A written or verbal recommendation by a provider that you get non-covered Services (whether Medically Necessary or not) is not considered an Authorization, and is **not** covered.

2. **Specialty Self-Referrals**

a. **Denver/Boulder Service Area**

In some cases you can refer yourself for consultation (routine office) visits to specialty-care departments within Kaiser Permanente, with the exception of certain specialty-care departments such as the anesthesia clinical pain department. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to eye care services from a Plan Provider. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a Plan Provider who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology.

You will find specialty-care providers in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your home Service Area. The Provider Directory is available on our website, [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). If you need a printed copy of the Provider Directory, please call **Member Services**.

A self-referral provides coverage for routine office visits only. Certain Services other than those provided as part of a routine office visit will not be covered unless authorized by Kaiser Permanente before Services are rendered.

Authorization from Kaiser Permanente is required for: (i) Services in addition to those provided as part of the visit, such as surgery; and (ii) visits to specialty-care Plan Providers not eligible for self-referrals; and (iii) non-Plan Providers. The request for these Services can be generated by either your PCP or by a specialty-care provider. If the request is approved, the provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid.

A Plan Provider can directly refer you for some laboratory or radiology Services and for specialty procedures such as a CT scan or MRI. However, certain laboratory or radiology Services and specialty procedures will still require an Authorization.

b. **Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas**

In some cases you can refer yourself for consultation (routine office) visits to specialty-care departments within Kaiser Permanente, with the exception of certain specialty-care departments such as the anesthesia clinical pain department.

You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to eye care services from a Plan Provider. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a Plan Provider who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology.

You will find specialty-care providers in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your home Service Area. The Provider Directory is available on our website, [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). If you need a printed copy of the Provider Directory, please call **Member Services**.

A self-referral provides coverage for routine office visits only. Certain Services other than those provided as part of a routine office visit will not be covered unless authorized by Kaiser Permanente before Services are rendered.

Authorization from Kaiser Permanente is required for: (i) Services in addition to those provided as part of the visit, such as surgery; and (ii) visits to specialty-care Plan Providers not eligible for self-referrals; and (iii) non-Plan Providers. The request for these Services can be generated by either your PCP or by a specialty-care provider. If the request is approved, the provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid.

A Plan Provider can directly refer you for some laboratory or radiology Services and for specialty procedures such as a CT scan or MRI. However, certain laboratory or radiology Services and specialty procedures will still require an Authorization.

*Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Members may be able to self-refer to Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices in the *Denver/Boulder* Service Area (see "Cross Market Access" in this section).

### 3. Second Opinions

Upon request and subject to payment of any applicable Deductible, Copayments, and/or Coinsurance, you may get a second opinion from a Plan Physician about any proposed covered Services.

If the recommendations of the first and second physician differ regarding the need for surgery (or other major procedure), a third opinion may be covered if authorized by Health Plan. Third medical opinions are not covered unless authorized by Health Plan before Services are rendered.

## C. Plan Facilities

Plan Facilities are Plan Medical Offices or Plan Hospitals in our Service Area that we contract with to provide covered Services to our Members.

### 1. Denver/Boulder Service Area

We offer health care at Plan Medical Offices conveniently located throughout the *Denver/Boulder* Service Area. At most of our Plan Facilities, you can usually receive all the covered Services you need. This includes specialized care. You are not restricted to a certain Plan Facility. We encourage you to use the Plan Facility in your home Service Area that will be most convenient for you.

Plan Facilities are listed in our provider directory, which we update regularly. You can get a current copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. You can also get a list of Plan Facilities on our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations).

### 2. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

When you select your PCP, you will receive your Services at that provider's office. You can find *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Plan Physicians and their facilities, along with a list of affiliated specialists and ancillary providers, in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your specific home Service Area. You can get a copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. You can also get a list from our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations).

## D. Getting the Care You Need

Emergency care is covered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week anywhere in the world. **If you think you have a Life or Limb Threatening Emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room.** For coverage information about emergency care, including out-of-Plan Emergency Services, and emergency benefits away from home, please refer to "Emergency Services" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.

If you need urgent care, you may use one of the designated urgent care Plan Facilities. The Copayment or Coinsurance for urgent care received in Plan Facilities listed in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)," will apply. For additional information about urgent care, please refer to "Urgent Care" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.

Urgent care received at a non-Plan Facility inside your Service Area is **not covered**. If you receive care for minor medical problems at non-Plan Facilities inside your Service Area, you will be responsible for payment for any treatment received.

There may be instances when you need to receive unauthorized urgent care outside your Service Area. Please see "Urgent Care" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section for coverage information about urgent care Services outside the Service Area.

**E. Visiting Other Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Areas**

You may receive visiting member services from another Kaiser regional health plan as directed by that other plan so long as such services would be covered under this EOC. Kaiser regional health plan service areas may change at any time. Currently they are: the District of Columbia and parts of California, Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Maryland, Oregon, Virginia, and Washington. For more information, please call **Member Services**. Visiting member services shall be subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this EOC including but not limited to those pertaining to prior Authorization, Deductible, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance, as further described in the Visiting Member Brochure available online at [kp.org/travel](http://kp.org/travel). Certain services are not covered as visiting member services.

For more information about receiving visiting member services in other Kaiser regional health plan service areas, including 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).

**F. Moving Outside of our Service Area**

If you move to an area not within any Kaiser regional health plan service area, your membership may be terminated. We will provide you with thirty (30) days' notice of termination which will include the reason for termination.

**G. Using Your Health Plan Identification Card**

Each Member is issued a Health Plan Identification (ID) card with a Health Record Number on it. This is useful when you call for advice, make an appointment, or go to a Plan Provider for care. The Health Record Number is used to identify your medical records and membership information. You should always have the same Health Record Number. Please call **Member Services** if: (1) we ever inadvertently issue you more than one Health Record Number; or (2) you need to replace your Health Plan ID card.

Your Health Plan ID card is for identification only. To receive covered Services, you must be a current Health Plan Member. Anyone who is not a Member will be billed as a non-Member for any Services we provide. In addition, claims for Emergency or non-emergency care Services from non-Plan Providers will be denied. If you let someone else use your Health Plan ID card, we may keep your card and terminate your membership upon 30 days written notice that will include the reason for termination.

When you receive Services, you will need to show photo identification along with your Health Plan ID card. This allows us to ensure proper identification and to better protect your coverage and medical information from fraud. If you suspect you or your membership is a victim of fraud, please call **Member Services** to report your concern.

**H. Cross Market Access**

Members may access certain Services at Kaiser Permanente Colorado Plan Medical Offices outside of their home Service Area.

**1. Denver/Boulder Members**

**Denver/Boulder** Members have access for certain Services at designated Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices in the **Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Service Areas. **Denver/Boulder** Members do not have access to Affiliated Providers in **Southern** and **Northern Colorado** unless authorized by Health Plan.

**2. Southern and Northern Colorado Members**

**Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Members have access for certain Services at any Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Office in the **Denver/Boulder**, **Southern**, and **Northern Colorado** Service Areas. **Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Members do not have access to Affiliated Providers outside their home Service Area unless authorized by Health Plan.

Services available to Members at Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices outside of their home Service Area include: primary care; specialty care; urgent care; pharmacy; laboratory; X-ray; vision; and hearing Services. These Services may not be available at all Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices and are subject to change. For more information on what Services you may access outside your designated home Service Area and at which Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices you may receive Services please call **Member Services**.

**III. BENEFITS/COVERAGE (WHAT IS COVERED)**

The Services described in this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section are covered only if all the following conditions are satisfied:

- The Services are Medically Necessary; and
- The Services are provided, prescribed, recommended, or directed by a Plan Provider. This does not apply where specifically noted to the contrary in the following sections of this EOC: (a) “Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)” and “Urgent Care Outside the Service Area” in “Emergency Services and Urgent Care”; and (b) “Out-of-Area Benefit”; and (c) “Plus Benefit” if purchased by your Group (see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if your Group has purchased this coverage); and



- You receive the Services from Plan Providers inside our Service Area. This does not apply where noted to the contrary in the following sections of this EOC: (a) “Referrals and Authorizations” and “Specialty Self-Referrals”; and (b) “Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)” and “Urgent Care Outside the Service Area” in “Emergency Services and Urgent Care”; and (c) “Out-of-Area Benefit”; and (d) “Visiting Other Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Areas”; and (e) “Plus Benefit” if purchased by your Group (see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if your Group has purchased this coverage); and
- Your provider has received prior Authorization for your Services, as appropriate; and
- You have met any Deductible requirements described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

Exclusions and limitations that apply only to a certain benefit are described in this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section. Exclusions, limitations, and reductions that apply to all benefits are described in the “Limitations/Exclusions (What is Not Covered)” section.

**Note:** Deductibles, Copayments, and/or Coinsurance may apply to the benefits and are described below. For a complete list of Deductible, Copayment, and Coinsurance requirements, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” You are responsible for any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for Services performed as part of or in conjunction with other outpatient Services, including but not limited to: office visits, Emergency Services, urgent care, and outpatient surgery.

## A. Office Services

### Office Services for Preventive Care, Diagnosis, and Treatment

We cover, under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section and subject to any specific limitations, exclusions, or exceptions as noted throughout this EOC, the following office Services for preventive care, diagnosis, and treatment, including professional medical Services of physicians and other health care professionals in the physician’s office, during medical office consultations, in a Skilled Nursing Facility, or at home:

1. Primary care visits: Services from family medicine, internal medicine, and pediatrics.
2. Specialty care visits: Services from providers that are not primary care, as defined above.
3. Routine prenatal and postpartum visits: The routine prenatal benefit covers office exams, routine chemical urinalysis and fetal stress tests performed during the office visit. See the applicable section of your “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for the Copayment and/or Coinsurance for all other Services received during a prenatal visit.
4. Consultations with clinical pharmacists (*Denver/Boulder* Members only).
5. Other covered Services received during an office visit or a scheduled procedure visit.
6. Outpatient hospital clinic visits with an Authorization from Health Plan.
7. Blood, blood products, and their administration.
8. Second opinion.
9. House calls when care can best be provided in your home as determined by a Plan Physician.
10. Medical social Services.
11. Preventive care Services (see “Preventive Care Services” in this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section for more details).
12. Professional review and interpretation of patient data from a remote monitoring device.
13. Virtual care Services.
14. Office-administered drugs.

**Note:** If the following are administered in a Plan Medical Office or during home visits, and administration or observation by medical personnel is required, they are covered at the applicable office-administered drug Copayment or Coinsurance shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” This Copayment or Coinsurance may be in addition to your Office Services Copayment or Coinsurance.

Drugs and injectables; radioactive materials used for therapeutic purposes; vaccines and immunizations approved for use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA); and allergy test and treatment materials.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” If your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, you must meet Medical Group’s criteria to be eligible for coverage.

## B. Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services

### Outpatient Services at Designated Facilities

We cover, only as described under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section and subject to any specific limitations, exclusions, or exceptions as noted throughout this EOC, the following outpatient Services for diagnosis and treatment, including professional medical Services of physicians:

1. Outpatient surgery at designated Plan Facilities, including an ambulatory surgical center, surgical suite, or outpatient hospital facility. Kaiser Permanente applies Medicare global surgery guidelines in accordance with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

2. Outpatient hospital Services at designated facilities, including but not limited to: electroencephalogram, sleep study, stress test, pulmonary function test, any treatment room, or any observation room. You may be charged an additional Copayment or Coinsurance for any Service which is listed as a separate benefit under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” If your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, you must meet Medical Group’s criteria to be eligible for coverage.

### C. Hospital Inpatient Care

#### 1. Inpatient Services in a Plan Hospital

We cover, only as described under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section and subject to any specific limitations, exclusions, or exceptions as noted throughout this EOC, the following inpatient Services in a Plan Hospital, when the Services are generally and customarily provided by acute care general hospitals in our Service Areas:

- a. Room and board, such as semiprivate accommodations or, when it is Medically Necessary, private accommodations or private duty nursing care.
- b. Intensive care and related hospital Services.
- c. Professional Services of physicians and other health care professionals during a hospital stay.
- d. General nursing care.
- e. Obstetrical care and delivery. This includes Cesarean section. If the covered stay for child birth ends after 8 p.m., coverage will be continued until 8 a.m. the following morning. **Note:** If you are discharged within 48 hours after delivery (or 96 hours if delivery is by Cesarean section), your Plan Physician may order a follow-up visit for you and your newborn to take place within 48 hours after discharge. If your newborn remains in the hospital following your discharge, Charges incurred by the newborn are subject to all Health Plan provisions. This includes the newborn’s own Deductible, Out-of-Pocket Maximum, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance requirements. This applies even if the newborn is covered only for the first 31 days that is required by state law.
- f. Meals and special diets.
- g. Other hospital Services and supplies, such as:
  - i. Operating, recovery, maternity, and other treatment rooms.
  - ii. Prescribed drugs and medicines.
  - iii. Diagnostic laboratory tests and X-rays.
  - iv. Blood, blood products and their administration.
  - v. Dressings, splints, casts, and sterile tray Services.
  - vi. Anesthetics, including nurse anesthetist Services.
  - vii. Medical supplies, appliances, medical equipment, including oxygen, and any covered items billed by a hospital for use at home.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” If your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, you must meet Medical Group’s criteria to be eligible for coverage.

#### 2. Hospital Inpatient Care Exclusions

- a. Dental Services are excluded, except that we cover hospitalization and general anesthesia for dental Services provided to Members as required by state law.
- b. Cosmetic surgery related to bariatric surgery.

### D. Ambulance Services and Other Transportation

#### 1. Coverage

We cover ambulance Services only if your condition requires the use of medical Services that only a licensed ambulance can provide. Kaiser Permanente applies Medicare guidelines for ambulance Services in accordance with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

#### 2. Ambulance Services Exclusions

- a. Non-emergency routine ambulance services to home or other non-acute health care setting are not covered.
- b. Transportation by other than a licensed ambulance is not covered. Transportation by car, taxi, bus, gurney van, minivan, or any other type of transportation is not covered, even if it is the only way to travel to a Plan Provider.

**Note:** Health Plan will cover certain non-emergent, non-ambulance transportation when there is prior Authorization by Health Plan.

### E. Clinical Trials

**Note:** We cover the initial evaluation for eligibility and acceptance into a clinical trial only if authorized by Health Plan.

#### 1. Coverage (applies to non-grandfathered health plans only)

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

- a. We would have covered the Services if they were not related to a clinical trial.
- b. You are eligible to participate in the clinical trial according to the trial protocol with respect to treatment of cancer or other life-threatening condition (a condition from which the likelihood of death is probable unless the course of the condition is interrupted), as determined in one of the following ways:
  - i. A Plan Provider makes this determination.
  - ii. You provide us with medical and scientific information establishing this determination.
- c. If any Plan 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 Plan Provider unless the clinical trial is outside the state where you live.
- d. The clinical trial is a phase I, phase II, phase III, or phase IV clinical trial related to the prevention, detection, or treatment of cancer or other life-threatening condition and it meets one of the following requirements:
  - i. The study or investigation is conducted under an investigational new drug application reviewed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
  - ii. The study or investigation is a drug trial that is exempt from having an investigational new drug application.
  - iii. The study or investigation is approved or funded by at least one of the following:
    - (a) The National Institutes of Health.
    - (b) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
    - (c) The Agency for Health Care Research and Quality.
    - (d) The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.
    - (e) A cooperative group or center of any of the above entities or of the Department of Defense or the Department of Veterans Affairs.
    - (f) A qualified non-governmental research entity identified in the guidelines issued by the National Institutes of Health for center support grants.
    - (g) 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:
      - (i) It is comparable to the National Institutes of Health system of peer review of studies and investigations.
      - (ii) 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 applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” that you would pay if the Services were not related to a clinical trial. For example, see “Hospital Inpatient Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for the Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible that apply to hospital inpatient care.

**2. Clinical Trials Exclusions**

- a. The investigational Service.
- b. Services provided solely for data collection and analysis and that are not used in your direct clinical management.

**F. Dialysis Care**

We cover dialysis Services related to acute renal failure and end-stage renal disease if the following criteria are met:

1. The Services are provided inside our Service Area; and
2. You meet all medical criteria developed by Medical Group and by the facility providing the dialysis; and
3. The facility is certified by Medicare and contracts with Health Plan; and
4. A Plan Physician provides a written referral for care at the facility.

After the referral to a dialysis facility, we cover: equipment; training; and medical supplies required for home dialysis. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**G. Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Prosthetics and Orthotics**

We cover DME and prosthetics and orthotics, when prescribed by a Plan Physician as described below; when prescribed by a Plan Physician during a covered stay in a Skilled Nursing Facility, but only if Skilled Nursing Facilities ordinarily furnish the DME or prosthetics and orthotics.

Health Plan uses Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) and National Coverage Determinations (NCD) (hereinafter referred to as Medicare Guidelines) for our DME, prosthetic, and orthotic formulary guidelines. These are guidelines only. Health Plan reserves the right to exclude items listed in the Medicare Guidelines. Please note that this EOC may contain some, but not all, of these exclusions.

**Limitations:** Coverage is limited to the standard item of DME, prosthetic device, or orthotic device that adequately meets your medical needs.

1. Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

a. Coverage

DME, with the exception of the following, is **not** covered unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for DME, including prosthetic and orthotic devices. See “Additional Provisions.”

- i. Oxygen dispensing equipment and oxygen used in your home are covered. Oxygen refills are covered while you are temporarily outside the Service Area. To qualify for coverage, you must have a pre-existing oxygen order and must obtain your oxygen from the vendor designated by Health Plan.
- ii. Insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iii. Infant apnea monitors are provided.
- iv. Enteral nutrition, medical foods, and related feeding equipment and supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.

b. Durable Medical Equipment Exclusions

- i. All other DME not described above, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for DME. See “Additional Provisions.”
- ii. Replacement of lost or stolen equipment.
- iii. Repair, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.
- iv. Spare equipment or alternate use equipment.
- v. More than one piece of DME serving essentially the same function, except for replacements.

2. Prosthetic Devices

a. Coverage

We cover the following prosthetic devices, including repairs, adjustments, and replacements other than those necessitated by misuse, theft, or loss, when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan:

- i. Internally implanted devices for functional purposes, such as pacemakers and hip joints.
- ii. Prosthetic devices for Members who have had a mastectomy. Medical Group or Health Plan will designate the source from which external prostheses can be obtained. Replacement will be made when a prosthesis is no longer functional. Custom made prostheses will be provided when necessary.
- iii. Prosthetic devices, such as obturators and speech and feeding appliances, required for treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate are covered when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iv. Prosthetic devices intended to replace, in whole or in part, an arm or leg when prescribed by a Plan Physician, as Medically Necessary and provided in accordance with this EOC, including repairs and replacements of such prosthetic devices.

Your Group may have purchased additional coverage for prosthetic devices. See “Additional Provisions.”

b. Prosthetic Devices Exclusions

- i. All other prosthetic devices not described above, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for prosthetic devices. See “Additional Provisions.” Your Plan Physician can provide the Services necessary to determine your need for prosthetic devices and help you make arrangements to obtain such devices at a reasonable rate.
- ii. Internally implanted devices, equipment, and prosthetics related to treatment of sexual dysfunction, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for this benefit.

3. Orthotic Devices

Orthotic devices are **not** covered unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for DME, including prosthetic and orthotic devices. See “Additional Provisions.”

## H. Early Childhood Intervention Services

1. Coverage

Covered children, from birth up to age three (3), who have significant delays in development or have a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in significant delays in development as defined by state law, are covered for the number of Early Intervention Services (EIS) visits as required by state law. EIS are not subject to any Deductibles, Copayments or Coinsurance, or to any annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum or Lifetime Maximum.

**Note:** You may be billed for any EIS received after the number of visits required by state law is satisfied.

2. Limitations

The number of visits as required by state law does not apply to:

- a. Rehabilitation or therapeutic Services which are necessary as the result of an acute medical condition or post-surgical rehabilitation;

- b. Services provided to a child who is not an eligible child and whose services are not provided pursuant to an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP); and
  - c. Assistive technology covered by the durable medical equipment benefit provisions of this EOC.
3. Early Childhood Intervention Services Exclusions
- a. Respite care;
  - b. Non-emergency medical transportation;
  - c. Service coordination other than case management services; or
  - d. Assistive technology, not to include durable medical equipment that is otherwise covered under this EOC.

## I. Emergency Services and Urgent Care

### 1. Emergency Services

Emergency Services are available at all times - 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK. If you have an Emergency Medical Condition or mental health emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest hospital emergency department. You do not need prior Authorization for Emergency Services. When you have an Emergency Medical Condition, we cover Emergency Services you receive from Plan Providers and non-Plan Providers anywhere in the world, as long as the Services would have been covered under your plan if you had received them from Plan Providers. For information about emergency benefits away from home, please call **Member Services**.

You will pay your plan's Deductible, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance for covered Emergency Services, regardless of whether the Services are provided by a Plan Provider or a non-Plan Provider.

Please note that in addition to any Copayment or Coinsurance that applies under this section, you may incur additional Copayment or Coinsurance amounts for Services and procedures covered under other sections of this EOC.

#### a. Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)

"Out-of-Plan Emergency Services" are Emergency Services that are not provided by a Plan Physician. There may be times when you or a family member may receive Emergency Services from non-Plan Providers. The patient's medical condition may be so critical that you cannot call or come to one of our Plan Medical Offices or the emergency room of a Plan Hospital, or, the patient may need Emergency Services while traveling outside our Service Area.

**Please refer to "ii. Emergency Services Limitation for non-Plan Providers" if you are hospitalized for Emergency Services.**

#### i. We cover out-of-Plan Emergency Services as follows:

- A. Outside our Service Area. If you are injured or become unexpectedly ill while you are outside our Service Area, we will cover out-of-Plan Emergency Services that could not reasonably be delayed until you could get to a Plan Hospital, a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, or a Plan Facility, only if a prudent layperson having average knowledge of health services and medicine and acting reasonably would have believed that an Emergency Medical Condition or Life or Limb Threatening Emergency existed. Covered benefits include Medically Necessary out-of-Plan Emergency Services for conditions that arise unexpectedly, including but not limited to myocardial infarction, appendicitis, or premature delivery.
- B. Inside our Service Area. If you are inside our Service Area, we will cover out-of-Plan Emergency Services only if a prudent layperson would have reasonably believed that the delay in going to a Plan Hospital, a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, or a Plan Facility for treatment would result in death or serious impairment of health.

#### ii. Emergency Services Limitation for non-Plan Providers

If you are admitted to a non-Plan Hospital, non-Plan Facility, or a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, you or someone on your behalf must notify us within 24 hours, or as soon as reasonably possible. Please call the **Telephonic Medicine Center** at **303-743-5763**.

We will decide whether to make arrangements for necessary continued care where you are, or to transfer you to a Plan Facility we designate once you are Stabilized. If you are admitted to a non-Plan Hospital, non-Plan Facility, or a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, we may transfer you to a Plan Hospital or Plan Facility. By notifying us of your hospitalization as soon as possible, you will protect yourself from potential liability for payment for Services you receive after transfer to one of our Plan Facilities would have been possible.

#### b. Emergency Services Limitations

Continuing or follow-up treatment: We cover only the Emergency Services that are required before you could have been moved to a Plan Facility we designate either inside or outside our Service Area. If you are admitted to a Plan Facility, we may transfer you to another Plan Facility. When approved by Health Plan, we will cover ambulance Services or other transportation Medically Necessary to move you to a designated Plan Facility for continuing or follow-up treatment.

#### c. Payment

Our payment is reduced by:

- i. any applicable Copayment and/or Coinsurance for Emergency Services and X-ray special procedures performed in the emergency room. The emergency room and X-ray special procedures Copayments, if applicable, are waived if you are admitted directly to the hospital as an inpatient; and
- ii. the Copayment or Coinsurance for ambulance Services, if any; and
- iii. coordination of benefits; and
- iv. all amounts paid or payable, or which in the absence of this EOC would be payable, for the Services in question, under any insurance policy or contract, or any other contract, or any government program except Medicaid; and
- v. amounts you or your legal representative recover from motor vehicle insurance or because of third-party liability.

**Note:** If you receive out-of-Plan Emergency Services, our payment is also reduced by any other payments you would have had to make if you received the same Services from our Plan Providers. The procedure for receiving reimbursement for out-of-Plan Emergency Services is described in the “Appeals and Complaints” section regarding “Post-Service Claims and Appeals.”

**Note:** As part of an emergent care episode, Medically Necessary DME and prosthetics and orthotics following Stabilization will be covered if authorized by Health Plan.

2. Urgent Care

a. Urgent Care Provided by Plan Providers

i. Denver/Boulder Service Area

Urgent care Services are Services that are not Emergency Services, are required to prevent serious deterioration of your health, and that are required as a result of an unforeseen illness, injury, or condition.

Urgent care that cannot wait for a scheduled visit with your PCP or specialist can be received at one of our designated urgent care Plan Facilities. In some circumstances, you may be able to receive care in your home. For Copayment and Coinsurance information, see “Urgent Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. For information regarding the designated urgent care Plan Facilities, please call **Member Services** during normal business hours. You can also go to our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org), for information on designated urgent care facilities.

You may call **Advice Nurses** at any time, and one of our advice nurses can speak with you. Our advice nurses are registered nurses (RNs) specially trained to help assess medical symptoms and provide advice over the phone, when medically appropriate. They can often answer questions about a minor concern or advise you about what to do next, including making an appointment for you if appropriate.

ii. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

Urgent care Services are Services that are not Emergency Services, are required to prevent serious deterioration of your health, and that are required as a result of an unforeseen illness, injury, or condition.

Urgent care that cannot wait for a scheduled visit with your PCP or specialist can be received at one of our designated urgent care Plan Facilities. In some circumstances, you may be able to receive care in your home. For Copayment and Coinsurance information, see “Urgent Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. For information regarding the designated urgent care Plan Facilities, please call **Member Services** during normal business hours. You can also go to our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org), for information on designated urgent care facilities.

You may call **Advice Nurses** at any time, and one of our advice nurses can speak with you. Our advice nurses are registered nurses (RNs) specially trained to help assess medical symptoms and provide advice over the phone, when medically appropriate. They can often answer questions about a minor concern or advise you about what to do next, including making an appointment for you if appropriate.

b. Urgent Care Outside the Service Area

There may be situations when it is necessary for you to receive unauthorized urgent care outside your Service Area. Urgent care received from non-Plan Providers outside your Service Area is covered only if all of the following requirements are met:

- i. The care is required to prevent serious deterioration of your health; and
- ii. The need for care results from an unforeseen illness or injury when you are temporarily away from our Service Area; and
- iii. The care cannot be delayed until you return to our Service Area.

**Note:** If you receive urgent care outside the Service Area, you may be responsible for any amounts over eligible Charges, in addition to any Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance. The procedure for receiving reimbursement for urgent care Services outside the Service Area is described in the “Appeals and Complaints” section regarding “Post-Service Claims and Appeals.”

**Note:** As part of an urgent care episode, Medically Necessary DME and prosthetics and orthotics following Stabilization will be covered if authorized by Health Plan.

## J. Family Planning and Sterilization Services

### 1. Coverage

- a. Family planning counseling. This includes counseling and information on birth control.
- b. Tubal ligations.
- c. Vasectomies.

**Note:** The following are covered, but not under this section: diagnostic procedures, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”; contraceptive drugs and devices, see the “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements” section.

### 2. Family Planning and Sterilization Services Exclusions

- a. Any and all Services to reverse voluntary, surgically induced sterilization.
- b. Acupuncture for the treatment of infertility.
- c. Donor semen or eggs.
- d. Any and all Services, supplies, office administered drugs and prescription drugs related to the procurement and/or storage of semen and/or eggs.
- e. Any and all Services, supplies, office administered drugs and prescription drugs received from the pharmacy that are related to intrauterine insemination or conception by artificial means. This includes, but is not limited to: in vitro fertilization, ovum transplants, gamete intra fallopian transfer, and zygote intra fallopian transfer.

**Note:** See “Additional Provisions” for additional coverage or exclusions, if applicable to your Group.

## K. Health Education Services

We provide health education appointments to support understanding of chronic diseases such as diabetes and hypertension. We also teach self-care on topics such as stress management and nutrition.

## L. Hearing Services

### 1. Members up to Age 18

We cover hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction. For minor children with a verified hearing loss, coverage shall also include:

- a. Initial hearing aids and replacement hearing aids not more frequently than every five (5) years;
- b. A new hearing aid when alterations to the existing hearing aid cannot adequately meet the needs of the child; and
- c. Services and supplies including, but not limited to, the initial assessment, fitting, adjustments, and auditory training that is provided according to accepted professional standards.

### 2. Members Age 18 Years and Older

#### a. Coverage

We cover hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction. Your Group may have purchased additional coverage for hearing aids. See “Additional Provisions.”

#### b. Hearing Services Exclusions

- i. Tests to determine an appropriate hearing aid model, unless your Group has purchased that coverage.
- ii. Hearing aids and tests to determine their usefulness, unless your Group has purchased that coverage.

## M. Home Health Care

### 1. Coverage

We cover skilled nursing care, home health aide Services, home infusion therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, and medical social Services:

- a. only on a Part-Time or Intermittent Care basis; and
- b. only within our Service Area; and
- c. only to an eligible Member when ordered by a Plan Physician and either self-administered or administered by a Plan Provider. Care must be provided under a home health care plan established by the Plan Physician and the approved Plan Provider; and
- d. only if a Plan Physician determines that it is feasible to maintain effective supervision and control of your care in your home.

Part-Time Care or Intermittent Care means part-time or intermittent skilled nursing and home health aide Services.

**Note:** Services that are performed in the home, but that do not meet the Home Health Care requirements above, will be covered at the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance and limits for the Services performed (e.g. urgent care, physical, occupational, and/or speech therapy). See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”.

**Note:** X-ray, laboratory, and X-ray special procedures are not covered under this section. See “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”.

### 2. Home Health Care Exclusions

- a. Custodial care.

- b. Homemaker Services.
- c. Care that Medical Group determines may be appropriately provided in a Plan Facility or Skilled Nursing Facility, if we offer to provide that care in one of these facilities.

## **N. Hospice Special Services and Hospice Care**

### **1. Hospice Special Services**

If you have been diagnosed with a life limiting illness with a life expectancy of 24 months or less, but are not yet ready to elect hospice care, you are eligible for Hospice Special Services. Coverage of hospice care is described below.

Hospice Special Services give you and your family time to become more familiar with hospice-type Services and to decide what is best for you. It helps you bridge the gap between your diagnosis and preparing for the end of life.

The difference between Hospice Special Services and regular Home Health Care visiting nurse visits is that: you may or may not be homebound or have skilled nursing care needs; or you may only require spiritual or emotional care. Services available through this program are provided by professionals with specific training in end-of-life issues.

### **2. Hospice Care**

We cover hospice care for terminally ill Members inside our Service Area. If a Plan Physician diagnoses you with a terminal illness and determines that your life expectancy is six (6) months or less, you can choose hospice care instead of traditional Services otherwise provided for your illness.

If you elect to receive hospice care, you will not receive **additional** benefits for the terminal illness. However, you can continue to receive Health Plan benefits for conditions other than the terminal illness.

We cover the following Services and other benefits when: (1) prescribed by a Plan Physician and the hospice care team; and (2) received from a licensed hospice approved, in writing, by Kaiser Permanente:

- a. Physician care.
- b. Nursing care.
- c. Physical, occupational, speech, and respiratory therapy.
- d. Medical social Services.
- e. Home health aide and homemaker Services.
- f. Medical supplies, drugs, biologicals, and appliances.
- g. Palliative drugs in accordance with our drug formulary guidelines.
- h. Short-term inpatient care including respite care, care for pain control, and acute and chronic pain management.
- i. Counseling and bereavement Services.
- j. Services of volunteers.

## **O. Mental Health Services**

### **1. Coverage**

We cover mental health Services as shown below. Coverage includes evaluation and Services for conditions which, in the judgment of a Plan Physician, would respond to therapeutic management. Mental health includes but is not limited to biologically based illnesses or disorders.

#### **a. Outpatient Therapy**

We cover: diagnostic evaluation; individual therapy; intensive outpatient therapy; psychiatric treatment; crisis intervention and stabilization for acute episodes; and psychiatrically oriented child and teenage guidance counseling.

Visits for the purpose of monitoring drug therapy are covered.

Psychological testing as part of diagnostic evaluation is covered.

#### **b. Inpatient Services**

We cover psychiatric hospitalization in a facility designated by Medical Group or Health Plan. Hospital Services for psychiatric conditions include all Services of Plan Physicians and mental health professionals and the following Services and supplies as prescribed by a Plan Physician while you are a registered bed patient: room and board; psychiatric nursing care; group therapy; electroconvulsive therapy; occupational therapy; drug therapy; and medical supplies.

Separate Coinsurance applies to Services of Plan Physicians and mental health professionals.

#### **c. Partial Hospitalization**

We cover partial hospitalization in a Plan Hospital-based program.



We cover mental health Services, whether they are voluntary or are court-ordered as a result of contact with the criminal justice or juvenile justice system, when they are Medically Necessary and otherwise covered under the plan, and when rendered by a Plan Provider. We do not cover court-ordered treatment that exceeds the scope of coverage of this health benefit plan.

2. Mental Health Services Exclusions

- a. Evaluations for any purpose other than mental health treatment. This includes evaluations for: child custody; disability; or fitness for duty/return to work, unless Medically Necessary.
- b. Court-ordered testing and testing for ability, aptitude, intelligence, or interest.
- c. Services which are custodial or residential in nature.

**P. Out-of-Area Benefit**

A limited benefit is available to Dependents, up to the age of 26, receiving care outside any Kaiser regional health plan service area.

1. Coverage

The Out-of-Area Benefit is limited to certain office visits, diagnostic X-rays, physical, occupational, and speech therapy, and prescription drug fills as covered under this EOC.

- a. Office visit exam limited to:
  - i. Primary care visit.
  - ii. Specialty care visit.
  - iii. Preventive care visit.
  - iv. Gynecology care visit.
  - v. Hearing exam.
  - vi. Mental health visit.
  - vii. Substance use disorder visit.
  - viii. The administration of allergy injections.
  - ix. Prevention immunizations pursuant to the schedule established by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).
- b. Diagnostic X-rays.
- c. Physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits.
- d. Prescription drug fills.

See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for more details.

2. Out-of-Area Benefit Exclusions and Limitations

The Out-of-Area Benefit does not include the following Services:

- a. Other Services provided during a covered office visit such as, but not limited to: procedures, laboratory tests, and office administered drugs and devices, except for allergy injections and prevention immunizations as listed in the “Coverage” section of this benefit.
- b. Services received outside the United States.
- c. Transplant Services.
- d. Services covered outside the Service Area under another section of this EOC (e.g., Emergency Services and Urgent Care).
- e. Allergy evaluation, routine prenatal and postpartum visits, chiropractic care, acupuncture services, applied behavior analysis (ABA), hearing tests, hearing aids, home health visits, hospice services, and travel immunizations.
- f. X-ray special procedures, including but not limited to CT, PET, MRI, nuclear medicine.
- g. Any and all Services not listed in the “Coverage” section of this benefit.

**Q. Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy and Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services**

1. Coverage

a. Hospital Inpatient Care, Care in a Skilled Nursing Facility, and Home Health Care

We cover physical, occupational, and speech therapy as part of your Hospital Inpatient Care, Skilled Nursing Facility, and Home Health Care benefit. Therapies that are performed in the home, but that do not meet the Home Health Care requirements, will be covered at the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance and limits for the therapy performed (i.e., physical, occupational, and/or speech). See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”.

b. Outpatient Care

We cover three (3) types of outpatient therapy (i.e., physical, occupational, and speech therapy) in a Plan Facility or other location approved by Health Plan, to improve or develop skills or functioning due to medical deficits, illness, or injury. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

c. Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services

We will cover treatment in an organized, multidisciplinary rehabilitation Services program in a designated facility or a Skilled Nursing Facility. We also cover multidisciplinary rehabilitation Services while you are an inpatient in a designated facility. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

d. Pulmonary Rehabilitation

Treatment in a pulmonary rehabilitation program is provided if prescribed or recommended by a Plan Physician and provided by therapists at designated facilities.

e. Therapies for Congenital Defects and Birth Abnormalities

After the first 31 days of life, the limitations and exclusions applicable to this EOC apply, except that Medically Necessary physical, occupational, and speech therapy for the care and treatment of congenital defects and birth abnormalities for covered children from age three (3) to age six (6) shall be provided. The benefit level shall be the greater of the number of such visits provided under this health benefit plan or 20 therapy visits per Accumulation Period for each physical, occupational, and speech therapy. Such visits shall be distributed as Medically Necessary throughout the Accumulation Period without regard to whether the condition is acute or chronic and without regard to whether the purpose of the therapy is to maintain or improve functional capacity. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**Note 1:** This benefit is also available for eligible children under the age of three (3) who are not participating in Early Intervention Services.

**Note 2:** The visit limit for therapy to treat congenital defects and birth abnormalities is not applicable if such therapy is Medically Necessary to treat autism spectrum disorders.

f. Therapies for the Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders

For the treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders when prescribed by a Plan Physician and Medically Necessary, we cover:

- i. Outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy in a Plan Medical Office or other location approved by Health Plan. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”
- ii. Applied behavior analysis, including consultations, direct care, supervision, or treatment, or any combination thereof by autism services providers. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

2. Limitations

Occupational therapy is limited to treatment to achieve improved self-care and other customary activities of daily living.

3. Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy and Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services Exclusions

- a. Long-term rehabilitation, not including treatment for autism spectrum disorders.
- b. Speech therapy that is not Medically Necessary, such as: (i) therapy for educational placement or other educational purposes; or (ii) training or therapy to improve articulation in the absence of injury, illness, or medical condition affecting articulation; or (iii) therapy for tongue thrust in the absence of swallowing problems.

**R. Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements**

We use drug formularies. A drug formulary includes the list of prescription drugs that have been approved by our formulary committees for our Members. Our committees are comprised of Plan Physicians, pharmacists, and a nurse practitioner. The committees select prescription drugs for our drug formularies based on a number of factors, including safety and effectiveness as determined from a review of medical literature and research. The committees meet regularly to consider adding and removing prescription drugs on the drug formularies. If you would like information about whether a particular drug is included in our drug formularies, please call **Member Services**.

If your prescription drug has a Copayment shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” and it exceeds the Charges for your prescribed medication, then you pay Charges for the medication instead of the Copayment. The drug formulary, discussed above, also applies.

1. Coveragea. Limited Drug Coverage Under Your Basic Drug Benefit

If your Group has not purchased supplemental prescription drug coverage, then prescribed drug coverage under your basic drug benefit is limited. It includes base drugs such as: contraceptives; orally administered anti-cancer medication; and post-surgical immunosuppressive drugs required after a transplant. These drugs are available only when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies. You may obtain these drugs at the Copayment or Coinsurance shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” The amount covered cannot exceed the day supply for each maintenance drug or up to the day supply for each non-maintenance drug. Any amount you receive that exceeds the day supply will not be covered. If you receive more than the day supply, you will be charged as a non-Member for any amount that exceeds that limit. Each prescription refill is provided on the same basis as the original prescription.

If your Group has purchased supplemental prescription drug coverage, the applicable generic or brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance and any pharmacy Deductible apply for these types of drugs. For more information, please refer to the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**Note:** Kaiser Permanente may, in its sole discretion, establish quantity limits for specific prescription drugs, regardless of whether your Group has limited or supplemental prescription drug coverage.

i. We cover:

(a) prescription contraceptives intended to last:

- (i) for a three-month period the first time the prescription contraceptive is dispensed to the covered person; and
- (ii) for a twelve-month period or through the end of the covered person’s coverage under the policy, contract, or plan, whichever is shorter, for any subsequent dispensing of the same prescription contraceptive to the covered person, regardless of whether the covered person was enrolled in the policy, contract, or plan at the time the prescription contraceptive was first dispensed; or

(b) a prescribed vaginal contraceptive ring intended to last for a three-month period.

For Copayment or Coinsurance information related to contraceptive drugs and certain devices, please refer to your “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

ii. We cover a five-day supply of an FDA-approved drug for the treatment of opioid dependence without prior authorization, except that the drug supply is limited to a first request within a twelve-month period.

b. Outpatient Prescription Drugs

Unless your Group has purchased additional outpatient prescription drug coverage, we do not cover outpatient drugs except as provided in other provisions of this “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements” section. If your Group has purchased additional coverage for outpatient prescription drugs, see “Additional Provisions.” The drug formulary, discussed above, also applies.

i. Prescriptions by Mail

If requested, refills of maintenance drugs will be mailed through Kaiser Permanente’s mail-order prescription service by First-Class U.S. Mail with no charge for postage and handling. Refills of maintenance drugs prescribed by Plan Physicians or Affiliated Physicians may be obtained for up to the day supply by mail order at the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance. Maintenance drugs are determined by Health Plan. Certain drugs and supplies may not be available through our mail-order service, for example, drugs that require special handling or refrigeration, have a significant potential for waste or diversion, or are high cost. Drugs and supplies available through our mail-order prescription service are subject to change at any time without notice. For information regarding our mail-order prescription service and specialty drugs not available by mail order, please call **Member Services**.

ii. Specialty Drugs

Prescribed specialty drugs, including self-administered injectable drugs, are provided at the specialty drug Copayment or Coinsurance up to the maximum amount per drug dispensed shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

c. Food Supplements

We cover prescribed amino acid modified products used in the treatment of congenital errors of amino acid metabolism and severe protein allergic conditions, elemental enteral nutrition, and parenteral nutrition. Such products are covered for self-administered use upon payment of a \$3.00 Copayment per product, per day. Food products for enteral feedings are not covered.

d. Prescribed Supplies and Accessories

Prescribed supplies, when obtained at Plan Pharmacies or from sources designated by Health Plan, will be provided. Such items include, but may not be limited to:

- i. home glucose monitoring supplies.
- ii. disposable syringes for the administration of insulin.
- iii. glucose test strips.
- iv. acetone test tablets and nitrate screening test strips for pediatric patient home use.

For more information, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What),” and, if your Group has purchased supplemental prescription drug coverage, see “Additional Provisions.”

2. Limitations

a. Adult and pediatric immunizations are limited to those that are not experimental, are medically indicated and are consistent with accepted medical practice.

b. Some drugs may require prior authorization.

- c. If applicable, we may apply Step Therapy to certain drugs. You or your Plan Provider may request an exception if you previously tried a drug and your use of the drug was discontinued due to lack of efficacy or effectiveness, diminished effect, or an adverse event.
  - d. Coverage determinations for the off-label use of medications will be consistent with Medicare compendia, and coverage determinations for the off-label use of oncologic agents will be consistent with the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) of 2008.
3. Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements Exclusions
- a. Drugs for which a prescription is not required by law.
  - b. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze, tape, antiseptics, dressings, and ace-type bandages.
  - c. Drugs or injections for treatment of sexual dysfunction, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage, which is described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”
  - d. Any packaging except the dispensing pharmacy's standard packaging.
  - e. Replacement of prescription drugs for any reason. This includes spilled, lost, damaged, or stolen prescriptions.
  - f. Drugs or injections for the treatment of infertility, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage, which is described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” and “Additional Provisions”.
  - g. Drugs to shorten the length of the common cold.
  - h. Drugs to enhance athletic performance.
  - i. Drugs for the treatment of weight control.
  - j. Drugs available over the counter and by prescription for the same strength.
  - k. Individual drugs determined excluded by our Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.
  - l. Unless approved by Health Plan, drugs not approved by the FDA.
  - m. Non-preferred drugs, except those prescribed and authorized through the non-preferred drug process.
  - n. Prescription drugs necessary for Services excluded under this EOC.
  - o. Drugs administered during a medical office visit. See “Office Services”.
  - p. Medical Foods and Medical Devices. See “Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Prosthetics and Orthotics”.

## S. Preventive Care Services

If your plan has a different preventive care Services benefit, please see “Additional Provisions.”

We cover certain preventive care Services that do one or more of the following:

1. Protect against disease;
2. Promote health; and/or
3. Detect disease in its earliest stages before noticeable symptoms develop.

If you receive any other covered Services during a preventive care visit, you may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, and Coinsurance for those Services.

## T. Reconstructive Surgery

### 1. Coverage

We cover reconstructive surgery when it: (a) will correct significant disfigurement resulting from an injury or Medically Necessary surgery; or (b) will correct a congenital defect, disease, or anomaly to produce major improvement in physical function; or (c) will treat congenital hemangioma and port wine stains. Following Medically Necessary removal of all or part of a breast, we also cover reconstruction of the breast, surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance, and treatment of physical complications, including lymphedemas. An Authorization is required for all types of reconstructive surgeries.

### 2. Reconstructive Surgery Exclusions

Plastic surgery or other cosmetic Services and supplies primarily to change your appearance. This includes cosmetic surgery related to bariatric surgery.

## U. Reproductive Support Services

Reproductive Support Services are not covered unless your Group has purchased additional supplemental coverage.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the Reproductive Support Services benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

## V. Skilled Nursing Facility Care

### 1. Coverage

We cover skilled inpatient Services in a licensed Skilled Nursing Facility. Prior Authorization is required for all Skilled Nursing Facility admissions. The skilled inpatient Services must be those usually provided by Skilled Nursing Facilities. A prior three (3)-day stay in an acute care hospital is not required. We cover the following Services:

- a. Room and board.
- b. Nursing care.

- c. Medical social Services.
- d. Medical and biological supplies.
- e. Blood, blood products, and their administration.

A Skilled Nursing Facility is an institution that: provides skilled nursing or skilled rehabilitation Services, or both; provides Services on a daily basis 24 hours a day; is licensed under applicable state law; and is approved in writing by Medical Group.

**Note:** The following are covered, but not under this section: drugs, see “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements”; DME and prosthetics and orthotics, see “Durable Medical Equipment and Prosthetics and Orthotics”; X-ray, laboratory, and X-ray special procedures, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”.

2. Skilled Nursing Facility Care Exclusion  
Custodial Care, as defined in “Exclusions” under the “Limitations/Exclusions (What is Not Covered)” section.

## W. Substance Use Disorder Services

1. Inpatient Medical and Hospital Services  
We cover Services for the medical management of withdrawal symptoms. Medical Services for alcohol and drug detoxification are covered the same way as any other medical condition. Detoxification is the process of removing toxic substances from the body.

2. Residential Rehabilitation  
The determination of the need for Services of a residential rehabilitation program and referral to such a facility or program is made by or under the supervision of a Plan Physician.

We cover inpatient Services and partial hospitalization in a residential rehabilitation program authorized by Health Plan for the treatment of alcoholism, drug abuse, or drug addiction.

3. Outpatient Services  
Outpatient rehabilitative Services for the treatment of alcohol and drug dependency are covered when referred by a Plan Physician.

We cover substance use disorder Services, whether they are voluntary or are court-ordered as a result of contact with the criminal justice or juvenile justice system, when they are Medically Necessary and otherwise covered under the plan, and when rendered by a Plan Provider. We do not cover court-ordered treatment that exceeds the scope of coverage of this health benefit plan.

Mental health Services required in connection with treatment for substance use disorder are covered as provided in the “Mental Health Services” section.

4. Substance Use Disorder Services Exclusion  
Counseling for a patient who is not responsive to therapeutic management, as determined by a Plan Physician.

## X. Transgender Services

We cover transgender Services when Medically Necessary to treat gender dysphoria or gender identity disorder. Prior Authorization may be required. You must meet all medical criteria developed by Medical Group to be eligible for coverage. Coverage includes, but is not limited to: office Services, hormone therapy, outpatient surgery, and hospital inpatient care. You pay the applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. For example, see “Hospital Inpatient Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for the Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible that apply to hospital inpatient care.

## Y. Transplant Services

1. Coverage  
Transplants are covered on a limited basis as follows:
  - a. Covered transplants are limited to: kidney transplants; heart transplants; heart-lung transplants; liver transplants; liver transplants for children with biliary atresia and other rare congenital abnormalities; small bowel transplants; small bowel and liver transplants; lung transplants; cornea transplants; simultaneous kidney-pancreas transplants; and pancreas alone transplants.
  - b. Bone marrow transplants (autologous stem cell or allogenic stem cell) associated with high dose chemotherapy for germ cell tumors and neuroblastoma in children; and bone marrow transplants for aplastic anemia, leukemia, severe combined immunodeficiency disease, and Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome.
  - c. If all medical criteria developed by Medical Group are met, we cover: stem cell rescue; and transplants of organs, tissue, or bone marrow.

2. Related Prescription Drugs

Prescribed post-surgical immunosuppressive outpatient drugs required after a transplant are provided at the applicable outpatient prescription drug Copayment or Coinsurance and are subject to any pharmacy Deductible shown in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

3. Terms and Conditions

- a. Health Plan, Medical Group, and Plan Physicians do not undertake: to provide a donor or donor organ or bone marrow or cornea; or to assure the availability of a donor or donor organ or bone marrow or cornea; or to assure the availability or capacity of referral transplant facilities approved by Medical Group. In accordance with our guidelines for living transplant donors, we provide certain donation-related Services for a donor, or a person Medical Group or a Plan Physician identifies as a potential donor, even if the donor is not a Member. These Services must be directly related to a covered transplant for you. For information specific to your situation, please call your assigned Transplant Coordinator; or the **Transplant Administrative Offices**.
- b. Plan Physicians must determine that the Member satisfies Medical Group medical criteria before the Member receives Services.
- c. A Plan Physician must provide a written referral for care at a transplant facility. The transplant facility must be from a list of approved facilities selected by Medical Group. The referral may be to a transplant facility outside our Service Area. Transplants are covered only at the facility Medical Group selects for the particular transplant, even if another facility within the Service Area could also perform the transplant.
- d. After referral, if a Plan Physician or the medical staff of the referral facility determines the Member does not satisfy its respective criteria for the Service, Health Plan’s obligation is only to pay for covered Services provided prior to such determination.

4. Transplant Services Exclusions and Limitations

- a. Bone marrow transplants, associated with high dose chemotherapy for solid tissue tumors, (except bone marrow transplants covered under this EOC) are excluded.
- b. Non-human and artificial organs and their implantation are excluded.
- c. Pancreas alone transplants are limited to patients without renal problems who meet set criteria.
- d. Travel and lodging expenses are excluded, except that in some situations, when Medical Group or a Plan Physician refers you to a non-Plan Provider outside our Service Area for transplant Services, as described in “Access to Other Providers” in the “How to Access Your Services and Obtain Approval of Benefits” section, we may pay certain expenses we preauthorize under our internal travel and lodging guidelines. For information specific to your situation, please call your assigned Transplant Coordinator or the **Transplant Administrative Offices**.

**Z. Vision Services**

1. Coverage

We cover routine and non-routine eye exams. Refraction tests to determine the need for vision correction and to provide a prescription for eyeglasses are covered unless specifically excluded in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. We also cover professional exams and the fitting of Medically Necessary contact lenses when a Plan Physician or Plan Optometrist prescribes them for a specific medical condition.

Professional Services for exams and fitting of contact lenses that are not Medically Necessary are provided at an additional Charge when obtained at Health Plan Medical Offices.

2. Vision Services Exclusions

- a. Eyeglass lenses and frames.
- b. Contact lenses.
- c. Professional exams for fittings and dispensing of contact lenses except when Medically Necessary as described above.
- d. All Services related to eye surgery for the purpose of correcting refractive defects such as myopia, hyperopia, or astigmatism (for example, radial keratotomy, photo-refractive keratectomy, and similar procedures).
- e. Orthoptic (eye training) therapy or low vision therapy.

Your Group may have purchased additional optical coverage. See “Additional Provisions.”

**AA. X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures**

1. Coverage

a. Outpatient

We cover the following Services:

- i. Diagnostic X-ray tests, Services, and materials, including but not limited to isotopes, mammograms, and ultrasounds.

- ii. Laboratory tests, Services, and materials, including but not limited to electrocardiograms.  
**Note:** We use a laboratory formulary. A laboratory formulary is a list of laboratory tests, Services, and other materials that have been approved by Health Plan for our Members. If you would like information about whether a particular test or Service is included in our laboratory formulary, please call **Member Services**.
- iii. Therapeutic X-ray Services and materials.
- iv. X-ray special procedures such as MRI, CT, PET, and nuclear medicine.  
**Note:** For X-ray special procedures, you will be billed for each individual procedure performed. A procedure is defined in accordance with the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) medical billing codes published annually by the American Medical Association. You are responsible for any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for X-ray special procedures performed as a part of or in conjunction with other outpatient Services, including but not limited to Emergency Services, urgent care, and outpatient surgery.

Diagnostic procedures include administered drugs. Therapeutic procedures may incur an additional charge for administered drugs.

b. Inpatient

During hospitalization, prescribed diagnostic X-ray and laboratory tests, Services and materials, including diagnostic and therapeutic X-rays and isotopes, electrocardiograms, electroencephalograms, MRI, CT, PET, and nuclear medicine are covered under your hospital inpatient care benefit.

2. X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures Exclusions

- a. Testing of a Member for a non-Member's use and/or benefit.
- b. Testing of a non-Member for a Member's use and/or benefit.

## IV. LIMITATIONS/EXCLUSIONS (WHAT IS NOT COVERED)

### A. Exclusions

The Services listed below are not covered. These exclusions apply to all covered Services under this EOC. Additional exclusions that apply only to a particular Service are listed in the description of that Service in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.

1. **Alternative Medical Services.** The following are not covered unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for these Services. See the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" to determine if your Group has purchased additional coverage.
  - a. Acupuncture Services.
  - b. Naturopathy Services.
  - c. Massage therapy.
  - d. Chiropractic Services and supplies that are not provided by a Plan Provider under this Agreement.
2. **Behavioral Problems.** Any treatment or Service for a behavioral problem not associated with a manifest mental disorder or condition.
3. **Cosmetic Services.** Services that are intended: primarily to change or maintain your appearance; and that will not result in significant improvement in physical function. This includes cosmetic surgery related to bariatric surgery. Exception: Services covered under "Reconstructive Surgery" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.
4. **Cryopreservation.** Any and all Services related to cryopreservation, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage. This excludes, but is not limited to, the procurement and/or storage of semen, sperm, eggs, reproductive materials, and/or embryos. See "Additional Provisions" for additional coverage or exclusions, if applicable to your Group.
5. **Custodial or Residential Care.** Assistance with activities of daily living or care that can be performed safely and effectively by people who, in order to provide the care, do not require medical licenses or certificates or the presence of a supervising licensed nurse. Assistance with activities of daily living include: walking; getting in and out of bed; bathing; dressing; feeding; toileting; and taking medicine.
6. **Dental Services.** Dental Services and dental X-rays, including: dental Services following injury to teeth; dental appliances; implants; orthodontia; TMJ; and dental Services as a result of and following medical treatment such as radiation treatment. This exclusion does not apply to: (a) Medically Necessary Services for the treatment of cleft lip or cleft palate when prescribed by a Plan Physician, unless the Member is covered for these Services under a dental insurance policy or contract, or (b) hospitalization and general anesthesia for dental Services, prescribed or directed by a Plan Physician for Dependent children who: (i) have a physical, mental, or medically compromising condition; or (ii) have dental needs for which local anesthesia is ineffective because of acute infection, anatomic variations, or allergy; or (iii) are extremely uncooperative, unmanageable, anxious, or uncommunicative with dental needs deemed sufficiently important that dental care cannot be deferred; or (iv) have sustained extensive orofacial and dental trauma. Unless otherwise specified herein, (a) and (b) must be received at a Plan Facility or Skilled Nursing Facility.

The following Services for TMJ may be covered if determined Medically Necessary: diagnostic X-rays; laboratory testing; physical therapy; and surgery.

7. **Directed Blood Donations.**
8. **Disposable Supplies.** Disposable supplies for home use such as:
  - a. Bandages;
  - b. Gauze;
  - c. Tape;
  - d. Antiseptics;
  - e. Dressings;
  - f. Ace-type bandages; and
  - g. Any other supplies, dressings, appliances, or devices not specifically listed as covered in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.
9. **Educational Services.** Educational services are not health care services and are not covered. Examples include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Items and services to increase academic knowledge or skills;
  - b. Special education or care for learning deficiencies, whether or not associated with a manifest mental disorder or condition, including but not limited to attention deficit disorder, learning disabilities, and developmental delays;
  - c. Teaching and support services to increase academic performance;
  - d. Academic coaching or tutoring for skills such as grammar, math, and time management;
  - e. Speech training that is not Medically Necessary, and not part of an approved treatment plan, and not provided by or under the direct supervision of a Plan Provider acting within the scope of his or her license under Colorado law that is intended to address speech impediments;
  - f. Teaching you how to read, whether or not you have dyslexia;
  - g. Educational testing;
  - h. Teaching (or any other items or services associated with) activities such as art, dance, horse riding, music, swimming, or teaching you how to play.
10. **Employer or Government Responsibility.** Financial responsibility for Services that an employer or a government agency is required by law to provide.
11. **Experimental or Investigational Services**
  - a. A Service is experimental or investigational for a Member’s condition if any of the following statements apply at the time the Service is or will be provided to the Member. The Service:
    - i. has not been approved or granted by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA); or
    - ii. is the subject of a current new drug or new device application on file with the FDA; or
    - iii. is provided as part of a Phase I or Phase II clinical trial, as the experimental or research arm of a Phase III clinical trial or in any other manner that is intended to determine the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of the Service; or
    - iv. is provided pursuant to a written protocol or other document that lists an evaluation of the Service’s safety, toxicity, or efficacy as among its objectives; or
    - v. is subject to the approval or review of an Institutional Review Board (IRB) or other body that approves or reviews research on the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of Services; or
    - vi. the Service has not been recommended for coverage by the Regional New Technology and Benefit Interpretation Committee, the Interregional New Technology Committee or the Medical Technology Assessment Unit based on analysis of clinical studies and literature for safety and appropriateness, unless otherwise covered by Health Plan; or,
    - vii. is provided pursuant to informed consent documents that describe the Service as experimental or investigational or in other terms that indicate that the Service is being looked at for its safety, toxicity, or efficacy; or
    - viii. is part of a prevailing opinion among experts as expressed in the published authoritative medical or scientific literature that (A) use of the Service should be substantially confined to research settings or (B) further research is needed to determine the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of the Service.
  - b. In determining whether a Service is experimental or investigational, the following sources of information will be solely relied upon:
    - i. The Member’s medical records; and
    - ii. The written protocol(s) or other document(s) under which the Service has been or will be provided; and
    - iii. Any consent document(s) the Member or the Member’s representative has executed or will be asked to execute to receive the Service; and
    - iv. 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; and



- v. The published authoritative medical or scientific literature on the Service as applied to the Member’s illness or injury; and
  - vi. Regulations, records, applications and other documents or actions issued by, filed with, or taken by the FDA, or other agencies within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, or any state agency performing similar functions.
- c. If two (2) or more Services are part of the same plan of treatment or diagnosis, all of the Services are excluded if one of the Services is experimental or investigational.
  - d. Health Plan consults Medical Group and then uses the criteria described above to decide if a particular Service is experimental or investigational.

**Note:** For non-grandfathered health plans only, this exclusion does not apply to Services covered under “Clinical Trials” in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.

- 12. **Genetic Testing.** Genetic testing unless determined to be: Medically Necessary; and meets Medical Group criteria.
- 13. **Infertility Services.** All Services related to the diagnosis or treatment of infertility unless your Group has purchased additional supplemental coverage.
- 14. **Intermediate Care.** Care in an intermediate care facility.
- 15. **Routine Foot Care Services.** Routine foot care Services that are not Medically Necessary.
- 16. **Services for Members in the Custody of Law Enforcement Officers.** Non-Plan Provider Services provided or arranged by criminal justice institutions for Members in the custody of law enforcement officers, unless the Services are covered as out-of-Plan Emergency Services or urgent care outside the Service Area.
- 17. **Services Not Available in our Service Area.** Services not generally and customarily available in our Service Area, except when it is a generally accepted medical practice in our Service Area to refer patients outside our Service Area for the Service.
- 18. **Services Related to a Non-Covered Service.** When a Service is not covered, all Services related to the non-covered Service are excluded. This does not include Services we would otherwise cover to treat complications as a result of the non-covered Service.
- 19. **Third Party Requests or Requirements.** Physical exams, tests, or other services that do not directly treat an actual illness, injury, or condition, and any related reports or paperwork in connection with third party requests or requirements, including but not limited to those for:
  - a. Employment;
  - b. Participation in employee programs;
  - c. Insurance;
  - d. Disability;
  - e. Licensing;
  - f. School events, sports, or camp;
  - g. Governmental agencies;
  - h. Court order, parole, or probation;
  - i. Travel.
- 20. **Travel and Lodging Expenses.** Travel and lodging expenses are excluded. We may pay certain expenses we preauthorize in accordance with our internal travel and lodging guidelines in some situations, when Medical Group refers you to a non-Plan Provider outside our Service Area as described under “Access to Other Providers” in the “How to Access Your Services and Obtain Approval of Benefits” section.
- 21. **Unclassified Medical Technology Devices and Services.** Medical technology devices and Services which have not been classified as durable medical equipment or laboratory by a National Coverage Determination (NCD) issued by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), unless otherwise covered by Health Plan.
- 22. **Weight Management Facilities.** Services received in a weight management facility.
- 23. **Workers’ Compensation or Employer’s Liability.** Financial responsibility for Services for any illness, injury, or condition, to the extent a payment or any other benefit, including any amount received as a settlement (collectively referred to as “Financial Benefit”), is provided under any workers’ compensation or employer’s liability law. We will provide Services even if it is unclear whether you are entitled to a Financial Benefit, but we may recover Charges for any such Services from the following sources:
  - a. Any source providing a Financial Benefit or from whom a Financial Benefit is due.
  - b. You, to the extent that a Financial Benefit is provided or payable or would have been required to be provided or payable if you had diligently sought to establish your rights to the Financial Benefit under any workers’

compensation or employer's liability law.

## B. Limitations

We will use our best efforts to provide or arrange covered Services in the event of unusual circumstances that delay or render impractical the provision of Services. Examples include: major disaster; epidemic; war; riot; civil insurrection; disability of a large share of personnel at a Plan Facility; complete or partial destruction of facilities; and labor disputes not involving Health Plan, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals or Medical Group. In these circumstances, Health Plan, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, Medical Group and Medical Group Plan Physicians will not have any liability for any delay or failure in providing covered Services. In the case of a labor dispute involving Health Plan, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, or Medical Group, we may postpone care until the dispute is resolved if delaying your care is safe and will not result in harmful health consequences.

## C. Reductions

### 1. Coordination of Benefits (COB)

The Services covered under this EOC are subject to Coordination of Benefit (COB) rules. If you have health care coverage with another health plan or insurance company, we will coordinate benefits with the other coverage under the COB guidelines below.

This 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 govern 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% 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. However, 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.
  - i. **Plan** includes: group insurance contracts, health maintenance organization (HMO) contracts, closed panel plans or other forms of group or group-type coverage (whether insured or uninsured); medical care components of long-term care contracts, such as skilled nursing care; medical benefits under group or individual automobile contracts; and Medicare or any other federal governmental plan, as permitted by law.
  - ii. **Plan** does not include: hospital indemnity coverage or other fixed indemnity coverage; accident only coverage; specified disease or specified accident coverage; limited benefit health coverage, as defined by state law; school accident type coverage; benefits for non-medical components of 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 i. or ii. 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 determine whether **This plan** is a **Primary plan** or **Secondary plan** when the person has health coverage under more than one **Plan**.

When **This plan** is primary, its benefits are determined before those of any other **Plan** and without considering any other **Plan's** benefits. When **This plan** is secondary, its benefits are determined after those of another **Plan** and may be reduced because of the **Primary plan's** benefits, so that all **Plan** benefits do not exceed 100% 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**:

- i. 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 or the patient's stay is

- medically necessary in terms of generally accepted medical practice or the hospital does not have a semi-private room.
- ii. 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**.
  - iii. 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**.
  - iv. 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.
  - v. 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. **Claim determination period** is usually a calendar year, but a **Plan** may use some other period of time that fits the coverage of the group contract. A person is covered by a **Plan** during a portion of a **Claim determination period** if that person's coverage starts or ends during the **Claim determination period**. However, it does not include any part of a year during which a person has no coverage under **This plan**, or before the date this **COB** provision or a similar provision takes effect.
  - f. **Closed panel plan** is a **Plan** that provides health benefits to covered persons primarily in the form of services through a panel of providers that have contracted with either directly or indirectly or are employed by the **Plan**, and that limits or excludes benefits for services provided by other providers, except in cases of emergency or referral by a panel member.
  - g. **Custodial parent** means a parent awarded primary custody by a court decree. In the absence of a court decree, it is the parent with whom the child resides more than one half of the calendar year without regard to 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 payment are as follows:

- a. The **Primary plan** pays or provides its benefits according to its terms of coverage and without regard to the benefits under any other **Plan**.
- b.
  - i. Except as provided in paragraph ii, a **Plan** that does not contain a coordination of benefits provision that is consistent with these rules is always primary unless the provisions of both **Plans** state that the complying **Plan** is primary.
  - ii. Coverage that is obtained by virtue of being members in a group, and designed to supplement part of the basic package of benefits, may provide supplementary coverage that shall be in excess of 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 determining 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:
  - i. 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**.
  - ii. 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:

1. The **Plan** of the parent whose birthday (month and day) falls earlier in the calendar year is the **Primary plan**; or
  2. 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:
1. 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;
  2. 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;
  3. 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
  4. 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:
    - The **Plan** covering the **Custodial parent**;
    - The **Plan** covering the spouse of the **Custodial parent**;
    - The **Plan** covering the **non-custodial parent**; and then
    - 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.
- iii. 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.
  - iv. 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.
  - v. Longer or Shorter Length of Coverage. The **Plan** that covered the person as an employee, member, policyholder, subscriber or retiree longer is the **Primary plan** and the **Plan** that covered the person the shorter period of time is the **Secondary plan**.
  - vi. 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 Health Plan 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, Health Plan 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**. Health 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 reasonable cash value of the benefits provided in the form of services.

#### **RIGHT OF RECOVERY**

If the amount of the payments made by Health Plan is more than it should have paid under this **COB** provision, we may recover the excess from one or more of the persons we have paid or for whom we have 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.

#### 2. Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties

You must ensure we receive the maximum reimbursement allowed by law for covered Services you receive for an injury or illness that is alleged to be caused by another party. You do not have to reimburse us more than you receive from or on behalf of any other party, insurance company or organization as a result of the injury or illness. Our right to reimbursement shall include all sources as allowed by law. This includes, but is not limited to, any recovery you receive from: (a) uninsured motorist coverage; or (b) underinsured motorist coverage; or (c) automobile medical payment coverage; or (d) workers’ compensation coverage; or (e) any other liability coverage; or (f) any responsible party or entity.

**Note:** This “Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties” section does not affect your obligation to pay your Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible for these Services. The amount of reimbursement due the Plan is not limited by or subject to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum provision.

To the extent allowed 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 the other 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.

We shall have a first priority lien on the proceeds of any judgment or settlement, whether by compromise or otherwise, you obtain against or from any other party, entity or insurer, regardless of whether the other party, entity or insurer admits fault. Proceeds of such judgment, award or settlement in your or your attorney’s possession shall be held in trust for our benefit.

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

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

For us to determine the existence of any rights we may have and to satisfy those rights, you must complete and send to Equian: all consents; releases; authorizations; assignments; and other documents, including lien forms directing your attorney, any other party or entity and any respective insurer to pay us or our legal representatives directly. You must cooperate to protect our interests under this “Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties” provision and must not take any action prejudicial to our rights.

If your estate, parent, guardian or conservator asserts a claim against another party, entity or insurer based on your injury or illness, your estate, parent, guardian or conservator and any settlement 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. We may assign our rights to enforce our liens and other rights.

Some providers have contracted with Kaiser Permanente to provide certain Services to Members at rates that are typically less than the fees that the providers normally charge to the general public (“General Fees”). However, these contracts may allow providers to assert any independent lien rights they may have to recover their General Fees from a judgment or settlement that you receive from or on behalf of another party, entity or insurer. For Services the provider furnished, our

recovery and the provider's recovery together will not exceed the provider's General Fees.

If you are entitled to Medicare, Medicare law may apply with respect to Services covered by Medicare.

3. Traditional or Gestational Surrogacy

In situations where you receive monetary compensation to act as either a traditional or gestational surrogate, Health Plan will seek reimbursement for covered Services you receive that are associated with conception, pregnancy and/or delivery of the child, except that we will recover no more than half of the monetary compensation you receive. A surrogate arrangement is one in which a woman agrees to become pregnant and to surrender the baby to another person or persons who intend to raise the child. 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 applies to both traditional surrogacy and gestational carriers.

**Note:** This "Traditional or Gestational Surrogacy" section does not affect your obligation to pay your Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible for these Services.

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) receives, including names, addresses, and telephone numbers for any health insurance that will cover Services that the baby (or babies) receives
- 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:

Equian, LLC  
Attn: Surrogacy Subrogation Operations  
PO Box 36380  
Louisville, KY 40233  
Fax: 502-214-1291

## V. MEMBER PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITY

Information on Member payment responsibility, including applicable Deductibles, annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum, Copayments, and Coinsurance, is located in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)." Payment responsibility information for Emergency Services and urgent care is located in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section. For additional questions, contact **Member Services**.

Our contracts with Plan Providers provide that you are not liable for any amounts we owe them for covered Services. However, you may be liable for the cost of non-covered Services or Services you obtain from non-Plan Providers. If our contract with any Plan Provider terminates while you are under the care of that provider, we will retain financial responsibility for covered Services you receive from that provider, in excess of any applicable Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance amounts, until we make arrangements for the Services to be provided by another Plan Provider and so notify the Subscriber.

## VI. CLAIMS PROCEDURE (HOW TO FILE A CLAIM)

Plan Providers submit claims for payment for covered Services directly to Health Plan. For general information on claims, and how to submit pre-service claims, concurrent care claims, and post-service claims, see the "Appeals and Complaints" section. For covered Services by non-Plan Providers, you may need to submit a claim on your own. Contact **Member Services** for more information on how to submit such claims. Health Plan complies with the time frames for resolution and payment of filed claims as required by state law.

## VII. GENERAL POLICY PROVISIONS

### A. Access Plan

Colorado law requires that an Access Plan be available that describes Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado's network of provider Services. To obtain a copy, please call **Member Services**.

## **B. Access to Services for Foreign Language Speakers**

1. **Member Services** will provide a telephone interpreter to assist Members who speak limited or no English.
2. Plan Physicians have telephone access to interpreters in over 150 languages.
3. Plan Physicians can also request an onsite interpreter for an appointment, procedure, or Service.
4. Any interpreter assistance we arrange or provide will be at no Charge to the Member.

## **C. Administration of Agreement**

We may adopt reasonable policies, procedures, and interpretations to promote efficient administration of the Group Agreement and this EOC.

## **D. Advance Directives**

Federal law requires Kaiser Permanente to tell you about your right to make health care decisions.

Colorado law recognizes the right of an adult to accept or reject medical treatment, artificial nourishment and hydration, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

Each adult has the right to establish, in advance of the need for medical treatment, any directives and instructions for the administration of medical treatment in the event the person lacks the decisional capacity to provide informed consent to or refusal of medical treatment. (Colorado Revised Statutes, Section 15-14-504)

Kaiser Permanente will not discriminate against you whether or not you have an advance directive. We will follow the requirements of Colorado law respecting advance directives. If you have an advance directive, please give a copy to the Kaiser Permanente medical records department or to your provider.

A health care provider or health care facility shall provide for the prompt transfer of the principal to another health care provider or health care facility if such health care provider or health care facility wishes not to comply with an agent's medical treatment decision on the basis of policies based on moral convictions or religious beliefs. (Colorado Revised Statutes, Section 15-14-507)

Two (2) brochures are available: *Your Right to Make Health Care Decisions* and *Making Health Care Decisions*. For copies of these brochures or for more information, please call **Member Services**.

## **E. Agreement Binding on Members**

By electing coverage or accepting Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered) 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.

## **F. Amendment of Agreement**

Your Group's Agreement with us will change periodically. If these changes affect this EOC, your Group is required to notify you of them. If it is necessary to make revisions to this EOC, we will issue revised materials to you.

## **G. 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.

## **H. Assignment**

You may assign, in writing, payments due under the policy to a licensed hospital, other licensed health care provider, an occupational therapist, or a massage therapist, for covered Services provided to you. You may not assign this EOC or any other rights, interests, or obligations hereunder without our prior written consent.

## **I. Attorney Fees and Expenses**

In any dispute between a Member and Health Plan or Plan Providers, each party will bear its own attorneys' fees and other expenses.

## **J. Claims Review Authority**

We are responsible for determining whether you are entitled to Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered) under this EOC. We have the authority to review and evaluate claims that arise under this EOC. We conduct this evaluation independently by interpreting the provisions of this EOC. If this EOC is part of a health benefit plan that is subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), then we are a "named fiduciary" to review claims under this EOC.

## **K. Contracts with Plan Providers**

Plan Providers are paid in a number of ways, including: salary; capitation; per diem rates; case rates; fee for service; and incentive payments. If you would like further information about the way Plan Providers are paid to provide or arrange medical and hospital care for Members, please call **Member Services**.

Our contracts with Plan Providers provide that you are not liable for any amounts we owe. However, you may be liable for the cost of non-covered Services or Services you obtain from non-Plan Providers. If our contract with any Plan Provider terminates

while you are under the care of that provider, we will retain financial responsibility for covered Services you receive from that provider, in excess of any applicable Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance amounts, until we make arrangements for the Services to be provided by another Plan Provider and so notify the Subscriber.

#### **L. Deductible/Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit**

Deductible/Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit is a one-time event which occurs at the point of the initial open enrollment. It applies only to:

1. Members of new groups enrolling with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado for the first time. (In this situation, Members must have been covered under one of the group's other carriers at the time of the group's enrollment.)
2. Members of new or current groups who move from non-sole carrier status to sole-carrier status with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado. Non-sole carrier status refers to when an employee has the option of choosing a group health plan either through Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado or through another carrier. (In this situation, Members must have been covered under one of the group's other carriers at the time the group moved to sole-carrier status.)

A credit will be applied toward your Deductible with Health Plan for certain eligible expenses accumulated toward your deductible under your prior coverage. You may also be eligible for a credit to be applied toward your Out-of-Pocket Maximum accumulated under your prior coverage. In order for expenses to be eligible for this credit, you must submit an Explanation of Benefits ("EOB") issued by your prior carrier showing that the expense was applied toward your deductible and/or out-of-pocket maximum under your prior coverage. All such expenses must be for Services that are covered and subject to the Deductible and/or Out-of-Pocket Maximum under this EOC.

For groups with effective dates of coverage during the months of April through December, expenses incurred from January 1 of the current year through the effective date of coverage with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado may be eligible for credit.

For groups with effective dates of coverage during the months of January through March, expenses incurred up to 90 days prior to the effective date of coverage with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan may be eligible for credit.

You must submit all claims for Deductible/Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit within 90 days from the effective date of coverage with Health Plan. To submit a claim, send all EOBs along with a completed Prior Carrier Information Cover Form to the **Kaiser Permanente Claims Department**. To get a copy of the Prior Carrier Information Cover Form, please call the **Claims Department**.

#### **M. Governing Law**

Except as preempted by federal law, this EOC will be governed in accordance with Colorado law. Any provision that is required to be in this EOC by state or federal law shall bind Members and Health Plan whether or not set forth in this EOC.

#### **N. Group and Members are not Health Plan's Agents**

Neither your Group nor any Member is the agent or representative of Health Plan.

#### **O. 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.

#### **P. Nondiscrimination**

We do not discriminate in our employment practices or in the delivery of health care Services on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or physical or mental disability.

#### **Q. Notices**

Our notices to you will be sent to the most recent address we have for the Subscriber. The Subscriber is responsible for notifying us of any change in address. Members who move should call **Member Services** as soon as possible to give us their new address.

#### **R. Overpayment Recovery**

We may recover any overpayment we make for Services from anyone who receives such an overpayment, or from any person or organization obligated to pay for the Services.

#### **S. 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* (see below). Giving us authorization is at your discretion.

**This is only a brief summary of some of our key privacy practices. Our *Notice of Privacy Practices* explains our privacy practices in detail. To request a copy, please call Member Services. You can also find the notice at your local Plan Facility or on our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org).**

## **T. Value-Added Services**

In addition to the Services we cover under this EOC, we make available a variety of value-added services. Value-added services are not covered by your plan. They are intended to give you more options for a healthy lifestyle. Examples may include:

1. Certain health education classes not covered by your plan;
2. Certain health education publications;
3. Discounts for fitness club memberships;
4. Health promotion and wellness programs; and
5. Rewards for participating in those programs.

Some of these value-added services are available to all Members. Others may be available only to Members enrolled through certain groups or plans. To take advantage of these services, you may need to:

1. Show your Health Plan ID card, and
2. Pay the fee, if any,

to the company that provides the value-added service. Because these services are not covered by your plan, any fees you pay will not count toward any coverage calculations, such as Deductible or Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

To learn about value-added services and which ones are available to you, please check our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org).

These value-added services are neither offered nor guaranteed under your Health Plan coverage. Health Plan may change or discontinue some or all value-added services at any time and without notice to you. Value-added services are not offered as inducements to purchase a health care plan from us. Although value-added services are not covered by your plan, we may have included an estimate of their cost when we calculated Premiums.

Health Plan does not endorse or make any representations regarding the quality or medical efficacy of value-added services, or the financial integrity of the companies offering them. We expressly disclaim any liability for the value-added services provided by these companies. If you have a dispute regarding a value-added service, you must resolve it with the company offering such service. Although Health Plan has no obligation to assist with this resolution, you may call **Member Services**, and a representative may try to assist in getting the issue resolved.

## **U. Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act**

In accordance with the "Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998," as determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient, we provide the following coverage after a mastectomy:

1. Reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy was performed.
2. Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical (balanced) appearance.
3. Breast prostheses (artificial replacements).
4. Services for physical complications resulting from the mastectomy.

## **VIII. TERMINATION/NONRENEWAL/CONTINUATION**

Your Group is required to inform the Subscriber of the date coverage terminates. If your membership terminates, all rights to Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered) end at 11:59 p.m. on the termination date. Dependents' memberships end at the same time the Subscriber's membership ends. You will be billed as a non-Member for any Services you receive after your membership terminates. Health Plan and Plan Providers have no further responsibility under this EOC after your membership terminates, except as provided under "Termination of Group Agreement" in this "Termination/Nonrenewal/Continuation" section.

This section describes: how your membership may end; and explains how you may maintain Health Plan coverage if your membership under this EOC ends.

### **A. Termination Due to Loss of Eligibility**

If you no longer meet the eligibility requirements in the "Eligibility" section, we or your Group will provide 30 days' advance written notice of termination.

### **B. Termination of Group Agreement**

If your Group's Agreement with us terminates for any reason, your membership ends on the same date.

If your Group's Agreement terminates for reasons other than nonpayment of Premiums, fraud or abuse, while you are inpatient in a hospital or institution, your coverage will continue until your date of discharge.

### **C. Termination for Cause**

We may terminate the memberships in your Family Unit if anyone in your Family Unit commits any of the following acts.

1. We will send written notice that will include the reason for termination to the Subscriber at least 30 days before the termination date if:
  - a. You are disruptive, unruly, or abusive so that Health Plan's or a Plan Provider's ability to provide Services to you, or to other Members, is seriously impaired; or
  - b. You fail to establish and maintain a satisfactory provider-patient relationship, after the Plan Provider has made reasonable efforts to promote such a relationship; or
2. We will send written notice that will include the reason for termination to the Subscriber at least 30 days before the termination date if:
  - a. You knowingly: (a) misrepresent membership status; (b) present an invalid prescription or physician order; (c) misuse (or let someone else misuse) a Health Plan ID card; or (d) commit any other type of fraud in connection with your membership (including your enrollment application), Health Plan or a Plan Provider; or
  - b. You knowingly: furnish incorrect or incomplete information to us; or fail to notify us of changes in your family status or Medicare coverage that may affect your eligibility or Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered).

Termination of membership for any one of these reasons applies to all members of your Family Unit. All rights to Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered) cease on the date of termination. You will be billed as a non-Member for any Services received after the termination date. You have the right to appeal such a termination. To appeal, please call **Member Services**; or you can call the Colorado Division of Insurance.

We may report any member fraud to the authorities for prosecution. We may also pursue appropriate civil remedies.

### **D. Termination for Nonpayment**

You are entitled to coverage only for the period for which we have received the appropriate Premiums from your Group. If your Group fails to pay us the appropriate Premiums for your Family Unit, we will terminate the memberships of everyone in your Family Unit.

After termination of your enrollment for nonpayment of Premiums, Health Plan may require payment of any outstanding Premiums for prior coverage if permitted by applicable law.

### **E. Termination of a Product or all Products (applies to non-grandfathered health plans only)**

We may terminate a particular product or all products offered in the group market as permitted or required by law. If we discontinue offering a particular product in the group market, we will terminate just the particular product by sending you written notice at least 90 days before the product terminates. If we discontinue offering all products in the group market, we may terminate your Group's Agreement by sending you written notice at least 180 days before the Agreement terminates.

### **F. Rescission of Membership**

We may rescind your membership after it is effective if you or anyone on your behalf did one of the following with respect to your membership (or application) prior to your membership effective date:

1. Performed an act, practice, or omission that constitutes fraud; or
2. Misrepresented a material fact with intent, such as an omission on the application.

We will send written notice to the Subscriber in your Family at least 30 days before we rescind your membership. The rescission will cancel your membership so no coverage ever existed. You will be required to pay as a non-Member for any Services we covered. We will refund all applicable Premiums, less any amounts you owe us.

### **G. Continuation of Group Coverage Under Federal Law, State Law or USERRA**

#### **1. Federal Law (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. Please contact your Group if you want to know how to elect COBRA coverage or how much you will have to pay your Group for it.

#### **2. State Law**

If you are not eligible to continue uninterrupted group coverage under federal law (COBRA), you may be eligible to continue group coverage under Colorado law. Colorado law states that if you have been a Member for at least six (6) consecutive months immediately prior to termination of employment, continue to meet the eligibility requirements of Group and Health Plan and continue to pay applicable monthly Premiums to your Group, you may continue uninterrupted group coverage. If loss of eligibility occurs because of the following reasons, you and/or your Dependents may continue group coverage subject to the terms below:

- a. Your coverage is through a subscriber who dies, divorces or legally separates, or becomes entitled to Medicare or Medicaid benefits; or

- b. You are a Subscriber (or your coverage is through a Subscriber) whose employment terminates, including voluntary termination or layoff, or whose hours of employment have been reduced.

You may enroll children born or placed for adoption with you during the period of continuation coverage. The enrollment and effective date shall be as specified under the “Eligibility” section.

To continue coverage, you must request continuation of group coverage on a form furnished by and returned to your Group along with payment of applicable Premiums, no later than 30 days after the date on which your Group coverage would otherwise terminate.

**Termination of State Continuation Coverage.** Continuation of coverage under this provision continues upon payment of the applicable Premiums to your Group and terminates on the earlier of:

- a. 18 months after your coverage would have otherwise terminated because of termination of employment; or
- b. The date you become covered under another group medical plan; or
- c. The date Health Plan terminates its contract with the Group.

We may terminate your continuation coverage if payment is not received when due.

If you have chosen an alternate health care plan offered through your Group but elect during open enrollment to receive continuation coverage through Health Plan, you will only be entitled to continued coverage for the remainder of the 18-month maximum coverage period.

### 3. 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 the federal USERRA law. You must submit a 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 or how much you will have to pay your Group for it.

## H. Moving to Another Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Area

You must notify us immediately if you permanently move outside the Service Area. If you move to another Kaiser regional health plan service area, you should contact your Group’s benefits administrator before you move to learn about your Group health care options. You will be terminated from this plan, but you may be able to transfer your group membership if there is an arrangement with your Group in the new service area. However, eligibility requirements, benefits, Premiums, and Copayments or Coinsurance may not be the same in the other service area.

## IX. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

### A. Claims and Appeals

Health Plan will review claims and appeals, and we may use medical experts to help us review them. The following terms have the following meanings when used in this “Appeals and Complaints” section:

1. A **claim** is a request for us to:
  - a. provide or pay for a Service that you have not received (pre-service claim),
  - b. continue to provide or pay for a Service that you are currently receiving (concurrent care claim), or
  - c. pay for a Service that you have already received (post-service claim).
2. An **adverse benefit determination** is our decision to do any of the following:
  - a. deny your claim, in whole or in part, including (1) a denial, in whole or in part, of a pre-service claim (preauthorization for a Service), a concurrent care claim (continue to provide or pay for a Service that you are currently receiving) or a post-service claim (a request to pay for a Service) in whole or in part; (2) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is not Medically Necessary, appropriate, effective or efficient or is not provided in or at the appropriate health care setting or level of care; or, (3) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is experimental or investigational,
  - b. terminate your membership retroactively except as the result of non-payment of Premiums (also called rescission or cancellation retroactively),
  - c. deny your (or, if applicable, your dependent’s) application for individual plan coverage,
  - d. uphold our previous adverse benefit determination when you appeal.

In addition, when we deny a request for medical care because it is excluded under this EOC, and you present evidence from a Colorado medical professional that there is a reasonable medical basis that the contractual exclusion does not apply to the denied medical care, then our denial shall be considered an adverse benefit determination.

3. An **appeal** is a request for us to review our initial adverse benefit determination.

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

Except when simultaneous external review can occur, you must exhaust the internal claims and appeals procedure as described in this “Appeals and Complaints” section unless we fail to follow the claims and appeals process described in this Section IX.

### **Language and Translation Assistance**

You may request language assistance with your claim and/or appeal by calling **Member Services**.

SPANISH (Español): Para obtener asistencia en Español, llame al 303-338-3800.

TAGALOG (Tagalog): Kung kailangan ninyo ang tulong sa Tagalog tumawag sa 303-338-3800.

CHINESE (中文): 如果需要中文的帮助, 请拨打这个号码 303-338-3800.

NAVAJO (Dine): Dinek'ehgo shika at'ohwol ninisingo, kwijigo holne' 303-338-3800.

### **Appointing a Representative**

If you would like someone (including your provider (medical facility or health care professional)) to act on your behalf regarding your claim, you may appoint an authorized representative. You must make this appointment in writing. Please 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**

You may contact the Colorado Division of Insurance at:

Colorado Division of Insurance  
1560 Broadway, Suite 850  
Denver, Colorado 80202  
(303) 894-7499

### **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. You may request our Authorization for Release of Appeal Information form by calling the **Appeals Program**.

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 and/or Appeal**

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, if you ask for one. Please send all additional information to the Department that issued the adverse benefit determination.

When you appeal, you may give testimony in writing or by telephone. Please send your written testimony to the **Appeals Program**. To arrange to give testimony by telephone, you should contact the **Appeals Program**.

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 our next 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 next decision, that decision will be based on the information already in your claim file.

### **Internal Claims and Appeals Procedures**

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:

1. Pre-service claims (urgent and non-urgent)
2. Concurrent care claims (urgent and non-urgent)
3. Post-service claims

In addition, there is a separate appeals procedure for adverse benefit determinations due to a retroactive termination of membership (rescission) or a denial of an application for individual plan coverage.

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 he/she be the subordinate of someone who did participate in our original decision.

1. 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 or pre-certified in order to be a covered Service 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 pre-service claim, a non-urgent pre-service appeal, and an urgent pre-service appeal.

a. Pre-Service Claim

Tell Health Plan in writing that you want 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 must either mail or fax your claim to **Member Services**.

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 unless your attending health care provider tells us your claim is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, creates an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent claim and appeal, to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

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 not later than 15 days after we receive your claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, so long as we notify you prior to the expiration of the initial 15-day period and explain the circumstances for which we need the extra time and when we expect to make a decision. If we tell you we need more information, we will ask you for the information within 15 days of receiving your claim, and we will give you 45 days to send the information. We will make a decision within 15 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 all of the information that you send us when we make our decision. If we do not receive any of the requested information (including documents) within 45 days after we send our request, we will make a decision based on the information we have within 15 days following the end of the 45-day period.

We will send written notice of our decision to you and, if applicable to your provider. Please let us know if you wish to have our decision sent to your provider.

If your pre-service claim was considered on an urgent basis, we will notify you of our decision (whether adverse or not) orally or in writing within a timeframe appropriate to your clinical condition but not later than 72 hours after we receive your claim. Within 24 hours after we receive your claim, we may ask you for more information. We will notify you of our decision within 48 hours of receiving the first piece of requested information. If we do not receive any of the requested information, then we will notify you of our decision within 48 hours after making our request. If we notify you of our decision orally, we will send you written confirmation within three (3) days after that.

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.

b. Non-Urgent Pre-Service Appeal

Within 180 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 Medical 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 denial, and (5) all supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must either mail or fax your appeal to the **Appeals Program**.

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The members of the appeals committee who will review your appeal will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least 5 days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that 5 day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within a reasonable period of time that is appropriate given your medical condition but not more than 30 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, that may be available to you.

c. 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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 may submit your appeal orally, by mail or by fax to the **Appeals Program**.

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 “Appeals and Complaints” section), if our internal appeal decision is not in your favor.

We will decide whether your appeal is urgent or non-urgent unless your attending health care provider tells us your appeal is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, create an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent appeal to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

You do not have the right to attend or have counsel, advocates and health care professionals in attendance at the expedited review. You are, however, entitled to submit written comments, documents, records and other materials for the reviewer or reviewers to consider; and receive, upon request and free of charge, copies of all documents, records and other information regarding your request for benefits.

We will review your appeal and give you oral or written notice of our decision as soon as your clinical condition requires, but not 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 (3) days after that.

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, that may be available to you.

2. Concurrent Care Claims and Appeals.

Concurrent care claims are requests that Health Plan continue to provide, or pay for, an ongoing course of covered treatment or Services for a period of time or number of treatments or Services, when the course of treatment already being received will end. If you have any general questions about concurrent care claims or appeals, please call **Member Services**.

Unless you are appealing an urgent care concurrent 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 then appeal our decision (an adverse benefit determination), 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 we will only pay for the continuation of Services until we notify you of our appeal decision.

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

a. Concurrent Care Claim

Tell us in writing 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 either mail or fax your claim to **Member Services**.

If you want us to consider your claim on an urgent basis and you contact us at least 24 hours before your 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 unless your attending health care provider tells us your claim is 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, health or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, create an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live

independently; or (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 extending your course of covered treatment. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent claim or an appeal thereof, to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

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 care is ending, we will make our decision before your authorized care actually ends (that is, within 24 hours of receipt of your claim). If your authorized care ended before you submitted your claim, we will make our decision within a reasonable period of time but no later than 15 days after we receive your claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, if we send you notice before the initial 15-days end and explain why we need the extra time and when we expect to make a decision. If we tell you we need more information, we will ask you for the information before the initial decision period ends, and we will give you until your care is ending or, if your care has ended, 45 days to send us the information. We will make our decision as soon as possible, if your care has not ended, or within 15 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 days following the end of the 45 days that we gave you for sending the additional information.

We will send written notice of our decision to you and, if applicable to your provider, upon request. Please let us know if you wish to have our decision sent to your provider.

If we consider your concurrent claim on an urgent basis, we will notify you of our decision orally or in writing as soon as your clinical condition requires, but not later than 24 hours after we received your appeal. If we notify you of our decision orally, we will send you written confirmation within three (3) days after receiving your claim.

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

b. Non-Urgent Concurrent Care Appeal

Within 180 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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 the **Appeals Program**.

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The members of the appeals committee who will review your appeal will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least 5 days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that 5 day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision as soon as possible if your care has not ended but not later than 30 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, that may be available to you.

c. 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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 may submit your appeal orally, by mail or by fax to the **Appeals Program**.

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 “Appeals and Complaints” section).

We will decide whether your appeal is urgent or non-urgent unless your attending health care provider tells us your appeal is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, create an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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 continuing your course of covered treatment. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent appeal to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

You do not have the right to attend or have counsel, advocates and health care professionals in attendance at the expedited review. You are, however, entitled to submit written comments, documents, records and other materials for the reviewer or reviewers to consider; and receive, upon request and free of charge, copies of all documents, records and other information regarding your request for benefits.

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 (3) days after that.

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.

3. 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:

a. Post-Service Claim

Within twelve (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, and (4) why you think we should pay for the Services. You must include a copy of the bill, your medical record(s) and any supporting documents. Your letter and the related documents constitute your claim. Or, you may contact **Member Services** to obtain a claims form. You must either mail or fax your claim to the **Claims Department**.

We will not accept or pay for claims received from you after twelve (12) months from the date of Services.

We will review your claim, and if we have all the information we need we will send you a written decision within 30 days after we receive your claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, if we notify you within 15 days after we receive your claim and explain the circumstances for which we need the extra time and when we expect to make a decision. If we tell you we need more information, we will ask you for the information, and we will give you 45 days to send us the information. We will make a decision within 15 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 days after we send our request, we will make a decision based on the information we have within 15 days following the end of the 45-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.

b. Post-Service Appeal

Within 180 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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) include all supporting documents such as medical records. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must either mail or fax your appeal to the **Appeals Program**.

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The appeals committee members who will review your appeal (who were not involved in our original



decision regarding your claim) will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least 5 days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that 5 day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within 30 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.

#### Voluntary Second Level of Appeal

Within 60 days after you receive our adverse decision regarding your appeal, you may ask us to review our adverse benefit decisions again. We will schedule a review of your second appeal within 60 days of receiving your request, and we will notify you about the date and time of this review no less than 20 days before it occurs. You have the right to request a postponement. You have the right to appear in person or by telephone conference at the meeting. We will make our decision within 7 days of the completion of this meeting.

#### Appeals of Retroactive Membership Termination (rescission or cancellation retroactively)

We may terminate your membership retroactively (see “Rescission of Membership” under the “Termination/Nonrenewal/Continuation” section). We will send you written notice at least 30 days prior to the termination. If you have general questions about retroactive membership terminations or appeals, please call **Member Services**.

Here is the procedure for filing an appeal of a retroactive membership termination:

Within 180 days after you receive our adverse benefit determination that your membership will be terminated retroactively, you must tell us in writing that you want to appeal our termination of your membership retroactively. Please include the following: (1) your name and Medical Record Number, (2) all of the reasons why you disagree with our retroactive membership termination, and (3) all supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must mail your appeal to **Member Services**.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within 30 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, that may be available to you.

#### Appeals of Denial of Individual Plan Application

Here is the procedure for filing an appeal of our denial of an individual plan application:

Within 180 days after you receive our adverse benefit determination regarding your individual plan application, you must tell us in writing that you want to appeal our denial of an individual plan application. Please include the following: (1) your name and application reference number, (2) all of the reasons why you disagree with our adverse benefit determination, and (3) all supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must mail your appeal to:

Member Services  
P.O. Box 203004  
Denver, CO 80220-9004

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within 30 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 that may be available to you.

#### External Review

Following receipt of an adverse decision letter regarding your First Level Appeal or Voluntary Second Level Appeal, you may have a right to request an external review.

You have the right to request an independent external review of our decision if our decision involves an adverse benefit determination regarding a denial of a claim, in whole or in part, that is (1) a denial of a preauthorization for a Service; (2) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is not Medically Necessary, appropriate, effective or efficient or is not provided in or at the appropriate health care setting or level of care; and/or (3) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is experimental or investigational. If our final adverse decision does not involve an adverse benefit determination described in the preceding sentence, then your claim is **not** eligible for external review provided, however, independent external review is available when we deny your appeal because you request medical care that is excluded under your Kaiser Permanente plan and you present evidence from a licensed Colorado professional that there is a reasonable medical basis that the exclusion does not apply.

You will not be responsible for the cost of the external review. There is no minimum dollar amount for a claim to be eligible for an external review.

To request external review, you must:

1. Submit a completed Independent External Review of Carrier's Final Adverse Determination form which will be included with the mandatory internal appeal decision letter and explanation of your appeal rights (you may call the **Appeals Program** to request a copy of this form) to the **Appeals Program** within four (4) months of the date of receipt of the mandatory internal appeal decision or Voluntary Second Level Appeal decision. We shall consider the date of receipt for our notice to be three (3) days after the date on which our notice was drafted, unless you can prove that you received our notice after the three (3) day period ends.
2. Include in your written request a statement authorizing us to release your claim file with your health information including your medical records; or, you may submit a completed Authorization for Release of Appeal Information form which is included with the mandatory internal appeal decision letter and explanation of your appeal rights (you may call **Appeals Program** to request a copy of this form).

If we do not receive your external review request form and/or authorization form to release your health information, then we will not be able to act on your request. We must receive all of this information prior to the end of the applicable timeframe (4 months) for your request of external review.

#### **Expedited External Review**

**You may request an expedited review if (1) you have a medical condition for which the timeframe for completion of a standard review would seriously jeopardize your life, health, or ability to regain maximum function, or, if you have a physical or mental disability, would create an imminent and substantial limitation to your existing ability to live independently, or (2) in the opinion of a physician with knowledge of your medical condition, the timeframe for completion of a standard review would subject you to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the medical services that you are seeking. A request for an expedited external review must be accompanied by a written statement from your physician that your condition meets the expedited criteria. You must include the physician's certification that you meet expedited external review criteria when you submit your request for external review along with the other required information (described, above).**

#### **Additional Requirements for External Review regarding Experimental or Investigational Services**

**You may request external review or expedited external review involving an adverse benefit determination based upon the Service being experimental or investigational. Your request for external review or expedited external review must include a written statement from your physician that either (a) standard health care services or treatments have not been effective in improving your condition or are not medically appropriate for you, or (b) there is no available standard health care service or treatment covered under this EOC that is more beneficial than the recommended or requested health care service (the physician must certify that scientifically valid studies using accepted protocols demonstrate that the requested health care service or treatment is more likely to be more beneficial to you than an available standard health care services or treatments), and the physician is a licensed, board-certified, or board-eligible physician to practice in the area of medicine to treat your condition. If you are requesting expedited external review, then your physician must also certify that the requested health care service or treatment would be less effective if not promptly initiated. These certifications must be submitted with your request for external review.**

**No expedited external review is available when you have already received the medical care that is the subject of your request for external review. If you do not qualify for expedited external review, we will treat your request as a request for standard external review.**

**After we receive your request for external review, we shall notify you of the information regarding the independent external review entity that the Division of Insurance has selected to conduct the external review.**

If we deny your request for standard or expedited external review, including any assertion that we have not complied with the applicable requirements related to our internal claims and appeals procedure, then we may notify you in writing and include the specific reasons for the denial. Our notice will include information about your right to appeal the denial to the Division of Insurance. At the same time that we send this denial notice to you, we will send a copy of it to the Division of Insurance.

**You will not be able to present your appeal in person to the independent external review organization. You may, however, send any additional information that is significantly different from information provided or considered during the internal claims and appeal procedure and, if applicable Voluntary Second Level of Appeal process. If you send new information, we may consider it and reverse our decision regarding your appeal.**

**You may submit your additional information to the independent external review organization for consideration during its review within five (5) working days of your receipt of our notice describing the independent review organization that has been selected to conduct the external review of your claim. Although it is not required to do so, the independent review organization may accept and consider additional information submitted after this five (5) working day period ends.**

The independent external review entity shall review information regarding your benefit claim and shall base its determination on an objective review of relevant medical and scientific evidence. Within 45 days of the independent external review entity's receipt

of your request for standard external review, it shall provide written notice of its decision to you. If the independent external review entity is deciding your expedited external review request, then the independent external review entity shall make its decision as expeditiously as possible and no more than 72 hours after its receipt of your request for external review and within 48 hours of notifying you orally of its decision provide written confirmation of its decision. This notice shall explain the external review entity's decision and that the external review decision is the final appeal available under state insurance law. An external review decision is binding on Health Plan and you except to the extent Health Plan and you have other remedies available under federal or state law. You or your designated representative may not file a subsequent request for external review involving the same Health Plan adverse determination for which you have already received an external review decision.

**If the independent external review organization overturns our denial of payment for care you have already received, we will issue payment within five (5) working days. If the independent review organization overturns our decision not to authorize pre-service or concurrent care claims, Kaiser Permanente will authorize care within one (1) working day. Such covered services shall be provided subject to the terms and conditions applicable to benefits under your plan.**

Except when external review is permitted to occur simultaneously with your urgent pre-service appeal or urgent concurrent care appeal, you must exhaust our internal claims and appeals procedure (but not the Voluntary Second Level of Appeal) for your claim before you may request external review unless we have failed to substantially comply with federal and/or state law requirements regarding our claims and appeals procedures.

#### **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.

### **B. Complaints**

1. If you are not satisfied with the Services received at a particular Plan 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:
  - a. Sending your written complaint to **Member Services**;
  - b. Requesting to meet with a Member Services Liaison at the Health Plan Administrative Offices; or
  - c. Telephoning **Member Services**.
2. After you notify us of a complaint, this is what happens:
  - a. A Member Services Liaison reviews the complaint and conducts an investigation, verifying all the relevant facts.
  - b. The Member Services Liaison or a Plan Physician evaluates the facts and makes a recommendation for corrective action, if any.
  - c. When you file a written complaint, we usually respond in writing within 30 calendar days, unless additional information is required.
  - d. When you make a verbal complaint, a verbal response is usually made within 30 calendar days.
3. If you are dissatisfied with the resolution, you have the right to request a second review. Please put your request in writing to **Member Services**. **Member Services** will respond to you in writing within 30 calendar days of receipt of your request.

We want you to be satisfied with our Plan Facilities, Services, and Plan Physicians. 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. Please call **Member Services**.

## **X. INFORMATION ON POLICY AND RATE CHANGES**

Your Group's Agreement with us will change periodically. If these changes affect this EOC or your Premiums, your Group is required to notify you of them. If it is necessary to make revisions to this EOC, we will issue revised materials to you.

## **XI. DEFINITIONS**

The following terms, when capitalized and used in any part of this EOC, have the following meaning:

**Accumulation Period:** As stated in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)," the period of time during which benefits are paid and are counted toward the maximum allowed for the specific benefit.

**Affiliated Physician:** Any doctor of medicine contracting with Medical Group to provide covered Services to Members under this EOC.

**Affiliated Provider:** A health care provider that we designate as an Affiliated Provider.

**Authorization:** A referral request that has received approval from Health Plan.

**Charge(s):**

1. For Services provided by Plan Providers or Medical Group, the charges in Health Plan's schedule of Medical Group and Health Plan charges for Services provided to Members; or
2. For Services for which a provider (other than Medical Group or Health Plan) is compensated on a capitation basis, the charges in the schedule of charges that Kaiser Permanente negotiates with the capitated provider; or
3. For items obtained at a Plan Pharmacy, the amount the Plan Pharmacy would charge a Member for the item if a Member's benefit plan did not cover the item (this amount is an estimate of: the cost of acquiring, storing, and dispensing drugs, the direct and indirect costs of providing Kaiser Permanente pharmacy Services to Members, and the Plan Pharmacy program's contribution to the net revenue requirements of Health Plan); or
4. For all other Services, the payments that Health Plan makes for the Services (or, if Health Plan subtracts a Copayment, Coinsurance or Deductible from its payment, the amount Health Plan would have paid if it did not subtract the Copayment, Coinsurance or Deductible).

**CMS:** The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the federal agency responsible for administering Medicare.

**Coinsurance:** A percentage of Charges that you must pay when you receive a covered Service, as listed in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)."

**Copayment:** The specific dollar amount you must pay for a covered Service, as listed in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)."

**Deductible:** The amount you must pay in an Accumulation Period for certain Services before we will cover those Services in that Accumulation Period. The "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" explains the amount of the Deductible and which Services are subject to the Deductible.

**Dependent:** A Member whose relationship to a Subscriber is the basis for membership eligibility and who meets the eligibility requirements as a Dependent. For Dependent eligibility requirements, see "Who Is Eligible" in the "Eligibility" section.

**Emergency Medical Condition:** A medical condition that manifests itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity, including severe pain, that a prudent layperson with an average knowledge of health and medicine could reasonably expect, in the absence of immediate medical attention, to result in:

1. Serious jeopardy to the health of the individual or, with respect to a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child;
2. Serious impairment to bodily functions; or
3. Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part.

**Emergency Services:** With respect to an Emergency Medical Condition:

1. A medical screening examination that is within the capability of the emergency department of a hospital, including ancillary services routinely available to the emergency department to evaluate the Emergency Medical Condition; and
2. Within the capabilities of the staff and facilities available at the hospital, further medical examination and treatment as required to Stabilize the patient 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 individual from a facility.

**Family Unit:** A Subscriber and all of his or her Dependents.

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

**Health Plan:** Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado, a Colorado nonprofit corporation.

**Kaiser Permanente:** Health Plan and Medical Group.

**Life or Limb Threatening Emergency:** Any event that a prudent layperson would believe threatens his or her life or limb in such a manner that a need for immediate medical care is created to prevent death or serious impairment of health.

**Medical Group:** The Colorado Permanente Medical Group, P.C., a for-profit medical corporation.

**Medically Necessary** services or supplies are those that are determined by Health Plan to be all of the following:

- Required to prevent, diagnose, or treat your condition or clinical symptoms; and
- In accordance with generally accepted standards of medical practice; and
- Not solely for the convenience of you, your family, and/or your provider; and
- The most appropriate level of care that can safely be provided to you.

The fact that a Plan or non-Plan Provider prescribes, recommends, or refers you to a Service does not make that Service Medically Necessary or covered under this EOC.

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

**Member:** A person who is eligible and enrolled under this EOC, and for whom we have received applicable Premiums. This EOC sometimes refers to a Member as “you” or “your.”

**Out-of-Pocket Maximum:** The annual limit to the total amount of Deductible (if any), certain Copayments and certain Coinsurance you must pay in an Accumulation Period for covered Services, as described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**Plan Facility:** A Plan Medical Office or Plan Hospital.

**Plan Hospital:** Any hospital listed as a Plan Hospital in our provider directory. Plan Hospitals are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Plan Medical Office:** Any medical office listed in our provider directory, including any outpatient facility designated by Health Plan. Plan Medical Offices are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Plan Optometrist:** Any licensed optometrist who is an employee of Health Plan or any licensed optometrist who contracts to provide Services to Members.

**Plan Pharmacy:** A pharmacy owned and operated by Kaiser Permanente or another pharmacy that we designate. Plan Pharmacies are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Plan Physician:** Any licensed physician who is an employee of Medical Group, an Affiliated Physician or any licensed physician who contracts to provide Services to Members (but not including physicians who contract only to provide referral Services).

**Plan Provider:** A Plan Hospital, Plan Physician, or other health care provider that we designate as Plan Provider, except that Plan Providers are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Premiums:** Periodic membership charges paid by Group.

**Service Area:**

The *Denver/Boulder* Service Area is that portion of Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Clear Creek, Denver, Douglas, Elbert, Gilpin, Jefferson, Larimer, Park, Teller, and Weld counties within the following zip codes: 80001, 80002, 80003, 80004, 80005, 80006, 80007, 80010, 80011, 80012, 80013, 80014, 80015, 80016, 80017, 80018, 80019, 80020, 80021, 80022, 80023, 80024, 80025, 80026, 80027, 80030, 80031, 80033, 80034, 80035, 80036, 80037, 80038, 80040, 80041, 80042, 80044, 80045, 80046, 80047, 80102, 80104, 80107, 80108, 80109, 80110, 80111, 80112, 80113, 80116, 80117, 80120, 80121, 80122, 80123, 80124, 80125, 80126, 80127, 80128, 80129, 80130, 80131, 80134, 80135, 80137, 80138, 80150, 80151, 80155, 80160, 80161, 80162, 80163, 80165, 80166, 80201, 80202, 80203, 80204, 80205, 80206, 80207, 80208, 80209, 80210, 80211, 80212, 80214, 80215, 80216, 80217, 80218, 80219, 80220, 80221, 80222, 80223, 80224, 80225, 80226, 80227, 80228, 80229, 80230, 80231, 80232, 80233, 80234, 80235, 80236, 80237, 80238, 80239, 80241, 80243, 80244, 80246, 80247, 80248, 80249, 80250, 80251, 80256, 80257, 80259, 80260, 80261, 80262, 80263, 80264, 80265, 80266, 80271, 80273, 80274, 80281, 80290, 80291, 80293, 80294, 80299, 80301, 80302, 80303, 80304, 80305, 80306, 80307, 80308, 80309, 80310, 80314, 80401, 80402, 80403, 80419, 80421, 80422, 80425, 80427, 80433, 80436, 80437, 80439, 80444, 80452, 80453, 80454, 80455, 80457, 80465, 80466, 80470, 80471, 80474, 80481, 80501, 80502, 80503, 80504, 80510, 80514, 80516, 80520, 80530, 80533, 80540, 80544, 80601, 80602, 80603, 80614, 80621, 80640, 80642, 80643.

The *Northern Colorado* Service Area is that portion of Adams, Boulder, Larimer, Morgan, and Weld counties within the following zip codes: 69128, 69145, 80511, 80512, 80513, 80515, 80517, 80521, 80522, 80523, 80524, 80525, 80526, 80527, 80528, 80532, 80534, 80535, 80536, 80537, 80538, 80539, 80541, 80542, 80543, 80545, 80546, 80547, 80549, 80550, 80551, 80553, 80610, 80611, 80612, 80615, 80620, 80622, 80623, 80624, 80631, 80632, 80633, 80634, 80638, 80639, 80644, 80645, 80646, 80648, 80649, 80650, 80651, 80652, 80654, 80729, 80732, 80742, 80754, 82063, 82070, 82082.

The *Southern Colorado* Service Area is that portion of Crowley, Custer, Douglas, El Paso, Elbert, Fremont, Huerfano, Las Animas, Lincoln, Otero, Park, Pueblo, and Teller counties within the following zip codes: 80106, 80118, 80132, 80133, 80808, 80809, 80813, 80814, 80816, 80817, 80819, 80820, 80827, 80829, 80831, 80832, 80833, 80840, 80841, 80860, 80863, 80864, 80866, 80901, 80902, 80903, 80904, 80905, 80906, 80907, 80908, 80909, 80910, 80911, 80912, 80913, 80914, 80915, 80916, 80917, 80918, 80919, 80920, 80921, 80922, 80923, 80924, 80925, 80926, 80927, 80928, 80929, 80930, 80931, 80932, 80933, 80934, 80935, 80936, 80937, 80938, 80939, 80941, 80942, 80946, 80947, 80949, 80950, 80951, 80960, 80962, 80970, 80977, 80995, 80997, 81001, 81002, 81003, 81004, 81005, 81006, 81007, 81008, 81009, 81010, 81011, 81012, 81019, 81022, 81023, 81025, 81039, 81062, 81069, 81212, 81215, 81221, 81222, 81223, 81226, 81232, 81233, 81240, 81244, 81253, 81290.

**Services:** Health care services or items.

**Skilled Nursing Facility:** A facility that is licensed as such by the state of Colorado, certified by Medicare and approved by Health Plan. The facility's primary business must be the provision of 24-hour-a-day licensed skilled nursing care for patients who need skilled nursing or skilled rehabilitation care, or both, on a daily basis, as part of an ongoing medical treatment plan.

**Spouse:** Your partner in marriage or a civil union as determined by state law.

**Stabilize:** To provide the medical treatment of the Emergency Medical 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 (including the placenta).

**Step Therapy:** A protocol that requires a covered person to use a prescription drug or sequence of prescription drugs, other than the drug that the covered person’s health care provider recommends for the covered person’s treatment, before the carrier provides coverage for the recommended prescription drug.

**Subscriber:** A Member who is eligible for membership on his or her own behalf and not by virtue of Dependent status and who meets the eligibility requirements as a Subscriber (for Subscriber eligibility requirements, see “Who Is Eligible” in the “Eligibility” section).

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## ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

Please refer to the Summary Chart in this booklet for specific charges and other limitations that may apply to the coverage(s) described below.

### DOMESTIC PARTNER COVERAGE

Your Group coverage includes health benefits for same-sex domestic partners. To be covered they must meet:

- (1) the eligibility requirements as described in the “Eligibility” section of this EOC; and
- (2) the conditions for domestic partnership as described in the Affidavit of Domestic Partnership.

You are required to complete and submit an Affidavit of Domestic Partnership to Health Plan. Please check with your Group's benefit administrator for details.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for same-sex domestic partners. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

DOMP0AA (01-18)

### SURVIVING DEPENDENTS

Your Group coverage includes health benefit coverage for surviving Dependents.

Surviving Dependents include your:

1. Spouses; and
2. Other eligible Dependents.

Their coverage may continue based on the Group's personnel policy.

SRDC0AE (01-12)

WOR0AA

### ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT

**(Does not apply to Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage HMO Plan)**

The following paragraph of your EOC is amended, as follows:

#### I. Eligibility

##### A. Who Is Eligible

###### 1. General

To be eligible to enroll and to remain enrolled in this health benefit plan, you must meet the following requirements:

- a. You must meet your Group's eligibility requirements that we have approved. Your Group is required to inform Subscribers of the Group's eligibility requirements; and
- b. You must also meet the Subscriber or Dependent eligibility requirements as described below; and
- c. The Subscriber must live, reside, or work in our Service Area. Our Service Area is described in the “Definitions” section.

This rider amends the general eligibility provision of the EOC. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

WOR0AA (01-20)

### CHIROPRACTIC CARE

#### 1. Coverage

Chiropractic Services are covered as shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” when provided by contracted providers. Coverage includes:

- a. Evaluation;



- b. Manual and manipulative therapy of the spinal and extraspinal regions.

You may self-refer for visits to contracted providers.

**Note:** The following are covered, but not under this section: X-ray and laboratory tests, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”.

2. Exclusions

- a. Hypnotherapy.
- b. Behavior training.
- c. Sleep therapy.
- d. Weight loss programs.
- e. Services related to the treatment of the musculoskeletal system, except for the spinal and extraspinal regions.
- f. Vocational rehabilitation Services.
- g. Thermography.
- h. Air conditioners, air purifiers, therapeutic mattresses, supplies, or any other similar devices and appliances.
- i. Transportation costs. This includes local ambulance charges.
- j. Prescription drugs, vitamins, minerals, food supplements, or other similar products.
- k. Educational programs.
- l. Non-medical self-care or self-help training.
- m. All diagnostic testing related to these excluded Services.
- n. MRI and/or other types of diagnostic radiology.
- o. Physical or massage therapy that is not a part of the manual and manipulative therapy.
- p. Durable medical equipment (DME) and/or supplies for use in the home.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for Chiropractic Care. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

CHIR0AA (01-18)  
DMES0AB

**DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT (DME) AND  
PROSTHETIC AND ORTHOTIC DEVICES**

When prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan on either a purchase or rental basis, as determined by Health Plan, DME, prosthetics and orthotics, including replacements other than those necessitated by misuse, theft, or loss, are provided as shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for your use during the period prescribed. Necessary fittings, repairs and adjustments, other than those necessitated by misuse, are covered. Health Plan may repair or replace a device at its option. Repair or replacement of defective equipment is covered at no additional charge.

Health Plan uses Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) and National Coverage Determinations (NCD) (hereinafter referred to as Medicare Guidelines) for our DME, prosthetic, and orthotic formulary guidelines. These are guidelines only. Health Plan reserves the right to exclude items listed in the Medicare Guidelines (does not apply to Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage plans). Please note that this EOC may contain some, but not all, of these exclusions.

**Limitations:** Coverage is limited to a standard item of DME, prosthetic device, or orthotic device that adequately meets your medical needs.

1. Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

a. Coverage

- i. DME is equipment that is appropriate for use in the home, able to withstand repeated use, Medically Necessary, not of use to a person in the absence of illness or injury, and approved for coverage under Medicare. It includes, but is not limited to, infant apnea monitors, insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies, and oxygen and oxygen dispensing equipment.
- ii. Insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iii. When use is no longer prescribed by a Plan Physician, DME must be returned to Health Plan or its designee. If the equipment is not returned, you must pay Health Plan or its designee the fair market price, established by Health Plan, for the equipment.

- b. Limitation: Coverage is limited to the lesser of the purchase or rental price, as determined by Health Plan.

c. Durable Medical Equipment Exclusions

- i. Electronic monitors of bodily functions, except infant apnea monitors are covered.
- ii. Devices to perform medical testing of body fluids, excretions or substances, except nitrate urine test strips for home use for pediatric patients are covered.
- iii. Non-medical items such as sauna baths or elevators.

- iv. Exercise or hygiene equipment.
- v. Comfort, convenience, or luxury equipment or features.
- vi. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze\*, tape, antiseptics, dressings, and ace-type bandages.  
\*Gauze not excluded in Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Part D plans.
- vii. Replacement of lost or stolen equipment.
- viii. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.
- ix. More than one piece of DME serving essentially the same function, except for replacements.
- x. Spare equipment or alternate use equipment is not covered.

2. Prosthetic Devices

a. Coverage

Prosthetic devices are those rigid or semi-rigid external devices that are required to replace all or part of a body organ or extremity. Coverage of prosthetic devices includes:

- i. Internally implanted devices for functional purposes, such as pacemakers and hip joints.
- ii. Prosthetic devices for Members who have had a mastectomy. Medical Group or Health Plan will designate the source from which external prostheses can be obtained. Replacement will be made when a prosthesis is no longer functional. Custom-made prostheses will be provided when necessary.
- iii. Prosthetic devices, such as obturators and speech and feeding appliances, required for the treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate are covered when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iv. Prosthetic devices intended to replace, in whole or in part, an arm or leg when prescribed by a Plan Physician, as Medically Necessary and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.

b. Prosthetic Devices Exclusions

- i. Dental prostheses, except for Medically Necessary prosthodontic treatment for treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate, as described above.
- ii. Internally implanted devices, equipment, and prosthetics related to treatment of sexual dysfunction.
- iii. More than one prosthetic device for the same part of the body, except for replacements.
- iv. Spare devices or alternate use devices.
- v. Replacement of lost or stolen prosthetic devices.
- vi. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.

3. Orthotic Devices

a. Coverage

Orthotic devices are those rigid or semi-rigid external devices that are 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.

b. Orthotic Devices Exclusions

- i. Corrective shoes and orthotic devices for podiatric use and arch supports, except for diabetic shoes in accordance with clinical guidelines and therapeutic shoes for patients with a diagnosis of peripheral vascular disease or peripheral neuropathy.
- ii. Dental devices and appliances except that Medically Necessary treatment of cleft lip or cleft palate is covered when prescribed by a Plan Physician, unless you are covered for these Services under a dental insurance policy or contract.
- iii. Experimental and research braces.
- iv. More than one orthotic device for the same part of the body, except for covered replacements.
- v. Spare devices or alternate use devices.
- vi. Replacement of lost or stolen orthotic devices.
- vii. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and prosthetic and orthotic devices. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

DMES0AB (01-20)

### **HEARING AID CREDIT**

1. Coverage

For Members age 18 and over, a credit per ear, which can be applied toward the purchase of a hearing aid (including dispensing fees associated with the hearing aid purchase), is provided as shown on the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" when prescribed by a Plan Physician or audiologist and obtained from a Plan Provider. Hearing aid means an electronic device worn on the person for the purpose of amplifying sound.

The full per ear credit must be used at the initial point of sale. Any credit balance remaining after the initial point of sale is forfeited.

2. Hearing Aid Exclusions

- a. Replacement parts for the repair of a hearing aid.

- b. Replacement of lost or broken hearing aids.
- c. Accessory parts and routine maintenance.
- d. Batteries.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for hearing aids. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

HEAR0AC (01-19)

### REPRODUCTIVE SUPPORT SERVICES

1. Coverage

We cover the following Services as shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”:

- a. Services for diagnosis and treatment of involuntary infertility (including X-ray and laboratory tests).
- b. Intrauterine insemination (IUI).
- c. Office administered drugs supplied and used during an office visit for IUI.

**Note:** Prescription drugs are not covered under this section. See “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if you have coverage for prescription drugs received from a Plan Pharmacy for IUI.

2. Limitations

- a. IUI coverage is limited to three (3) treatment cycles per lifetime.
- b. Services are covered only for the person who is the Member.

3. Exclusions

These exclusions apply to fertile as well as infertile individuals or couples.

- a. Any and all Services to reverse voluntary, surgically induced infertility.
- b. Acupuncture for the treatment of infertility, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for this service. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if your Group has the acupuncture benefit.
- c. Donor semen, sperm, or eggs.
- d. Any and all Services, supplies, office administered drugs, and prescription drugs received from a pharmacy related to the procurement and/or storage of semen, sperm, eggs, reproductive materials, and/or embryos, except as listed in the “Coverage” section of this benefit.
- e. Prescription drugs received from a pharmacy for infertility services unless prescription drug coverage for infertility is purchased.
- f. Any and all Services, supplies, office administered drugs, and prescription drugs received from a pharmacy that are related to conception by artificial means, except as listed in the “Coverage” section of this benefit.

This rider amends the EOC to provide limited coverage for Reproductive Support Services. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

INFT0AA (01-20)

### PREVENTIVE SERVICES RIDER

Preventive care services, as defined under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, are provided at no charge including those shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” when prescribed by a Plan Physician. Please contact **Member Services** for a complete list of covered Preventive Services.

**Note:** If you receive any other covered Services before, during, or after a preventive care visit, you may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, and Coinsurance for those Services. For example:

- You schedule a routine physical maintenance exam. During your preventive exam your provider finds a problem with your health and orders non-preventive Services to diagnose your problem (such as laboratory or radiology tests). You may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance for these additional diagnostic Services.
- You schedule a routine preventive exam. Your provider orders laboratory tests that are not preventive care Services according to the guidelines below. You may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance for these additional non-preventive Services.
- You schedule a routine well-person exam. During your exam, you discuss new symptoms with your provider, or new health concerns are discovered. You may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance for this visit.

Coverage includes, but is not limited to, preventive health care Services for the following in accordance with the A or B

recommendations of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, the Health Resources Services Administration women’s preventive services guidelines, and those preventive services mandates required by state law, for the particular preventive health care Service:

1. Office visits for preventive care Services.
2. Alcohol misuse screening and behavioral counseling interventions for adults by your primary care provider.
3. Cervical cancer screening.
4. Breast cancer screening.
5. Blood pressure screening.
6. Cholesterol screening.
7. Colorectal cancer screening.
8. Prostate cancer screening.
9. Immunizations pursuant to the schedule established by the ACIP.
10. Tobacco use screening, counseling, cessation attempt services, FDA-approved tobacco cessation medications, and the Colorado QuitLine.
11. Type 2 diabetes screening for adults with high blood pressure.
12. Diet counseling for adults with hyperlipidemia and at higher risk for cardiovascular and diet-related chronic disease.
13. Cervical cancer vaccines.
14. Influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations.
15. Approved Affordable Care Act contraceptive categories.

“ACIP” means the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention in the federal Department of Health and Human Services, or any successor entity. Go to [cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/](http://cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/). For a list of preventive services that have a rating of A or B from the U.S. Preventive Task Force, go to [uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Name/uspstf-a-and-b-recommendations/](http://uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Name/uspstf-a-and-b-recommendations/). For the Health Resources and Services Administration women’s preventive services guidelines, go to [hrsa.gov/womensguidelines/](http://hrsa.gov/womensguidelines/).

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for preventive Services. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

PV0AD (01-20)

RX0BL

### PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT

**NOTE:** When used in this Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement, the term “preferred” refers to drugs that are included in the Health Plan drug formulary. The term “non-preferred” refers to drugs that are not included in the Health Plan drug formulary.

Please refer to the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” in this booklet for the specific Copayments, Coinsurance, Deductible, and supply limits that apply to the covered prescription drugs described below.

#### 1. Coverage

Prescribed covered drugs are provided at the applicable prescription drug Copayment or Coinsurance for each tier of drug coverage. This may include: a preferred generic drug tier; a tier for preferred brand-name drugs or medications not having a generic or a generic equivalent; a tier for prescribed non-preferred drugs authorized through the non-preferred drug process; and a tier for certain specialty drugs. **Note:** Some specialty drugs are available in other tiers. To learn more, please visit our website at [kp.org/formulary](http://kp.org/formulary).

Non-Formulary Drug Exception Process:

You, your designee, or your Plan Provider may request access to clinically appropriate drugs not otherwise covered by Health Plan (non-formulary drugs) through a special exception process. We will make a coverage determination within 72 hours of receipt for standard requests and within 24 hours of receipt for expedited requests. As long as you are an active Member and the exception request is granted, Health Plan will provide coverage of the non-formulary drug for the duration of the prescription. If the exception request is denied, you, your designee, or your Plan Provider may request an external review of the decision by an independent review organization. For additional information about the prescription drug exception processes for non-formulary drugs, please contact **Member Services**.

Prescribed supplies and accessories include, but may not be limited to:

- a. Home glucose monitoring supplies.
- b. Glucose test strips.
- c. Acetone test tablets.
- d. Nitrate urine test strips for pediatric patients.
- e. Disposable syringes for the administration of insulin.

Such items are provided when obtained at Plan Pharmacies or from sources designated by Health Plan.

For Copayment or Coinsurance information related to contraceptive drugs and certain devices please refer to your “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

For each drug, the amount covered will be the lesser of the quantity prescribed or the day supply limit. Any amount you receive that exceeds the day supply will not be covered. If you receive more than the day supply limit, you will be charged as a non-Member for any prescribed amount exceeding the limit. Certain drugs have a significant potential for waste and diversion. Those drugs will be provided for up to a 30-day supply. Each prescription refill is provided on the same basis as the original prescription. Kaiser Permanente may, in its sole discretion, establish quantity limits for specific prescription drugs.

Generic drugs that are available in the United States only from a single manufacturer and that are not listed as generic in the then-current commercially available drug database(s) to which Health Plan subscribes are provided at the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance. The amount covered will be the lesser of the quantity prescribed or the day supply limit.

Prescription drugs are covered only when prescribed by a:

- a. Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies; or
- b. Physician to whom a Member has been referred by a Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies; or
- c. Dentist (when prescribed for acute conditions) and obtained at Plan Pharmacies.

Covered drugs include:

- a. Drugs for which a prescription is required by law. Plan Pharmacies may substitute a generic equivalent for a brand-name drug unless prohibited by the Plan Physician. If you request a brand-name drug when a generic equivalent drug is the preferred product, you must pay the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance, plus any difference in price between the preferred generic equivalent drug prescribed by the Plan Physician and the requested brand-name drug. If the brand-name drug is prescribed due to Medical Necessity, you pay only the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance.
- b. Insulin.
- c. Renewal of prescription eye drops and one additional bottle of prescription eye drops in accordance with state law.
- d. Compounded medications. **Note:** In all Service Areas, if you use a Kaiser Permanente pharmacy, compounded medications must be picked up or mailed from the pharmacy that is designated by Health Plan. Refills of compounded medications cannot be ordered on [kp.org](http://kp.org), by mail order, or through the automated refill line. Please call **303-764- 4900 (TTY 711)** and press "0" to speak to the pharmacy staff for assistance. In the *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Service Areas, you may fill or refill compounded medications at a network pharmacy.

## 2. Limitations

- a. Some drugs may require prior authorization. You do not need prior authorization for any FDA-approved prescription drug listed on our formulary, for the treatment of substance use disorder.
- b. With the exception of substance use disorder drugs, we may apply Step Therapy to certain drugs. You or your Plan Provider may request an exception if you previously tried a drug and your use of the drug was discontinued due to lack of efficacy or effectiveness, diminished effect, or an adverse event.
- c. Coverage determinations for the off-label use of medications will be consistent with Medicare compendia, and coverage determinations for the off-label use of oncologic agents will be consistent with the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) of 2008.

### 3. Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements Exclusions

- a. Drugs for which a prescription is not required by law.
- b. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze, tape, antiseptics, dressing and ace-type bandages.
- c. Prescription drugs necessary for Services excluded in the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement.
- d. Non-preferred drugs, except those prescribed and authorized through the non-preferred drug process.
- e. Any drugs listed as not covered in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)".
- f. Drugs to shorten the length of the common cold.
- g. Drugs to enhance athletic performance.
- h. Drugs available over the counter and by prescription for the same strength.
- i. Individual drugs determined excluded by our Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.
- j. Drugs for the treatment of weight control.
- k. Any prescription drug packaging except the dispensing pharmacy's standard packaging.
- l. Replacement of prescription drugs for any reason. This includes spilled, lost, damaged, or stolen prescriptions.
- m. Drugs administered during a medical office visit.
- n. Medical Foods and Medical Devices.
- o. Unless approved by Health Plan, drugs not approved by the FDA.

This rider amends the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement to provide coverage for Prescription Drugs. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

# NOTES

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**Kaiser Foundation Health  
Plan of Colorado**  
2500 S. Havana St.  
Aurora, CO 80014-1622

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DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT



## Important plan information



# Evidence of Coverage

## Your Medicare Health Benefits and Services and Prescription Drug Coverage as a Member of Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Group Plan (HMO)

This booklet gives you the details about your Medicare health care and prescription drug coverage during your group's 2020 contract year. It explains how to get coverage for the health care services and prescription drugs you need. This is an important legal document. Please keep it in a safe place.

This plan, Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage, is offered by Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (Health Plan). When this Evidence of Coverage says "we," "us," or "our," it means Health Plan. When it says "plan" or "our plan," it means Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage (Senior Advantage).

This document is available for free in Spanish. Please contact our Member Services number at **1-800-476-2167** for additional information. (TTY users should call **711**.) Hours are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week.

Este documento está disponible de forma gratuita en español. Si desea información adicional, por favor llame al número de nuestro Servicio a los Miembros al **1-800-476-2167**. (Los usuarios de la línea TTY deben llamar al **711**). El horario es de 8 a. m. a 8 p. m., siete días a la semana.

This document is available in Braille, large print, or CD if you need it by calling Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

Benefits, premium, deductible, and/or copayments/coinsurance may change on January 1, 2021, and at other times in accordance with your group's agreement with us. The formulary, pharmacy network, and/or provider network may change at any time. You will receive notice when necessary.



**DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT  
MEDICARE EMPLOYEES  
EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE AMENDMENT - 2020**

- I. The following eligibility and enrollment requirements are *in addition* to those detailed in this Evidence of Coverage (EOC), Eligibility and Enrollment section:**

**ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT**

**Eligible Dependents**

Dependent is any spouse, including those defined as common-law under the state, Same Gender Domestic Partner (a.k.a. Spousal Equivalent), or child meeting the Dependent Age Limits, below (including a step-child, child for whom the Insured Employee, his/her spouse, or his/her Same Gender Domestic Partner (a.k.a. Spousal Equivalent), is required by a qualified medical child support order to provide health care coverage (even if the child does not reside at the same legal residence of the parent), or adopted child or child placed for adoption), or unmarried incapacitated and physically disabled children who are legal dependents of the Insured Employee or legal dependents of a Same Gender Domestic Partner (a.k.a. Spousal Equivalent), of an Insured Employee, who meet the eligibility requirements set forth in the Summary Plan Description and Disclosure Form and for whom applicable Dues are received.

Dependent Child Age Limits: A child shall be covered to the end of the month that he/she turns age 26 and unmarried legal dependents who are mentally or physically disabled shall be covered regardless of age, all of whom must also be legal dependents of the Insured Employee or of a Same Gender Domestic Partner (a.k.a. Spousal Equivalent).

Same Gender Domestic Partner (a.k.a. Spousal Equivalent) is defined as an adult of the same gender who shares an emotional, physical, and financial relationship with the employee, similar to that of a spouse. A Subscriber of the group may enroll a sole Same Gender Domestic Partner (a.k.a. Spousal Equivalent) of the same sex and children of the sole Same Gender Domestic Partner (a.k.a. Spousal Equivalent) as Eligible Dependents. A sole Same Gender Domestic Partner (a.k.a. Spousal Equivalent) is a person who meets the following requirements for eligibility:

- Is 18 years of age or older;
- Is mentally competent to consent to contract;
- Has an exclusive, committed relationship with the Subscriber with the intent for the relationship to last indefinitely;
- Shares basic living expenses with the Subscriber;
- Is unmarried; and
- Is not related by blood to the Subscriber such as a parent, brother, sister, half brother, half sister, niece, nephew, aunt, uncle, grandparent or grandchild.

- II. The following requirements regarding Domestic Partnership coverage supersede those detailed in the Domestic Partner rider found at the end of this Evidence of Coverage (EOC) booklet:**

The Subscriber and the sole Same Gender Domestic Partner (a.k.a. Spousal Equivalent) must complete an affidavit of Domestic Partnership confirming the following information:

- The partners have an exclusive, committed relationship and hold ourselves out as committed partners.
- Both partners share basic living expenses with the intent for the relationship to last indefinitely;
- Are both 18 years of age or older;
- Neither partner is married;
- Neither partner is related by blood to the other as described above; and
- Neither partner has had a different domestic partner within six (6) months of filing with the employer a statement of termination of domestic partnership.

**The Affidavit of Domestic Partnership is available through the Group's Benefit Manager and will be maintained by the employer. The Employee agrees to immediately notify the employer in writing if there is any change of circumstances attested to in the Affidavit.**

**III. The following information is added and becomes part of this Evidence of Coverage (EOC):**

**Employee Eligibility.** An Eligible Member is a retired classified member of the Denver Police Department (Group), who is age 65 or older and who is eligible for Medicare ("Retiree"), and who meets any other eligibility requirements of the Group. Retirees must live in the Service Area.


The following conditions of enrollment and eligibility shall be applicable to subscribing Group in addition to the conditions specified above and in the attached Evidence of Coverage brochure. To the extent that any of the following conditions contradict those stated in the attached Evidence of Coverage brochure, the following shall prevail:





**Eligibility Rules:** No waiting period




**Please NOTE that while active Police officers can live or work in the Service Area, Retirees MUST live in the Service Area.**



# Medical Benefits Chart: Kaiser Permanente Group Senior Advantage (HMO)

DPD DHMO RET PRE 65 NC  
68 - 041



Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<b>Annual Deductible</b>	No Medical Deductible
<b>Annual out-of-pocket maximum</b>	\$2,500/Individual per year
 <b>Abdominal aortic aneurysm screening</b> A one-time screening ultrasound for people at risk. Our plan only covers this screening if you have certain risk factors and if you get a referral for it from your physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner, or clinical nurse specialist.	There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for members eligible for this preventive screening.
<b>Alternative therapies *</b>	
Acupuncture	\$15 Copayment each visit  Limited to 12 visits for days 1-90  Limited to 8 visits for days 91-365  See Additional Provisions
<b>Ambulance services</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Covered ambulance services include fixed wing, rotary wing, and ground ambulance services, to the nearest appropriate facility that can provide care if they are furnished to a member whose medical condition is such that other means of transportation could endanger the person's health or if authorized by our plan.</li> <li>• We also cover the services of a licensed ambulance anywhere in the world without prior authorization (including transportation through the 911 emergency response system where available) if you reasonably believe that you have an emergency medical condition and you reasonably believe that your condition requires the clinical support of ambulance transport services.</li> <li>• You may need to file a claim for reimbursement unless the provider agrees to bill us (see Chapter 7).</li> <li>• † Non-emergency transportation by ambulance is appropriate if it is documented that the member's condition is such that other means of transportation could endanger the person's health and that transportation by ambulance is medically required.</li> </ul>	20% Coinsurance Up to \$195 per trip

<p align="center"><b>Services that are covered for you</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b></p>
<p> <b>Annual routine physical exams</b></p> <p>Routine physical exams are covered if the exam is medically appropriate preventive care in accord with generally accepted professional standards of practice. This exam is covered once every 12 months.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for this preventive care.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p> <b>Annual wellness visit</b></p> <p>If you've had Part B for longer than 12 months, you can get an annual wellness visit to develop or update a personalized prevention plan based on your current health and risk factors. This is covered once every 12 months.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Your first annual wellness visit can't take place within 12 months of your "Welcome to Medicare" preventive visit. However, you don't need to have had a "Welcome to Medicare" visit to be covered for annual wellness visits after you've had Part B for 12 months.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the annual wellness visit.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p> <b>Bone-mass measurement</b></p> <p>For qualified individuals (generally, this means people at risk of losing bone mass or at risk of osteoporosis), the following services are covered every 24 months or more frequently if medically necessary: procedures to identify bone mass, detect bone loss, or determine bone quality, including a physician's interpretation of the results.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for Medicare-covered bone mass measurement.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p> <b>Breast cancer screening (mammograms)</b></p> <p>Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One baseline mammogram between the ages of 35 and 39.</li> <li>• One screening mammogram every 12 months for women age 40 and older.</li> <li>• Clinical breast exams once every 24 months.</li> </ul>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for covered screening mammograms.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>


Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p><b>Cardiac rehabilitation services†</b></p> <p>Comprehensive programs for cardiac rehabilitation services that include exercise, education, and counseling are covered for members who meet certain conditions with a doctor's order.</p> <p>Our plan also covers intensive cardiac rehabilitation programs that are typically more rigorous or more intense than cardiac rehabilitation programs.</p>	
<p>Individual therapy visits.</p>	<p>\$20 Copayment each visit or \$30 Copayment each visit Copayment dependent upon provider type</p>
<p>Group therapy visits.</p>	<p>Your primary care office visit copayment or \$10, whichever is less.</p>
<p> <b>Cardiovascular disease risk reduction visit (therapy for cardiovascular disease)</b></p> <p>We cover one visit per year with your primary care doctor to help lower your risk for cardiovascular disease. During this visit, your doctor may discuss aspirin use (if appropriate), check your blood pressure, and give you tips to make sure you're eating healthy.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the intensive behavioral therapy cardiovascular disease preventive benefit.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p> <b>Cardiovascular disease testing</b></p> <p>Blood tests for the detection of cardiovascular disease (or abnormalities associated with an elevated risk of cardiovascular disease) once every five years (60 months).</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for this cardiovascular disease testing that is covered once every five years.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p> <b>Cervical and vaginal cancer screening</b></p> <p>Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For all women: Pap tests and pelvic exams are covered once every 24 months.</li> <li>• If you are at high risk of cervical or vaginal cancer or you are of childbearing age and have had an abnormal Pap test within the past three years: one Pap test every 12 months.</li> </ul>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for Medicare-covered preventive Pap and pelvic exams.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>


<p align="center"><b>Services that are covered for you</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b></p>
<p><b>Chiropractic services</b> Covered services include: We cover only manual manipulation of the spine to correct subluxation. These Medicare-covered services are provided by a participating chiropractor. Please refer to your <b>Provider Directory</b> for participating chiropractors providing the Medicare-covered services.</p> <p>If purchased by your group, supplemental chiropractic services.</p> <p>Laboratory Services or X-rays required for Chiropractic care</p>	<p>Your primary care office visit copayment or \$20 whichever is less. Referral required.</p> <p>\$20 Copayment each visit Limited to 20 visits per Accumulation Period See Additional Provisions</p> <p>See Outpatient diagnostic tests and therapeutic services and supplies</p>
<p> <b>Colorectal cancer screening</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For people 50 and older, the following are covered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Flexible sigmoidoscopy (or screening barium enema as an alternative) every 48 months.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• One of the following every 12 months: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Guaiac-based fecal occult blood test (gFOBT).</li> <li>◆ Fecal immunochemical test (FIT).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• DNA-based colorectal screening every 3 years.</li> <li>• For people at high risk of colorectal cancer, we cover a screening colonoscopy (or screening barium enema as an alternative) every 24 months.</li> <li>• For people not at high risk of colorectal cancer, we cover a screening colonoscopy every 10 years (120 months), but not within 48 months of a screening sigmoidoscopy.</li> </ul>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for a Medicare-covered colorectal cancer screening exam.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p><b>Dental services (from designated providers)*</b></p>	<p>Please see the Additional Provisions in the back of this booklet to see if your group has purchased coverage for dental services.</p>
<p> <b>Depression screening</b></p> <p>We cover one screening for depression per year. The screening must be done in a primary care setting that can provide follow-up treatment and/or referrals.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for an annual depression screening visit.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>




Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p> <b>Diabetes screening</b></p> <p>We cover this screening (includes fasting glucose tests) if you have any of the following risk factors: high blood pressure (hypertension), history of abnormal cholesterol and triglyceride levels (dyslipidemia), obesity, or a history of high blood sugar (glucose). Tests may also be covered if you meet other requirements, like being overweight and having a family history of diabetes.</p> <p>Based on the results of these tests, you may be eligible for up to two diabetes screenings every 12 months.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the Medicare-covered diabetes screening tests.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p><b>Diabetes self-management, training and diabetic services and supplies</b></p> <p>For all people who have diabetes (insulin and non-insulin users), covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supplies to monitor your blood glucose: Blood glucose monitor, blood glucose test strips, lancet devices and lancets, and glucose-control solutions for checking the accuracy of test strips and monitors.</li> </ul>	<p>No charge</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For people with diabetes who have severe diabetic foot disease: One pair per calendar year of therapeutic custom-molded shoes (including inserts provided with such shoes) and two additional pairs of inserts, or one pair of depth shoes and three pairs of inserts (not including the non-customized removable inserts provided with such shoes). Coverage includes fitting.</li> </ul>	<p>No Charge</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Diabetes self-management training is covered under certain conditions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> You may choose to receive diabetes self-management training from a program outside our plan that is recognized by the American Diabetes Association and approved by Medicare. †</p>	<p>\$20 Copayment each visit or \$30 Copayment each visit copayment dependent upon provider</p>
<p><b>Durable medical equipment (DME) and related supplies</b> †</p> <p>(For a definition of “durable medical equipment,” see Chapter 12 of this booklet.)</p> <p>Covered items include, but are not limited to: wheelchairs, crutches, powered mattress systems, diabetic supplies, hospital beds ordered by a provider for use in the home, IV infusion pumps, speech generating devices, oxygen equipment, nebulizers, and walkers.</p> <p>We cover all medically necessary DME covered by Original Medicare. If our supplier in your area does not carry a particular brand or manufacturer, you may ask them if they</p>	<p>No Charge</p> <p>See Additional Provisions</p> <p>No Charge</p>

<p align="center"><b>Services that are covered for you</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b></p>
<p>can special order it for you. The most recent list of suppliers is available on our website at <a href="http://kp.org/directory">kp.org/directory</a>.</p>	
<p><b>Emergency care</b></p>	
<p>Emergency care refers to services that are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Furnished by a provider qualified to furnish emergency services, and</li> <li>• Needed to evaluate or stabilize an emergency medical condition.</li> </ul> <p>A medical emergency is when you, or any other prudent layperson with an average knowledge of health and medicine believe that you have medical symptoms that require immediate medical attention to prevent loss of life, loss of a limb, or loss of function of a limb. The medical symptoms may be an illness, injury, severe pain, or a medical condition that is quickly getting worse.</p> <p>Cost-sharing for necessary emergency services furnished out-of-network is the same as for such services furnished in-network.</p> <p><b>You have worldwide emergency care coverage.</b></p>	<p>\$50 Copayment each visit Includes X-ray special procedures.</p> <p>This copayment does not apply if you are immediately admitted directly to the hospital as an inpatient (it does apply if you are admitted to the hospital as an outpatient; for example, if you are admitted for observation).</p> <p>†If you receive emergency care at an out-of-network hospital and need inpatient care after your emergency condition is stabilized, you must return to a network hospital in order for your care to continue to be covered or you must have your inpatient care at the out-of-network hospital authorized by our plan and your cost is the cost-sharing you would pay at a network hospital.</p>

<b>Services that are covered for you</b>	<b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b>
<p><b>Fitness benefit*</b></p> <p>A health and fitness benefit is provided through SilverSneakers® Fitness Program that includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A basic fitness membership with access to all participating fitness locations and their basic amenities.</li> <li>• SilverSneakers® group fitness classes, taught by certified instructors that focus on cardiovascular health, muscle strengthening, flexibility, agility, balance, and coordination.</li> <li>• Health education events and social activities focused on overall well-being.</li> <li>• Access to <a href="http://www.silversneakers.com/member">www.silversneakers.com/member</a>, a secure online community for members only, with wellness advice and fitness support information.</li> <li>• You can enroll in SilverSneakers® Steps, a self-directed fitness program for members that includes one home kit to help you get fit at home or on the go.</li> </ul> <p>The following are not covered: programs, services, and facilities that carry additional charges, such as racquetball, tennis, and some court sports, massage therapy, lessons related to recreational sports, tournaments, and similar fee-based activities.</p> <p>For more information about SilverSneakers® and the list of participating fitness locations in your area, call toll-free <b>1-888-423-4632 (TTY 711)</b>, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (EST) or visit <a href="http://www.silversneakers.com">www.silversneakers.com</a>. Also, you can simply go to a participating fitness location and show your Senior Advantage membership card to enroll in the program.</p> <p>SilverSneakers is a registered trademark of Tivity Health, Inc.</p>	<p>No charge</p>
<p> <b>Health and wellness education programs</b></p> <p>Health and wellness programs include weight management, quitting tobacco, diabetes management, life care planning, prediabetes, and more. Registered dietitians, health coaches, certified diabetes educators, and other health professionals facilitate our classes. We offer in-person, online, and phone options to fit your learning style. Contact Member Services for more details. You can also view information online at <a href="http://kp.org">kp.org</a>.</p>	<p>No charge</p>
<p><b>Hearing services</b></p>	
<p>Diagnostic hearing and balance evaluations performed by your provider to determine if you need medical treatment</p>	<p>\$20 Copayment each visit</p>

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
are covered as outpatient care when furnished by a physician, audiologist, or other qualified provider.	
Hearing aids.	Not Covered
Fitting & Recheck visits	\$20 Copayment each visit
 <b>HIV screening</b> For people who ask for an HIV screening test or who are at increased risk for HIV infection, we cover one screening exam every 12 months. For women who are pregnant, we cover up to three screening exams during a pregnancy.	There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for members eligible for Medicare-covered preventive HIV screening.
<b>Home health agency care†</b> Prior to receiving home health services, a doctor must certify that you need home health services and will order home health services to be provided by a home health agency. You must be homebound, which means leaving home is a major effort. Covered services include but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Part-time or intermittent skilled nursing and home health aide services. To be covered under the home health care benefit, your skilled nursing and home health aide services combined must total fewer than 8 hours per day and 35 hours per week.</li> <li>• Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy.</li> <li>• Medical and social services.</li> <li>• Medical equipment and supplies.</li> </ul>	No charge  Note: There is no cost-sharing for home health care services and items provided in accord with Medicare guidelines. However, the applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply if the item is covered under a different benefit; for example, durable medical equipment not provided by a home health agency.
<b>Home infusion therapy†</b> We cover home infusion supplies and drugs if all of the following are true: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your prescription drug is on our Medicare Part D formulary (or you have a formulary exception).</li> <li>• We approved your prescription drug for home infusion therapy.</li> <li>• Your prescription is written by a network provider and filled at a network home-infusion pharmacy.</li> </ul>	No charge



<p align="center"><b>Services that are covered for you</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b></p>
<p><b>Hospice care</b>            You may receive care from any Medicare-certified hospice program. You are eligible for the hospice benefit when your doctor and the hospice medical director have given you a terminal prognosis certifying that you're terminally ill and have six months or less to live if your illness runs its normal course. Your hospice doctor can be a network provider or an out-of-network provider.</p> <p>Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drugs for symptom control and pain relief.</li> <li>• Short-term respite care.</li> <li>• Home care.</li> </ul> <p><b>*For hospice services and services that are covered by Medicare Part A or B and are related to your terminal prognosis:</b> Original Medicare (rather than our plan) will pay for your hospice services and any Part A and Part B services related to your terminal prognosis. While you are in the hospice program, your hospice provider will bill Original Medicare for the services that Original Medicare pays for.</p> <p><b>For services that are covered by Medicare Part A or B and are not related to your terminal prognosis:</b> If you need non-emergency, non-urgently needed services that are covered under Medicare Part A or B and that are not related to your terminal prognosis, your cost for these services depends on whether you use a provider in our plan's network:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you obtain the covered services from a network provider, you only pay the plan cost-sharing amount for in-network services.</li> <li>• *If you obtain the covered services from an out-of-network provider, you pay the cost-sharing under Fee-for-Service Medicare (Original Medicare).</li> </ul> <p><b>For services that are covered by our plan but are not covered by Medicare Part A or B:</b> We will continue to cover plan-covered services that are not covered under Part A or B whether or not they are related to your terminal prognosis. You pay your plan cost-sharing amount for these services.</p> <p><b>For drugs that may be covered by our plan's Part D benefit:</b> Drugs are never covered by both hospice and our plan at the same time. For more information, please see Chapter 5, Section 9.4, "What if you're in Medicare-certified hospice."</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If you need non-hospice care (care that is not related to your terminal prognosis), you should contact us to arrange the services.</p>	<p>When you enroll in a Medicare-certified hospice program, your hospice services and your Part A and Part B services related to your terminal prognosis are paid for by Original Medicare, <b>not</b> our plan.</p>


Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p><b>Hospice care for members without Part A</b></p> <p>For members without Part A, the hospice benefit described earlier in this section does not apply to members who are not enrolled in Medicare Part A. Our plan, rather than Original Medicare, covers hospice care for members who are not enrolled in Medicare Part A. Members must receive hospice services from network providers.</p>	<p>No charge</p>
<p> <b>Immunizations</b></p> <p>Covered Medicare Part B services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pneumonia vaccine.</li> <li>• Flu shots, once each flu season in the fall and winter, with additional flu shots if medically necessary.</li> <li>• Hepatitis B vaccine if you are at high or intermediate risk of getting Hepatitis B.</li> <li>• Other vaccines if you are at risk and they meet Medicare Part B coverage rules.</li> </ul> <p>We also cover some vaccines under our Part D prescription drug benefit.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the pneumonia, influenza, and Hepatitis B vaccines.</p>
<p><b>Inpatient hospital care†</b></p>	
<p>Includes inpatient acute, inpatient rehabilitation, long-term care hospitals, and other types of inpatient hospital services. Inpatient hospital care starts the day you are formally admitted to the hospital with a doctor's order. The day before you are discharged is your last inpatient day.</p> <p>There is no limit to the number of medically necessary hospital days or services that are generally and customarily provided by acute care general hospitals.</p> <p>Covered services include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Semiprivate room (or a private room if medically necessary).</li> <li>• Meals including special diets.</li> <li>• Regular nursing services.</li> <li>• Costs of special care units (such as intensive care or coronary care units).</li> <li>• Drugs and medications.</li> <li>• Lab tests.</li> <li>• X-rays and other radiology services.</li> <li>• Necessary surgical and medical supplies.</li> <li>• Use of appliances, such as wheelchairs.</li> <li>• Operating and recovery room costs.</li> <li>• Physical, occupational, and speech language therapy.</li> <li>• Inpatient substance abuse services for medical management of withdrawal symptoms associated with substance abuse (detoxification).</li> </ul>	<p>\$250 Copayment each day for days 1-2 Up to \$500 per admission</p> <p>If you get authorized inpatient care at an out-of-network hospital after your emergency condition is stabilized, your cost is the cost-sharing you would pay at a network hospital.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If you are admitted to the hospital in 2019 and are not discharged until sometime in 2020, the 2019 cost-sharing will apply to that admission until you are discharged from the hospital or transferred to a skilled nursing facility.</p>

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under certain conditions, the following types of transplants are covered: corneal, kidney, kidney-pancreatic, heart, liver, lung, heart/lung, bone marrow, stem cell, and intestinal/multivisceral. If you need a transplant, we will arrange to have your case reviewed by a Medicare-approved transplant center that will decide whether you are a candidate for a transplant. Transplant providers may be local or outside of the service area. If our in-network transplant services are outside the community pattern of care, you may choose to go locally as long as the local transplant providers are willing to accept the Original Medicare rate. If we provide transplant services at a location outside the pattern of care for transplants in your community, and you choose to obtain transplants at this distant location, we will arrange or pay for appropriate lodging and transportation costs for you and a companion. <b>Note:</b> Travel and lodging expenses must be authorized by Medical Group when a network physician refers you to an out-of-network provider outside our service area for transplant services. We will pay certain expenses that we preauthorize in accord with our travel and lodging guidelines. For information specific to your situation, please contact your assigned Transplant Coordinator or call the Transplant Administrative Offices at <b>1-877-895-2705</b> (TTY users may call <b>711</b>).</li> <li>• Blood - including storage and administration.</li> <li>• Physician services</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> To be an “inpatient,” your provider must write an order to admit you formally as an inpatient of the hospital. Even if you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an “outpatient.” If you are not sure if you are an “inpatient,” or an “outpatient,” you should ask the hospital staff. You can also find more information in a Medicare fact sheet called, “<i>Are You a Hospital Inpatient or Outpatient? If You Have Medicare – Ask!</i>” This fact sheet is available on the Web at <a href="https://www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/11435.pdf">https://www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/11435.pdf</a> or by calling <b>1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)</b>. TTY users call <b>1-877-486-2048</b>. You can call these numbers for free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p>	
<b>Inpatient substance abuse treatment†</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Substance abuse inpatient medical detoxification.</li> </ul>	\$250 Copayment each day for days 1-2 Up to \$500 per admission
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Substance abuse inpatient rehabilitation.</li> </ul>	\$250 Copayment per day Up to \$500 per inpatient admission

<b>Services that are covered for you</b>	<b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b>
<b>Inpatient mental health care†</b>	
<p>Covered services include mental health care services that require a hospital stay.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We cover up to 190-days per lifetime for inpatient stays in a Medicare-certified psychiatric hospital. The number of covered lifetime hospitalization days is reduced by the number of inpatient days for mental health treatment previously covered by Medicare in a psychiatric hospital.</li> <li>• The 190-day limit does not apply to mental health stays in a psychiatric unit of a general hospital.</li> </ul>	<p>\$250 Copayment each day for days 1-2 Up to \$500 per admission</p>
<b>Inpatient stay: Covered services received in a hospital or SNF during a non-covered inpatient stay†</b>	
<p>If you have exhausted your inpatient mental health or skilled nursing facility (SNF) benefits or if the inpatient stay is not reasonable and necessary, we will not cover your inpatient or SNF stay. However, in some cases, we will cover certain services you receive while you are in the the hospital or SNF. Covered services include but are not limited to:</p> <p>Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physician services.</li> <li>• Diagnostic tests (like lab tests).</li> <li>• X-ray, radium, and isotope therapy including technician materials and services.</li> <li>• Surgical dressings.</li> <li>• Splints, casts and other devices used to reduce fractures and dislocations.</li> <li>• Prosthetics and orthotics devices (other than dental) that replace all or part of an internal body organ (including contiguous tissue), or all or part of the function of a permanently inoperative or malfunctioning internal body organ, including replacement or repairs of such devices.</li> <li>• Leg, arm, back, and neck braces; trusses; and artificial legs, arms, and eyes (including adjustments, repairs, and replacements required because of breakage, wear, loss, or a change in the patient's physical condition).</li> <li>• Physical therapy, speech therapy, and occupational therapy.</li> </ul>	<p>Medicare Part B medical services, will be covered as described under their respective benefit headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physician services, including doctor office visits.</li> <li>• Outpatient diagnostic tests and therapeutic services and supplies.</li> <li>• Prosthetic devices and related supplies.</li> <li>• Outpatient rehabilitation services.</li> <li>• Physical therapy, speech therapy, and occupational therapy.</li> </ul>



<b>Services that are covered for you</b>	<b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b>
<p> <b>Medical nutrition therapy</b></p> <p>This benefit is for people with diabetes, renal (kidney) disease (but not on dialysis), or after a kidney transplant when ordered by your doctor.</p> <p>We cover three hours of one-on-one counseling services during your first year that you receive medical nutrition therapy services under Medicare (this includes our plan, any other Medicare Advantage plan, or Original Medicare), and two hours each year after that. If your condition, treatment, or diagnosis changes, you may be able to receive more hours of treatment with a physician's order. A physician must prescribe these services and renew his or her order yearly if your treatment is needed into the next calendar year.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for members-eligible for Medicare-covered medical nutrition therapy services.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p> <b>Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program (MDPP)</b></p> <p>MDPP services will be covered for eligible Medicare beneficiaries under all Medicare health plans.</p> <p>MDPP is a structured health behavior change intervention that provides practical training in long-term dietary change, increased physical activity, and problem-solving strategies for overcoming challenges to sustaining weight loss and a healthy lifestyle.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the MDPP benefit.</p>

<b>Services that are covered for you</b>	<b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b>
<p><b>Medicare Part B prescription drugs†</b></p> <p>These drugs are covered under Part B of Original Medicare. Members of our plan receive coverage for these drugs through our plan. Covered drugs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drugs that usually are not self-administered by the patient and are injected or infused while you are getting physician, hospital outpatient, or ambulatory surgical center services.</li> <li>• Antigens.</li> <li>• Intravenous Immune Globulin for the home treatment of primary immune deficiency diseases.</li> </ul>	<p>No Charge</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clotting factors you give yourself by injection if you have hemophilia.</li> <li>• Drugs you take using durable medical equipment (such as nebulizers) that was authorized by the plan.</li> <li>• Immunosuppressive drugs, if you were enrolled in Medicare Part A at the time of the organ transplant.</li> <li>• Injectable osteoporosis drugs, if you are homebound, have a bone fracture that a doctor certifies was related to post-menopausal osteoporosis, and cannot self-administer the drug.</li> <li>• Certain oral anti-cancer drugs and anti-nausea drugs.</li> <li>• Certain drugs for home dialysis, including heparin, the antidote for heparin when medically necessary, topical anesthetics, and erythropoiesis-stimulating agents (such as Epogen®, Procrit®, Epoetin Alfa, Aranesp®, or Darbepoetin Alfa).</li> </ul> <p>Chapter 5 explains the Part D prescription drug benefit, including rules you must follow to have prescriptions covered. What you pay for your Part D prescription drugs through our plan is explained in Chapter 6.</p>	<p>You pay the same cost-sharing for these Part B drugs when dispensed through a network pharmacy as reflected in the prescription drug section below.</p>
<p> <b>Obesity screening and therapy to promote sustained weight loss</b></p> <p>If you have a body mass index of 30 or more, we cover intensive counseling to help you lose weight. This counseling is covered if you get it in a primary care setting, where it can be coordinated with your comprehensive prevention plan. Talk to your primary care doctor or practitioner to find out more.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for preventive obesity screening and therapy.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>


<b>Services that are covered for you</b>	<b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b>
<p><b>Opioid treatment program services†</b></p> <p>Opioid use disorder treatment services are covered under Part B of Original Medicare. Members of our plan receive coverage for these services through our plan. Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FDA-approved opioid agonist and antagonist treatment medications and the dispensing and administration of such medications, if applicable.</li>   <li>• Substance use counseling</li> <li>• Individual and group therapy.</li> <li>• Toxicology testing.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Office administered Medicare Part B treatment medications:</b> See “Medicare Part B prescription drugs”</p> <p><b>Dispensing and administration:</b> You will pay one Outpatient substance abuse services copayment per month</p> <p>See Specialty care visits under “Physician/practitioner services, including doctor’s office visits”</p>
<p><b>Outpatient diagnostic tests and therapeutic services and supplies</b></p> <p>Covered services include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laboratory tests.</li> <li>• †Blood -including storage and administration.</li> </ul>	<p>No charge</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• †Surgical supplies, such as dressings.</li> <li>• †Splints, casts, and other devices used to reduce fractures and dislocations.</li> </ul>	<p>20% Coinsurance</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• †X-rays.</li> </ul>	<p>No Charge, per x-ray</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• †Other outpatient diagnostic tests — special procedures such as MRI, CT, PET scans and nuclear medicine.</li> </ul>	<p>\$100 Copayment per procedure</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• †Radiation (radium and isotope) therapy, including technician, materials and supplies</li> </ul>	<p>\$30 Copayment</p>
<p><b>Note:</b> Unless the provider has written an order to admit you as an inpatient to the hospital, you are an outpatient and pay the cost-sharing amounts for outpatient hospital services. Even if you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an “outpatient.” If you are not sure if you are an outpatient, you should ask the hospital staff. You can also find more information in a Medicare fact sheet called, “Are You a Hospital Inpatient or Outpatient? If You Have Medicare – Ask!” This fact sheet is available on the Web at</p> <p><a href="https://www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/11435.pdf">https://www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/11435.pdf</a> or by calling <b>1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)</b>. TTY users call <b>1-877-486-2048</b>. You can call these numbers for free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p>	

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p><b>Outpatient hospital observation</b></p> <p>Observation services are hospital outpatient services given to determine if you need to be admitted as an inpatient or can be discharged.</p> <p>For outpatient hospital observation services to be covered, they must meet the Medicare criteria and be considered reasonable and necessary. Observation services are covered only when provided by the order of a physician or another individual authorized by state licensure law and hospital staff bylaws to admit patients to the hospital or order outpatient tests.</p>	<p>No charge</p> <p>Note: There's no additional charge for outpatient observation stays when transferred for observation from an Emergency Department or outpatient surgery.</p>
<p>Note: Unless the provider has written an order to admit you as an inpatient to the hospital, you are an outpatient and pay the cost-sharing amounts for outpatient hospital services. Even if you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an "outpatient." If you are not sure if you are an outpatient, you should ask the hospital staff. You can also find more information in a Medicare fact sheet called "Are You a Hospital Inpatient or Outpatient? If You Have Medicare – Ask!" This fact sheet is available on the Web at <a href="https://www.medicare.gov/sites/default/files/2018-09/11435-Are-You-an-Inpatient-or-Outpatient.pdf">https://www.medicare.gov/sites/default/files/2018-09/11435-Are-You-an-Inpatient-or-Outpatient.pdf</a> or by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users call 1-877-486-2048. You can call these numbers for free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p>	
<p><b>Outpatient hospital services†</b></p> <p>Outpatient hospital services at designated facilities, including but not limited to: electroencephalogram, sleep study, stress test, pulmonary function test, any treatment room.</p>	<p>\$200 Copayment each visit</p>
<p>Note: Unless the provider has written an order to admit you as an inpatient to the hospital, you are an outpatient and pay the cost-sharing amounts for outpatient hospital services. Even if you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an "outpatient." If you are not sure if you are an outpatient, you should ask the hospital staff. You can also find more information in a Medicare fact sheet called "Are You a Hospital Inpatient or Outpatient? If You Have Medicare – Ask!" This fact sheet is available on the Web at <a href="https://www.medicare.gov/sites/default/files/2018-09/11435-Are-You-an-Inpatient-or-Outpatient.pdf">https://www.medicare.gov/sites/default/files/2018-09/11435-Are-You-an-Inpatient-or-Outpatient.pdf</a> or by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users call 1-877-486-2048. You can call these numbers for free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p>	


Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p><b>Outpatient mental health care</b> Covered services include:</p> <p>Mental health services provided by a state-licensed psychiatrist or doctor, clinical psychologist, clinical social worker, clinical nurse specialist, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or other Medicare-qualified mental health care professional as allowed under applicable state laws.</p>	
<p>Outpatient individual therapy (includes visits to monitor outpatient drug therapy).</p> <p>“Partial hospitalization” is a structured program of active psychiatric treatment, provided in a hospital outpatient setting or by a community mental health center that is more intense than the care received in your doctor’s or therapist’s office and is an alternative to inpatient hospitalization.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Because there are no community mental health centers in our network, we cover partial hospitalization only in a hospital outpatient setting.</p>	<p>\$20 Copayment each visit</p> <p>\$20 Copayment per partial hospitalization day</p>
<p>Outpatient group therapy.</p>	<p>50% of individual therapy Copayment</p>
<p><b>Outpatient rehabilitation services</b> Covered services include: physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech language therapy.</p> <p>Outpatient rehabilitation services are provided in various outpatient settings, such as hospital outpatient departments, independent therapist offices, and Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (CORFs)</p>	<p>\$20 Copayment each visit</p>
<p><b>Outpatient substance abuse services</b> We provide treatment and counseling services to diagnose and treat substance abuse (including individual and group therapy visits).</p>	
<p>Outpatient individual therapy</p>	<p>\$20 Copayment each visit</p> <p>\$20 Copayment per partial hospitalization day</p>
<p>Outpatient group therapy</p>	<p>50% of individual therapy Copayment</p>
<p><b>Outpatient surgery†, including services provided at hospital outpatient facilities and ambulatory surgical centers</b></p>	
<p><b>Note:</b> If you are having surgery in a hospital facility, you should check with your provider about whether you will be an inpatient or outpatient. Unless the provider writes an order to admit you as an inpatient to the hospital, you are an outpatient and pay the cost-sharing amounts for outpatient surgery. Even if you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an outpatient.</p>	<p>\$200 Copayment each surgery</p>


Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<b>Prescription drugs</b>	
Deductible for Outpatient prescription drugs	Not Applicable
Initial Coverage Stage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outpatient prescription drugs and refills copayments/coinsurance (except as listed below)</li> <li>• Total Drug Costs</li> </ul>	\$5 Generic/\$15 Non-Preferred Generic/\$40 Brand name/\$60 Non-Preferred Brand name/\$60 Specialty/No Charge injectable Part D vaccines  Up to \$4,020
Coverage Gap Stage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outpatient prescription drugs and refills copayments/coinsurance (except as listed below)</li> <li>• Out-of-Pocket Costs</li> </ul>	\$5 Generic/\$15 Non-Preferred Generic/\$40 Brand name/\$60 Non-Preferred Brand name/\$60 Specialty/No Charge injectable Part D vaccines  Up to \$6,350
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prescribed supplies and accessories.</li> </ul>	No Charge
Infertility drugs.	Not Covered
Sexual dysfunction drugs.	Not Covered
	<u>Supply Limit</u>
Day supply limit.	30 days
Mail-order supply limit.	90 days @ 2 Copayments
<b>Physician/practitioner services, including doctor's office visits</b>	
"Providers" include, but are not limited to, physicians, physician assistants and nurse practitioners.  Covered services include:  Medically necessary medical care or surgery services furnished in a physician's office, certified ambulatory surgical center, hospital outpatient department, or any other location.	
Primary care visits	\$20 Copayment each visit
Specialty care visits (doctor or nurse visit).	\$30 Copayment each visit
Second opinion by another network provider prior to surgery.	Your primary care office visit copayment or specialty care office visit copayment, as applicable.
Outpatient surgery services†	\$200 Copayment each surgery
Consultations with clinical pharmacists	\$20 Copayment each visit

<p align="center"><b>Services that are covered for you</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certain telehealth services, including for: primary and specialty care, which includes cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation, mental health care, substance abuse treatment, kidney disease, diabetes self-management, preparation for a hospital stay, and follow up visits after a hospital stay or Emergency Department visit. Services will only be provided via telehealth when deemed clinically appropriate by the network provider rendering the service. You have the option of receiving these services either through an in-person visit or via telehealth. If you choose to receive one of these services via telehealth, then you must use a network provider that currently offers the service via telehealth. We offer the following means of telehealth: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Interactive video visits for professional services when care can be provided in this format as determined by a network provider.</li> <li>◆ Scheduled telephone appointment visits for professional services when care can be provided in this format as determined by a network provider.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Telehealth services for monthly ESRD-related visits for home dialysis members in a hospital-based or critical access hospital-based renal dialysis center, renal dialysis facility, or the member's home.</li> <li>• Telehealth services for diagnosis, evaluation or treatment of symptoms of an acute stroke.</li> <li>• Brief virtual (for example, via telephone or video chat) 5- to 10-minute check-ins with your doctor, if you are an established patient and the virtual check-in is not related to an office visit within the previous 7 days, nor leads to an office visit within the next 24 hours or soonest available appointment.</li> <li>• Remote evaluation of prerecorded video and/or images you send to your doctor, including your doctor's interpretation and follow-up within 24 hours (except weekends and holidays)—if you are an established patient and the remote evaluation is not related to an office visit within the previous 7 days, nor leads to an office visit within the next 24 hours or soonest available appointment.</li> <li>• Consultation your doctor has with other physicians via telephone, internet, or electronic health record assessment—if you are an established patient.</li> </ul>	<p align="center">No Charge</p>
<p>Non-routine dental care † (covered services are limited to surgery of the jaw or related structures, setting fractures of the jaw or facial bones, extraction of teeth to prepare the jaw</p>	<p>See specialty care office visit and Outpatient surgery cost-sharing above.</p>


<b>Services that are covered for you</b>	<b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b>
for radiation treatments of neoplastic cancer disease, or services that would be covered when provided by a physician)	
Chemotherapy visits.	Your specialty care office visit copayment plus your copayment or coinsurance for office-administered drugs.
Allergy injections.	\$20 Copayment each visit Copayment may apply for allergy serum
Allergy evaluation and testing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary care visits</li> <li>• Specialty care visits</li> </ul>	\$20 Copayment each visit \$30 Copayment each visit
Group visits—Cooperative Health Care Clinic (CHCC), Drop in Group Medical Appointment (DIGMA) and group mental health and substance abuse treatments.	Your primary care office visit copayment or \$10 copayment each visit, whichever is less.
<b>Podiatry services</b>	
Covered services include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diagnosis and the medical or surgical treatment of injuries and diseases of the feet (such as hammer toe or heel spurs).</li> <li>• Routine foot care for members with certain medical conditions affecting the lower limbs.</li> </ul>	See primary care office visit, specialty care office visit, and † Outpatient surgery cost-sharing above.
 <b>Prostate cancer screening exams</b> For men age 50 and older, covered services include the following – once every 12 months: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digital rectal exam.</li> <li>• Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) test.</li> </ul>	There is no coinsurance, copayment or deductible for an annual digital rectal exam or PSA test. The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive care you receive during or subsequent to the visit.
<b>Prosthetic devices and related supplies†</b>  Devices (other than dental) that replace all or part of a body part or function. These include, but are not limited to: colostomy bags and supplies directly related to colostomy care, pacemakers, braces, prosthetic shoes, artificial limbs, and breast prostheses (including a surgical brassiere after a mastectomy). Includes certain supplies related to prosthetic devices, and repair and/or replacement of prosthetic devices. Also includes some coverage following cataract removal or cataract surgery – see “Vision care” later in this section for more detail.	
Prosthetics	No Charge
Internally implanted prosthetic devices.	(See Hospital Inpatient Care and Outpatient Care for applicable cost-sharing)
Enteral and parenteral nutrition therapy covered under Medicare.	No Charge





Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
Prosthetic arm or leg.	No Charge
Orthotic devices and related supplies.	No Charge
Oxygen	No Charge
<p><b>Pulmonary rehabilitation services.</b> †</p> <p>Comprehensive programs for pulmonary rehabilitation are covered for members who have moderate to very severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and a referral for pulmonary rehabilitation from the doctor treating the chronic respiratory disease.</p>	\$5 Copayment each visit
<p> <b>Screening and counseling to reduce alcohol misuse</b></p> <p>We cover one alcohol misuse screening for adults with Medicare (including pregnant women) who misuse alcohol, but aren't alcohol dependent.</p> <p>If you screen positive for alcohol misuse, you can get up to four brief face-to-face counseling sessions per year (if you're competent and alert during counseling) provided by a qualified primary care doctor or practitioner in a primary care setting.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment or deductible for the Medicare-covered screening and counseling to reduce alcohol misuse preventive benefit.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p><b>Screening for lung cancer with low dose computed tomography (LDCT)</b></p> <p>For qualified individuals, a LDCT is covered every 12 months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eligible members are people aged 55–77 years who have no signs or symptoms of lung cancer, but who have a history of tobacco smoking of at least 30 pack-years or who currently smoke or have quit smoking within the last 15 years, who receive a written order for LDCT during a lung cancer screening counseling and shared decision-making visit that meets the Medicare criteria for such visits and be furnished by a physician or qualified non-physician practitioner.</li> <li>• For LDCT lung cancer screenings after the initial LDCT screening, the members must receive a written order for LDCT lung cancer screening, which may be furnished during any appropriate visit with a physician or qualified non-physician practitioner. If a physician or qualified non-physician practitioner elects to provide a lung cancer screening counseling and shared decision-making visit for subsequent lung cancer screenings with LDCT, the visit must meet the Medicare criteria for such visits.</li> </ul>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the Medicare-covered counseling and shared decision-making visit or for the LDCT.</p>

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p> <b>Screening for sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and counseling to prevent STIs</b></p> <p>We cover sexually transmitted infection (STI) screenings for chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, and Hepatitis B. These screenings are covered for pregnant women and for certain people who are at increased risk for an STI when the tests are ordered by a primary care provider. We cover these tests once every 12 months or at certain times during pregnancy.</p> <p>We also cover up to two individual 20 to 30 minute, face-to-face high-intensity behavioral counseling sessions each year for sexually active adults at increased risk for STIs. We will only cover these counseling sessions as a preventive service if they are provided by a primary care provider and take place in a primary care setting, such as a doctor's office.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurances, copayment, or deductible for the Medicare-covered screening for STIs and counseling for STIs preventive benefit.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p><b>Services to treat kidney disease and conditions</b></p>	
<p>Covered services include:</p> <p>Kidney disease education services to teach kidney care and help members make informed decisions about their care.</p>	<p>\$20 Copayment each visit or \$30 Copayment each visit copayment dependent upon provider</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outpatient dialysis treatments (including dialysis treatments when temporarily out of the service area, as explained in Chapter 3).</li> <li>• Self-dialysis training (includes training for you and anyone helping you with your home dialysis treatments).</li> <li>• Home dialysis equipment and supplies.</li> <li>• Certain home support services (such as, when necessary, visits by trained dialysis workers to check on your home dialysis, to help in emergencies, and to check your dialysis equipment and water supply).</li> </ul> <p>Certain drugs for dialysis are covered under your Medicare Part B drug benefit. For information about coverage for Part B drugs, please go to the section called "Medicare Part B prescription drugs".</p>	<p>No Charge</p>

<p align="center"><b>Services that are covered for you</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>What you must pay when you get these covered services</b></p>
<p><b>Skilled nursing facility (SNF) care†</b></p> <p>(For a definition of “skilled nursing facility care,” see Chapter 12 of this booklet. Skilled nursing facilities are sometimes called “SNFs.”)</p> <p>We cover up to 100 days per benefit period of skilled inpatient services in a skilled nursing facility in accord with Medicare guidelines (a prior hospital stay is not required).</p> <p>Covered services include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Semiprivate room (or a private room if medically necessary)</li> <li>• Meals, including special diets</li> <li>• Skilled nursing services</li> <li>• Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy</li> <li>• Drugs administered to you as part of your plan of care (this includes substances that are naturally present in the body such as blood clotting factors.)</li> <li>• Blood – including storage and administration.</li> <li>• Medical and surgical supplies ordinarily provided by SNFs</li> <li>• Laboratory tests ordinarily provided by SNFs</li> <li>• X-rays and other radiology services ordinarily provided by SNFs</li> <li>• Use of appliances such as wheelchairs ordinarily provided by SNFs</li> <li>• Physician/practitioner services</li> </ul> <p>Generally, you will get your SNF care from network facilities. However, under certain conditions listed below, you may be able to pay in-network cost-sharing for a facility that isn’t a network provider, if the facility accepts our plan’s amounts for payment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A nursing home or continuing care retirement community where you were living right before you went to the hospital (as long as it provides skilled nursing facility care).</li> </ul> <p>A SNF where your spouse is living at the time you leave the hospital.</p>	<p>No Charge</p> <p>Limited to 100 days per benefit period</p> <p>A benefit period begins on the first day you go to a Medicare-covered inpatient hospital or skilled nursing facility (SNF). The benefit period ends when you haven’t been an inpatient at any hospital or SNF for 60 calendar days in a row.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If a benefit period begins in 2019 for you and does not end until sometime in 2020, the 2019 cost-sharing will continue until the benefit period ends.</p>

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p> <b>Smoking and tobacco use cessation (counseling to stop smoking or tobacco use)</b></p> <p><b>If you use tobacco, but do not have signs or symptoms of tobacco-related disease:</b> We cover two counseling quit attempts within a 12-month period as a preventive service with no cost to you. Each counseling attempt includes up to four face-to-face visits.</p> <p><b>If you use tobacco and have been diagnosed with a tobacco-related disease or are taking medicine that may be affected by tobacco:</b> We cover cessation counseling services. We cover two counseling quit attempts within a 12-month period, however, you will pay the applicable cost-sharing. Each counseling attempt includes up to four face-to-face visits.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the Medicare-covered smoking and tobacco use cessation preventive benefits.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>
<p><b>Supervised Exercise Therapy (SET)</b></p> <p>SET is covered for members who have symptomatic peripheral artery disease (PAD) and a referral for PAD from the physician responsible for PAD treatment.</p> <p>Up to 36 sessions over a 12-week period are covered if the SET program requirements are met.</p> <p>The SET program must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consist of sessions lasting 30–60 minutes, comprising a therapeutic exercise-training program for PAD in patients with claudication.</li> <li>• Be conducted in a hospital outpatient setting or a physician's office.</li> <li>• Be delivered by qualified auxiliary personnel necessary to ensure benefits exceed harms, and who are trained in exercise therapy for PAD.</li> <li>• Be under the direct supervision of a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner/clinical nurse specialist who must be trained in both basic and advanced life support techniques.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> SET may be covered beyond 36 sessions over 12 weeks for an additional 36 sessions over an extended period of time, if deemed medically necessary by a health care provider.</p>	<p>\$30 Copayment each visit</p>
<p><b>Urgently needed services</b></p>	
<p>Urgently needed services are provided to treat a non-emergency, unforeseen medical illness, injury, or condition that requires immediate medical care. Urgently needed services may be furnished by network providers or</p>	<p>\$30 Copayment each visit</p>

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<p>by out-of-network providers when network providers are temporarily unavailable or inaccessible.</p> <p>Urgently needed services received in a network urgent care department (or facility) and covered out-of-network urgent care when you are temporarily outside our service area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Inside our service area:</b> You must obtain urgent care from network providers, unless our provider network is temporarily unavailable or inaccessible due to an unusual and extraordinary circumstance (for example, major disaster).</li> <li>• <b>Outside our service area:</b> You have worldwide urgent care coverage when you travel, if you need medical attention right away for an unforeseen illness or injury and you reasonably believed that your health would seriously deteriorate if you delayed treatment until you returned to our service area.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Vision care</b></p>	
<p>Covered services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outpatient physician services for the diagnosis and treatment of diseases and injuries of the eye, including treatment for age-related macular degeneration.</li> <li>• For people with diabetes, screening for diabetic retinopathy is covered once per year.</li> </ul> <p>Original Medicare doesn't cover routine eye exams (eye refractions) for eyeglasses/contacts. However, our plan covers the following exams: Routine eye exams (eye refraction exams) to determine the need for vision correction and to provide a prescription for eyeglass lenses.</p>	
<p>Eye exams performed by an optometrist</p>	<p>\$20 Copayment each visit</p>
<p>Eye exams performed by an ophthalmologist.</p>	<p>\$30 Copayment each visit</p>
<p> For people who are at high risk of glaucoma, we will cover one glaucoma screening each year. People at high risk of glaucoma include people with a family history of glaucoma, people with diabetes, African Americans who are age 50 and older and Hispanic Americans who are 65 or older:</p> <p>Glaucoma screening once per year.</p>	<p>No charge, unless member receives the screening in conjunction with other services, such as a routine eye exam, then member will be charged the applicable copayment.</p>

Services that are covered for you	What you must pay when you get these covered services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One pair of eyeglasses or contact lenses after each cataract surgery that includes insertion of an intraocular lens. (If you have two separate cataract operations, you cannot reserve the benefit after the first surgery and purchase two eyeglasses after the second surgery.)</li> <li>• Corrective lenses/frames (and replacements) needed after a cataract removal without a lens implant. Following Medicare-covered cataract surgery, the member may use their eyewear benefit (if purchased by your group) as described below to pay for upgrades to the Medicare covered eye wear benefit. The Medicare eyewear benefit following cataract surgery is covered per Medicare guidelines.</li> </ul>	<p>No charge, unless the cost exceeds the allowed Medicare fee schedule.</p>
<p>If purchased by your group, lenses, frames, medically necessary contact lenses, or cosmetic contact lenses every two years, purchased at a network optical facility. Any part of the eyewear benefit that is not exhausted at the first point of sale may not be used at a later date. This means that any benefit dollars remaining after the first point of sale are forfeited and cannot be applied to copayments for eye exams or contact lens professional fitting fees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eyeglasses and contact lenses must be prescribed by an optometrist or ophthalmologist and purchased at a network optical facility.</li> <li>• See exclusions for eye surgery to correct refractive defects and for cosmetic contact lenses that are not medically necessary later in this section.</li> </ul>	<p>\$100 Credit every 24 months See Additional Provisions *</p>
<p> <b>“Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit</b></p> <p>We cover the one-time “Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit. The visit includes a review of your health, as well as education and counseling about the preventive services you need (including certain screenings and shots), and referrals for other care if needed.</p> <p><b>Important:</b> We cover the “Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit only within the first 12 months you have Medicare Part B. When you make your appointment, let your doctor’s office know you would like to schedule your “Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit.</p>	<p>There is no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible for the “Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit.</p> <p>The applicable cost-sharing listed elsewhere in this Medical Benefits Chart will apply to any nonpreventive services you receive during or subsequent to the visit.</p>



**2020 Evidence of Coverage**

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## **SECTION 1. Introduction**

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### **Section 1.1 You are enrolled in Senior Advantage, which is a Medicare HMO**

You are covered by Medicare, and you have chosen to get your Medicare health care and your prescription drug coverage through our plan, Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage.

There are different types of Medicare health plans. Senior Advantage is a Medicare Advantage HMO Plan (HMO stands for Health Maintenance Organization). approved by Medicare and run by a private company.

Coverage under this plan qualifies as Qualifying Health Coverage (QHC) and satisfies the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act's (ACA) individual shared responsibility requirement. Please visit the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) website at <https://www.irs.gov/Affordable-Care-Act/Individuals-and-Families> for more information.

### **Section 1.2 What is the Evidence of Coverage booklet about?**

This **Evidence of Coverage** booklet tells you how to get your Medicare medical care and prescription drugs covered through our plan. This booklet explains your rights and responsibilities, what is covered, and what you pay as a member of our plan.

If you are not certain which plan you are enrolled, please call Member Services or your group's benefit administrator.

This plan is offered by Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (Health Plan) and it includes Medicare part D prescription drug coverage. When this **Evidence of Coverage** says "we," "us," or "our," it means Health Plan. When it says "plan" or "our plan," it means Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage (Senior Advantage).

The words "coverage" and "covered services" refer to the medical care and services and the prescription drugs available to you as a member of our plan.

It's important for you to learn what our plan's rules are and what services are available to you. We encourage you to set aside some time to look through this **Evidence of Coverage** booklet.

If you are confused or concerned or just have a question, please contact Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **Section 1.3 Legal information about the Evidence of Coverage**

#### **It's part of our contract with you**

This **Evidence of Coverage** is part of our contract with you about how we cover your care. Other parts of this contract include your enrollment form, our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**, and any notices you receive from us about changes to your

coverage or conditions that affect your coverage. These notices are sometimes called "riders" or "amendments."

If your group renews on January 1<sup>st</sup>, the **Evidence of Coverage** is in effect for the months in which you are enrolled in Senior Advantage between January 1, 2020, and December 31, 2020, unless amended. If your group's agreement renews at a later date in 2020, the term of this **Evidence of Coverage** is during that contract period, unless amended. Your group can tell you the term of this **Evidence of Coverage** and whether this **Evidence of Coverage** is still in effect and give you a current one if this **Evidence of Coverage** has been amended.

Each calendar year, Medicare allows us to make changes to the plans that we offer. This means we can change the costs and benefits of our plan after December 31, 2020. We can also choose to stop offering the plan, or to offer it in a different service area, after December 31, 2020. In addition, your group can make changes to the plans and benefits it offers at any time.

### **Medicare must approve our plan each year**

Medicare (the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) must approve our plan each year. You can continue to get Medicare coverage as a member of our plan as long as we choose to continue to offer our plan and Medicare renews its approval of our plan.

## **SECTION 2. What makes you eligible to be a plan member?**

### **Section 2.1 Your eligibility requirements**

You are eligible for membership in our plan as long as:

- You have both Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B (or Medicare Part B) (Section 2.2 below tells you about Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B).
- *-and-* you live in our geographic service area (Section 2.3 below describes our service area).
- *-and-* you are a United States citizen or are lawfully present in the United States.
- *-and-* you do not have End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD), with limited exceptions, such as if you develop ESRD when you are already a member of a plan that we offer, or you were a member of a different plan that was terminated.

### **Section 2.2 What are Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B?**

When you first signed up for Medicare, you received information about what services are covered under Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B. Remember:

- Medicare Part A generally helps cover services provided by hospitals (for inpatient services), skilled nursing facilities, or home health agencies.
- Medicare Part B is for most other medical services (such as physician's services and other outpatient services) and certain items (such as durable medical equipment (DME) and supplies).

### **Section 2.3 Here is our plan service area for Senior Advantage**

Although Medicare is a federal program, our plan is available only to individuals who live in our plan service area. To remain a member of our plan, you must continue to reside in the plan service area. The service area is described below.

Our service area includes these counties in Colorado: **Larimer and Weld.**

**If you plan to move out of the service area, please contact Member Services** (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). When you move, you will have a special enrollment period that will allow you to switch to Original Medicare or enroll in a Medicare health or drug plan that is available in your new location.

It is also important to notify your group's benefits administrator and that you call Social Security if you move or change your mailing address. You can find phone numbers and contact information for Social Security in Chapter 2, Section 5.

### **Section 2.4 U.S. citizen or lawful presence**

A member of a Medicare health plan must be a U.S. citizen or lawfully present in the United States. Medicare (the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) will notify us if you are not eligible to remain a member on this basis. We must disenroll you if you do not meet this requirement.

### **Section 2.5 Group eligibility requirements**

You must meet your group's eligibility requirements that we have approved. Your group is required to inform subscribers of its eligibility requirements, such as dependent eligibility requirements (for example, your spouse).

Please note that your group might not allow enrollment to some persons who meet the requirements described under "Additional eligibility requirements" below.

#### **Additional eligibility requirements**

**Subscriber.** You may be eligible to enroll as a subscriber under this **Evidence of Coverage** if you are entitled to subscriber coverage under your Group's eligibility requirements. An example would be an employee of your Group who works at least the number of hours stated in those requirements.

If you are a subscriber under this Evidence of Coverage or a subscriber enrolled in a non-Medicare plan offered by your group, the following persons may be eligible to enroll as your dependents under this Evidence of Coverage if they meet all the other requirements described in this section 2.5:

- Your spouse. (Spouse includes a partner in a valid civil union under state law.)
- Your or your Spouse's children (including adopted children, children placed with you for adoption, and foster children) who are under the dependent limiting age. Check with your group to determine the age limit for dependents.

- Other dependent persons who meet all of the following requirements:
  - ◆ they are under the dependent limiting age as determined by your group
  - ◆ you or your spouse is the court-appointed permanent legal guardian (or was before the person reached age 18).
- Your or your spouse's unmarried children of any age who are medically certified as disabled and dependent upon you or your spouse are eligible to enroll or continue coverage as your dependents if the following requirements are met:
  - ◆ they are dependent on you or your spouse; and
  - ◆ you give us proof of the dependent's disability and dependency annually if we request it.
- Subscriber's designated beneficiaries as defined by Colorado law, if your employer elects to cover designated beneficiaries as dependents.

**Students on medical leave of absence.** Dependent children who lose dependent student status at a postsecondary educational institution due to a medically necessary leave of absence remain eligible for coverage until the earlier of (i) one year after the first day of the medically necessary leave of absence; or (ii) the date dependent coverage would otherwise terminate under the non-Medicare plan offered by your group. We must receive written certification by a treating physician of the dependent child which states 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.

**Note:** If you have dependents who do not have Medicare Part B coverage or for some other reason are not eligible to enroll under this Evidence of Coverage, you may be able to enroll them as your dependents under a non-Medicare plan offered by your group. Please contact your group for details, including eligibility and benefit information, and to request a copy of the non-Medicare plan document.

If your plan has different eligibility requirements, please see "Additional Provisions."

## **Section 2.5 When you can enroll and when coverage begins**

Your group is required to inform you when you are eligible to enroll and what your effective date of coverage is under this **Evidence of Coverage**. If you are eligible to enroll as described in this section, enrollment is permitted and membership begins at the beginning (12 a.m.) of the effective date of coverage, except that:

- Your group may have additional requirements that we have approved, which allow enrollment in other situations.
- The effective date of your Senior Advantage coverage under this **Evidence of Coverage** must be confirmed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, as described under "Effective date of Senior Advantage coverage" in this section.

If you are a subscriber under this **Evidence of Coverage** and you have dependents who do not have Medicare Part B coverage or for some other reason are not eligible to enroll under this **Evidence of Coverage**, you may be able to enroll them as your dependents under a non-



Medicare plan offered by your group. Please contact your group for details, including eligibility and benefit information, and to request a copy of the non-Medicare plan document.

If you are eligible to be a dependent under this **Evidence of Coverage** but the subscriber in your family is enrolled under a non-Medicare plan offered by your group, the subscriber must follow the rules applicable to subscribers who are enrolling dependents in this Section 2.5.

### **Effective date of Senior Advantage coverage**

After we receive your completed Senior Advantage enrollment form, we will submit your enrollment request to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services for confirmation and send you a notice indicating the proposed effective date of your Senior Advantage coverage under this **Evidence of Coverage**.

If CMS confirms your Senior Advantage enrollment and effective date, we will send you a notice that confirms your enrollment and effective date. If CMS tell us that you do not have Medicare Part B coverage, we will notify you that you will be disenrolled from Senior Advantage.

### **New subscribers**

When your group informs you that you are eligible to enroll as a subscriber, you may enroll yourself and any eligible dependent by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application and a Senior Advantage enrollment form for each person to your group within 31 days after you become eligible, or as otherwise specified by your group.

**Effective date of Senior Advantage coverage.** The effective date of Senior Advantage coverage for new subscribers and their eligible family dependents is determined by your group, subject to confirmation by CMS.

Employees who are not enrolled when newly eligible must wait until the next open enrollment period to become members of Health Plan, unless: (i) they enroll under special circumstances, as agreed to by your group and Health Plan or (ii) they enroll under the provisions described in "Special Enrollment Due to Loss of Other Coverage" below.

### **Adding new dependents to an existing account**

To enroll a dependent who first becomes eligible to enroll after you became a subscriber (such as a new spouse, a newborn child, or a newly adopted child), you must submit a Health Plan-approved enrollment form and a Senior Advantage enrollment form to your group within 31 days after the dependent first becomes eligible, or as otherwise specified by your group.

Dependents who are not enrolled when newly eligible must wait until the next open enrollment period to become members of Health Plan, unless: (i) they enroll under special circumstances, as agreed to by your group and Health Plan or (ii) they enroll under the provisions described in "Special Enrollment Due to Loss of Other Coverage" below.

**Effective date of Senior Advantage coverage.** The effective date of coverage for newly acquired dependents is determined by your group, subject to confirmation by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

### **Group open enrollment**



You may enroll as a subscriber (along with any eligible dependents), and existing subscribers may add eligible dependents, by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application and a Senior Advantage enrollment form for each person to your group during your group's open enrollment period. Your group will let you know when the open enrollment period begins and ends and the effective date of coverage, which is subject to confirmation by CMS.

### **Special enrollment**

If you do not enroll when you are first eligible and later want to enroll, you can enroll only during open enrollment unless you become eligible as described in this "Special enrollment" section.

### **Special enrollment events**

You may enroll as a subscriber (along with any eligible dependents), and existing subscribers may add eligible dependents, by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application and a Senior Advantage enrollment form for each person to your group within 31 days after the enrolling persons lose other coverage, if:

The enrolling persons had other coverage when you previously declined Health Plan coverage for them (some groups require you to have stated in writing when declining Health Plan coverage that other coverage was the reason); and the loss of the other coverage is due to one of the following: For a comprehensive list of qualifying events for special enrollment see your Group's administrator to obtain a copy of your Group's **Evidence of Coverage**.

### **Open enrollment**

You may enroll as a subscriber (along with any eligible dependents), and existing subscribers may add eligible dependents, by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application and a Senior Advantage enrollment form for each person to your group during your group's open enrollment period. Your group will let you know when the open enrollment period begins and ends and the membership effective date, which is subject to confirmation by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

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## **SECTION 3. What other materials will you get from us?**

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<h3><b>Section 3.1 Your plan membership card—use it to get all covered care and prescription drugs</b></h3>
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While you are a member of our plan, you must use your membership card for our plan whenever you get any services covered by our plan and for prescription drugs you get at network pharmacies. You should also show the provider your Medicaid card, if applicable. Here's a sample membership card to show you what yours will look like:



As long as you are a member of our plan, in most cases, **you must not use your red, white, and blue Medicare card** to get covered medical services (with the exception of routine clinical research studies and hospice services). You may be asked to show your new Medicare card if you need hospital services. Keep your red, white, and blue Medicare card in a safe place in case you need it later.

**Here's why this is so important:** If you get covered services using your red, white, and blue Medicare card instead of using your Senior Advantage membership card while you are a plan member, you may have to pay the full cost yourself.

If your plan membership card is damaged, lost, or stolen, call Member Services right away and we will send you a new card. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

### Section 3.2 The Provider Directory: Your guide to all providers in our network

The **Provider Directory** lists our network providers and durable medical equipment suppliers.

#### What are "network providers"?

Network providers are the doctors and other health care professionals, medical groups, durable medical equipment suppliers, hospitals, and other health care facilities that have an agreement with us to accept our payment and any plan cost-sharing as payment in full. We have arranged for these providers to deliver covered services to members in our plan. The most recent list of providers and suppliers is available on our website at [kp.org/directory](http://kp.org/directory).

#### Why do you need to know which providers are part of our network?

It is important to know which providers are part of our network because, with limited exceptions, while you are a member of our plan you must use network providers to get your medical care and services. The only exceptions are emergencies, urgently needed services when the network is not available (generally, when you are out of the area), out-of-area dialysis services, and cases in which our plan authorizes use of out-of-network providers. See Chapter 3, "Using our plan's coverage for your medical services," for more specific information about emergency, out-of-network, and out-of-area coverage.

If you don't have your copy of the **Provider Directory**, you can request a copy from Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You may ask Member Services for more information about our network providers, including their qualifications. You

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**

can view or download the **Provider Directory** at [kp.org/directory](http://kp.org/directory). Both Member Services and our website can give you the most up-to-date information about our network providers.

### **Section 3.3 The Pharmacy Directory: Your guide to pharmacies in our network**

#### **What are "network pharmacies"?**

Network pharmacies are all of the pharmacies that have agreed to fill covered prescriptions for our plan members.

#### **Why do you need to know about network pharmacies?**

Our network has changed more than usual for 2020. An updated **Pharmacy Directory** is located on our website at [kp.org](http://kp.org). You may also call Member Services for updated provider information or to ask us to mail you a current **Pharmacy Directory**. We strongly suggest that you review our current **Pharmacy Directory** to see if your pharmacy is still in our network. This is important because, with few exceptions, you must get your prescriptions filled at a network pharmacy if you want our plan to cover (help pay for) them.

The **Pharmacy Directory** will also tell you which of the pharmacies in our network have preferred cost-sharing, which may be lower than the standard cost-sharing offered by other network pharmacies for some drugs.

If you don't have the **Pharmacy Directory**, you can get a copy from Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). At any time, you can call Member Services to get up-to-date information about changes in the pharmacy network. You can also find this information on our website at [kp.org/directory](http://kp.org/directory).

### **Section 3.4 Our plan's list of covered drugs (formulary)**

Our plan has a **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**. We call it the "Drug List" for short. It tells you which Part D prescription drugs are covered under the Part D benefit included in our plan. The drugs on this list are selected by our plan with the help of a team of doctors and pharmacists. The list must meet requirements set by Medicare. Medicare has approved our Drug List. The Drug List also tells you if there are any rules that restrict coverage for your drugs.

We will provide you a copy of our Drug List. To get the most complete and current information about which drugs are covered, you can visit our website ([kp.org](http://kp.org)) or call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **Section 3.5 The Part D Explanation of Benefits (the "Part D EOB"): Reports with a summary of payments made for your Part D prescription drugs**

When you use your Part D prescription drug benefits, we will send you a summary report to help you understand and keep track of payments for your Part D prescription drugs. This summary report is called the **Part D Explanation of Benefits** (or the "**Part D EOB**").

The **Part D EOB** tells you the total amount you, or others on your behalf, have spent on your Part D prescription drugs and the total amount we have paid for each of your Part D prescription drugs during the month. Chapter 6 ("What you pay for your Part D prescription drugs") gives you more information about the **Part D EOB** and how it can help you keep track of your drug coverage.

A **Part D EOB** summary is also available upon request. To get a copy, please contact Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You can also choose to get your **Part D EOB** online instead of by mail. Please visit [kp.org/goinggreen](http://kp.org/goinggreen) and sign on to learn more about choosing to view your **Part D EOB** securely online.

## **SECTION 4. Your monthly premium for our plan**

### **Section 4.1 How much is your plan premium?**

#### **Plan premiums**

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

## **SECTION 5. Do you have to pay the Part D "late enrollment penalty"?**

### **Section 5.1 What is the Part D "late enrollment penalty"?**

**Note:** If you receive "Extra Help" from Medicare to pay for your prescription drugs, you will not pay a late enrollment penalty.

The late enrollment penalty is an amount that is added to your Part D premium. You may owe a Part D late enrollment penalty if at any time after your initial enrollment period is over, there is a period of 63 days or more in a row when you did not have Part D or other creditable prescription drug coverage. "Creditable prescription drug coverage" is coverage that meets Medicare's minimum standards since it is expected to pay, on average, at least as much as Medicare's standard prescription drug coverage. The cost of the late enrollment penalty depends upon how

long you went without Part D or creditable prescription drug coverage. You will have to pay this penalty for as long as you have Part D coverage.

If you are required to pay a Part D late enrollment penalty, your group will inform you the amount that you will be required to pay your group.

If you do not pay your Part D late enrollment penalty, you could lose your prescription drug benefits for failure to pay your plan premium.

### **Section 5.2 How much is the Part D late enrollment penalty?**

Medicare determines the amount of the penalty. Here is how it works:

- First count the number of full months that you delayed enrolling in a Medicare drug plan, after you were eligible to enroll. Or count the number of full months in which you did not have creditable prescription drug coverage, if the break in coverage was 63 days or more. The penalty is 1% for every month that you didn't have creditable coverage. For example, if you go 14 months without coverage, the penalty will be 14%.
- Then Medicare determines the amount of the average monthly premium for Medicare drug plans in the nation from the previous year. For 2020, this average premium amount is \$32.74.
- To calculate your monthly penalty, you multiply the penalty percentage and the average monthly premium, and then round it to the nearest 10 cents. In the example here, it would be 14% times \$32.74, which equals \$4.58. This rounds to \$4.60. This amount would be added to the monthly premium for someone with a Part D late enrollment penalty.

There are three important things to note about this monthly Part D late enrollment penalty:

- First, the penalty may change each year because the average monthly premium can change each year. If the national average premium (as determined by Medicare) increases, your penalty will increase.
- Second, you will continue to pay a penalty every month for as long as you are enrolled in a plan that has Medicare Part D drug benefits, even if you change plans.
- Third, if you are under 65 and currently receiving Medicare benefits, the Part D late enrollment penalty will reset when you turn 65. After age 65, your Part D late enrollment penalty will be based only on the months that you don't have coverage after your initial enrollment period for aging into Medicare.

### **Section 5.3 In some situations, you can enroll late and not have to pay the penalty**

Even if you have delayed enrolling in a plan offering Medicare Part D coverage when you were first eligible, sometimes you do not have to pay the Part D late enrollment penalty.

**You will not have to pay a penalty for late enrollment if you are in any of these situations:**

- If you already have prescription drug coverage that is expected to pay, on average, at least as much as Medicare's standard prescription drug coverage. Medicare calls this "creditable drug coverage." **Please note:**
  - ◆ Creditable coverage could include drug coverage from a former employer or union, TRICARE, or the Department of Veterans Affairs. Your insurer or your human resources department will tell you each year if your drug coverage is creditable coverage. This information may be sent to you in a letter or included in a newsletter from the plan. Keep this information because you may need it if you join a Medicare drug plan later. Please note: If you receive a "certificate of creditable coverage" when your health coverage ends, it may not mean your prescription drug coverage was creditable. The notice must state that you had "creditable" prescription drug coverage that expected to pay as much as Medicare's standard prescription drug plan pays.
  - ◆ The following are not creditable prescription drug coverage: prescription drug discount cards, free clinics, and drug discount websites.
  - ◆ For additional information about creditable coverage, please look in your **Medicare & You 2020** handbook or call Medicare at **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**. TTY users call **1-877-486-2048**. You can call these numbers for free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- If you were without creditable coverage, but you were without it for less than 63 days in a row.
- If you are receiving "Extra Help" from Medicare.

**Section 5.4 What can you do if you disagree about your Part D late enrollment penalty?**

If you disagree about your Part D late enrollment penalty, you or your representative can ask for a review of the decision about your late enrollment penalty. Generally, you must request this review within 60 days from the date on the first letter you receive stating you have to pay a late enrollment penalty. If you were paying a penalty before joining our plan, you may not have another chance to request a review of that late enrollment penalty. Call Member Services to find out more about how to do this (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

**SECTION 6. Do you have to pay an extra Part D amount because of your income?**

**Section 6.1 Who pays an extra Part D amount because of income?**



Most people pay a standard monthly Part D premium. However, some people pay an extra amount because of their yearly income. If your income is \$85,000 or above for an individual (or married individuals filing separately) or \$170,000 or above for married couples, **you must pay an extra amount directly to the government** for your Medicare Part D coverage.

If you have to pay an extra amount, Social Security, not your Medicare plan, will send you a letter telling you what that extra amount will be and how to pay it. The extra amount will be withheld from your Social Security, Railroad Retirement Board, or Office of Personnel Management benefit check, no matter how you usually pay your plan premium, unless your monthly benefit isn't enough to cover the extra amount owed. If your benefit check isn't enough to cover the extra amount, you will get a bill from Medicare. You must pay the extra amount to the government. It cannot be paid with your monthly plan premium.

### **Section 6.2 How much is the extra Part D amount?**

If your modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) as reported on your IRS tax return is above a certain amount, you will pay an extra amount in addition to your monthly plan premium. For more information on the extra amount you may have to pay based on your income, visit <https://www.medicare.gov/part-d/costs/premiums/drug-plan-premiums.html>.

### **Section 6.3 What can you do if you disagree about paying an extra Part D amount?**

If you disagree about paying an extra amount because of your income, you can ask Social Security to review the decision. To find out more about how to do this, contact Social Security at **1-800-772-1213** (TTY **1-800-325-0778**).

### **Section 6.4 What happens if you do not pay the extra Part D amount?**

The extra amount is paid directly to the government (not your Medicare plan) for your Medicare Part D coverage. If you are required by law to pay the extra amount and you do not pay it, you will be disenrolled from the plan and lose prescription drug coverage.

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## **SECTION 7. More information about your monthly premium**

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### **Many members are required to pay other Medicare premiums**

In addition to paying the monthly plan premium, many members are required to pay other Medicare premiums. As explained in Section 2 of this chapter, in order to be eligible for our plan, you must be entitled to Medicare Part A and enrolled in Medicare Part B. For that reason, some plan members (those who aren't eligible for premium-free Part A) pay a premium for Medicare Part A. Most plan members pay a premium for Medicare Part B. You must continue paying your Medicare premiums to remain a member of our plan.

If your modified adjusted gross income as reported on your IRS tax return from two years ago is above a certain amount, you'll pay the standard premium amount and an Income Related

Monthly Adjustment Amount, also known as IRMAA. IRMAA is an extra charge added to your premium.

- **If you are required to pay the extra amount and you do not pay it, you will be disenrolled from our plan and lose prescription drug coverage.**
- If you have to pay an extra amount, Social Security, **not your Medicare plan**, will send you a letter telling you what that extra amount will be.
- For more information about Part D premiums based on income, go to Section 6 of this chapter. You can also visit <https://www.medicare.gov> on the Web or call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**. Or you may call Social Security at **1-800-772-1213**. TTY users should call **1-800-325-0778**.

Your copy of **Medicare & You 2020** gives you information about Medicare premiums in the section called "2020 Medicare Costs." This explains how the Medicare Part B and Part D premiums differ for people with different incomes. Everyone with Medicare receives a copy of **Medicare & You** each year in the fall. Those new to Medicare receive it within a month after first signing up. You can also download a copy of **Medicare & You 2020** from the Medicare website (<https://www.medicare.gov>) or you can order a printed copy by phone at **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users call **1-877-486-2048**.

### **Section 7.1 Paying your plan premium**

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

### **Section 7.2 Can we change your monthly plan premium during the year?**

**No.** We are not allowed to change the amount we charge for our plan's monthly plan premium during your group's contract year.

However, in some cases, the part of the premium that you have to pay can change during the year. This happens if you become eligible for the "Extra Help" program or if you lose your eligibility for the "Extra Help" program during the year. If a member qualifies for "Extra Help" with their prescription drug costs, the "Extra Help" program will pay part of the member's monthly plan premium. A member who loses their eligibility during the year will need to start paying their full monthly premium. You can find out more about the "Extra Help" program in Chapter 2, Section 7.



## **SECTION 8. Please keep your plan membership record up-to-date**

### **Section 8.1 How to help make sure that we have accurate information about you**

Your membership record has information from your enrollment form, including your address and telephone number. It shows your specific plan coverage, including your primary care provider.

The doctors, hospitals, pharmacists, and other providers in our network need to have correct information about you. **These network providers use your membership record to know what services and drugs are covered and the cost-sharing amounts for you.** Because of this, it is very important that you help us keep your information up-to-date.

#### **Let us know about these changes:**

- Changes to your name, your address, or your phone number.
- Changes in any other health insurance coverage you have (such as from your employer, your spouse's employer, workers' compensation, or Medicaid).
- If you have any liability claims, such as claims from an automobile accident.
- If you have been admitted to a nursing home.
- If you receive care in an out-of-area or out-of-network hospital or emergency room.
- If your designated responsible party (such as a caregiver) changes.
- If you are participating in a clinical research study.

If any of this information changes, please let us know by calling Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

It is also important to contact Social Security if you move or change your mailing address. You can find phone numbers and contact information for Social Security in Chapter 2, Section 5.

#### **Read over the information we send you about any other insurance coverage you have**

Medicare requires that we collect information from you about any other medical or drug insurance coverage that you have. That's because we must coordinate any other coverage you have with your benefits under our plan. (For more information about how our coverage works when you have other insurance, see Section 10 in this chapter.)

Once each year, we will send you a letter that lists any other medical or drug insurance coverage that we know about. Please read over this information carefully. If it is correct, you don't need to do anything. If the information is incorrect, or if you have other coverage that is not listed, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

## **SECTION 9. We protect the privacy of your personal health information**

### **Section 9.1 We make sure that your health information is protected**

Federal and state laws protect the privacy of your medical records and personal health information. We protect your personal health information as required by these laws.

For more information about how we protect your personal health information, please go to Chapter 8, Section 1.4, of this booklet.

## **SECTION 10. How other insurance works with our plan**

### **Section 10.1 Which plan pays first when you have other insurance?**

When you have other insurance (like employer group health coverage), there are rules set by Medicare that decide whether our plan or your other insurance pays first. The insurance that pays first is called the "primary payer" and pays up to the limits of its coverage. The one that pays second, called the "secondary payer," only pays if there are costs left uncovered by the primary coverage. The secondary payer may not pay all of the uncovered costs.

These rules apply for employer or union group health plan coverage:

- If you have retiree coverage, Medicare pays first.
- If your group health plan coverage is based on your or a family member's current employment, who pays first depends upon your age, the number of people employed by your employer, and whether you have Medicare based on age, disability, or End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD):
  - ◆ If you're under 65 and disabled and you or your family member is still working, your group health plan pays first if the employer has 100 or more employees or at least one employer in a multiple employer plan that has more than 100 employees.
  - ◆ If you're over 65 and you or your spouse is still working, your group health plan pays first if the employer has 20 or more employees or at least one employer in a multiple employer plan that has more than 20 employees.
- If you have Medicare because of ESRD, your group health plan will pay first for the first 30 months after you become eligible for Medicare.

These types of coverage usually pay first for services related to each type:

- No-fault insurance (including automobile insurance).
- Liability (including automobile insurance).
- Black lung benefits.
- Workers' compensation.

Medicaid and TRICARE never pay first for Medicare-covered services. They only pay after Medicare, employer group health plans, and/or Medigap have paid.

If you have other insurance, tell your doctor, hospital, and pharmacy. If you have questions about who pays first, or you need to update your other insurance information, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You may need to give your plan member ID number to your other insurers (once you have confirmed their identity) so your bills are paid correctly and on time.

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**CHAPTER 2. Important phone numbers and resources**

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## **SECTION 1. Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage contacts**

(how to contact us, including how to reach Member Services at our plan)

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### **How to contact our plan's Member Services**

For assistance with claims, billing, or membership card questions, please call or write to Senior Advantage Member Services. We will be happy to help you.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Member Services – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-800-476-2167</b> Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Member Services also has free language interpreter services available for non-English speakers.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
<b>FAX</b>	<b>303-214-6489</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado Customer Experience 2500 South Havana Street Aurora, CO 80014-1622
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>kp.org</b>

### **How to contact us when you are asking for a coverage decision or making a complaint about your medical care**

A coverage decision is a decision we make about your benefits and coverage or about the amount we will pay for your medical services. You can make a complaint about us or one of our network providers, including a complaint about the quality of your care. This type of complaint does not involve coverage or payment disputes. (If your problem is about our plan's coverage or payment, you should look at the section about making an appeal.) For more information about asking for coverage decisions or making complaints about your medical care, see Chapter 9, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)." You may call us if you have questions about our coverage decision or complaint processes.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Coverage decisions or complaints about medical care – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-800-476-2167</b> Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
<b>FAX</b>	<b>1-866-466-4042</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado Customer Experience 2500 South Havana Street Aurora, CO 80014-1622
<b>MEDICARE WEBSITE</b>	You can submit a <b><u>complaint</u></b> about our plan directly to Medicare. To submit an online complaint to Medicare, go to <b><a href="https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx">https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx</a></b> .

**How to contact us when you are asking for a coverage decision or making a complaint about your Part D prescription drugs**

A coverage decision is a decision we make about your benefits and coverage or about the amount we will pay for your prescription drugs covered under the Part D benefit included in your plan. You can make a complaint about us or one of our network pharmacies, including a complaint about the quality of your care. This type of complaint does not involve coverage or payment disputes. (If your problem is about our plan's coverage or payment, you should look at the section below about making an appeal.)

For more information about asking for coverage decisions or making complaints about your Part D prescription drugs, see Chapter 9, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)." You may call us if you have questions about our coverage decision or complaint processes.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Coverage decisions or complaints about Part D prescription drugs – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1- 800-476-2167</b> Calls to this number are free. Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**

<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> Calls to this number are free. Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
<b>FAX</b>	<b>1-866-455-1053</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado Pharmacy Benefits and Compliance 16601 East Centretch Parkway Aurora, CO 80011
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>kp.org</b>
<b>MEDICARE WEBSITE</b>	You can submit a <b>complaint</b> about our plan directly to Medicare. To submit an online complaint to Medicare, go to <a href="https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx">https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx</a> .

**How to contact us when you are making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs**

An appeal is a formal way of asking us to review and change a coverage decision we have made. For more information about making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs, see Chapter 9, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)."

<b>Method</b>	<b>Appeals for medical care or Part D prescription drugs – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-888-370-9858</b> Calls to this number are free. Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> Calls to this number are free. Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
<b>FAX</b>	<b>1-866-466-4042</b>
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>kp.org</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	Appeals Program Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado P.O. Box 378066 Denver, CO 80237-8066

**Where to send a request asking us to pay for our share of the cost for medical care or a drug you have received**

For more information about situations in which you may need to ask us for reimbursement or to pay a bill you have received from a provider, see Chapter 7, "Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs."

**Please note:** If you send us a payment request and we deny any part of your request, you can appeal our decision. See Chapter 9, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)," for more information.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Payment requests – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-800-476-2167</b> Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
<b>WRITE</b>	Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado Claims Department P.O. Box 373150 Denver, CO 80237-3150
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>kp.org</b>

**SECTION 2. Medicare** (how to get help and information directly from the federal Medicare program)

Medicare is the federal health insurance program for people 65 years of age or older, some people under age 65 with disabilities, and people with End-Stage Renal Disease (permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a kidney transplant).

The federal agency in charge of Medicare is the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (sometimes called "CMS"). This agency contracts with Medicare Advantage organizations, including our plan.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Medicare – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-800-MEDICARE or 1-800-633-4227</b> Calls to this number are free. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>1-877-486-2048</b>

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**



<b>Method</b>	<b>Medicare – contact information</b>
	<p>This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.</p> <p>Calls to this number are free.</p>
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<p><b><a href="https://www.medicare.gov">https://www.medicare.gov</a></b></p> <p>This is the official government website for Medicare. It gives you up-to-date information about Medicare and current Medicare issues. It also has information about hospitals, nursing homes, physicians, home health agencies, and dialysis facilities. It includes booklets you can print directly from your computer. You can also find Medicare contacts in your state.</p> <p>The Medicare website also has detailed information about your Medicare eligibility and enrollment options, with the following tools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Medicare Eligibility Tool:</b> Provides Medicare eligibility status information.</li><li>• <b>Medicare Plan Finder:</b> Provides personalized information about available Medicare prescription drug plans, Medicare health plans, and Medigap (Medicare Supplement Insurance) policies in your area. These tools provide an estimate of what your out-of-pocket costs might be in different Medicare plans.</li></ul> <p>You can also use the website to tell Medicare about any complaints you have about our plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Tell Medicare about your complaint:</b> You can submit a complaint about our plan directly to Medicare. To submit a complaint to Medicare, go to <b><a href="https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx">https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx</a></b>. Medicare takes your complaints seriously and will use this information to help improve the quality of the Medicare program.</li></ul> <p>If you don't have a computer, your local library or senior center may be able to help you visit this website using its computer. Or you can call Medicare and tell them what information you are looking for. They will find the information on the website, print it out, and send it to you. (You can call Medicare at <b>1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)</b>, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call <b>1-877-486-2048</b>.)</p>

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### **SECTION 3. State Health Insurance Assistance Program** (free help, information, and answers to your questions about Medicare)

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The State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) is a government program with trained counselors in every state. In Colorado, the SHIP is called Colorado State Health Insurance Assistance Program ("Colorado SHIP").

Colorado SHIP is independent (not connected with any insurance company or health plan). It is a state program that gets money from the federal government to give free local health insurance counseling to people with Medicare.

Colorado SHIP counselors can help you with your Medicare questions or problems. They can help you understand your Medicare rights, help you make complaints about your medical care or treatment, and help you straighten out problems with your Medicare bills. Colorado SHIP counselors can also help you understand your Medicare plan choices and answer questions about switching plans.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Colorado State Health Insurance Assistance Program – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-888-696-7213</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	SHIP, Colorado Division of Insurance 1560 Broadway St., Ste. 850 Denver, CO 80202
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b><a href="https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dora/senior-healthcare-medicare">https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dora/senior-healthcare-medicare</a></b>

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### **SECTION 4. Quality Improvement Organization** (paid by Medicare to check on the quality of care for people with Medicare)

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There is a designated Quality Improvement Organization for serving Medicare beneficiaries in each state. For Colorado, the Quality Improvement Organization is called KEPRO.

KEPRO has a group of doctors and other health care professionals who are paid by the federal government. This organization is paid by Medicare to check on and help improve the quality of care for people with Medicare. KEPRO is an independent organization. It is not connected with our plan.

You should contact KEPRO in any of these situations:

- You have a complaint about the quality of care you have received.
- You think coverage for your hospital stay is ending too soon.
- You think coverage for your home health care, skilled nursing facility care, or Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services are ending too soon.

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**

<b>Method</b>	<b>KEPRO (Colorado’s Quality Improvement Organization) – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-888-317-0891</b> Calls to this number are free. Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Weekends and holidays, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>1-855-843-4776</b> This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
<b>WRITE</b>	KEPRO Rock Run Center, Suite 100 5700 Lombardo Center Drive Seven Hills, OH 44131 Attention: Beneficiary Complaints
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<a href="https://www.keproqio.com">https://www.keproqio.com</a>

## **SECTION 5. Social Security**

Social Security is responsible for determining eligibility and handling enrollment for Medicare. U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents who are 65 or older, or who have a disability or End-Stage Renal Disease and meet certain conditions, are eligible for Medicare. If you are already getting Social Security checks, enrollment into Medicare is automatic. If you are not getting Social Security checks, you have to enroll in Medicare. Social Security handles the enrollment process for Medicare. To apply for Medicare, you can call Social Security or visit your local Social Security office.

Social Security is also responsible for determining who has to pay an extra amount for their Part D drug coverage because they have a higher income. If you got a letter from Social Security telling you that you have to pay the extra amount and have questions about the amount or if your income went down because of a life-changing event, you can call Social Security to ask for a reconsideration.

If you move or change your mailing address, it is important that you contact Social Security to let them know.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Social Security – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-800-772-1213</b>

<b>Method</b>	<b>Social Security – contact information</b>
	Calls to this number are free. Available 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. You can use Social Security's automated telephone services to get recorded information and conduct some business 24 hours a day.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>1-800-325-0778</b>  This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking. Calls to this number are free. Available 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday.
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b><a href="https://www.ssa.gov">https://www.ssa.gov</a></b>

**SECTION 6. Medicaid** (a joint federal and state program that helps with medical costs for some people with limited income and resources)

Medicaid is a joint federal and state government program that helps with medical costs for certain people with limited incomes and resources. Some people with Medicare are also eligible for Medicaid.

In addition, there are programs offered through Medicaid that help people with Medicare pay their Medicare costs, such as their Medicare premiums. These "Medicare Savings Programs" help people with limited income and resources save money each year:

- **Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB):** Helps pay Medicare Part A and Part B premiums, and other cost-sharing (like deductibles, coinsurance, and copayments). Some people with QMB are also eligible for full Medicaid benefits (QMB+).
- **Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB):** Helps pay Part B premiums. Some people with SLMB are also eligible for full Medicaid benefits (SLMB+).
- **Qualified Individual (QI):** Helps pay Part B premiums.
- **Qualified Disabled & Working Individuals (QDWI):** Helps pay Part A premiums.

To find out more about Medicaid and its programs, contact Health First Colorado (Medicaid).

<b>Method</b>	<b>Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid program) – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-800-221-3943</b>  Calls to this number are free. Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b>

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**

<b>Method</b>	<b>Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid program) – contact information</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	Department of Health Care Policy and Financing 1570 Grant Street Denver, CO 80203
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<a href="https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com">https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com</a>

## **SECTION 7. Information about programs to help people pay for their prescription drugs**

### **Medicare's "Extra Help" Program**

Medicare provides "Extra Help" to pay prescription drug costs for people who have limited income and resources. Resources include your savings and stocks, but not your home or car. If you qualify, you get help paying for any Medicare drug plan's monthly premium, yearly deductible, and prescription copayments. This "Extra Help" also counts toward your out-of-pocket costs.

People with limited income and resources may qualify for "Extra Help." Some people automatically qualify for "Extra Help" and don't need to apply. Medicare mails a letter to people who automatically qualify for "Extra Help."

You may be able to get "Extra Help" to pay for your prescription drug premiums and costs. To see if you qualify for getting "Extra Help," call:

- **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**, 24 hours a day/7 days a week;
- The Social Security Office at **1-800-772-1213**, between 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. TTY users should call **1-800-325-0778** (applications); or
- Your state Medicaid office (applications) (see Section 6 in this chapter for contact information).

If you believe you have qualified for "Extra Help" and you believe that you are paying an incorrect cost-sharing amount when you get your prescription at a pharmacy, our plan has established a process that allows you either to request assistance in obtaining evidence of your proper copayment level, or, if you already have the evidence, to provide this evidence to us.

If you aren't sure what evidence to provide us, please contact a network pharmacy or Member Services. The evidence is often a letter from either the state Medicaid or Social Security office that confirms you are qualified for "Extra Help." The evidence may also be state-issued documentation with your eligibility information associated with Home and Community-Based Services.

You or your appointed representative may need to provide the evidence to a network pharmacy when obtaining covered Part D prescriptions so that we may charge you the appropriate cost-sharing amount until the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) updates its records to reflect your current status. Once CMS updates its records, you will no longer need to present the evidence to the pharmacy. Please provide your evidence in one of the following ways so we can forward it to CMS for updating:

- Write to Kaiser Permanente at:  
California Service Center  
Attn: Best Available Evidence  
P.O. Box 232407  
San Diego, CA 92193-2407
- Fax it to **1-877-528-8579**.
- Take it to a network pharmacy.

When we receive the evidence showing your copayment level, we will update our system so that you can pay the correct copayment when you get your next prescription at the pharmacy. If you overpay your copayment, we will reimburse you. Either we will forward a check to you in the amount of your overpayment or we will offset future copayments. If the pharmacy hasn't collected a copayment from you and is carrying your copayment as a debt owed by you, we may make the payment directly to the pharmacy. If a state paid on your behalf, we may make payment directly to the state. Please contact Member Services if you have questions (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **Medicare Coverage Gap Discount Program**

The Medicare Coverage Gap Discount Program provides manufacturer discounts on brand-name drugs to Part D members who have reached the coverage gap and are not receiving "Extra Help." For brand-name drugs, the 70% discount provided by manufacturers excludes any dispensing fee for costs in the gap. Members pay 25% of the negotiated price and a portion of the dispensing fee for brand-name drugs.

If you reach the coverage gap, we will automatically apply the discount when your pharmacy bills you for your prescription and your **Part D Explanation of Benefits (Part D EOB)** will show any discount provided. Both the amount you pay and the amount discounted by the manufacturer count toward your out-of-pocket costs as if you had paid them, and move you through the coverage gap. The amount paid by the plan (5%) does not count toward your out-of-pocket costs.

You also receive some coverage for generic drugs. If you reach the coverage gap, we pay 75% of the price for generic drugs and you pay the remaining 25% of the price. For generic drugs, the amount paid by our plan (75%) does not count toward your out-of-pocket costs. Only the amount you pay counts and moves you through the coverage gap. Also, the dispensing fee is included as part of the cost of the drug.

The Medicare Coverage Gap Discount Program is available nationwide. Because our plan offers additional gap coverage during the Coverage Gap Stage, your out-of-pocket costs will sometimes be lower than the costs described here. Please go to Chapter 6, Section 6, for more information about your coverage during the Coverage Gap Stage.

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**

If you have any questions about the availability of discounts for the drugs you are taking or about the Medicare Coverage Gap Discount Program in general, please contact Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

*What if you have coverage from a State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program (SPAP)?*

If you are enrolled in a State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program (SPAP), or any other program that provides coverage for Part D drugs (other than "Extra Help"), you still get the 70% discount on covered brand-name drugs. Also, the plan pays 5% of the costs of brand-name drugs in the coverage gap. The 70% discount and the 5% paid by the plan are both applied to the price of the drug before any SPAP or other coverage.

*What if you have coverage from an AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)?*

*What is the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)?*

The AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) helps ADAP-eligible individuals living with HIV/AIDS have access to life-saving HIV medications. Medicare Part D prescription drugs that are also covered by ADAP qualify for prescription cost-sharing assistance through **Bridging the Gap Colorado**. Note: To be eligible for the ADAP operating in your state, individuals must meet certain criteria, including proof of state residence and HIV status, low income as defined by the state, and uninsured/underinsured status.

If you are currently enrolled in an ADAP, it can continue to provide you with Medicare Part D prescription cost-sharing assistance for drugs on the ADAP formulary. In order to be sure you continue receiving this assistance, please notify your local ADAP enrollment worker of any changes in your Medicare Part D plan name or policy number. Please call **Bridging the Gap Colorado** at **303-692-2716**.

For information on eligibility criteria, covered drugs, or how to enroll in the program, please call **Bridging the Gap Colorado** at **303-692-2716**.

*What if you get "Extra Help" from Medicare to help pay your prescription drug costs? Can you get the discounts?*

**No.** If you get "Extra Help," you already get coverage for your prescription drug costs during the coverage gap.

*What if you don't get a discount, and you think you should have?*

If you think that you have reached the coverage gap and did not get a discount when you paid for your brand-name drug, you should review your next *Part D Explanation of Benefits (Part D EOB)* notice. If the discount doesn't appear on your *Part D EOB*, you should contact us to make sure that your prescription records are correct and up-to-date. If we don't agree that you are owed a discount, you can appeal. You can get help filing an appeal from your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) (telephone numbers are in Section 3 of this chapter) or by calling **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.



### State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs

Many states have State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs that help some people pay for prescription drugs based on financial need, age, medical condition or disabilities. Each state has different rules to provide drug coverage to its members.

In Colorado, the name of the State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program is Bridging the Gap Colorado.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Bridging the Gap Colorado - contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>303-692-2716</b> Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
<b>WRITE</b>	Bridging the Gap Colorado C/O Colorado ADAP A3-3800 4300 Cherry Creek Drive South Denver, Colorado 80246-1530
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b><a href="https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/colorado-aids-drug-assistance-program-adap">https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/colorado-aids-drug-assistance-program-adap</a></b>

### SECTION 8. How to contact the Railroad Retirement Board

The Railroad Retirement Board is an independent federal agency that administers comprehensive benefit programs for the nation's railroad workers and their families. If you have questions regarding your benefits from the Railroad Retirement Board, contact the agency.

If you receive your Medicare through the Railroad Retirement Board, it is important that you let them know if you move or change your mailing address.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Railroad Retirement Board – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-877-772-5772</b> Calls to this number are free. If you press “0,” you may speak with an RRB representative from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, and from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Wednesday If you press “1,” you may access the automated RRB HelpLine and recorded information 24 hours a day, including weekends and holidays.

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**



**TTY**            **1-312-751-4701**

This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.  
Calls to this number are *not* free.

**WEBSITE**    **<https://www.secure.rrb.gov>**

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### **SECTION 9. Do you have "group insurance" or other health insurance from an employer?**

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If you (or your spouse) get benefits from your (or your spouse's) employer or retiree group as part of this plan, you may call the employer/union benefits administrator or Member Services if you have any questions. You can ask about your (or your spouse's) employer or retiree health benefits, premiums, or the enrollment period. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet. You may also call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227; TTY: 1-877-486-2048)** with questions related to your Medicare coverage under this plan.

If you have other prescription drug coverage through your (or your spouse's) employer or retiree group, please contact that group's benefits administrator. The benefits administrator can help you determine how your current prescription drug coverage will work with our plan.

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## **CHAPTER 3. Using our plan's coverage for your medical services**

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## **SECTION 1. Things to know about getting your medical care covered as a member of our plan**

This chapter explains what you need to know about using our plan to get your medical care covered. It gives you definitions of terms and explains the rules you will need to follow to get the medical treatments, services, and other medical care that are covered by our plan.

For the details on what medical care is covered by our plan and how much you pay when you get this care, use the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

### **Section 1.1 What are "network providers" and "covered services"?**

Here are some definitions that can help you understand how you get the care and services that are covered for you as a member of our plan:

- **"Providers"** are doctors and other health care professionals licensed by the state to provide medical services and care. The term "providers" also includes hospitals and other health care facilities.
- **"Network providers"** are the doctors and other health care professionals, medical groups, hospitals, and other health care facilities that have an agreement with us to accept our payment and your cost-sharing amount as payment in full. We have arranged for these providers to deliver covered services to members in our plan. The providers in our network bill us directly for care they give you. When you see a network provider, you pay only your share of the cost for their services.
- **"Covered services"** include all the medical care, health care services, supplies, and equipment that are covered by our plan. Your covered services for medical care are listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

### **Section 1.2 Basic rules for getting your medical care covered by our plan**

As a Medicare health plan, our plan must cover all services covered by Original Medicare and must follow Original Medicare's coverage rules.

We will generally cover your medical care as long as:

- **The care you receive is included in our plan's Medical Benefits Chart** (found at the front of this **EOC**).
- **The care you receive is considered medically necessary.** "Medically necessary" means that the services, supplies, or drugs are needed for the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of your medical condition and meet accepted standards of medical practice.

- **You have a network primary care provider (a PCP)** who is providing and overseeing your care. As a member of our plan, you must choose a network PCP (for more information about this, see Section 2.1 in this chapter).
  - ◆ In most situations, your network PCP must give you approval in advance before you can use other providers in our plan's network, such as specialists, hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, or home health care agencies. This is called giving you a "referral" (for more information about this, see Section 2.3 in this chapter).
  - ◆ Referrals from your PCP are not required for emergency care or urgently needed services. There are also some other kinds of care you can get without having approval in advance from your PCP (for more information about this, see Section 2.2 in this chapter).
- **You must receive your care from a network provider** (for more information about this, see Section 2 in this chapter). In most cases, care you receive from an out-of-network provider (a provider who is not part of our plan's network) will not be covered. Here are three exceptions:
  - ◆ We cover emergency care or urgently needed services that you get from an out-of-network provider. For more information about this, and to see what emergency or urgently needed services means, see Section 3 in this chapter.
  - ◆ If you need medical care that Medicare requires our plan to cover and the providers in our network cannot provide this care, you can get this care from an out-of-network provider if we authorize the services before you get the care. In this situation, you will pay the same as you would pay if you got the care from a network provider. For information about getting approval to see an out-of-network doctor, see Section 2.3 in this chapter.
  - ◆ We cover kidney dialysis services that you get at a Medicare-certified dialysis facility when you are temporarily outside our service area.

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## **SECTION 2. Use providers in our network to get your medical care**

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### **Section 2.1 You must choose a Primary Care Provider (PCP) to provide and oversee your medical care**

#### **What is a "PCP" and what does the PCP do for you?**

As a member of our plan, you must choose a network provider to be your primary care provider (PCP). Your PCP is a health care professional who meets state requirements and is trained to give you primary medical care.

Your PCP will provide most of your care and may help you arrange or coordinate the rest of the covered services you get as a member of our plan. This includes your X-rays, laboratory tests, therapies, care from doctors who are specialists, hospital admissions, and follow-up care. "Coordinating" your services includes checking or consulting with other network providers about your care and how it is going.

There are a few types of covered services you can get on your own without contacting your PCP first (see Section 2.2 in this chapter).

In some cases, your PCP will also need to get prior authorization (prior approval) from us. The services that require prior authorization from us are discussed in Section 2.3 of this chapter.

### **How do you choose your PCP?**

You may choose a primary care provider from any of our available network physicians who practice in these specialties: internal medicine, family medicine, and pediatrics. When you make a selection, it is effective immediately. To learn how to choose a primary care provider, please call our Personal Physician Selection Services at **1-855-208-7221 (TTY 711)**, weekdays 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. You can also make your selection at **kp.org**.

### **Changing your PCP**

You may change your PCP for any reason, at any time. Also, it's possible that your PCP might leave our network of providers and you would have to find a new PCP. To change your PCP, call our Personal Physician Selection Team at **1-855-208-7221** or **711 (TTY)**, weekdays 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., or make your selection at **kp.org**.

When you call, be sure to tell our Personal Physician Selection Team if you are seeing specialists or getting other covered services that need your PCP's approval (such as home health services and durable medical equipment). Our Personal Physician Selection Team will help make sure that you can continue with the specialty care and other services you have been getting when you change your PCP. They will also check to be sure the PCP you want to switch to is accepting new patients. When you make a new selection, the change is effective immediately.

## **Section 2.2 What kinds of medical care can you get without getting approval in advance from your PCP?**

You can get the services listed below without getting approval in advance from your PCP:

- Routine women's health care, which includes breast exams, screening mammograms (X-rays of the breast), Pap tests, and pelvic exams, as long as you get them from a network provider.
- Flu shots and pneumonia vaccinations, as long as you get them from a network provider.
- Emergency services from network providers or from out-of-network providers.
- Urgently needed services from network providers or from out-of-network providers when network providers are temporarily unavailable or inaccessible (for example, when you are temporarily outside of our service area).
- Kidney dialysis services that you get at a Medicare-certified dialysis facility when you are temporarily outside our service area. (If possible, please call Member Services before you leave the service area so we can help arrange for you to have maintenance dialysis while you are away.) Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.
- Consultation (routine office) visits to specialty-care departments within our plan, with the exception of the anesthesia clinical pain department.
- Second opinions from another network provider.
- Mental health care or substance abuse services, as long as you get them from a network provider.
- Preventive care except barium enemas, as long as you get them from a network provider.

- Chiropractic services as long as you get them from a network provider.
- Routine eye exams and hearing exams, as long as you get them from a network provider.
- Covered routine care from any Colorado Permanente Medical Group (CPMG) physician at any Kaiser Permanente medical office in our Denver/Boulder or Southern Colorado service areas. Note: You cannot get routine care from affiliated network providers in the Southern Colorado service area.

### **Section 2.3 How to get care from specialists and other network providers**

A specialist is a doctor who provides health care services for a specific disease or part of the body. There are many kinds of specialists. Here are a few examples:

- Oncologists care for patients with cancer.
- Cardiologists care for patients with heart conditions.
- Orthopedists care for patients with certain bone, joint, or muscle conditions.

#### **Referrals from your PCP**

You will usually see your PCP first for most of your routine health care needs. There are only a few types of covered services you may get on your own, without getting approval from your PCP first, which are described in Section 2.2 of this chapter.

When your PCP prescribes specialized treatment, he or she will give you a referral to see a network specialist or certain other network providers. However, for some types of specialty care referrals, your PCP may need to get approval in advance from our plan. If there is a particular network specialist or hospital that you want to use, check first to be sure your PCP makes referrals to that specialist, or uses that hospital.

#### **Prior authorization**

For the services and items listed below and in Chapter 4, Sections 2.1 and 2.2, your network provider will need to get approval in advance from our plan (this is called getting "prior authorization"). Decisions regarding requests for authorization will be made only by licensed physicians or other appropriately licensed medical professionals.

- For **certain specialty care**, your PCP will recommend to our plan that you be referred to a network specialist. The plan will authorize the services if it is determined that the covered services are medically necessary. Referrals to such specialist will be for a specific treatment plan, which may include a standing referral if ongoing care is prescribed. Please ask your network physician what services have been authorized. If the specialist wants you to come back for more care, be sure to check if the referral covers more visits to the specialist. If it doesn't, please contact your PCP. You must have an authorized referral for ongoing treatment from a network specialist except as described in Section 2.2. If you don't have a referral (approval in advance) before you get certain ongoing services, you may have to pay for these services yourself.
- If your network provider decides that you require **covered services not available from network providers**, he or she will recommend to our plan that you be referred to an out-of-

network provider inside or outside our service area. The plan will authorize the services if it is determined that the covered services are medically necessary and are not available from a network provider. Referrals to out-of-network providers will be for a specific treatment plan, which may include a standing referral if ongoing care is prescribed. Please ask your network provider what services have been authorized. If the out-of-network specialist wants you to come back for more care, be sure to check if the referral covers more visits to the specialist. If it doesn't, please contact your network provider.

- If your network physician makes a written referral for **bariatric surgery**, the service will be evaluated for medical necessity by our bariatric surgeon and the Metabolic Surgery and Weight Management Department.
- After we are notified that you need **post-stabilization care** from an out-of-network provider following emergency care, we will discuss your condition with the out-of-network provider. If we decide that you require post-stabilization care and that this care would be covered if you received it from a network provider, we will authorize your care from the out-of-network provider only if we cannot arrange to have a network provider (or other designated provider) provide the care. Please see Section 3.1 in this chapter for more information.
- Medically necessary **transgender surgery** and associated procedures.
- Care from a **religious nonmedical health care institution** described in Section 6 of this chapter.
- If your specialist makes a written referral for a **transplant**, the Medical Group's regional transplant advisory committee or board (if one exists) will authorize the services if it determines that they are medically necessary or covered in accord with Medicare guidelines. In cases where no transplant committee or board exists, the Medical Group will designate a specialist within the group to review and approve your transplant referral.

### **What if a specialist or another network provider leaves our plan?**

We may make changes to the hospitals, doctors, and specialists (providers) that are part of your plan during the year. There are a number of reasons why your provider might leave your plan, but if your doctor or specialist does leave your plan, you have certain rights and protections that are summarized below:

- Even though our network of providers may change during the year, Medicare requires that we furnish you with uninterrupted access to qualified doctors and specialists.
- We will make a good faith effort to provide you with at least 30 days' notice that your provider is leaving our plan so that you have time to select a new provider.
- We will assist you in selecting a new qualified provider to continue managing your health care needs.
- If you are undergoing medical treatment, you have the right to request, and we will work with you to ensure, that the medically necessary treatment you are receiving is not interrupted.
- If you believe we have not furnished you with a qualified provider to replace your previous provider or that your care is not being appropriately managed, you have the right to file an appeal of our decision.



- If you find out your doctor or specialist is leaving your plan, please contact us at **1-855-208-7221 (TTY 711)**, weekdays, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., so we can assist you in finding a new provider and managing your care.

## **Section 2.4 How to get care from out-of-network providers**

Care you receive from an out-of-network provider will not be covered except in the following situations:

- Emergency or urgently needed services that you get from an out-of-network provider. For more information about this, and to see what emergency or urgently needed services mean, see Section 3 in this chapter.
- We authorize a referral to an out-of-network provider described in Section 2.3 of this chapter.
- Kidney dialysis services that you get at a Medicare-certified dialysis facility when you are temporarily outside our service area.
- If you visit the service area of another Kaiser Permanente region, you can receive certain care covered under this **Evidence of Coverage** from designated providers in that service area. Please call Member Services or our away from home travel line at **1-951-268-3900** (24 hours a day, 7 days a week except holidays), **TTY 711**, for more information about getting care when visiting another Kaiser Permanente region's service area, including coverage information and facility locations in the District of Columbia and parts of California, Georgia, Hawaii, Maryland, Oregon, Virginia, and Washington.

## **SECTION 3. How to get covered services when you have an emergency or urgent need for care or during a disaster**

### **Section 3.1 Getting care if you have a medical emergency**

#### **What is a "medical emergency" and what should you do if you have one?**

A "medical emergency" is when you, or any other prudent layperson with an average knowledge of health and medicine, believe that you have medical symptoms that require immediate medical attention to prevent loss of life, loss of a limb, or loss of function of a limb. The medical symptoms may be an illness, injury, severe pain, or a medical condition that is quickly getting worse.

If you have a medical emergency:

- **Get help as quickly as possible.** Call **911** for help or go to the nearest emergency room or hospital. Call for an ambulance if you need it. You do not need to get approval or a referral first from your PCP.
- **As soon as possible, make sure that our plan has been told about your emergency.** We need to follow up on your emergency care. You or someone else should call to tell us about



your emergency care, usually within 48 hours. The number to call is listed on the back of your plan membership card.

### **What is covered if you have a medical emergency?**

You may get covered emergency medical care whenever you need it, anywhere inside or outside the United States. We cover ambulance services in situations where getting to the emergency room in any other way could endanger your health. For more information, see the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

You may get covered emergency medical care (including ambulance) when you need it anywhere in the world. However; you may have to pay for the services and file a claim for reimbursement (see Chapter 7 for more information).

If you have an emergency, we will talk with the doctors who are giving you emergency care to help manage and follow up on your care. The doctors who are giving you emergency care will decide when your condition is stable and the medical emergency is over.

After the emergency is over, you are entitled to follow-up care to be sure your condition continues to be stable. We will cover your follow-up post-stabilization care in accord with Medicare guidelines. If your emergency care is provided by out-of-network providers, we will try to arrange for network providers to take over your care as soon as your medical condition and the circumstances allow. It is very important that your provider call us to get authorization for post-stabilization care before you receive the care from the out-of-network provider. In most cases, you will only be held financially liable if you are notified by the out-of-network provider or us about your potential liability.

### **What if it wasn't a medical emergency?**

Sometimes it can be hard to know if you have a medical emergency. For example, you might go in for emergency care—thinking that your health is in serious danger—and the doctor may say that it wasn't a medical emergency after all. If it turns out that it was not an emergency, we will cover your care as long as you reasonably thought your health was in serious danger.

However, after the doctor has said that it was not an emergency, we will cover additional care only if you get the additional care in one of these two ways:

- You go to a network provider to get the additional care.
- Or the additional care you get is considered "urgently needed services" and you follow the rules for getting these urgently needed services (for more information about this, see Section 3.2 below).

## **Section 3.2 Getting care when you have an urgent need for services**

### **What are "urgently needed services"?**

"Urgently needed services" are a nonemergency, unforeseen medical illness, injury, or condition that requires immediate medical care. Urgently needed services may be furnished by network providers or by out-of-network providers when network providers are temporarily unavailable or

inaccessible. The unforeseen condition could, for example, be an unforeseen flare-up of a known condition that you have.

### **What if you are in our service area when you have an urgent need for care?**

You should always try to obtain urgently needed services from network providers. However, if providers are temporarily unavailable or inaccessible, and it is not reasonable to wait to obtain care from your network provider when the network becomes available, we will cover urgently needed services that you get from an out-of-network provider.

We know that sometimes it's difficult to know what type of care you need. That's why we have telephone advice nurses available to assist you. Our advice nurses are registered nurses specially trained to help assess medical symptoms and provide advice over the phone, when medically appropriate. Whether you are calling for advice or to make an appointment, you can speak to an advice nurse. They can often answer questions about a minor concern, tell you what to do if a network facility is closed, or advise you about what to do next, including making a same-day urgent care appointment for you if it's medically appropriate. To speak with an advice nurse 24 hours a day, seven days a week, or make an appointment, please call **1-800-218-1059 (TTY 711)**.

### **What if you are outside our service area when you have an urgent need for care?**

When you are outside the service area and cannot get care from a network provider, we will cover urgently needed services that you get from any provider. Our plan covers worldwide urgent care services outside the United States under the following circumstances:

- You are temporarily outside of our service area.
- The services were necessary to treat an unforeseen illness or injury to prevent serious deterioration of your health.
- It was not reasonable to delay treatment until you returned to our service area.
- The services would have been covered had you received them from a network provider.

## **Section 3.3 Getting care during a disaster**

If the governor of your state, the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, or the President of the United States declares a state of disaster or emergency in your geographic area, you are still entitled to care from us.

Please visit the following website—**kp.org**—for information on how to obtain needed care during a disaster.

Generally, if you cannot use a network provider during a disaster, we will allow you to obtain care from out-of-network providers at in-network cost-sharing. If you cannot use a network pharmacy during a disaster, you may be able to fill your prescription drugs at an out-of-network pharmacy. Please see Chapter 5, Section 2.5, for more information.

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## **SECTION 4. What if you are billed directly for the full cost of your covered services?**

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### **Section 4.1 You can ask us to pay our share of the cost for covered services**

If you have paid more than your share for covered services, or if you have received a bill for the full cost of covered medical services, go to Chapter 7, "Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs," for information about what to do.

### **Section 4.2 If services are not covered by our plan, you must pay the full cost**

We cover all medical services that are medically necessary, listed in the Medical Benefits Chart (this chart is found at the front of this **EOC**), and obtained consistent with plan rules. You are responsible for paying the full cost of services that aren't covered by our plan, either because they are not plan covered services or they were obtained out-of-network and were not authorized.

If you have any questions about whether we will pay for any medical service or care that you are considering, you have the right to ask us whether we will cover it before you get it. You also have the right to ask for this in writing. If we say we will not cover your services, you have the right to appeal our decision not to cover your care.

Chapter 9, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)," has more information about what to do if you want a coverage decision from us or want to appeal a decision we have already made. You may also call Member Services to get more information (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

For covered services that have a benefit limitation, you pay the full cost of any services you get after you have used up your benefit for that type of covered service. Any amounts you pay after the benefit has been exhausted will not count toward the out-of-pocket maximum. You can call Member Services when you want to know how much of your benefit limit you have already used.

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## **SECTION 5. How are your medical services covered when you are in a "clinical research study"?**

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### **Section 5.1 What is a "clinical research study"?**

A clinical research study (also called a "clinical trial") is a way that doctors and scientists test new types of medical care, like how well a new cancer drug works. They test new medical care procedures or drugs by asking for volunteers to help with the study. This kind of study is one of the final stages of a research process that helps doctors and scientists see if a new approach works and if it is safe.

Not all clinical research studies are open to members of our plan. Medicare first needs to approve the research study. If you participate in a study that Medicare has not approved, you will be responsible for paying all costs for your participation in the study.

Once Medicare approves the study, someone who works on the study will contact you to explain more about the study and see if you meet the requirements set by the scientists who are running the study. You can participate in the study as long as you meet the requirements for the study and you have a full understanding and acceptance of what is involved if you participate in the study.

If you participate in a Medicare-approved study, Original Medicare pays most of the costs for the covered services you receive as part of the study. When you are in a clinical research study, you may stay enrolled in our plan and continue to get the rest of your care (the care that is not related to the study) through our plan.

If you want to participate in a Medicare-approved clinical research study, you do not need to get approval from us or your PCP. The providers that deliver your care as part of the clinical research study do not need to be part of our plan's network of providers.

Although you do not need to get our plan's permission to be in a clinical research study, **you do need to tell us before you start participating in a clinical research study.**

If you plan on participating in a clinical research study, contact Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) to let them know that you will be participating in a clinical trial and to find out more specific details about what we will pay.

### **Section 5.2 When you participate in a clinical research study, who pays for what?**

Once you join a Medicare-approved clinical research study, you are covered for routine items and services you receive as part of the study, including:

- Room and board for a hospital stay that Medicare would pay for even if you weren't in a study.
- An operation or other medical procedure if it is part of the research study.
- Treatment of side effects and complications of the new care.

Original Medicare pays most of the cost of the covered services you receive as part of the study. After Medicare has paid its share of the cost for these services, our plan will also pay for part of the costs:

- We will pay the difference between the cost-sharing in Original Medicare and your cost-sharing as a member of our plan. This means you will pay the same amount for the services you receive as part of the study as you would if you received these services from our plan.
  - ◆ Here's an example of how the cost-sharing works: Let's say that you have a lab test that costs \$100 as part of the research study. Let's also say that your share of the costs for this test is \$20 under Original Medicare, but the test would be \$10 under our plan's benefits. In this case, Original Medicare would pay \$80 for the test and we would pay another \$10. This means that you would pay \$10, which is the same amount you would pay under our plan's benefits.

- In order for us to pay for our share of the costs, you will need to submit a request for payment. With your request, you will need to send us a copy of your Medicare Summary Notices or other documentation that shows what services you received as part of the study and how much you owe. Please see Chapter 7 for more information about submitting requests for payment.

When you are part of a clinical research study, **neither Medicare nor our plan will pay for any of the following:**

- Generally, Medicare will not pay for the new item or service that the study is testing, unless Medicare would cover the item or service even if you were not in a study.
- Items and services the study gives you or any participant for free.
- Items or services provided only to collect data, and not used in your direct health care. For example, Medicare would not pay for monthly CT scans done as part of the study if your medical condition would normally require only one CT scan.

### **Do you want to know more?**

You can get more information about joining a clinical research study by reading the publication "Medicare and Clinical Research Studies" on the Medicare website (<https://www.medicare.gov>). You can also call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.

## **SECTION 6. Rules for getting care covered in a "religious nonmedical health care institution"**

### **Section 6.1 What is a religious nonmedical health care institution?**

A religious nonmedical health care institution is a facility that provides care for a condition that would ordinarily be treated in a hospital or skilled nursing facility. If getting care in a hospital or a skilled nursing facility is against a member's religious beliefs, we will instead provide coverage for care in a religious nonmedical health care institution. You may choose to pursue medical care at any time for any reason. This benefit is provided only for Part A inpatient services (nonmedical health care services). Medicare will only pay for nonmedical health care services provided by religious nonmedical health care institutions.

### **Section 6.2 What care from a religious nonmedical health care institution is covered by our plan?**

To get care from a religious nonmedical health care institution, you must sign a legal document that says you are conscientiously opposed to getting medical treatment that is "non-excepted."

- "Non-excepted" medical care or treatment is any medical care or treatment that is voluntary and not required by any federal, state, or local law.
- "Excepted" medical treatment is medical care or treatment that you get that is not voluntary or is required under federal, state, or local law.

To be covered by our plan, the care you get from a religious nonmedical health care institution must meet the following conditions:

- The facility providing the care must be certified by Medicare.
- Our plan's coverage of services you receive is limited to nonreligious aspects of care.
- If you get services from this institution that are provided to you in a facility, the following conditions apply:
  - ◆ You must have a medical condition that would allow you to receive covered services for inpatient hospital care or skilled nursing facility care.
  - ◆ – and – you must get approval in advance from our plan before you are admitted to the facility or your stay will not be covered.

**Note:** Covered services are subject to the same limitations and cost-sharing required for services provided by network providers as described in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of the EOC, Chapters 4 and 12.

## **SECTION 7. Rules for ownership of durable medical equipment**

### **Section 7.1 Will you own the durable medical equipment after making a certain number of payments under our plan?**

Durable medical equipment (DME) includes items such as oxygen equipment and supplies, wheelchairs, walkers, powered mattress systems, crutches, diabetic supplies, speech-generating devices, IV infusion pumps, nebulizers, and hospital beds ordered by a provider for use in the home. The member always owns certain items, such as prosthetics. In this section, we discuss other types of DME that you must rent.

In Original Medicare, people who rent certain types of DME own the equipment after paying copayments for the item for 13 months. As a member of our plan, however, you will not acquire ownership of rented DME items no matter how many copayments you make for the item while a member of our plan. Even if you made up to 12 consecutive payments for the DME item under Original Medicare before you joined our plan, you will not acquire ownership no matter how many copayments you make for the item while a member of our plan.

#### **What happens to payments you made for durable medical equipment if you switch to Original Medicare?**

If you did not acquire ownership of the DME item while in our plan, you will have to make 13 new consecutive payments after you switch to Original Medicare in order to own the item. Payments you made while in our plan do not count toward these 13 consecutive payments.

If you made fewer than 13 payments for the DME item under Original Medicare before you joined our plan, your previous payments also do not count toward the 13 consecutive payments. You will have to make 13 new consecutive payments after you return to Original Medicare in

order to own the item. There are no exceptions to this case when you return to Original Medicare.

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**CHAPTER 4. Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)**

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## **SECTION 1. Understanding your out-of-pocket costs for covered services**

This chapter and the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** focuses on your covered services and what you pay for your medical benefits. The Medical Benefits Chart lists your covered services and some limitations and shows how much you will pay for each covered service as a member of our plan. Later in this chapter, you can find information about medical services that are not covered. It also explains limits on certain services. In addition, please see Chapters 3, 11, and 12 for additional coverage information, including limitations (for example, coordination of benefits, durable medical equipment, home health care, skilled nursing facility care, and third party liability).

### **Section 1.1 Types of out-of-pocket costs you may pay for your covered services**

To understand the payment information we give you in this chapter, you need to know about the types of out-of-pocket costs you may pay for your covered services.

- A "**copayment**" is the fixed amount you pay each time you receive certain medical services. You pay a copayment at the time you get the medical service, unless we do not collect all cost-sharing at that time and send you a bill later. (The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** tells you more about your copayments.)
- "**Coinsurance**" is the percentage you pay of the total cost of certain medical services. You pay a coinsurance at the time you get the medical service, unless we do not collect all cost-sharing at that time and send you a bill later. (The Medical Benefits Chart located found at the front of this **EOC** tells you more about your coinsurance.)
- The "**deductible**" is the amount you must pay for medical services before our plan begins to pay its share for your covered medical services. (**Note:** Not all plans have a deductible.) Until you have paid the deductible amount, you must pay the full cost of your covered services. Once you have paid your deductible, we will begin to pay our share of the costs for covered medical services and you will pay your share (your copayment or coinsurance). The deductible does not apply to some services. (The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** tells you if your plan has a deductible, the deductible amount, and which services are subject to the deductible.)

Most people who qualify for Medicaid or for the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB) program should never pay deductibles, copayments or coinsurance. Be sure to show your proof of Medicaid or QMB eligibility to your provider, if applicable. If you think that you are being asked to pay improperly, contact Member Services.

### **Section 1.2 What is the most you will pay for Medicare Part A and Part B covered medical services?**

Because you are enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan, there is a limit to how much you have to pay out-of-pocket each year for in-network medical services that are covered under Medicare

Part A and Part B (see the Medical Benefits Chart located at the front of this **EOC**). This limit is called the maximum out-of-pocket amount for medical services.

As a member of our plan, the most you will have to pay out-of-pocket for in-network covered Part A and Part B services in 2020 is stated in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**. The amounts you pay for deductibles (if your plan has a deductible), copayments, and coinsurance for in-network covered services count toward this maximum out-of-pocket amount. The amounts you pay for your plan premiums and for your Part D prescription drugs do not count toward your maximum out-of-pocket amount. In addition, amounts you pay for some services do not count toward your maximum out-of-pocket amount. These services are marked with an asterisk (\*) in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

If you reach the maximum out-of-pocket amount stated in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**, you will not have to pay any out-of-pocket costs for the rest of the year for in-network covered Part A and Part B services. However, you must continue to pay your plan premium and the Medicare Part B premium (unless your Part B premium is paid for you by Medicaid or another third party).

### **Section 1.3 Our plan does not allow providers to "balance bill" you**

As a member of our plan, an important protection for you is that, after you meet any deductibles (if applicable to your plan), you only have to pay your cost-sharing amount when you get services covered by our plan. We do not allow providers to add additional separate charges, called "balance billing." This protection (that you never pay more than your cost-sharing amount) applies even if we pay the provider less than the provider charges for a service and even if there is a dispute and we don't pay certain provider charges.

Here is how this protection works:

- If your cost-sharing is a copayment (a set amount of dollars, for example, \$15.00), then you pay only that amount for any covered services from a network provider.
- If your cost-sharing is a coinsurance (a percentage of the total charges), then you never pay more than that percentage. However, your cost depends upon which type of provider you see:
  - ◆ If you receive the covered services from a network provider, you pay the coinsurance percentage multiplied by our plan's reimbursement rate (as determined in the contract between the provider and our plan).
  - ◆ If you receive the covered services from an out-of-network provider who participates with Medicare, you pay the coinsurance percentage multiplied by the Medicare payment rate for participating providers. (Remember, we cover services from out-of-network providers only in certain situations, such as when you get a referral.)
  - ◆ If you receive the covered services from an out-of-network provider who does not participate with Medicare, you pay the coinsurance percentage multiplied by the Medicare payment rate for nonparticipating providers. (Remember, we cover services from out-of-network providers only in certain situations, such as when you get a referral.)

- ◆ If you believe a provider has “balance billed” you, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

## **SECTION 2. Use the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this EOC to find out what is covered for you and how much you will pay**

### **Section 2.1 Your medical benefits and costs as a member of our plan**


The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** lists the services our plan covers and what you pay out-of-pocket for each service. The services listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** are covered only when the following coverage requirements are met:

- Your Medicare-covered services must be provided according to the coverage guidelines established by Medicare.
- Your services (including medical care, services, supplies, and equipment) must be medically necessary. "Medically necessary" means that the services, supplies, or drugs are needed for the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of your medical condition and meet accepted standards of medical practice.
- You receive your care from a network provider. In most cases, care you receive from an out-of-network provider will not be covered. Chapter 3 provides more information about requirements for using network providers and the situations when we will cover services from an out-of-network provider.
- You have a primary care provider (a PCP) who is providing and overseeing your care. In most situations, your PCP must give you approval in advance before you can see other providers in our plan's network. This is called giving you a "referral." Chapter 3 provides more information about getting a referral and the situations when you do not need a referral.
- Some of the services listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** are covered only if your doctor or other network provider gets approval in advance (sometimes called "prior authorization") from us. Covered services that need approval in advance are marked in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** with a footnote (†). In addition, see Section 2.2 in this chapter and Chapter 3, Section 2.3, for more information about prior authorization, including other services that require prior authorization that are not listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

Other important things to know about our coverage:

- Like all Medicare health plans, we cover everything that Original Medicare covers. For some of these benefits, you pay more in our plan than you would in Original Medicare. For others, you pay less. (If you want to know more about the coverage and costs of Original Medicare, look in your **Medicare & You 2020** handbook. View it online at <https://www.medicare.gov> or ask for a copy by calling **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.)

- For all preventive services that are covered at no cost under Original Medicare, we also cover the service at no cost to you. However, if you also are treated or monitored for an existing medical condition during the visit when you receive the preventive service, cost-sharing will apply for the care received for the existing medical condition.
- Sometimes Medicare adds coverage under Original Medicare for new services during the year. If Medicare adds coverage for any services during 2020, either Medicare or our plan will cover those services.

 You will see this apple next to the preventive services in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

### SECTION 3. What services are not covered by our plan?

#### Section 3.1 Services we do *not* cover (exclusions)

This section tells you what services are "excluded" from Medicare coverage and, therefore, are not covered by this plan. If a service is "excluded," it means that we don't cover the service.

The chart below lists services and items that either are not covered under any condition or are covered only under specific conditions.

If you get services that are excluded (not covered), you must pay for them yourself. We won't pay for the excluded medical services listed in the chart below except under the specific conditions listed. The only exception is we will pay if a service in the chart below is found upon appeal to be a medical service that we should have paid for or covered because of your specific situation. (For information about appealing a decision we have made to not cover a medical service, go to Chapter 9, Section 5.3, in this booklet.)

All exclusions or limitations on services are described in the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this **EOC** or in the chart below. Even if you receive the excluded services at an emergency facility, the excluded services are still not covered and our plan will not pay for them.

Services not covered by Medicare	Not covered under any condition	Covered only under specific conditions
Services considered not reasonable and necessary, according to the standards of Original Medicare		√ This exclusion doesn't apply to services or items that aren't covered by Original Medicare but are covered by our plan.
Experimental medical and surgical procedures, equipment and medications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experimental procedures and items are those items</li> </ul>		√ May be covered by Original Medicare under a Medicare-approved clinical research study.

Services not covered by Medicare	Not covered under any condition	Covered only under specific conditions
and procedures determined by our plan and Original Medicare to not be generally accepted by the medical community		(See Chapter 3, Section 5 for more information about clinical research studies.)
Private room in a hospital		√ Covered only when medically necessary.
Personal items in your room at a hospital or a skilled nursing facility, such as a telephone or a television	√	
Full-time nursing care in your home	√	
Custodial care is care provided in a nursing home, hospice, or other facility setting when you do not require skilled medical care or skilled nursing care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Custodial care is personal care that does not require the continuing attention of trained medical or paramedical personnel, such as care that helps you with activities of daily living, such as bathing or dressing</li> </ul>	√	
Homemaker services include basic household assistance, including light housekeeping or light meal preparation	√	
Fees charged by your immediate relatives or members of your household	√	
Cosmetic surgery or procedures		√

Services not covered by Medicare	Not covered under any condition	Covered only under specific conditions
		<p>Covered in cases of an accidental injury or for improvement of the functioning of a malformed body member.</p> <p>Covered for all stages of reconstruction for a breast after a mastectomy, as well as for the unaffected breast to produce a symmetrical appearance.</p>
Routine dental care, such as cleanings, fillings, or dentures		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> <p>Not covered unless your group has purchased coverage. Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this <b>EOC</b>.</p>
Nonroutine dental care		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> <p>Dental care required to treat illness or injury may be covered as inpatient or outpatient care.</p>
Routine chiropractic care		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> <p>Manual manipulation of the spine to correct a subluxation is covered.</p> <p>In addition, this exclusion does not apply if your employer purchased coverage for additional chiropractic care. Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this <b>EOC</b>.</p>
Routine foot care		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> <p>Some limited coverage provided according to Medicare guidelines, for example, if you have diabetes.</p>
Home-delivered meals	√	
Orthopedic shoes		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> <p>If shoes are part of a leg brace and are included in the cost of the brace, or the shoes are for a person with diabetic foot disease.</p>

Services not covered by Medicare	Not covered under any condition	Covered only under specific conditions
Supportive devices for the feet		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> Orthopedic or therapeutic footwear for people with diabetic foot disease.
Hearing aids		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> This exclusion does not apply if your group has purchased hearing aid coverage. Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart in the front of this <b>EOC</b> .  <b>Note:</b> For all members, this hearing aid exclusion does not apply to cochlear implants and osseointegrated external hearing devices covered by Medicare.
Industrial frames	√	
Lenses and sunglasses without refractive value		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> This exclusion does not apply to any of the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A clear balance lens if only one eye needs correction.</li> <li>• Tinted lenses when medically necessary to treat macular degeneration or retinitis pigmentosa.</li> </ul>
Replacement of lost, broken, or damaged lenses or frames	√	
Eyeglass or contact lens adornment, such as engraving, faceting, or jewelery	√	
Eyewear items that do not require a prescription by law (other than eyeglass frames), such as eyeglass holders, eyeglass cases, and repair kits	√	



Services not covered by Medicare	Not covered under any condition	Covered only under specific conditions
Radial keratotomy, LASIK surgery, and other low vision aids	√	
Reversal of sterilization procedures and non-prescription contraceptive supplies.	√	
Acupuncture		√ This exclusion does not apply if your employer has purchased coverage for acupuncture. Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of the <b>EOC</b> .
Naturopath services (uses natural or alternative treatments)	√	
Private duty nursing	√	
Elective or voluntary enhancement procedures or services (including weight loss, hair growth, sexual performance, athletic performance, cosmetic purposes, anti-aging, and mental performance)		√ Covered if medically necessary and covered under Original Medicare.
Services provided to veterans in Veterans Affairs (VA) facilities		√ When emergency services are received at a VA hospital and the VA cost-sharing is more than the cost-sharing under our plan, we will reimburse veterans for the difference. Members are still responsible for our plan's cost-sharing amounts.
Reconstructive surgery that offers only a minimal improvement in appearance or is performed to alter or		√ We cover reconstructive surgery to correct or repair abnormal structures of the body caused by congenital



Services not covered by Medicare	Not covered under any condition	Covered only under specific conditions
reshape normal structures of the body in order to improve appearance		defect, developmental abnormalities, accidental injury, trauma, infection, tumors, or disease, if a network physician determines that it is necessary to improve function, or create a normal appearance, to the extent possible.
Surgery that, in the judgment of a network physician specializing in reconstructive surgery, offers only a minimal improvement in appearance. Surgery that is performed to alter or reshape normal structures of the body in order to improve appearance	√	
Nonconventional intraocular lenses (IOLs) following cataract surgery (for example, a presbyopia-correcting IOL)		√ You may request and we may provide insertion of a presbyopia-correcting IOL or astigmatism-correcting IOL following cataract surgery in lieu of a conventional IOL. However, you must pay the difference between Plan Charges for a nonconventional IOL and associated services and Plan Charges for insertion of a conventional IOL following cataract surgery.
Directed blood donations	√	
Massage therapy		√ Covered when ordered as part of physical therapy program in accord with Medicare guidelines.
Transportation by air, car, taxi, bus, gurney van, wheelchair van, and any other type of transportation (other than a licensed ambulance),	√	

Services not covered by Medicare	Not covered under any condition	Covered only under specific conditions
even if it is the only way to travel to a network provider		
Licensed ambulance services without transport		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> Covered if the ambulance transports you or if covered by Medicare.
Physical exams and other services (1) required for obtaining or maintaining employment or participation in employee programs, (2) required for insurance or licensing, or (3) on court order or required for parole or probation		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> Covered if a network physician determines that the services are medically necessary or medically appropriate preventive care.
Services related to noncovered services or items		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> When a service or item is not covered, all services related to the noncovered service or item are excluded, (1) except for services or items we would otherwise cover to treat complications of the noncovered service or item, or (2) unless covered in accord with Medicare guidelines.
Services not approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration. Drugs, supplements, tests, vaccines, devices, radioactive materials, and any other services that by law require federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval in order to be sold in the U.S., but are not approved by the FDA		<p style="text-align: center;">√</p> This exclusion applies to services provided anywhere, even outside the U.S. It doesn't apply to Medicare-covered clinical trials or covered emergency care you receive outside the U.S.

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**Did you know there are programs to help people pay for their drugs?**

There are programs to help people with limited resources pay for their drugs. These include "Extra Help" and State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs. For more information, see Chapter 2, Section 7.

**Are you currently getting help to pay for your drugs?**

If you are in a program that helps pay for your drugs, **some information in this Evidence of Coverage about the costs for Part D prescription drugs does not apply to you.** We sent you a separate document, called the "**Evidence of Coverage Rider for People Who Get Extra Help Paying for Prescription Drugs**" (also known as the "Low Income Subsidy Rider" or the "LIS Rider"), which tells you about your drug coverage. If you don't have this rider, please call Member Services and ask for the "LIS Rider." Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

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**SECTION 1. Introduction**

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**Section 1.1 This chapter describes your coverage for Part D drugs**

This chapter explains rules for using your coverage for Part D drugs. The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** and the next chapter tell you what you pay for Part D drugs (Chapter 6, "What you pay for your Part D prescription drugs").

In addition to your coverage for Part D drugs, we also cover some drugs under our plan's medical benefits. Through our coverage of Medicare Part A benefits, we generally cover drugs you are given during covered stays in the hospital or in a skilled nursing facility. Through our coverage of Medicare Part B benefits, we cover drugs including certain chemotherapy drugs, certain drug injections you are given during an office visit, and drugs you are given at a dialysis facility. The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** tells you about the benefits and costs for drugs during a covered hospital or skilled nursing facility stay, as well as your benefits and costs for Part B drugs.

Your drugs may be covered by Original Medicare if you are in Medicare hospice. We only cover Medicare Parts A, B, and D services and drugs that are unrelated to your terminal prognosis and related conditions, and therefore not covered under the Medicare hospice benefit. For more information, please see Section 9.4 in this chapter, "What if you're in Medicare-certified hospice." For information on hospice coverage, see the hospice section of the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this **EOC**.

If your group has purchased enhanced Part D prescription drug coverage, we cover some drugs that are not covered by Medicare Part B and Part D in accord with our formulary for non-Part D

drugs. The Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this **EOC** tells you about your benefits and costs for these drugs.

The following sections discuss coverage of your drugs under our plan's Part D benefit rules. Section 9 in this chapter, "Part D drug coverage in special situations," includes more information about your Part D coverage and Original Medicare.

## **Section 1.2 Basic rules for our plan's Part D drug coverage**

Our plan will generally cover your drugs as long as you follow these basic rules:

- You must have a provider (a doctor, dentist, or other prescriber) write your prescription.
- Your prescriber must either accept Medicare or file documentation with CMS showing that he or she is qualified to write prescriptions, or your Part D claim will be denied. You should ask your prescribers the next time you call or visit if they meet this condition. If not, please be aware it takes time for your prescriber to submit the necessary paperwork to be processed.
- You generally must use a network pharmacy to fill your prescription. (See Section 2, "Fill your prescriptions at a network pharmacy or through our mail-order service.")
- Your drug must be on our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary** (we call it the "Drug List" for short). (See Section 3, "Your drugs need to be on our Drug List.")
- Your drug must be used for a medically accepted indication. A "medically accepted indication" is a use of the drug that is either approved by the Food and Drug Administration or supported by certain reference books. (See Section 3 for more information about a medically accepted indication.)

## **SECTION 2. Fill your prescription at a network pharmacy or through our mail-order service**

### **Section 2.1 To have your prescription covered, use a network pharmacy**

In most cases, your prescriptions are covered only if they are filled at our network pharmacies. (See Section 2.5 for information about when we would cover prescriptions filled at out-of-network pharmacies.)

A network pharmacy is a pharmacy that has a contract with our plan to provide your covered prescription drugs. The term "covered drugs" means all of the Part D prescription drugs that are covered on our plan's Drug List.

Our network includes pharmacies that offer standard cost-sharing and pharmacies that offer preferred cost-sharing. You may go to either type of network pharmacy to receive your covered prescription drugs. Your cost-sharing may be less at pharmacies with preferred cost-sharing.

## Section 2.2 Finding network pharmacies

### How do you find a network pharmacy in your area?

To find a network pharmacy, you can look in your **Pharmacy Directory**, visit our website ([kp.org/directory](http://kp.org/directory)), or call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

You may go to any of our network pharmacies. However, your costs may be even less for your covered drugs if you use a network pharmacy that offers preferred cost-sharing rather than a network pharmacy that offers standard cost-sharing. The **Pharmacy Directory** will tell you which of the network pharmacies offer preferred cost-sharing. You can find out more about how your out-of-pocket costs could be different for different drugs by contacting us. If you switch from one network pharmacy. If you switch from one network pharmacy to another, and you need a refill of a drug you have been taking, you can ask to have your prescription transferred to your new network pharmacy.

### What if the pharmacy you have been using leaves the network?

If the pharmacy you have been using leaves our plan's network, you will have to find a new pharmacy that is in our network. Or if the pharmacy you have been using stays within the network but is no longer offering preferred cost-sharing, you may switch to a different pharmacy. To find another network pharmacy in your area, you can get help from Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) or use the **Pharmacy Directory**. You can also find information on our website at [kp.org/directory](http://kp.org/directory).

### What if you need a specialized pharmacy?

Sometimes prescriptions must be filled at a specialized pharmacy. Specialized pharmacies include:

- Pharmacies that supply drugs for home infusion therapy.
- Pharmacies that supply drugs for residents of a long-term care (LTC) facility. Usually, an LTC facility (such as a nursing home) has its own pharmacy. If you are in an LTC facility, we must ensure that you are able to routinely receive your Part D benefits through our network of LTC pharmacies, which is typically the pharmacy that the LTC facility uses. If you have any difficulty accessing your Part D benefits in an LTC facility, please contact Member Services.
- Pharmacies that serve the Indian Health Service / Tribal / Urban Indian Health Program (not available in Puerto Rico). Except in emergencies, only Native Americans or Alaska Natives have access to these pharmacies in our network. I/T/U pharmacies must be within our service area.
- Pharmacies that dispense drugs that are restricted by the FDA to certain locations or that require special handling, provider coordination, or education on their use.

**Note: This scenario should happen rarely.**

To locate a specialized pharmacy, look in your **Pharmacy Directory** or call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).



### **Section 2.3 Using our mail-order services**

For certain kinds of drugs, you can use our plan's network mail-order services. Generally, the drugs provided through mail-order are drugs that you take on a regular basis for a chronic or long-term medical condition. The drugs available through our mail-order service are marked as "mail-order" drugs on our Drug List.

Our mail-order service requires you to order at least a 30-day supply of the drug and no more than a 90-day supply.

To get information about filling your prescriptions by mail, call Member Services. You can conveniently order your prescription refills in the following ways:

- Register and order online securely at [kp.org/refill](https://kp.org/refill).
- Call our mail-order service at **1-866-523-6059 (TTY 711)**, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Call the highlighted number listed on your prescription label and follow the prompts. Be sure to select the mail delivery option when prompted.
- Mail your prescription or refill request on a mail-order form available at any Kaiser Permanente network pharmacy.

When you order refills for home delivery online, by phone, or in writing, you must pay your cost-sharing when you place your order (there are no shipping charges for regular mail-order service). If you prefer, you may designate a network pharmacy where you want to pick up and pay for your prescription. Please contact a network pharmacy if you have a question about whether your prescription can be mailed or see our *Drug List* for information about the drugs that can be mailed.

Usually a mail-order pharmacy order will get to you in no more than 5 days. If your mail-order prescription is delayed, please call the number listed above or on your prescription bottle's label for assistance. Also, if you cannot wait for your prescription to arrive from our mail-order pharmacy, you can get an urgent supply by calling your local preferred network retail pharmacy listed in your **Pharmacy Directory** or at [kp.org/directory](https://kp.org/directory). Please be aware that you may pay more if you get a 90-day supply from a network retail pharmacy instead of from our preferred mail-order pharmacy.

**Refills on mail-order prescriptions.** For refills, please contact your pharmacy at least 5 days before you think the drugs you have on hand will run out to make sure your next order is shipped to you in time.

So the pharmacy can reach you to confirm your order before shipping, please make sure to let the pharmacy know the best ways to contact you. When you place your order, please provide your current contact information in case we need to reach you.



## **Section 2.4 How can you get a long-term supply of drugs?**

When you get a long-term supply of drugs, your cost-sharing may be lower. Our plan offers two ways to get a long-term supply (also called an "extended supply") of "maintenance" drugs on our plan's Drug List. Maintenance drugs are drugs that you take on a regular basis for a chronic or long-term medical condition. You may order this supply through mail order (see Section 2.3 in this chapter) or you may go to a retail pharmacy.

1. Some retail pharmacies in our network allow you to get a long-term supply of maintenance drugs. Your Pharmacy Directory tells you which pharmacies in our network can give you a long-term supply of maintenance drugs. You can also call Member Services for more information (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
2. For certain kinds of drugs, you can use our plan's network mail-order services. The drugs available through our mail-order service are marked as "mail-order" drugs on our Drug List. Our mail-order service requires you to order at least a 30-day supply of the drug and no more than a 90-day supply. See Section 2.3 for more information about using our mail-order services.

## **Section 2.5 When can you use a pharmacy that is not in our network?**

### **Your prescription may be covered in certain situations**

Generally, we cover drugs filled at an out-of-network pharmacy only when you are not able to use a network pharmacy. To help you, we have network pharmacies outside of our service area where you can get your prescriptions filled as a member of our plan. If you cannot use a network pharmacy, here are the circumstances when we would cover prescriptions filled at an out-of-network pharmacy:

- If you are traveling within the United States and its territories but outside the service area and you become ill or run out of your covered Part D prescription drugs, we will cover prescriptions that are filled at an out-of-network pharmacy in limited, nonroutine circumstances according to our Medicare Part D formulary guidelines.
- If you need a Medicare Part D prescription drug in conjunction with covered out-of-network emergency care or out-of-area urgent care, we will cover up to a 30-day supply from an out-of-network pharmacy. **Note:** Prescription drugs prescribed and provided outside of the United States and its territories as part of covered emergency or urgent care are covered up to a 30-day supply in a 30-day period. These drugs are not covered under Medicare Part D; therefore, payments for these drugs do not count toward reaching the catastrophic coverage stage.
- If you are unable to obtain a covered drug in a timely manner within our service area because there is no network pharmacy within a reasonable driving distance that provides 24-hour service. We may not cover your prescription if a reasonable person could have purchased the drug at a network pharmacy during normal business hours.
- If you are trying to fill a prescription for a drug that is not regularly stocked at an accessible network pharmacy or available through our mail-order pharmacy (including high-cost drugs).

- If you are not able to get your prescriptions from a network pharmacy during a disaster.

**In these situations, please check first with Member Services to see if there is a network pharmacy nearby.** Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet. You may be required to pay the difference between what you pay for the drug at the out-of-network pharmacy and the cost that we would cover at an in-network pharmacy.

### **How do you ask for reimbursement from our plan?**

If you must use an out-of-network pharmacy, you will generally have to pay the full cost (rather than your normal share of the cost) at the time you fill your prescription. You can ask us to reimburse you for our share of the cost. (Chapter 7, Section 2.1, explains how to ask us to pay you back.)

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## **SECTION 3. Your drugs need to be on our "Drug List"**

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### **Section 3.1 The "Drug List" tells which Part D drugs are covered**

Our plan has a **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**. In this **Evidence of Coverage**, we call it the "Drug List" for short.

The drugs on this list are selected by our plan with the help of a team of doctors and pharmacists. The list must meet requirements set by Medicare. Medicare has approved our plan's Drug List.

The drugs on the Drug List are only those covered under Medicare Part D (earlier in this chapter, Section 1.1 explains about Part D drugs).

We will generally cover a drug on our plan's Drug List as long as you follow the other coverage rules explained in this chapter and the use of the drug is a medically accepted indication. A "medically accepted indication" is a use of the drug that is either:

- Approved by the Food and Drug Administration. (That is, the Food and Drug Administration has approved the drug for the diagnosis or condition for which it is being prescribed.)
- Or supported by certain reference books. (These reference books are the American Hospital Formulary Service Drug Information; the DRUGDEX Information System; and, for cancer, the National Comprehensive Cancer Network and Clinical Pharmacology or their successors.)

### **Our Drug List includes both brand-name and generic drugs**

A generic drug is a prescription drug that has the same active ingredients as the brand-name drug. Generally, it works just as well as the brand-name drug and usually costs less. There are generic drug substitutes available for many brand-name drugs.

### **What is not on our Drug List?**

Our plan does not cover all prescription drugs.

- In some cases, the law does not allow any Medicare plan to cover certain types of drugs (for more information about this, see Section 7.1 in this chapter).
- In other cases, we have decided not to include a particular drug on our Drug List.

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**

### **Section 3.2 There are six "cost-sharing" tiers" for drugs on our *Drug List***

Every drug on our plan's Drug List is in one of six cost-sharing tiers. Depending upon the plan your group has selected, cost-sharing may vary from one tier to the next. In general, the higher the cost-sharing tier, the higher your cost for the drug:

- Cost-sharing **Tier 1** for preferred generic drugs.
- Cost-sharing **Tier 2** for generic drugs (this tier includes some brand-name drugs).
- Cost-sharing **Tier 3** for preferred brand-name drugs.
- Cost-sharing **Tier 4** for nonpreferred brand-name drugs (this tier includes some generic drugs).
- Cost-sharing **Tier 5** for specialty-tier drugs (this tier includes both generic and brand-name drugs).
- Cost-sharing **Tier 6** for injectable Part D vaccines (this tier includes only brand-name drugs).

To find out which cost-sharing tier your drug is in, look it up on our Drug List. The amount you pay for drugs in each cost-sharing tier is shown in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

### **Section 3.3 How can you find out if a specific drug is on our Drug List?**

**You have three ways to find out:**

1. Check the most recent Drug List we provided electronically at **kp.org**.
2. Visit our website (**kp.org/seniorrx**). Our Drug List (**Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**) on the website is always the most current.
3. Call Member Services to find out if a particular drug is on our plan's Drug List (**Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**) or to ask for a copy of the list. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

## **SECTION 4. There are restrictions on coverage for some drugs**

### **Section 4.1 Why do some drugs have restrictions?**

For certain prescription drugs, special rules restrict how and when we cover them. A team of doctors and pharmacists developed these rules to help our members use drugs in the most effective ways. These special rules also help control overall drug costs, which keeps your drug coverage more affordable.

In general, our rules encourage you to get a drug that works for your medical condition and is safe and effective. Whenever a safe, lower-cost drug will work just as well medically as a higher-

cost drug, our plan's rules are designed to encourage you and your provider to use that lower-cost option. We also need to comply with Medicare's rules and regulations for drug coverage and cost-sharing.

If there is a restriction for your drug, it usually means that you or your provider will have to take extra steps in order for us to cover the drug. If you want us to waive the restriction for you, you will need to use the coverage decision process and ask us to make an exception. We may or may not agree to waive the restriction for you. (See Chapter 9, Section 6.2, for information about asking for exceptions.)

Please note that sometimes a drug may appear more than once on our Drug List (**Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**). This is because different restrictions or cost-sharing may apply based on factors such as the strength, amount, or form of the drug prescribed by your health care provider (for instance, 10 mg versus 100 mg; one per day versus two per day; tablet versus liquid).

## **Section 4.2 What kinds of restrictions?**

Our plan uses different types of restrictions to help our members use drugs in the most effective ways. The sections below tell you more about the types of restrictions we use for certain drugs.

### **Restricting brand-name drugs when a generic version is available**

Generally, a "generic" drug works the same as a brand-name drug and usually costs less. When a generic version of a brand-name drug is available, our network pharmacies will provide you the generic version. We usually will not cover the brand-name drug when a generic version is available. However, if your provider has told us the medical reason that neither the generic drug nor other covered drugs that treat the same condition will work for you, then we will cover the brand-name drug. (Your share of the cost may be greater for the brand-name drug than for the generic drug.)

### **Getting plan approval in advance**

For certain drugs, you or your provider need to get approval from our plan before we will agree to cover the drug for you. This is called "**prior authorization.**" Sometimes the requirement for getting approval in advance helps guide appropriate use of certain drugs. If you do not get this approval, your drug might not be covered by our plan.

## **Section 4.3 Do any of these restrictions apply to your drugs?**

Our plan's Drug List includes information about the restrictions described above. To find out if any of these restrictions apply to a drug you take or want to take, check our Drug List. For the most up-to-date information, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) or check our website ([kp.org/seniorrx](http://kp.org/seniorrx)).

If there is a restriction for your drug, it usually means that you or your provider will have to take extra steps in order for us to cover the drug. If there is a restriction on the drug you want to take, you should contact Member Services to learn what you or your provider would need to do to get

coverage for the drug. If you want us to waive the restriction for you, you will need to use the coverage decision process and ask us to make an exception. We may or may not agree to waive the restriction for you. (See Chapter 9, Section 6.2, for information about asking for exceptions.)

## **SECTION 5. What if one of your drugs is not covered in the way you'd like it to be covered?**

### **Section 5.1 There are things you can do if your drug is not covered in the way you'd like it to be covered**

We hope that your drug coverage will work well for you. But it's possible that there could be a prescription drug you are currently taking, or one that you and your provider think you should be taking that is not on our formulary or is on our formulary with restrictions. For example:

- The drug might not be covered at all. Or maybe a generic version of the drug is covered but the brand-name version you want to take is not covered.
- The drug is covered, but there are extra rules or restrictions on coverage for that drug. As explained in Section 4, some of the drugs covered by our plan have extra rules to restrict their use. In some cases, you may want us to waive the restriction for you.
- The drug is covered, but it is in a cost-sharing tier that makes your cost-sharing more expensive than you think it should be. Our plan puts each covered drug into one of six different cost-sharing tiers. How much you pay for your prescription depends in part on which cost-sharing tier your drug is in.

There are things you can do if your drug is not covered in the way that you'd like it to be covered. Your options depend upon what type of problem you have:

- If your drug is not on our Drug List or if your drug is restricted, go to Section 5.2 to learn what you can do.
- If your drug is in a cost-sharing tier that makes your cost more expensive than you think it should be, go to Section 5.3 to learn what you can do.

### **Section 5.2 What can you do if your drug is not on our Drug List or if the drug is restricted in some way?**

If your drug is not on our Drug List or is restricted, here are things you can do:

- You may be able to get a temporary supply of the drug (only members in certain situations can get a temporary supply). This will give you and your provider time to change to another drug or to file a request to have the drug covered.
- You can change to another drug.
- You can request an exception and ask us to cover the drug or remove restrictions from the drug.

## **You may be able to get a temporary supply**

Under certain circumstances, we can offer a temporary supply of a drug to you when your drug is not on our Drug List or when it is restricted in some way. Doing this gives you time to talk with your provider about the change in coverage and figure out what to do.

To be eligible for a temporary supply, you must meet the two requirements below:

### **1. The change to your drug coverage must be one of the following types of changes:**

- ◆ The drug you have been taking is no longer on our plan's Drug List.
- ◆ Or the drug you have been taking is now restricted in some way (Section 4 in this chapter tells you about restrictions).

### **2. You must be in one of the situations described below:**

- ◆ **For those members who are new or who were in our plan last year:** We will cover a temporary supply of your drug during the first 90 days of your membership in our plan if you are new and during the first 90 days of the calendar year if you were in our plan last year. This temporary supply will be for a maximum of a 30-day supply. If your prescription is written for fewer days, we will allow multiple fills to provide up to a maximum of a 30-day supply of medication. The prescription must be filled at a network pharmacy. (Please note that the long-term care pharmacy may provide the drug in smaller amounts at a time to prevent waste.)
- ◆ **For those members who have been in our plan for more than 90 days and reside in a long-term care (LTC) facility and need a supply right away:** We will cover one 31-day supply of a particular drug, or less if your prescription is written for fewer days. This is in addition to the above temporary supply situation.
- ◆ **For current members with level of care changes,** if you enter into or are discharged from a hospital, skilled nursing facility, or long-term care facility to a different care setting or home, this is what is known as a level of care change. When your level of care changes, you may require an additional fill of your medication. We will generally cover up to a one-month supply of your Part D drugs during this level of care transition period even if the drug is not on our Drug List.

To ask for a temporary supply, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

During the time when you are getting a temporary supply of a drug, you should talk with your provider to decide what to do when your temporary supply runs out. You can either switch to a different drug covered by our plan or ask us to make an exception for you and cover your current drug. The sections below tell you more about these options.

## **You can change to another drug**

Start by talking with your provider. Perhaps there is a different drug covered by our plan that might work just as well for you. You can call Member Services to ask for a list of covered drugs that treat the same medical condition. This list can help your provider find a covered drug that might work for you. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.



### **You can ask for an exception**

You and your provider can ask us to make an exception for you and cover the drug in the way you would like it to be covered. If your provider says that you have medical reasons that justify asking us for an exception, your provider can help you request an exception to the rule. For example, you can ask us to cover a drug even though it is not on our plan's Drug List. Or you can ask us to make an exception and cover the drug without restrictions.

If you and your provider want to ask for an exception, Chapter 9, Section 6.4, tells you what to do. It explains the procedures and deadlines that have been set by Medicare to make sure your request is handled promptly and fairly.

### **Section 5.3 What can you do if your drug is in a cost-sharing tier you think is too high?**

**If your drug is in a cost-sharing tier you think is too high, here are things you can do:**

#### **You can change to another drug**

If your drug is in a cost-sharing tier you think is too high, start by talking with your provider. Perhaps there is a different drug in a lower cost-sharing tier that might work just as well for you. You can call Member Services to ask for a list of covered drugs that treat the same medical condition. This list can help your provider find a covered drug that might work for you. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

#### **You can ask for an exception**

You and your provider can ask us to make an exception to the cost-sharing tier for the drug so that you pay less for it. If your provider says that you have medical reasons that justify asking us for an exception, your provider can help you request an exception to the rule.

If you and your provider want to ask for an exception, Chapter 9, Section 6.4, tells you what to do. It explains the procedures and deadlines that have been set by Medicare to make sure your request is handled promptly and fairly.

Drugs in our specialty tier (Tier 5) are not eligible for this type of exception. We do not lower the cost-sharing amount for drugs in this tier.

## **SECTION 6. What if your coverage changes for one of your drugs?**

### **Section 6.1 The Drug List can change during the year**

Most of the changes in drug coverage happen at the beginning of each year (January 1). However, during the year, we might make changes to the Drug List. For example, we might:

- Add or remove drugs from the Drug List. New drugs become available, including new generic drugs. Perhaps the government has given approval to a new use for

an existing drug. Sometimes, a drug gets recalled and we decide not to cover it. Or we might remove a drug from the list because it has been found to be ineffective.

- Move a drug to a higher or lower cost-sharing tier.
- Add or remove a restriction on coverage for a drug (for more information about restrictions to coverage, see Section 4 in this chapter).
- Replace a brand-name drug with a generic drug.

We must follow Medicare requirements before we change our Drug List.

## **Section 6.2 What happens if coverage changes for a drug you are taking?**

### **Information on changes to drug coverage**

When changes to the Drug List occur during the year, we post information on our website about those changes. We will update our online Drug List on a regularly scheduled basis to include any changes that have occurred after the last update. Below we point out the times that you would get direct notice if changes are made to a drug that you are then taking. You can also call Member Services for more information (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **Do changes to your drug coverage affect you right away?**

Changes that can affect you this year: In the below cases, you will be affected by the coverage changes during the current year:

- **A new generic drug replaces a brand-name drug on the Drug List (or we change the cost-sharing tier or add new restrictions to the brand-name drug)**
  - ◆ We may immediately remove a brand-name drug on our Drug List if we are replacing it with a newly approved generic version of the same drug that will appear on the same or lower cost-sharing tier and with the same or fewer restrictions. Also, when adding the new generic drug, we may decide to keep the brand-name drug on our Drug List, but immediately move it to a higher cost-sharing tier or add new restrictions.
  - ◆ We may not tell you in advance before we make that change—even if you are currently taking the brand-name drug.
  - ◆ You or your prescriber can ask us to make an exception and continue to cover the brand-name drug for you. For information on how to ask for an exception, see Chapter 9, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)."
  - ◆ If you are taking the brand-name drug at the time we make the change, we will provide you with information about the specific change(s) we made. This will also include information on the steps you may take to request an exception to cover the brand-name drug. You may not get this notice before we make the change.
- **Unsafe drugs and other drugs on the Drug List that are withdrawn from the market.**
  - ◆ Once in a while, a drug may be suddenly withdrawn because it has been found to be unsafe or removed from the market for another reason. If this happens, we will immediately remove the drug from the Drug List. If you are taking that drug, we will let you know of this change right away.



- ◆ Your prescriber will also know about this change, and can work with you to find another drug for your condition.
- **Other changes to drugs on the Drug List.**
  - ◆ We may make other changes once the year has started that affect drugs you are taking. For instance, we might add a generic drug that is not new to the market to replace a brand-name drug or change the cost-sharing tier or add new restrictions to the brand-name drug. We also might make changes based on FDA boxed warnings or new clinical guidelines recognized by Medicare. We must give you at least 30 days' advance notice of the change or give you notice of the change and a 30-day refill of the drug you are taking at a network pharmacy
  - ◆ After you receive notice of the change, you should be working with your prescriber to switch to a different drug that we cover.
  - ◆ Or you or your prescriber can ask us to make an exception and continue to cover the drug for you. For information on how to ask for an exception, see Chapter 9, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)."
- **Changes to drugs on the Drug List that will not affect people currently taking the drug:** For changes to the Drug List that are not described above, if you are currently taking the drug, the following types of changes will not affect you until January 1 of the next year if you stay in our plan:
  - ◆ If we move your drug into a higher cost-sharing tier.
  - ◆ If we put a new restriction on your use of the drug.
  - ◆ If we remove your drug from the Drug List.

If any of these changes happen to a drug you are taking (but not because of a market withdrawal, a generic drug replacing a brand-name drug, or other change noted in the sections above), then the change won't affect your use or what you pay as your share of the cost until January 1 of the next year. Until that date, you probably won't see any increase in your payments or any added restriction to your use of the drug. You will not get direct notice this year about changes that do not affect you. However, on January 1 of the next year, the changes will affect you, and it is important to check the new year's Drug List for any changes to drugs.

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## **SECTION 7. What types of drugs are not covered by our plan?**

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### **Section 7.1 Types of drugs we do not cover**

This section tells you what kinds of prescription drugs are "excluded." This means Medicare does not pay for these drugs.

If you get drugs that are excluded, you must pay for them yourself. We won't pay for the drugs that are listed in this section; the only exception is if the requested drug is found upon appeal to be a drug that is not excluded under Part D and we should have paid for or covered it because of

your specific situation. (For information about appealing a decision we have made to not cover a drug, go to Chapter 9, Section 6.5, in this booklet.)

Here are three general rules about drugs that Medicare drug plans will not cover under Part D:

- Our plan's Part D drug coverage cannot cover a drug that would be covered under Medicare Part A or Part B.
- Our plan cannot cover a drug purchased outside the United States and its territories.
- Our plan usually cannot cover off-label use. "Off-label use" is any use of the drug other than those indicated on a drug's label as approved by the Food and Drug Administration.
  - ◆ Generally, coverage for "off-label use" is allowed only when the use is supported by certain reference books. These reference books are the American Hospital Formulary Service Drug Information; the DRUGDEX Information System; and for cancer, the National Comprehensive Cancer Network and Clinical Pharmacology; or their successors. If the use is not supported by any of these reference books, then our plan cannot cover its "off-label use."

Also, by law, these categories of drugs are not covered by Medicare drug plans:

- Nonprescription drugs (also called over-the-counter drugs).
- Drugs when used to promote fertility.
- Drugs when used for the relief of cough or cold symptoms.
- Drugs when used for cosmetic purposes or to promote hair growth.
- Prescription vitamins and mineral products, except prenatal vitamins and fluoride preparations.
- Drugs when used for the treatment of sexual or erectile dysfunction.
- Drugs when used for treatment of anorexia, weight loss, or weight gain.
- Outpatient drugs for which the manufacturer seeks to require that associated tests or monitoring services be purchased exclusively from the manufacturer as a condition of sale.

**If you receive "Extra Help" paying for your drugs**, your state Medicaid program may cover some prescription drugs not normally covered in a Medicare drug plan. Please contact your state Medicaid program to determine what drug coverage may be available to you. (You can find phone numbers and contact information for Medicaid in Chapter 2, Section 6.)

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## **SECTION 8. Show your plan membership card when you fill a prescription**

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### **Section 8.1 Show your membership card**

To fill your prescription, show your plan membership card at the network pharmacy you choose. When you show your plan membership card, the network pharmacy will automatically bill our plan for our share of your covered prescription drug cost. You will need to pay the pharmacy your share of the cost when you pick up your prescription.

## **Section 8.2 What if you don't have your membership card with you?**

If you don't have your plan membership card with you when you fill your prescription, ask the pharmacy to call our plan to get the necessary information.

If the pharmacy is not able to get the necessary information, you may have to pay the full cost of the prescription when you pick it up. You can then ask us to reimburse you for our share. See Chapter 7, Section 2.1, for information about how to ask us for reimbursement.

## **SECTION 9. Part D drug coverage in special situations**

### **Section 9.1 What if you're in a hospital or a skilled nursing facility for a stay that is covered by our plan?**

If you are admitted to a hospital or to a skilled nursing facility for a stay covered by our plan, we will generally cover the cost of your prescription drugs during your stay. Once you leave the hospital or skilled nursing facility, we will cover your drugs as long as the drugs meet all of our rules for coverage. See the previous parts of this section that tell you about the rules for getting drug coverage. The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** gives you more information about drug coverage and what you pay.

**Please note:** When you enter, live in, or leave a skilled nursing facility, you are entitled to a special enrollment period. During this time period, you can switch plans or change your coverage. (Chapter 10, "Ending your membership in our plan," tells you when you can leave our plan and join a different Medicare plan.)

### **Section 9.2 What if you're a resident in a long-term care (LTC) facility?**

Usually, a long-term care (LTC) facility (such as a nursing home) has its own pharmacy, or a pharmacy that supplies drugs for all of its residents. If you are a resident of a long-term care facility, you may get your prescription drugs through the facility's pharmacy as long as it is part of our network.

Check your **Pharmacy Directory** to find out if your long-term care facility's pharmacy is part of our network. If it isn't, or if you need more information, please contact Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

#### **What if you're a resident in a long-term care (LTC) facility and become a new member of our plan?**

If you need a drug that is not on our Drug List or is restricted in some way, we will cover a **temporary supply** of your drug during the first 90 days of your membership. The total supply will be for a maximum of up to a 31-day supply, or less if your prescription is written for fewer days. (Please note that the long-term care (LTC) pharmacy may provide the drug in smaller amounts at a time to prevent waste.)

If you have been a member of our plan for more than 90 days and need a drug that is not on our Drug List or if our plan has any restriction on the drug's coverage, we will cover one 31-day supply, or less if your prescription is written for fewer days.

During the time when you are getting a temporary supply of a drug, you should talk with your provider to decide what to do when your temporary supply runs out. Perhaps there is a different drug covered by our plan that might work just as well for you. Or you and your provider can ask us to make an exception for you and cover the drug in the way you would like it to be covered. If you and your provider want to ask for an exception, Chapter 9, Section 6.4, tells you what to do.

### **Section 9.3 Special note about "creditable coverage"**

Each year your employer or retiree group should send you a notice that tells you if your prescription drug coverage for the next calendar year is "creditable" and the choices you have for drug coverage.

If the coverage from the group plan is "**creditable**," it means that the plan has drug coverage that is expected to pay, on average, at least as much as Medicare's standard prescription drug coverage.

Keep these notices about creditable coverage because you may need them later. If you enroll in a Medicare plan that includes Part D drug coverage, you may need these notices to show that you have maintained creditable coverage. If you didn't get a notice about creditable coverage, from your employer or retiree group plan, you can get a copy from your employer or retiree group's benefits administrator or the employer or union.

### **Section 9.4 What if you're in Medicare-certified hospice?**

Drugs are never covered by both hospice and our plan at the same time. If you are enrolled in Medicare hospice and require an anti-nausea, laxative, pain medication, or antianxiety drug that is not covered by your hospice because it is unrelated to your terminal illness and related conditions, our plan must receive notification from either the prescriber or your hospice provider that the drug is unrelated before our plan can cover the drug. To prevent delays in receiving any unrelated drugs that should be covered by our plan, you can ask your hospice provider or prescriber to make sure we have the notification that the drug is unrelated before you ask a pharmacy to fill your prescription.

In the event you either revoke your hospice election or are discharged from hospice, our plan should cover all your drugs. To prevent any delays at a pharmacy when your Medicare hospice benefit ends, you should bring documentation to the pharmacy to verify your revocation or discharge. See the previous parts of this chapter that tell about the rules for getting drug coverage under Part D. Chapter 6, "What you pay for your Part D prescription drugs," gives more information about drug coverage and what you pay.

## **SECTION 10. Programs on drug safety and managing medications**

### **Section 10.1 Programs to help members use drugs safely**

We conduct drug use reviews for our members to help make sure that they are getting safe and appropriate care. These reviews are especially important for members who have more than one provider who prescribes their drugs.

We do a review each time you fill a prescription. We also review our records on a regular basis. During these reviews, we look for potential problems such as:

- Possible medication errors.
- Drugs that may not be necessary because you are taking another drug to treat the same medical condition.
- Drugs that may not be safe or appropriate because of your age or gender.
- Certain combinations of drugs that could harm you if taken at the same time.
- Prescriptions written for drugs that have ingredients you are allergic to.
- Possible errors in the amount (dosage) of a drug you are taking.
- Unsafe amounts of opioid pain medications.

If we see a possible problem in your use of medications, we will work with your provider to correct the problem.

### **Section 10.2 Drug Management Program (DMP) to help members safely use their opioid medications**

We have a program that can help make sure our members safely use their prescription opioid medications, or other medications that are frequently abused. This program is called a Drug Management Program (DMP). If you use opioid medications that you get from several doctors or pharmacies, we may talk to your doctors to make sure your use is appropriate and medically necessary. Working with your doctors, if we decide you are at risk for misusing or abusing your opioid or benzodiazepine medications, we may limit how you can get those medications. The limitations may be:

- Requiring you to get all your prescriptions for opioid or benzodiazepine medications from one pharmacy.
- Requiring you to get all your prescriptions for opioid or benzodiazepine medications from one doctor.
- Limiting the amount of opioid or benzodiazepine medications we will cover for you.

If we decide that one or more of these limitations should apply to you, we will send you a letter in advance. The letter will have information explaining the terms of the limitations we think

should apply to you. You will also have an opportunity to tell us which doctors or pharmacies you prefer to use. If you think we made a mistake or you disagree with our determination that you are at-risk for prescription drug abuse or the limitation, you and your prescriber have the right to ask us for an appeal. See Chapter 9 for information about how to ask for an appeal.

The DMP may not apply to you if you have certain medical conditions, such as cancer, you are receiving hospice, palliative, or end-of-life care, or you live in a long-term care facility.

### **Section 10.3 Medication Therapy Management (MTM) program to help members manage their medications**

We have a program that can help our members with complex health needs. For example, some members have several medical conditions, take different drugs at the same time, and have high drug costs.

This program is voluntary and free to members. A team of pharmacists and doctors developed the program for us. This program can help make sure that our members get the most benefit from the drugs they take.

Our program is called a Medication Therapy Management (MTM) program. Some members who take medications for different medical conditions may be able to get services through an MTM program. A pharmacist or other health professional will give you a comprehensive review of all your medications. You can talk about how best to take your medications, your costs, and any problems or questions you have about your prescription and over-the-counter medications. You'll get a written summary of this discussion. The summary has a medication action plan that recommends what you can do to make the best use of your medications, with space for you to take notes or write down any follow-up questions. You'll also get a personal medication list that will include all the medications you're taking and why you take them.

It's a good idea to have your medication review before your yearly "Wellness" visit, so you can talk to your doctor about your action plan and medication list. Bring your action plan and medication list with you to your visit or anytime you talk with your doctors, pharmacists, and other health care providers. Also, keep your medication list with you (for example, with your ID) in case you go to the hospital or emergency room.

If we have a program that fits your needs, we will automatically enroll you in the program and send you information. If you decide not to participate, please notify us and we will withdraw you from the program. If you have any questions about these programs, please contact Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

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## **CHAPTER 6. What you pay for your Part D prescription drugs**

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### **Did you know there are programs to help people pay for their drugs?**

There are programs to help people with limited resources pay for their drugs. These include "Extra Help" and State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs. For more information, see Chapter 2, Section 7.

### **Are you currently getting help to pay for your drugs?**

If you are in a program that helps pay for your drugs, **some information in this Evidence of Coverage about the costs for Part D prescription drugs does not apply to you.** We sent you a separate document, called the "**Evidence of Coverage Rider for People Who Get Extra Help Paying for Prescription Drugs**" (also known as the "Low Income Subsidy Rider" or the "LIS Rider"), which tells you about your drug coverage. If you don't have this rider, please call Member Services and ask for the "LIS Rider." Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

## **SECTION 1. Introduction**

### **Section 1.1 Use this chapter together with other materials that explain your drug coverage**

This chapter focuses on what you pay for your Part D prescription drugs. To keep things simple, we use "drug" in this chapter to mean a Part D prescription drug. As explained in Chapter 5, not all drugs are Part D drugs—some drugs are covered under Medicare Part A or Part B and other drugs are excluded from Medicare coverage by law. Some excluded drugs may be covered under your group's plan.

To understand the payment information we give you in this chapter, you need to know the basics of what drugs are covered, where to fill your prescriptions, and what rules to follow when you get your covered drugs. Here are materials that explain these basics:

- Our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**. To keep things simple, we call this the "**Drug List**."
  - ◆ This Drug List tells you which drugs are covered for you.
  - ◆ It also tells you which of the six "cost-sharing tiers" the drug is in and whether there are any restrictions on your coverage for the drug.
  - ◆ If you need a copy of the Drug List, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You can also find the Drug List on our website at [kp.org/seniorrx](http://kp.org/seniorrx). The Drug List on the website is always the most current.
- **Chapter 5 of this booklet**. Chapter 5 gives you the details about your prescription drug coverage, including rules you need to follow when you get your covered drugs. Chapter 5 also tells you which types of prescription drugs are not covered by our plan.

- **Our plan's Pharmacy Directory.** In most situations, you must use a network pharmacy to get your covered drugs (see Chapter 5 for the details). The **Pharmacy Directory** has a list of pharmacies in our plan's network. It also tells you which pharmacies in our network can give you a long-term supply of a drug (such as filling a prescription for a three-month supply).

## **Section 1.2 Types of out-of-pocket costs you may pay for covered drugs**

To understand the payment information we give you in this chapter, you need to know about the types of out-of-pocket costs you may pay for your covered services. The amount that you pay for a drug is called "cost-sharing," and there are three ways you may be asked to pay.

- The "deductible" is the amount you must pay for drugs before our plan begins to pay its share.
- "Copayment" means that you pay a fixed amount each time you fill a prescription.
- "Coinsurance" means that you pay a percent of the total cost of the drug each time you fill a prescription.

## **SECTION 2. What you pay for a drug depends upon which "drug payment stage" you are in when you get the drug**

### **Section 2.1 What are the drug payment stages for Senior Advantage members?**

As shown in the table below, there are "drug payment stages" for your prescription drug coverage under our plan. How much you pay for a drug depends upon which of these stages you are in at the time you get a prescription filled or refilled. Stage 4 applies to everyone, but your group plan may not include a Deductible Stage (Stage 1) or a Coverage Gap Stage (Stage 3). Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** to find out which stages apply to you. Keep in mind you are always responsible for our plan's monthly premium regardless of the drug payment stage.

Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4
<p><b>Yearly Deductible Stage</b></p> <p>See the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of the EOC to find out if this payment stage applies to you. (This stage does not apply to most members.)</p> <p>If your plan has a deductible, during this stage, you pay the full cost of your drugs. You stay in this stage until you have paid your deductible.</p> <p>(Details are in Section 4 of this chapter.)</p>	<p><b>Initial Coverage Stage</b></p> <p><b>If your plan has a deductible, you begin in this stage after you end the Deductible Stage.</b></p> <p><b>If your plan does not have a deductible, you begin in this stage when you fill your first prescription of the year.</b></p> <p>During this stage, we pay our share of the cost of your drugs and you pay your share of the cost.</p> <p>If your plan has a Coverage Gap Stage, you stay in this stage until your year-to-date "<b>total drug costs</b>" (your payments plus any Part D plan's payments) total <b>\$4,020</b>.</p> <p>If your plan does not have a Coverage Gap Stage, you stay in this stage until your year-to-date "<b>out-of-pocket costs</b>" (your payments) total <b>\$6,350</b>.</p> <p>(Details are in Section 5 of this chapter.)</p>	<p><b>Coverage Gap Stage</b></p> <p>See the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this EOC to find out if this stage applies to you (this stage does not apply to most members).</p> <p>If there is no coverage gap for your plan, this payment stage does not apply to you.</p> <p>If this stage applies to you, coverage during the gap stage varies depending on the plan your group has selected.</p> <p><b>For generic drugs, you pay either the copayment listed in the Medical Benefits Chart at the front of this EOC, or 25% of the price, whichever is lower.</b></p> <p><b>For brand-name drugs, you pay 25% of the price</b> (plus a portion of the dispensing fee).</p> <p>You stay in this stage until your year-to-date "out-of-pocket costs" (your payments) reach a total of <b>\$6,350</b>. This amount and rules for counting costs toward this amount have been set by Medicare.</p> <p>(Details are in Section 6 of this chapter.)</p>	<p><b>Catastrophic Coverage Stage</b></p> <p>During this stage, <b>we will pay most of the cost</b> of your drugs for the rest of the calendar year (through December 31, 2020).</p> <p>(Details are in Section 7 of this chapter.)</p>

### **SECTION 3. We send you reports that explain payments for your drugs and which payment stage you are in**

#### **Section 3.1 We send you a monthly report called the "Part D Explanation of Benefits" (the "Part D EOB")**

Our plan keeps track of the costs of your prescription drugs and the payments you have made when you get your prescriptions filled or refilled at the pharmacy. This way, we can tell you when you have moved from one drug payment stage to the next. In particular, there are two types of costs we keep track of:

- We keep track of how much you have paid. This is called your **"out-of-pocket"** cost.
- We keep track of your **"total drug costs."** This is the amount you pay out-of-pocket or others pay on your behalf plus the amount paid by the plan.

Our plan will prepare a written report called the **Part D Explanation of Benefits** (it is sometimes called the **"Part D EOB"**) when you have had one or more prescriptions filled through our plan during the previous month. It includes:

- **Information for that month.** This report gives you the payment details about the prescriptions you have filled during the previous month. It shows the total drug costs, what the plan paid, and what you and others on your behalf paid.
- **Totals for the year since January 1.** This is called "year-to-date" information. It shows you the total drug costs and total payments for your drugs since the year began.

#### **Section 3.2 Help us keep our information about your drug payments up-to-date**

To keep track of your drug costs and the payments you make for drugs, we use records we get from pharmacies. Here is how you can help us keep your information correct and up-to-date:

- **Show your membership card when you get a prescription filled.** To make sure we know about the prescriptions you are filling and what you are paying, show your plan membership card every time you get a prescription filled.
- **Make sure we have the information we need.** There are times you may pay for prescription drugs when we will not automatically get the information we need to keep track of your out-of-pocket costs. To help us keep track of your out-of-pocket costs, you may give us copies of receipts for drugs that you have purchased. (If you are billed for a covered drug, you can ask us to pay our share of the cost. For instructions about how to do this, go to Chapter 7, Section 2, of this booklet.) Here are some types of situations when you may want to give us copies of your drug receipts to be sure we have a complete record of what you have spent for your drugs:
  - ♦ When you purchase a covered drug at a network pharmacy at a special price or using a discount card that is not part of our plan's benefit.

- ◆ When you made a copayment for drugs that are provided under a drug manufacturer patient assistance program.
- ◆ Anytime you have purchased covered drugs at out-of-network pharmacies or other times you have paid the full price for a covered drug under special circumstances.
- **Send us information about the payments others have made for you.** Payments made by certain other individuals and organizations also count toward your out-of-pocket costs and help qualify you for catastrophic coverage. For example, payments made by a State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program, an AIDS drug assistance program, (ADAP), the Indian Health Service, and most charities count toward your out-of-pocket costs. You should keep a record of these payments and send them to us so we can track your costs.
- **Check the written report we send you.** When you receive a **Part D Explanation of Benefits** (a **Part D EOB**) in the mail, please look it over to be sure the information is complete and correct. If you think something is missing from the report, or you have any questions, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You can also choose to view your **Part D EOB** online instead of by mail. Please visit [kp.org/goinggreen](http://kp.org/goinggreen) and sign on to learn more about choosing to view your **Part D EOB** securely online. Be sure to keep these reports. They are an important record of your drug expenses.

#### **SECTION 4. During the Deductible Stage, if applicable, you pay the full cost of your drugs**

See the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** to find out if this stage applies to you (this stage does not apply to most members).

##### **Section 4.1 If your plan includes a deductible for your Part D drugs**

The Deductible Stage is the first payment stage for your drug coverage. This stage begins when you fill your first prescription in the year. When you are in this payment stage, **you must pay the full cost of your drugs** until you reach our plan's deductible amount. Please refer to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** for the deductible amount.

- ◆ Your "**full cost**" is usually lower than the normal full price of the drug, since our plan has negotiated lower costs for most drugs.
- ◆ The "**deductible**" is the amount you must pay for your Part D prescription drugs before our plan begins to pay its share.

Once you have paid the deductible amount shown in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**, you leave the Deductible Stage and move on to the next drug payment stage, which is the Initial Coverage Stage.

## **SECTION 5. During the Initial Coverage Stage, we pay our share of your drug costs and you pay your share**

### **Section 5.1 What you pay for a drug depends upon the drug and where you fill your prescription**

During the Initial Coverage Stage, we pay our share of the cost of your covered prescription drugs, and you pay your share (your copayment or coinsurance amount). Your share of the cost will vary depending upon the drug and where you fill your prescription.

#### **Our plan has six cost-sharing tiers**

Every drug on our plan's Drug List is in one of six cost-sharing tiers. Depending upon the plan your group has selected, cost-sharing may vary from one tier to the next. In general, the higher the cost-sharing tier number, the higher your cost for the drug:

- Cost-sharing **Tier 1** for preferred generic drugs.
- Cost-sharing **Tier 2** for generic drugs (this tier includes some brand-name drugs).
- Cost-sharing **Tier 3** for preferred brand-name drugs.
- Cost-sharing **Tier 4** for nonpreferred brand-name drugs (this tier includes some generic drugs).
- Cost-sharing **Tier 5** for specialty-tier drugs (this tier includes both generic and brand-name drugs).
- Cost-sharing **Tier 6** for injectable Part D vaccines (this tier includes only brand-name drugs).

To find out which cost-sharing tier your drug is in, look it up in our plan's Drug List.

#### **Your pharmacy choices**

How much you pay for a drug depends upon whether you get the drug from:

- A network retail pharmacy that offers a standard cost-sharing.
- A network retail pharmacy that offers preferred cost-sharing.
- A pharmacy that is not in our plan's network.
- Our plan's mail-order pharmacy.

For more information about these pharmacy choices and filling your prescriptions, see Chapter 5 in this booklet and our plan's **Pharmacy Directory**.

Generally, we will cover your prescriptions only if they are filled at one of our network pharmacies. Some of our network pharmacies also offer preferred cost-sharing. You may go to either network pharmacies that offer preferred cost-sharing or other network pharmacies that offer standard cost-sharing to receive your covered prescription drugs. Your costs may be less at pharmacies that offer preferred cost-sharing.



### **Section 5.2 Your costs for a one-month supply of a drug**

During the Initial Coverage Stage, your share of the cost of a covered drug will be either a copayment or coinsurance.

- **"Copayment"** means that you pay a fixed amount each time you fill a prescription.
- **"Coinsurance"** means that you pay a percent of the total cost of the drug each time you fill a prescription.

As shown in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**, the amount of the copayment or coinsurance depends upon which cost-sharing tier your drug is in. **Please note:**

- If your covered drug costs less than the copayment amount listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**, you will pay that lower price for the drug. You pay either the full price of the drug or the copayment amount, whichever is lower.
- We cover prescriptions filled at out-of-network pharmacies in only limited situations. Please see Chapter 5, Section 2.5, for information about when we will cover a prescription filled at an out-of-network pharmacy.

Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** for your cost-sharing amounts and day supply limit in the Initial Coverage Stage.

### **Section 5.3 If your doctor prescribes less than a full month's supply, you may not have to pay the cost of the entire month's supply**

Typically, the amount you pay for a prescription drug covers a full month's supply of a covered drug. However, your doctor can prescribe less than a month's supply of drugs. There may be times when you want to ask your doctor about prescribing less than a month's supply of a drug (for example, when you are trying a medication for the first time that is known to have serious side effects). If your doctor prescribes less than a full month's supply, you will not have to pay for the full month's supply for certain drugs.

The amount you pay when you get less than a full month's supply will depend on whether you are responsible for paying coinsurance (a percentage of the total cost) or a copayment (a flat dollar amount).

- If you are responsible for coinsurance, you pay a percentage of the total cost of the drug. You pay the same percentage regardless of whether the prescription is for a full month's supply or for fewer days. However, because the entire drug cost will be lower if you get less than a full month's supply, the amount you pay will be less.
- If you are responsible for a copayment for the drug, your copayment will be based on the number of days of the drug that you receive. We will calculate the amount you pay per day for your drug (the "daily cost-sharing rate") and multiply it by the number of days of the drug you receive.

- ◆ Here's an example: Let's say the copayment for your drug for a full month's supply (a 30-day supply) is \$30. This means that the amount you pay per day for your drug is \$1. If you receive a 7 days' supply of the drug, your payment will be \$1 per day multiplied by 7 days, for a total payment of \$7.

Daily cost-sharing allows you to make sure a drug works for you before you have to pay for an entire month's supply. You can also ask your doctor to prescribe, and your pharmacist to dispense, less than a full month's supply of a drug or drugs, if this will help you better plan refill dates for different prescriptions so that you can take fewer trips to the pharmacy. The amount you pay will depend upon the days' supply you receive.

#### **Section 5.4 Your costs for a long-term (up to a 90-day) supply of a drug**

For some drugs, you can get a long-term supply (also called an "extended supply") when you fill your prescription. A long-term supply is up to a 90-day supply. (For details on where and how to get a long-term supply of a drug, see Chapter 5, Section 2.4.)

Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** for your cost-sharing amounts when you get a long-term (up to a 90-day) supply of a drug.

- **Please note:** If your covered drug costs less than the copayment amount listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**, you will pay that lower price for the drug. You pay either the full price of the drug or the copayment amount, whichever is lower.

#### **Section 5.5 You stay in the Initial Coverage Stage until you reach the next stage**

If your group plan does not include a Coverage Gap Stage, you stay in the Initial Coverage Stage until your total out-of-pocket costs reach **\$6,350**. When you reach an out-of-pocket limit of **\$6,350**, you leave the Initial Coverage Stage and move on to the Catastrophic Coverage Stage. Most group plans do not include a Coverage Gap Stage.

If your group plan includes a Coverage Gap Stage, you stay in the Initial Coverage Stage until the total amount for the prescription drugs you have filled and refilled reaches the **\$4,020 limit for the Initial Coverage Stage**.

Your total drug cost is based on adding together what you have paid and what any Part D plan has paid:

- **What you have paid** for all the covered drugs you have gotten since you started with your first drug purchase of the year. (See Section 6.2 for more information about how Medicare calculates your out-of-pocket costs.) This includes:
  - ◆ The total you paid as your share of the cost for your drugs during the Initial Coverage Stage.
- **What our plan has paid** as its share of the cost for your drugs during the Initial Coverage Stage. (If you were enrolled in a different Part D plan at any time during 2020, the amount that plan paid during the Initial Coverage Stage also counts toward your total drug costs.)



The **Part D Explanation of Benefits (Part D EOB)** that we send to you will help you keep track of how much you and our plan, as well as third parties have spent on your behalf during the year. Many people do not reach the **\$4,020** limit in a year.

We will let you know if you reach this **\$4,020** amount. If you do reach this amount, you will leave the Initial Coverage Stage and move on to the Coverage Gap Stage.

Refer to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** for the amount you will pay for drugs in the Coverage Gap Stage.

## **SECTION 6. During the Coverage Gap Stage, if applicable, we provide some drug coverage**

### **Section 6.1 You stay in the Coverage Gap Stage until your out-of-pocket costs reach \$6,350**

The benefit coverage you receive during the Coverage Gap Stage will depend on the benefits your group selected. See the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** to find out if this stage applies to you (this stage does not apply to most members).

When you are in the Coverage Gap Stage, the Medicare Coverage Gap Discount Program provides manufacturer discounts on brand-name drugs. You pay either the copayments listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** or 25% of the negotiated price and a portion of the dispensing fee for **brand-name drugs**. If you pay 25% of the negotiated price, both the amount you pay and the amount discounted by the manufacturer count toward your out-of-pocket costs as if you had paid them, and move you through the coverage gap.

You also receive some coverage of generic drugs and injectable Part D vaccines during the Coverage Gap Stage. You pay either the copayments listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** or 25% of the costs of generic drugs, whichever is lower. Only the amount you pay counts and moves you through the coverage gap.

You continue paying the applicable cost sharing until your yearly out-of-pocket payments reach a maximum amount that Medicare has set. In 2020, that amount is **\$6,350**.

Medicare has rules about what counts and what does not count as your out-of-pocket costs. When you reach an out-of-pocket limit of **\$6,350**, you leave the Coverage Gap Stage and move on to the Catastrophic Coverage Stage.

### **Section 6.2 How Medicare calculates your out-of-pocket costs for prescription drugs**

Here are Medicare's rules that we must follow when we keep track of your out-of-pocket costs for your drugs.

### **These payments are included in your out-of-pocket costs**

When you add up your out-of-pocket costs, you can include the payments listed below (as long as they are for Part D covered drugs and you followed the rules for drug coverage that are explained in Chapter 5 of this booklet):

- The amount you pay for drugs when you are in any of the following drug payment stages:
  - ◆ The Deductible Stage (if this stage applies to you).
  - ◆ The Initial Coverage Stage.
  - ◆ The Coverage Gap Stage (if this stage applies to you).
- Any payments you made during this calendar year as a member of a different Medicare prescription drug plan before you joined our plan.

### **It matters who pays:**

- If you make these payments yourself, they are included in your out-of-pocket costs.
- These payments are also included if they are made on your behalf by certain other individuals or organizations. This includes payments for your drugs made by a friend or relative, by most charities, by AIDS drug assistance programs, by a State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program that is qualified by Medicare, or by the Indian Health Service. Payments made by Medicare's "Extra Help" Program are also included.
- Some of the payments made by the Medicare Coverage Gap Discount Program are included. The amount the manufacturer pays for your brand-name drugs is included. But the amount we pay for your generic drugs is not included.

### **Moving on to the Catastrophic Coverage Stage:**

When you (or those paying on your behalf) have spent a total of **\$6,350** in out-of-pocket costs within the calendar year, you will move from either the Initial Coverage Stage (if this stage applies to you) or the Coverage Gap Stage (if this stage applies to you) to the Catastrophic Coverage Stage.

### **These payments are not included in your out-of-pocket costs**

When you add up your out-of-pocket costs, you are **not** allowed to include any of these types of payments for prescription drugs:

- The amount you contribute, if any, toward your group's premium.
- Drugs you buy outside the United States and its territories.
- Drugs that are not covered by our plan.
- Drugs you get at an out-of-network pharmacy that do not meet our plan's requirements for out-of-network coverage.
- Non-Part D drugs, including prescription drugs covered by Part A or Part B and other drugs excluded from coverage by Medicare.
- Payments you make toward drugs covered under our additional coverage but not normally covered in a Medicare prescription drug plan.

- Payments you make toward prescription drugs not normally covered in a Medicare prescription drug plan.
- Payments made by our plan for your brand or generic drugs while in the Coverage Gap, if this stage applies to you.
- Payments for your drugs that are made by group health plans, including employer health plans.
- Payments for your drugs that are made by certain insurance plans and government-funded health programs, such as TRICARE and Veterans Affairs.
- Payments for your drugs made by a third party with a legal obligation to pay for prescription costs (for example, Workers' Compensation).

**Reminder:** If any other organization such as the ones listed above pays part or all of your out-of-pocket costs for drugs, you are required to tell our plan. Call Member Services to let us know (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **How can you keep track of your out-of-pocket total?**

- **We will help you.** The **Part D Explanation of Benefits (Part D EOB)** report we send to you includes the current amount of your out-of-pocket costs (Section 3 in this chapter tells you about this report). When you reach a total of **\$6,350** in out-of-pocket costs for the year, this report will tell you that you have left the Coverage Gap Stage and have moved on to the Catastrophic Coverage Stage.
- **Make sure we have the information we need.** Section 3.2 tells you what you can do to help make sure that our records of what you have spent are complete and up-to-date.

## **SECTION 7. During the Catastrophic Coverage Stage, we pay most of the cost for your drugs**

### **Section 7.1 Once you are in the Catastrophic Coverage Stage, you will stay in this stage for the rest of the year**

You qualify for the Catastrophic Coverage Stage when your out-of-pocket costs have reached the **\$6,350** limit for the calendar year. Once you are in the Catastrophic Coverage Stage, you will stay in this payment stage until the end of the calendar year. During this stage, we will pay most of the cost for your drugs.

Your share of the cost for a covered drug will be either coinsurance or a copayment, whichever is larger amount:

- Either, you pay a coinsurance of **5%** of the cost of the drug,
- Or, **\$3.60** for a generic drug or a drug that is treated like a generic, and **\$8.95** for all other drugs.

We will pay the rest of the cost.

## **SECTION 8. What you pay for vaccinations covered by Part D depends upon how and where you get them**

### **Section 8.1 Our plan may have separate coverage for the Part D vaccine medication itself and for the cost of giving you the vaccine**

We provide coverage for a number of Part D vaccines. We also cover vaccines that are considered medical benefits. You can find out about coverage of these vaccines by going to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

There are two parts to our coverage of Part D vaccinations:

- The first part of coverage is the cost of the vaccine medication itself. The vaccine is a prescription medication.
- The second part of coverage is for the cost of giving you the vaccine. (This is sometimes called the "administration" of the vaccine.)

### **What do you pay for a Part D vaccination?**

What you pay for a Part D vaccination depends upon three things:

- 1. The type of vaccine** (what you are being vaccinated for).
  - ◆ Some vaccines are considered medical benefits. You can find out about your coverage of these vaccines by going to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.
  - ◆ Other vaccines are considered Part D drugs. You can find these vaccines listed in our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**.
- 2. Where you get the vaccine medication.**
- 3. Who gives you the vaccine.**

What you pay at the time you get the Part D vaccination can vary depending upon the circumstances. For example:

- ◆ Sometimes when you get your vaccine, you will have to pay the entire cost for both the vaccine medication and for getting the vaccine. You can ask us to pay you back for our share of the cost.
- ◆ Other times, when you get the vaccine medication or the vaccine, you will pay only your share of the cost.

To show how this works, here are three common ways you might get a Part D vaccine.

If your plan has a Deductible Stage, remember you are responsible for all of the costs associated with Part D vaccines (including their administration) during the Deductible Stage of your benefit.

***Situation 1:***

- You buy the Part D vaccine at the pharmacy and you get your vaccine at the network pharmacy. (Whether you have this choice depends upon where you live. Some states do not allow pharmacies to administer a vaccination.)
  - ◆ You will have to pay the pharmacy the amount of your copayment for the vaccine and the cost of giving you the vaccine.
  - ◆ Our plan will pay the remainder of the costs.

***Situation 2:***

- You get the Part D vaccination at your doctor's office.
  - ◆ When you get the vaccination, you will pay for the entire cost of the vaccine and its administration.
  - ◆ You can then ask us to pay our share of the cost by using the procedures that are described in Chapter 7 of this booklet ("Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs").
  - ◆ You will be reimbursed the amount you paid less your normal copayment for the vaccine (including administration).

***Situation 3:***

- You buy the Part D vaccine at your pharmacy, and then take it to your doctor's office where they give you the vaccine.
  - ◆ You will have to pay the pharmacy the amount of your copayment for the vaccine itself.
  - ◆ When your doctor gives you the vaccine, you will pay the entire cost for this service. You can then ask us to pay our share of the cost by using the procedures described in Chapter 7 of this booklet.
  - ◆ You will be reimbursed the amount charged by the doctor for administering the vaccine.

**Section 8.2 You may want to call Member Services  
before you get a vaccination**

The rules for coverage of vaccinations are complicated. We are here to help. We recommend that you first call Member Services whenever you are planning to get a vaccination. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

- We can tell you about how your vaccination is covered by our plan and explain your share of the cost.
- We can tell you how to keep your own cost down by using providers and pharmacies in our network.
- If you are not able to use a network provider and pharmacy, we can tell you what you need to do to get payment from us for our share of the cost.

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**CHAPTER 7. Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received  
for covered medical services or drugs**

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## **SECTION 1. Situations in which you should ask us to pay our share of the cost of your covered services or drugs**

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### **Section 1.1 If you pay our share of the cost of your covered services or drugs, or if you receive a bill, you can ask us for payment**

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Sometimes when you get medical care or a prescription drug, you may need to pay the full cost right away. Other times, you may find that you have paid more than you expected under the coverage rules of our plan. In either case, you can ask us to pay you back (paying you back is often called "reimbursing" you). It is your right to be paid back by our plan whenever you've paid more than your share of the cost for medical services or drugs that are covered by our plan.

There may also be times when you get a bill from a provider for the full cost of medical care you have received. In many cases, you should send this bill to us instead of paying it. We will look at the bill and decide whether the services should be covered. If we decide they should be covered, we will pay the provider directly.

**Here are examples of situations in which you may need to ask us to pay you back or to pay a bill you have received:**

#### **When you've received emergency or urgently needed medical care from a provider who is not in our network**

You can receive emergency services from any provider, whether or not the provider is a part of our network. When you receive emergency or urgently needed services from a provider who is not part of our network, you are only responsible for paying your share of the cost, not for the entire cost. You should ask the provider to bill our plan for our share of the cost.

- If you pay the entire amount yourself at the time you receive the care, you need to ask us to pay you back for our share of the cost. Send us the bill, along with documentation of any payments you have made.
- At times you may get a bill from the provider asking for payment that you think you do not owe. Send us this bill, along with documentation of any payments you have already made.
  - ◆ If the provider is owed anything, we will pay the provider directly.
  - ◆ If you have already paid more than your share of the cost of the service, we will determine how much you owed and pay you back for our share of the cost.

#### **When a network provider sends you a bill you think you should not pay**

Network providers should always bill us directly, and ask you only for your share of the cost. But sometimes they make mistakes, and ask you to pay more than your share.

- You only have to pay your cost-sharing amount when you get services covered by our plan. We do not allow providers to add additional separate charges, called "balance billing." This protection (that you never pay more than your cost-sharing amount) applies even if we pay the provider less than the provider charges for a service, and even if there is a dispute and we



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don't pay certain provider charges. For more information about "balance billing," go to Chapter 4, Section 1.3.

- Whenever you get a bill from a network provider that you think is more than you should pay, send us the bill. We will contact the provider directly and resolve the billing problem.
- If you have already paid a bill to a network provider, but you feel that you paid too much, send us the bill along with documentation of any payment you have made and ask us to pay you back the difference between the amount you paid and the amount you owed under our plan.

### **If you are retroactively enrolled in our plan**

Sometimes a person's enrollment in our plan is retroactive. ("Retroactive" means that the first day of their enrollment has already passed. The enrollment date may even have occurred last year.)

If you were retroactively enrolled in our plan and you paid out-of-pocket for any of your covered services or drugs after your enrollment date, you can ask us to pay you back for our share of the costs. You will need to submit paperwork for us to handle the reimbursement.

- Please call Member Services for additional information about how to ask us to pay you back and deadlines for making your request. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

### **When you use an out-of-network pharmacy to get a prescription filled**

If you go to an out-of-network pharmacy and try to use your membership card to fill a prescription, the pharmacy may not be able to submit the claim directly to us. When that happens, you will have to pay the full cost of your prescription. We cover prescriptions filled at out-of-network pharmacies only in a few special situations. Please go to Chapter 5, Section 2.5, to learn more.

- Save your receipt and send a copy to us when you ask us to pay you back for our share of the cost.

### **When you pay the full cost for a prescription because you don't have your plan membership card with you**

If you do not have your plan membership card with you, you can ask the pharmacy to call us or to look up your plan enrollment information. However, if the pharmacy cannot get the enrollment information they need right away, you may need to pay the full cost of the prescription yourself.

- Save your receipt and send a copy to us when you ask us to pay you back for our share of the cost.

### **When you pay the full cost for a prescription in other situations**

You may pay the full cost of the prescription because you find that the drug is not covered for some reason.



- For example, the drug may not be on our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**; or it could have a requirement or restriction that you didn't know about or don't think should apply to you. If you decide to get the drug immediately, you may need to pay the full cost for it.
- Save your receipt and send a copy to us when you ask us to pay you back. In some situations, we may need to get more information from your doctor in order to pay you back for our share of the cost.

All of the examples above are types of coverage decisions. This means that if we deny your request for payment, you can appeal our decision. Chapter 9 of this booklet, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)," has information about how to make an appeal.

## **SECTION 2. How to ask us to pay you back or to pay a bill you have received**

### **Section 2.1 How and where to send us your request for payment**

Send us your request for payment, along with your bill and documentation of any payment you have made. It's a good idea to make a copy of your bill and receipts for your records.

To make sure you are giving us all the information we need to make a decision, you can fill out our claim form to make your request for payment.

- You don't have to use the form, but it will help us process the information faster.
- Either download a copy of the form from our website (**kp.org**) or call Member Services and ask for the form. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

Mail your request for payment together with any bills or receipts to us at this address:

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado  
Claims Department  
P.O. Box 373150  
Denver, CO 80237-3150

You must submit your claim to us within 365 days of the date you received the service, item, or drug.

Contact Member Services if you have any questions (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). If you don't know what you should have paid, or you receive bills and you don't know what to do about those bills, we can help. You can also call if you want to give us more information about a request for payment you have already sent to us.

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## **SECTION 3. We will consider your request for payment and say yes or no**

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### **Section 3.1 We check to see whether we should cover the service or drug and how much we owe**

When we receive your request for payment, we will let you know if we need any additional information from you. Otherwise, we will consider your request and make a coverage decision.

- If we decide that the medical care or drug is covered and you followed all the rules for getting the care or drug, we will pay for our share of the cost. If you have already paid for the service or drug, we will mail your reimbursement of our share of the cost to you. If you have not paid for the service or drug yet, we will mail the payment directly to the provider. (Chapter 3 explains the rules you need to follow for getting your medical services covered. Chapter 5 explains the rules you need to follow for getting your Part D prescription drugs covered.)
- If we decide that the medical care or drug is not covered, or you did not follow all the rules, we will not pay for our share of the cost. Instead, we will send you a letter that explains the reasons why we are not sending the payment you have requested and your rights to appeal that decision.

### **Section 3.2 If we tell you that we will not pay for all or part of the medical care or drug, you can make an appeal**

If you think we have made a mistake in turning down your request for payment or you don't agree with the amount we are paying, you can make an appeal. If you make an appeal, it means you are asking us to change the decision we made when we turned down your request for payment.

For the details about how to make this appeal, go to Chapter 9 of this booklet, "What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)." The appeals process is a formal process with detailed procedures and important deadlines. If making an appeal is new to you, you will find it helpful to start by reading Section 4 of Chapter 9. Section 4 is an introductory section that explains the process for coverage decisions and appeals and gives you definitions of terms such as "appeal." Then, after you have read Section 4, you can go to the section in Chapter 9 that tells you what to do for your situation:

- If you want to make an appeal about getting paid back for a medical service, go to Section 5.3 in Chapter 9.
- If you want to make an appeal about getting paid back for a drug, go to Section 6.5 of Chapter 9.

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## **SECTION 4. Other situations in which you should save your receipts and send copies to us**

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### **Section 4.1 In some cases, you should send copies of your receipts to us to help us track your out-of-pocket drug costs**

There are some situations when you should let us know about payments you have made for your drugs. In these cases, you are not asking us for payment. Instead, you are telling us about your payments so that we can calculate your out-of-pocket costs correctly. This may help you to qualify for the Catastrophic Coverage Stage more quickly.

Here are two situations when you should send us copies of receipts to let us know about payments you have made for your drugs:

#### **1. When you buy the drug for a price that is lower than our price**

Sometimes when you are in the Deductible Stage or Coverage Gap Stage (if your plan has one or both—refer to the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**), you can buy your drug at a network pharmacy for a price that is lower than our price.

- For example, a pharmacy might offer a special price on the drug. Or you may have a discount card that is outside our benefit that offers a lower price.
- Unless special conditions apply, you must use a network pharmacy in these situations and your drug must be on our Drug List.
- Save your receipt and send a copy to us so that we can have your out-of-pocket expenses count toward qualifying you for the Catastrophic Coverage Stage.
- **Please note:** If you are in the Deductible or Coverage Gap Stage, we will not pay for any share of these drug costs. But sending a copy of the receipt allows us to calculate your out-of-pocket costs correctly and may help you qualify for the Catastrophic Coverage Stage more quickly.

#### **2. When you get a drug through a patient assistance program offered by a drug manufacturer**

Some members are enrolled in a patient assistance program offered by a drug manufacturer that is outside our plan benefits. If you get any drugs through a program offered by a drug manufacturer, you may pay a copayment to the patient assistance program.

- Save your receipt and send a copy to us so that we can have your out-of-pocket expenses count toward qualifying you for the Catastrophic Coverage Stage.
- **Please note:** Because you are getting your drug through the patient assistance program and not through our plan's benefits, we will not pay for any share of these drug costs. But sending a copy of the receipt allows us to calculate your out-of-pocket costs correctly and may help you qualify for the Catastrophic Coverage Stage more quickly.

Since you are not asking for payment in the two cases described above, these situations are not considered coverage decisions. Therefore, you cannot make an appeal if you disagree with our decision.

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## **CHAPTER 8. Your rights and responsibilities**

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## **SECTION 1. We must honor your rights as a member of our plan**

### **Section 1.1 We must provide information in a way that works for you (in languages other than English, in Braille, in large print, or CD)**

To get information from us in a way that works for you, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

Our plan has people and free interpreter services available to answer questions from disabled and non-English-speaking members. This booklet is available in Spanish by calling Member Services (phone numbers are on the back cover of this booklet). We can also give you information in Braille, large print, or CD at no cost if you need it. We are required to give you information about our plan's benefits in a format that is accessible and appropriate for you. To get information from us in a way that works for you, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) or contact our Civil Rights Coordinator.

If you have any trouble getting information from our plan in a format that is accessible and appropriate for you, please call to file a grievance with Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You may also file a complaint with Medicare by calling **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)** or directly with the Office for Civil Rights. Contact information is included in this **Evidence of Coverage** or with this mailing, or you may contact Member Services for additional information.

### **Sección 1.1 Debemos proporcionar la información de un modo adecuado para usted (en idiomas distintos al inglés, en Braille, en letra grande o en CD)**

Para obtener información de una forma que se adapte a sus necesidades, por favor llame a Servicio a los Miembros (los números de teléfono están impresos en la contraportada de este folleto).

Nuestro plan cuenta con personas y servicios de interpretación disponibles sin costo para responder las preguntas de los miembros discapacitados y que no hablan inglés. Este folleto está disponible en español o chino; llame a Servicio a los Miembros (los números de teléfono están en la contraportada de este folleto). Si la necesita, también podemos darle, sin costo, información en Braille, letra grande o CD. Tenemos la obligación de darle información acerca de los beneficios de nuestro plan en un formato que sea accesible y adecuado para usted. Para obtener nuestra información de una forma que se adapte a sus necesidades, por favor llame a Servicio a los Miembros (los números de teléfono están impresos en la contraportada de este folleto) o comuníquese con nuestro Coordinador de Derechos Civiles.

Si tiene algún problema para obtener información de nuestro plan en un formato que sea accesible y adecuado para usted, por favor llame para presentar una queja a Servicio a los Miembros (los números de teléfono están impresos en la contraportada de este folleto). También puede presentar una queja en Medicare llamando al **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)** o directamente en la Oficina de Derechos Civiles. En esta Evidence of Coverage (**Evidencia de**

**Cobertura)** o en esta carta se incluye la información de contacto, o bien puede comunicarse con Servicio a los Miembros para obtener información adicional.

### **Section 1.2 We must ensure that you get timely access to your covered services and drugs**

As a member of our plan, you have the right to choose a primary care provider (PCP) in our network to provide and arrange for your covered services (Chapter 3 explains more about this). Call Member Services to learn which doctors are accepting new patients (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You also have the right to go to a women's health specialist (such as a gynecologist), a mental health services provider, and a provider for routine eye exams without a referral, as well as other providers described in Chapter 3, Section 2.2.

As a plan member, you have the right to get appointments and covered services from our network of providers within a reasonable amount of time. This includes the right to get timely services from specialists when you need that care. You also have the right to get your prescriptions filled or refilled at any of our network pharmacies without long delays.

If you think that you are not getting your medical care or Part D drugs within a reasonable amount of time, Chapter 9, Section 10, of this booklet tells you what you can do. (If we have denied coverage for your medical care or drugs and you don't agree with our decision, Chapter 9, Section 4, tells you what you can do.)

### **Section 1.3 We must protect the privacy of your personal health information**

Federal and state laws protect the privacy of your medical records and personal health information. We protect your personal health information as required by these laws.

- Your "personal health information" includes the personal information you gave us when you enrolled in our plan as well as your medical records and other medical and health information.
- The laws that protect your privacy give you rights related to getting information and controlling how your health information is used. We give you a written notice, called a "Notice of Privacy Practices," that tells you about these rights and explains how we protect the privacy of your health information.

#### **How do we protect the privacy of your health information?**

- We make sure that unauthorized people don't see or change your records.
- In most situations, if we give your health information to anyone who isn't providing your care or paying for your care, we are required to get written permission from you first. Written permission can be given by you or by someone you have given legal power to make decisions for you.
- Your health information is shared with your Group only with your authorization or as otherwise permitted by law.

- There are certain exceptions that do not require us to get your written permission first. These exceptions are allowed or required by law.
  - ◆ For example, we are required to release health information to government agencies that are checking on quality of care.
  - ◆ Because you are a member of our plan through Medicare, we are required to give Medicare your health information, including information about your Part D prescription drugs. If Medicare releases your information for research or other uses, this will be done according to federal statutes and regulations.

### **You can see the information in your records and know how it has been shared with others**

You have the right to look at your medical records held by our plan, and to get a copy of your records. We are allowed to charge you a fee for making copies. You also have the right to ask us to make additions or corrections to your medical records. If you ask us to do this, we will work with your health care provider to decide whether the changes should be made.

You have the right to know how your health information has been shared with others for any purposes that are not routine.

If you have questions or concerns about the privacy of your personal health information, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **Section 1.4 We must give you information about our plan, our network of providers, and your covered services**

As a member of our plan, you have the right to get several kinds of information from us. (As explained above in Section 1.1, you have the right to get information from us in a way that works for you. This includes getting the information in Spanish and in Braille, large print or CD.

If you want any of the following kinds of information, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet):

- **Information about our plan.** This includes, for example, information about our plan's financial condition. It also includes information about the number of appeals made by members and our plan's performance ratings, including how it has been rated by plan members and how it compares to other Medicare health plans.
- **Information about our network providers, including our network pharmacies.**
  - ◆ For example, you have the right to get information from us about the qualifications of the providers and pharmacies in our network and how we pay the providers in our network.
  - ◆ For a list of the providers in our network, see the **Provider Directory**.
  - ◆ For a list of the pharmacies in our network, see the **Pharmacy Directory**.
  - ◆ For more detailed information about our providers or pharmacies, you can call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) or visit our website at [kp.org/directory](http://kp.org/directory).



- **Information about your coverage and the rules you must follow when using your coverage.**
  - ◆ In Chapters 3 and 4 of this booklet, we explain what medical services are covered for you, any restrictions to your coverage, and what rules you must follow to get your covered medical services.
  - ◆ To get the details about your Part D prescription drug coverage, see Chapters 5 and 6 of this booklet plus our plan's Drug List. These chapters, together with the Drug List, tell you what drugs are covered and explain the rules you must follow and the restrictions to your coverage for certain drugs.
  - ◆ If you have questions about the rules or restrictions, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
- **Information about why something is not covered and what you can do about it.**
  - ◆ If a medical service or Part D drug is not covered for you, or if your coverage is restricted in some way, you can ask us for a written explanation. You have the right to this explanation even if you received the medical service or drug from an out-of-network provider or pharmacy.
  - ◆ If you are not happy or if you disagree with a decision we make about what medical care or Part D drug is covered for you, you have the right to ask us to change the decision. You can ask us to change the decision by making an appeal. For details on what to do if something is not covered for you in the way you think it should be covered, see Chapter 9 of this booklet. It gives you the details about how to make an appeal if you want us to change our decision. (Chapter 9 also tells you about how to make a complaint about quality of care, waiting times, and other concerns.)
  - ◆ If you want to ask us to pay our share of a bill you have received for medical care or a Part D prescription drug, see Chapter 7 of this booklet.

**Section 1.5 We must treat you with dignity and respect and support your right to make decisions about your care**

**You have the right to know your treatment options and participate in decisions about your health care**

You have the right to get full information from your doctors and other health care providers when you go for medical care. Your providers must explain your medical condition and your treatment choices in a way that you can understand.

You also have the right to participate fully in decisions about your health care. To help you make decisions with your doctors about what treatment is best for you, your rights include the following:

- **To know about all of your choices.** This means that you have the right to be told about all of the treatment options that are recommended for your condition, no matter what they cost or whether they are covered by our plan. It also includes being told about programs our plan offers to help members manage their medications and use drugs safely.

- **To know about the risks.** You have the right to be told about any risks involved in your care. You must be told in advance if any proposed medical care or treatment is part of a research experiment. You always have the choice to refuse any experimental treatments.
- **The right to say "no."** You have the right to refuse any recommended treatment. This includes the right to leave a hospital or other medical facility, even if your doctor advises you not to leave. You also have the right to stop taking your medication. Of course, if you refuse treatment or stop taking a medication, you accept full responsibility for what happens to your body as a result.
- **To receive an explanation if you are denied coverage for care.** You have the right to receive an explanation from us if a provider has denied care that you believe you should receive. To receive this explanation, you will need to ask us for a coverage decision. Chapter 9 of this booklet tells you how to ask us for a coverage decision.

### **You have the right to give instructions about what is to be done if you are not able to make medical decisions for yourself**

Sometimes people become unable to make health care decisions for themselves due to accidents or serious illness. You have the right to say what you want to happen if you are in this situation. This means that, if you want to, you can:

- Fill out a written form to give someone the legal authority to make medical decisions for you if you ever become unable to make decisions for yourself.
- Give your doctors written instructions about how you want them to handle your medical care if you become unable to make decisions for yourself.

The legal documents that you can use to give your directions in advance in these situations are called "**advance directives**." There are different types of advance directives and different names for them. Documents called "**living will**" and "**power of attorney for health care**" are examples of advance directives.

If you want to use an "advance directive" to give your instructions, here is what to do:

- **Get the form.** If you want to have an advance directive, you can get a form from your lawyer, from a social worker, or from some office supply stores. You can sometimes get advance directive forms from organizations that give people information about Medicare. You can also contact Member Services to ask for the forms (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
- **Fill it out and sign it.** Regardless of where you get this form, keep in mind that it is a legal document. You should consider having a lawyer help you prepare it.
- **Give copies to appropriate people.** You should give a copy of the form to your doctor and to the person you name on the form as the one to make decisions for you if you can't. You may want to give copies to close friends or family members as well. Be sure to keep a copy at home.

If you know ahead of time that you are going to be hospitalized, and you have signed an advance directive, take a copy with you to the hospital.

- If you are admitted to the hospital, they will ask you whether you have signed an advance directive form and whether you have it with you.
- If you have not signed an advance directive form, the hospital has forms available and will ask if you want to sign one.

**Remember, it is your choice whether you want to fill out an advance directive** (including whether you want to sign one if you are in the hospital). According to law, no one can deny you care or discriminate against you based on whether or not you have signed an advance directive.

### **What if your instructions are not followed?**

If you have signed an advance directive, and you believe that a doctor or hospital did not follow the instructions in it, you may file a complaint with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

## **Section 1.6 You have the right to make complaints and to ask us to reconsider decisions we have made**

If you have any problems or concerns about your covered services or care, Chapter 9 of this booklet tells you what you can do. It gives you the details about how to deal with all types of problems and complaints.

What you need to do to follow up on a problem or concern depends upon the situation. You might need to ask us to make a coverage decision for you, make an appeal to us to change a coverage decision, or make a complaint. Whatever you do—ask for a coverage decision, make an appeal, or make a complaint—we are required to treat you fairly.

You have the right to get a summary of information about the appeals and complaints that other members have filed against our plan in the past. To get this information, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

## **Section 1.7 What can you do if you believe you are being treated unfairly or your rights are not being respected?**

### **If it is about discrimination, call the Office for Civil Rights**

If you believe you have been treated unfairly or your rights have not been respected due to your race, disability, religion, sex, health, ethnicity, creed (beliefs), age, or national origin, you should call the Department of Health and Human Services' Office for Civil Rights at **1-800-368-1019** or TTY **1-800-537-7697**, or call your local Office for Civil Rights.

### **Is it about something else?**

If you believe you have been treated unfairly or your rights have not been respected, and it's not about discrimination, you can get help dealing with the problem you are having:

- You can call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
- You can call the State Health Insurance Assistance Program. For details about this organization and how to contact it, go to Chapter 2, Section 3.

- Or you can call Medicare at **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.

### **Section 1.8 How to get more information about your rights**

There are several places where you can get more information about your rights:

- You can call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
- You can call the SHIP. For details about this organization and how to contact it, go to Chapter 2, Section 3.
- You can contact Medicare:
  - ◆ You can visit the Medicare website to read or download the publication "Your Medicare Rights & Protections." (The publication is available at <https://www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/11534-Medicare-Rights-and-Protections.pdf>.)
  - ◆ Or you can call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.

### **Section 1.9 Information about new technology assessments**

Rapidly changing technology affects health care and medicine as much as any other industry. To determine whether a new drug or other medical development has long-term benefits, our plan carefully monitors and evaluates new technologies for inclusion as covered benefits. These technologies include medical procedures, medical devices, and new drugs.

### **Section 1.10 You can make suggestions about rights and responsibilities**

As a member of our plan, you have the right to make recommendations about the rights and responsibilities included in this chapter. Please call Member Services with any suggestions (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

## **SECTION 2. You have some responsibilities as a member of our plan**

### **Section 2.1 What are your responsibilities?**

Things you need to do as a member of our plan are listed below. If you have any questions, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). We're here to help.

- **Get familiar with your covered services and the rules you must follow to get these covered services.** Use this **Evidence of Coverage** booklet to learn what is covered for you and the rules you need to follow to get your covered services.

- ◆ Chapters 3 and 4 give the details about your medical services, including what is covered, what is not covered, rules to follow, and what you pay.
- ◆ Chapters 5 and 6 give the details about your coverage for Part D prescription drugs.
- **If you have any other health insurance coverage or prescription drug coverage in addition to our plan, you are required to tell us.** Please call Member Services to let us know (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
  - ◆ We are required to follow rules set by Medicare to make sure that you are using all of your coverage in combination when you get your covered services from our plan. This is called "coordination of benefits" because it involves coordinating the health and drug benefits you get from us with any other health and drug benefits available to you. We'll help you coordinate your benefits. (For more information about coordination of benefits, go to Chapter 1, Section 10.)
- **Tell your doctor and other health care providers that you are enrolled in our plan.** Show your plan membership card whenever you get your medical care or Part D prescription drugs.
- **Help your doctors and other providers help you by giving them information, asking questions, and following through on your care.**
  - ◆ To help your doctors and other health care providers give you the best care, learn as much as you are able to about your health problems and give them the information they need about you and your health. Follow the treatment plans and instructions that you and your doctors agree upon.
  - ◆ Make sure you understand your health problems and participate in developing mutually agreed upon treatment goals with your providers whenever possible.
  - ◆ Make sure your doctors know all of the drugs you are taking, including over-the-counter drugs, vitamins, and supplements.
  - ◆ If you have any questions, be sure to ask. Your doctors and other health care providers are supposed to explain things in a way you can understand. If you ask a question and you don't understand the answer you are given, ask again.
- **Be considerate.** We expect all our members to respect the rights of other patients. We also expect you to act in a way that helps the smooth running of your doctor's office, hospitals, and other offices.
- **Pay what you owe.** As a plan member, you are responsible for these payments:
  - ◆ In order to be eligible for our plan, you must have Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B (or Medicare Part B). Some plan members must pay a premium for Medicare Part A. Most plan members must pay a premium for Medicare Part B to remain a member of our plan.
  - ◆ For most of your medical services or drugs covered by our plan, you must pay your share of the cost when you get the service or drug. This will be a copayment (a fixed amount) or coinsurance (a percentage of the total cost). The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** tells you what you must pay for your medical services. The Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** tells you what you must pay for your Part D prescription drugs.

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- ◆ If you get any medical services or drugs that are not covered by our plan or by other insurance you may have, you must pay the full cost.
  - ◆ If you disagree with our decision to deny coverage for a service or drug, you can make an appeal. Please see Chapter 9 of this booklet for information about how to make an appeal.
  - ◆ If you are required to pay a late enrollment penalty, you must pay the penalty to keep your prescription drug coverage.
  - **Tell us if you move.** If you are going to move, it's important to tell us right away. Call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
    - ◆ If you move outside of our plan service area, you cannot remain a member of our plan. (Chapter 1 tells you about our service area.) We can help you figure out whether you are moving outside our service area. If you are leaving our service area, you will have a special enrollment period when you can join any Medicare plan available in your new area. We can let you know if we have a plan in your new area.
    - ◆ If you move within our service area, we still need to know so we can keep your membership record up-to-date and know how to contact you.
    - ◆ If you move, it is also important to tell Social Security (or the Railroad Retirement Board). You can find phone numbers and contact information for these organizations in Chapter 2.
  - **Call Member Services for help if you have questions or concerns.** We also welcome any suggestions you may have for improving our plan.
    - ◆ Phone numbers and calling hours for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.
    - ◆ For more information about how to reach us, including our mailing address, please see Chapter 2.

## **CHAPTER 9. What to do if you have a problem or complaint (coverage decisions, appeals, and complaints)**

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## Background

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### SECTION 1. Introduction

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#### **Section 1.1 What to do if you have a problem or concern**

This chapter explains two types of processes for handling problems and concerns:

- For some types of problems, you need to use the process for coverage decisions and appeals.
- For other types of problems, you need to use the process for making complaints.

Both of these processes have been approved by Medicare. To ensure fairness and prompt handling of your problems, each process has a set of rules, procedures, and deadlines that must be followed by you and us.

#### **Which one do you use?**

That depends upon the type of problem you are having. The guide in Section 3 will help you identify the right process to use.

#### **Section 1.2 What about the legal terms?**

There are technical legal terms for some of the rules, procedures, and types of deadlines explained in this chapter. Many of these terms are unfamiliar to most people and can be hard to understand.

To keep things simple, this chapter explains the legal rules and procedures using simpler words in place of certain legal terms. For example, this chapter generally says "making a complaint" rather than "filing a grievance," "coverage decision" rather than "organization determination" or "coverage determination," or "at-risk determination," and "Independent Review Organization" instead of "Independent Review Entity." It also uses abbreviations as little as possible.

However, it can be helpful, and sometimes quite important, for you to know the correct legal terms for the situation you are in. Knowing which terms to use will help you communicate more clearly and accurately when you are dealing with your problem and get the right help or information for your situation. To help you know which terms to use, we include legal terms when we give the details for handling specific types of situations.

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## **SECTION 2. You can get help from government organizations that are not connected with us**

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### **Section 2.1 Where to get more information and personalized assistance**

Sometimes it can be confusing to start or follow through the process for dealing with a problem. This can be especially true if you do not feel well or have limited energy. Other times, you may not have the knowledge you need to take the next step.

#### **Get help from an independent government organization**

We are always available to help you. But in some situations, you may also want help or guidance from someone who is not connected with us. You can always contact your **State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)**. This government program has trained counselors in every state. The program is not connected with us or with any insurance company or health plan. The counselors at this program can help you understand which process you should use to handle a problem you are having. They can also answer your questions, give you more information, and offer guidance on what to do.

The services of SHIP counselors are free. You will find phone numbers in Chapter 2, Section 3, of this booklet.

#### **You can also get help and information from Medicare**

For more information and help in handling a problem, you can also contact Medicare. Here are two ways to get information directly from Medicare:

- You can call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.
- You can visit the Medicare website (<https://www.medicare.gov>).

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## **SECTION 3. To deal with your problem, which process should you use?**

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### **Section 3.1 Should you use the process for coverage decisions and appeals? Or should you use the process for making complaints?**

If you have a problem or concern, you only need to read the parts of this chapter that apply to your situation. The guide that follows will help.

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**To figure out which part of this chapter will help you with your specific problem or concern, *START HERE*:**

**Is your problem or concern about your benefits or coverage?**

(This includes problems about whether particular medical care or prescription drugs are covered or not, the way in which they are covered, and problems related to payment for medical care or prescription drugs.)

- **Yes, my problem is about benefits or coverage:**

**Go to the next section in this chapter, Section 4:** "A guide to the basics of coverage decisions and appeals."

- **No, my problem is not about benefits or coverage:**

**Skip ahead to Section 10 at the end of this chapter:** "How to make a complaint about quality of care, waiting times, customer service, or other concerns."

## Coverage decisions and appeals

### SECTION 4. A guide to the basics of coverage decisions and appeals

#### Section 4.1 Asking for coverage decisions and making appeals—*The big picture*

The process for coverage decisions and appeals deals with problems related to your benefits and coverage for medical services and prescription drugs, including problems related to payment. This is the process you use for issues such as whether something is covered or not, and the way in which something is covered.

#### **Asking for coverage decisions**

A coverage decision is a decision we make about your benefits and coverage or about the amount we will pay for your medical services or drugs. For example, your network doctor makes a (favorable) coverage decision for you whenever you receive medical care from him or her or if your network doctor refers you to a medical specialist. You or your doctor can also contact us and ask for a coverage decision, if your doctor is unsure whether we will cover a particular medical service or refuses to provide medical care you think that you need. In other words, if you want to know if we will cover a medical service before you receive it, you can ask us to make a coverage decision for you.

We are making a coverage decision for you whenever we decide what is covered for you and how much we pay. In some cases, we might decide a service or drug is not covered or is no longer covered by Medicare for you. If you disagree with this coverage decision, you can make an appeal.

## Making an appeal

If we make a coverage decision and you are not satisfied with this decision, you can "appeal" the decision. An appeal is a formal way of asking us to review and change a coverage decision we have made.

When you appeal a decision for the first time, this is called a Level 1 Appeal. In this appeal, we review the coverage decision we made to check to see if we were following all of the rules properly. Your appeal is handled by different reviewers than those who made the original unfavorable decision. When we have completed the review, we give you our decision. Under certain circumstances, which we discuss later, you can request an expedited or "fast coverage decision" or fast appeal of a coverage decision.

If we say *no* to all or part of your Level 1 Appeal, you can go on to a Level 2 Appeal. The Level 2 Appeal is conducted by an independent organization that is not connected to us. (In some situations, your case will be automatically sent to the independent organization for a Level 2 Appeal. In other situations, you will need to ask for a Level 2 Appeal.) If you are not satisfied with the decision at the Level 2 Appeal, you may be able to continue through additional levels of appeal.

### **Section 4.2 How to get help when you are asking for a coverage decision or making an appeal**

Would you like some help? Here are resources you may wish to use if you decide to ask for any kind of coverage decision or appeal a decision:

- **You can call Member Services** (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
- To get free help from an independent organization that is not connected with our plan, **contact your State Health Insurance Assistance Program** (see Section 2 in this chapter).
- **Your doctor can make a request for you.**
  - ◆ For medical care, your doctor can request a coverage decision or a Level 1 Appeal on your behalf. If your appeal is denied at Level 1, it will be automatically forwarded to Level 2. To request any appeal after Level 2, your doctor must be appointed as your representative.
  - ◆ For Part D prescription drugs, your doctor or other prescriber can request a coverage decision or a Level 1 or Level 2 Appeal on your behalf. To request any appeal after Level 2, your doctor or other prescriber must be appointed as your representative.
- **You can ask someone to act on your behalf.** If you want to, you can name another person to act for you as your "representative" to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal.
  - ◆ There may be someone who is already legally authorized to act as your representative under state law.
  - ◆ If you want a friend, relative, your doctor or other provider, or other person to be your representative, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) and ask for the "Appointment of Representative" form. (The form is also available on Medicare's website at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/CMS-Forms/CMS->

**Forms/downloads/cms1696.pdf** or on our website at **kp.org**.) The form gives that person permission to act on your behalf. It must be signed by you and by the person whom you would like to act on your behalf. You must give us a copy of the signed form.

- **You also have the right to hire a lawyer to act for you.** You may contact your own lawyer, or get the name of a lawyer from your local bar association or other referral service. There are also groups that will give you free legal services if you qualify. However, you are not required to hire a lawyer to ask for any kind of coverage decision or appeal a decision.

### **Section 4.3 Which section of this chapter gives the details for your situation?**

There are four different types of situations that involve coverage decisions and appeals. Since each situation has different rules and deadlines, we give the details for each one in a separate section:

- **Section 5** in this chapter: "Your medical care: How to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal."
- **Section 6** in this chapter: "Your Part D prescription drugs: How to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal."
- **Section 7** in this chapter: "How to ask us to cover a longer inpatient hospital stay if you think the doctor is discharging you too soon."
- **Section 8** in this chapter: "How to ask us to keep covering certain medical services if you think your coverage is ending too soon" (applies to these services only: home health care, skilled nursing facility care, and Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services).

If you're not sure which section you should be using, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You can also get help or information from government organizations such as your SHIP (Chapter 2, Section 3, of this booklet has the phone numbers for this program).

## **SECTION 5. Your medical care: How to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal**



Have you read Section 4 in this chapter ("A guide to the basics of coverage decisions and appeals")? If not, you may want to read it before you start this section.

**Section 5.1 This section tells what to do if you have problems getting coverage for medical care or if you want us to pay you back for our share of the cost of your care**

This section is about your benefits for medical care and services. These benefits are described in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**. To keep things simple, we generally refer to "medical care coverage" or "medical care" in the rest of this section, instead of repeating "medical care or treatment or services" every time. The term "medical care" includes medical items and services as well as Medicare Part B prescription drugs. In some cases, different rules apply to a request for a Part B prescription drug. In those cases, we will explain how the rules for Part B prescription drugs are different from the rules for medical items and services.

This section tells you what you can do if you are in any of the five following situations:

1. You are not getting certain medical care you want, and you believe that this care is covered by our plan.
2. We will not approve the medical care your doctor or other medical provider wants to give you, and you believe that this care is covered by our plan.
3. You have received medical care or services that you believe should be covered by our plan, but we have said we will not pay for this care.
4. You have received and paid for medical care or services that you believe should be covered by our plan, and you want to ask us to reimburse you for this care.
5. You are being told that coverage for certain medical care you have been getting that we previously approved will be reduced or stopped, and you believe that reducing or stopping this care could harm your health.

**Note:** If the coverage that will be stopped is for hospital care, home health care, skilled nursing facility care, or Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services, you need to read a separate section of this chapter because special rules apply to these types of care. Here's what to read in those situations:

- **Chapter 9, Section 7:** "How to ask us to cover a longer inpatient hospital stay if you think the doctor is discharging you too soon."
- **Chapter 9, Section 8:** "How to ask us to keep covering certain medical services if you think your coverage is ending too soon." This section is about three services only: home health care, skilled nursing facility care, and (CORF) services.

For all other situations that involve being told that medical care you have been getting will be stopped, use this section (Section 5) as your guide for what to do.

**Which of these situations are you in?**

<b>If you are in this situation:</b>	<b>This is what you can do:</b>
Do you want to find out whether we will cover the medical care or services you want?	You can ask us to make a coverage decision for you. Go to the next section in this chapter, <b>Section 5.2</b> .
Have we already told you that we will not cover or pay for a medical service in the way that you want it to be covered or paid for?	You can make an appeal. (This means you are asking us to reconsider.) Skip ahead to <b>Section 5.3</b> in this chapter.
Do you want to ask us to pay you back for medical care or services you have already received and paid for?	You can send us the bill. Skip ahead to <b>Section 5.5</b> in this chapter.

**Section 5.2 Step-by-step: How to ask for a coverage decision**  
 (how to ask us to authorize or provide the medical care coverage you want)

<b>Legal Terms</b>
When a coverage decision involves your medical care, it is called an <b>"organization determination."</b>

**Step 1: You ask us to make a coverage decision on the medical care you are requesting.** If your health requires a quick response, you should ask us to make a "fast coverage decision."

<b>Legal Terms</b>
A "fast coverage decision" is called an <b>"expedited determination."</b>

*How to request coverage for the medical care you want*

- Start by calling, writing, or faxing us to make your request for us to authorize or provide coverage for the medical care you want. You, your doctor, or your representative can do this.
- For the details about how to contact us, go to Chapter 2, Section 1, and look for the section called "How to contact us when you are asking for a coverage decision or making a complaint about your medical care."



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*Generally we use the standard deadlines for giving you our decision*

When we give you our decision, we will use the "standard" deadlines unless we have agreed to use the "fast" deadlines. A standard coverage decision means we will give you an answer **within 14 calendar days** after we receive your request for a medical item or service. If your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug, we will give you an answer **within 72 hours** after we receive your request.

- However, for a request for a medical item or service, we can take up to 14 more calendar days if you ask for more time, or if we need information (such as medical records from out-of-network providers) that may benefit you. If we decide to take extra days to make the decision, we will tell you in writing. We can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.
- If you believe we should not take extra days, you can file a "fast complaint" about our decision to take extra days. When you file a fast complaint, we will give you an answer to your complaint **within 24 hours**. (The process for making a complaint is different from the process for coverage decisions and appeals. For more information about the process for making complaints, including fast complaints, see Section 10 in this chapter.)

*If your health requires it, ask us to give you a "fast coverage decision"*

- A fast coverage decision means we will answer **within 72 hours** if your request is for a medical item or service. If your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug, we will answer **within 24 hours**.
  - ◆ However, for a request for a medical item or service, we can take up to 14 more calendar days if we find that some information that may benefit you is missing (such as medical records from out-of-network providers), or if you need time to get information to us for the review. If we decide to take extra days, we will tell you in writing. We can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.
  - ◆ If you believe we should not take extra days, you can file a "fast complaint" about our decision to take extra days. (For more information about the process for making complaints, including fast complaints, see Section 10 in this chapter.) We will call you as soon as we make the decision.
- **To get a fast coverage decision, you must meet two requirements:**
  - ◆ You can get a fast coverage decision only if you are asking for coverage for medical care you have not yet received. (You cannot get a fast coverage decision if your request is about payment for medical care you have already received.)
  - ◆ You can get a fast coverage decision only if using the standard deadlines could cause serious harm to your health or hurt your ability to function.
- **If your doctor tells us that your health requires a "fast coverage decision,"** we will automatically agree to give you a fast coverage decision.
- **If you ask for a fast coverage decision on your own, without your doctor's support,** we will decide whether your health requires that we give you a fast coverage decision.

- ◆ If we decide that your medical condition does not meet the requirements for a fast coverage decision, we will send you a letter that says so (and we will use the standard deadlines instead).
- ◆ This letter will tell you that if your doctor asks for the fast coverage decision, we will automatically give a fast coverage decision.
- ◆ The letter will also tell how you can file a "fast complaint" about our decision to give you a standard coverage decision instead of the fast coverage decision you requested. (For more information about the process for making complaints, including fast complaints, see Section 10 in this chapter.)

### **Step 2: We consider your request for medical care coverage and give you our answer.**

#### *Deadlines for a "fast coverage decision"*

- Generally, for a fast coverage decision on a request for a medical item or service, we will give you our answer **within 72 hours**. If your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug, we will answer **within 24 hours**.
  - ◆ As explained above, we can take up to 14 more calendar days under certain circumstances. If we decide to take extra days to make the coverage decision, we will tell you in writing. We can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.
  - ◆ If you believe we should not take extra days, you can file a "fast complaint" about our decision to take extra days. When you file a fast complaint, we will give you an answer to your complaint **within 24 hours**. (For more information about the process for making complaints, including fast complaints, see Section 10 in this chapter.)
  - ◆ If we do not give you our answer **within 72 hours** (or if there is an extended time period, by the end of that period), or **24 hours** if your request is for a Part B prescription drug, you have the right to appeal. Section 5.3 below tells you how to make an appeal.
- **If our answer is *yes* to part or all of what you requested**, we must authorize or provide the medical care coverage we have agreed to provide **within 72 hours** after we received your request. If we extended the time needed to make our coverage decision on your request for a medical item or service, we will authorize or provide the coverage by the end of that extended period.
- **If our answer is *no* to part or all of what you requested**, we will send you a detailed written explanation as to why we said no.

#### *Deadlines for a "standard" coverage decision*

- Generally, for a standard coverage decision on a request for a medical item or service, we will give you our answer **within 14 calendar days** of receiving your request. If your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug, we will give you an answer **within 72 hours** of receiving your request.
  - ◆ For a request for a medical item or service, we can take up to 14 more calendar days ("an extended time period") under certain circumstances. If we decide to take extra days to make

the coverage decision, we will tell you in writing. We can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.

- ◆ If you believe we should not take extra days, you can file a "fast complaint" about our decision to take extra days. When you file a fast complaint, we will give you an answer to your complaint within 24 hours. (For more information about the process for making complaints, including fast complaints, see Section 10 in this chapter.)
- ◆ If we do not give you our answer **within 14 calendar days** (or if there is an extended time period, by the end of that period) or **72 hours** if your request is for a Part B prescription drug,, you have the right to appeal. Section 5.3 below tells you how to make an appeal.
- **If our answer is *yes* to part or all of what you requested**, we must authorize or provide the coverage we have agreed to provide **within 14 calendar days**, or **72 hours** if your request is for a Part B prescription drug, after we received your request. If we extended the time needed to make our coverage decision on your request for a medical item or service, we will authorize or provide the coverage by the end of that extended period.
- **If our answer is *no* to part or all of what you requested**, we will send you a written statement that explains why we said no.

**Step 3: If we say *no* to your request for coverage for medical care, you decide if you want to make an appeal.**

- If we say *no*, you have the right to ask us to reconsider, and perhaps change this decision by making an appeal. Making an appeal means making another try to get the medical care coverage you want.
- If you decide to make an appeal, it means you are going on to Level 1 of the appeals process (see Section 5.3 below).

**Section 5.3 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 Appeal**

(how to ask for a review of a medical care coverage decision made by our plan)

**Legal Terms**

An appeal to our plan about a medical care coverage decision is called a plan "**reconsideration**."

**Step 1: You contact us and make your appeal. If your health requires a quick response, you must ask for a "fast appeal."**

*What to do:*

- **To start an appeal, you, your doctor, or your representative must contact us.** For details about how to reach us for any purpose related to your appeal, go to Chapter 2, Section 1, and look for the section called "How to contact us when you are making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs."

- **If you are asking for a standard appeal, make your standard appeal in writing by submitting a request.**
  - ◆ If you have someone appealing our decision for you other than your doctor, your appeal must include an "Appointment of Representative" form authorizing this person to represent you. To get the form, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) and ask for the "Appointment of Representative" form. It is also available on Medicare's website at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/CMS-Forms/CMS-Forms/downloads/cms1696.pdf> or on our website at [kp.org](http://kp.org). While we can accept an appeal request without the form, we cannot begin or complete our review until we receive it. If we do not receive the form within 44 calendar days after receiving your appeal request (our deadline for making a decision on your appeal), your appeal request will be dismissed. If this happens, we will send you a written notice explaining your right to ask the Independent Review Organization to review our decision to dismiss your appeal.
- **If you are asking for a fast appeal, make your appeal in writing or call us** at the phone number shown in Chapter 2, Section 1, "How to contact us when you are making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs."
- **You must make your appeal request within 60 calendar days from the date on the written notice** we sent to tell you our answer to your request for a coverage decision. If you miss this deadline and have a good reason for missing it, we may give you more time to make your appeal. Examples of good cause for missing the deadline may include if you had a serious illness that prevented you from contacting us or if we provided you with incorrect or incomplete information about the deadline for requesting an appeal.
- **You can ask for a copy of the information regarding your medical decision and add more information to support your appeal.**
  - ◆ You have the right to ask us for a copy of the information regarding your appeal. We are allowed to charge a fee for copying and sending this information to you.
  - ◆ If you wish, you and your doctor may give us additional information to support your appeal.

*If your health requires it, ask for a "fast appeal" (you can make a request by calling us)*

<b>Legal Terms</b>
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A "fast appeal" is also called an " <b>expedited reconsideration.</b> "
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- If you are appealing a decision we made about coverage for care you have not yet received, you and/or your doctor will need to decide if you need a "fast appeal."
- The requirements and procedures for getting a "fast appeal" are the same as those for getting a "fast coverage decision." To ask for a fast appeal, follow the instructions for asking for a fast coverage decision. (These instructions are given earlier in this section.)
- If your doctor tells us that your health requires a "fast appeal," we will give you a fast appeal.

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**Step 2: We consider your appeal and we give you our answer.**

- When we are reviewing your appeal, we take another careful look at all of the information about your request for coverage of medical care. We check to see if we were following all the rules when we said *no* to your request.
- We will gather more information if we need it. We may contact you or your doctor to get more information.

***Deadlines for a "fast appeal"***

- When we are using the fast deadlines, we must give you our answer **within 72 hours** after we receive your appeal. We will give you our answer sooner if your health requires us to do so.
  - ◆ However, if you ask for more time, or if we need to gather more information that may benefit you, we can take up to 14 more calendar days if your request is for a medical item or service. If we decide to take extra days to make the decision, we will tell you in writing.
  - ◆ If we do not give you an answer **within 72 hours** (or by the end of the extended time period if we took extra days), we are required to automatically send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent organization. Later in this section, we tell you about this organization and explain what happens at Level 2 of the appeals process.
- **If our answer is *yes* to part or all of what you requested**, we must authorize or provide the coverage we have agreed to provide **within 72 hours** after we receive your appeal.
- **If our answer is *no* to part or all of what you requested**, we will automatically send your appeal to the Independent Review Organization for a Level 2 Appeal.

***Deadlines for a "standard appeal"***

- If we are using the standard deadlines, we must give you our answer **within 30 calendar days** after we receive your appeal if your appeal is about coverage for services you have not yet received. If your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug, we will give you our answer **within 7 calendar days** after we receive your appeal if your appeal is about coverage for a Part B prescription drug you have not yet received. We will give you our decision sooner if your health condition requires us to.
  - ◆ However, if you ask for more time, or if we need to gather more information that may benefit you, we can take up to 14 more calendar days if your request is for a medical item or service. If we decide to take extra days to make the decision, we will tell you in writing. We can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.
  - ◆ If you believe we should not take extra days, you can file a "fast complaint" about our decision to take extra days. When you file a fast complaint, we will give you an answer to your complaint **within 24 hours**. (For more information about the process for making complaints, including fast complaints, see Section 10 in this chapter.)
  - ◆ If we do not give you an answer by the applicable deadline above (or by the end of the extended time period if we took extra days for your request for a medical item or service), we are required to send your request on to Level 2

of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent, outside organization. Later in this section, we talk about this review organization and explain what happens at Level 2 of the appeals process.

- **If our answer is *yes* to part or all of what you requested**, we must authorize or provide the coverage we have agreed to provide **within 30 calendar days**, or **within 7 calendar days** if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug after we receive your appeal
- **If our answer is *no* to part or all of what you requested**, we will automatically send your appeal to the Independent Review Organization for a Level 2 Appeal.

**Step 3: If our plan says *no* to part or all of your appeal, your case will automatically be sent on to the next level of the appeals process.**

- To make sure we were following all the rules when we said *no* to your appeal, we are required to send your appeal to the Independent Review Organization. When we do this, it means that your appeal is going on to the next level of the appeals process, which is Level 2.

#### **Section 5.4 Step-by-step: How a Level 2 Appeal is done**

If we say *no* to your Level 1 Appeal, your case will automatically be sent on to the next level of the appeals process. During the Level 2 Appeal, the **Independent Review Organization** reviews our decision for your first appeal. This organization decides whether the decision we made should be changed.

#### **Legal Terms**

The formal name for the "Independent Review Organization" is the "**Independent Review Entity**." It is sometimes called the "**IRE**."

**Step 1: The Independent Review Organization reviews your appeal.**

- **The Independent Review Organization is an independent organization that is hired by Medicare.** This organization is not connected with us and it is not a government agency. This organization is a company chosen by Medicare to handle the job of being the Independent Review Organization. Medicare oversees its work.
- We will send the information about your appeal to this organization. This information is called your "case file." **You have the right to ask us for a copy of your case file.** We are allowed to charge you a fee for copying and sending this information to you.
- You have a right to give the Independent Review Organization additional information to support your appeal.
- Reviewers at the Independent Review Organization will take a careful look at all of the information related to your appeal.



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*If you had a "fast" appeal at Level 1, you will also have a "fast" appeal at Level 2*

- If you had a fast appeal to our plan at Level 1, you will automatically receive a fast appeal at Level 2. The review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 Appeal **within 72 hours of when it receives your appeal**.
- However, if your request is for a medical item or service and the Independent Review Organization needs to gather more information that may benefit you, it can take up to 14 more calendar days. The Independent Review Organization can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.

*If you had a "standard" appeal at Level 1, you will also have a "standard" appeal at Level 2*

- If you had a standard appeal to our plan at Level 1, you will automatically receive a standard appeal at Level 2. If your request is for a medical item or service, the review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 Appeal **within 30 calendar days** of when it receives your appeal. If your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug, the review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 Appeal **within 7 calendar days** of when it receives your appeal.
- However, if your request is for a medical item or service and the Independent Review Organization needs to gather more information that may benefit you, it can take up to 14 more calendar days. The Independent Review Organization can't take extra time to make a decision if your request is for a Medicare Part B prescription drug.

## **Step 2: The Independent Review Organization gives you their answer.**

The Independent Review Organization will tell you its decision in writing and explain the reasons for it.

- If the review organization says **yes** to part or all of a request for a medical item or service, we must authorize the medical care coverage **within 72 hours** or provide the service **within 14 calendar days** after we receive the decision from the review organization for standard requests or **within 72 hours** from the date we receive the decision from the review organization for expedited requests.
- If this organization says **no** to part or all of your appeal, it means they agree with us that your request (or part of your request) for coverage for medical care should not be approved. (This is called "upholding the decision." It is also called "turning down your appeal.")
  - ♦ If the Independent Review Organization "upholds the decision," you have the right to a Level 3 Appeal. However, to make another appeal at Level 3, the dollar value of the medical care coverage you are requesting must meet a certain minimum. If the dollar value of the coverage you are requesting is too low, you cannot make another appeal, which means that the decision at Level 2 is final. The written notice you get from the Independent Review Organization will tell you how to find out the dollar amount to continue the appeals process.

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**Step 3: If your case meets the requirements, you choose whether you want to take your appeal further.**

- There are three additional levels in the appeals process after Level 2 (for a total of five levels of appeal).
- If your Level 2 Appeal is turned down and you meet the requirements to continue with the appeals process, you must decide whether you want to go on to Level 3 and make a third appeal. The details about how to do this are in the written notice you got after your Level 2 Appeal.
- The Level 3 Appeal is handled by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator. Section 9 in this chapter tells you more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

**Section 5.5 What if you are asking us to pay you for our share of a bill you have received for medical care?**

If you want to ask us for payment for medical care, start by reading Chapter 7 of this booklet: "Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs." Chapter 7 describes the situations in which you may need to ask for reimbursement or to pay a bill you have received from a provider. It also tells you how to send us the paperwork that asks us for payment.

**Asking for reimbursement is asking for a coverage decision from us**

If you send us the paperwork that asks for reimbursement, you are asking us to make a coverage decision (for more information about coverage decisions, see Section 4.1 in this chapter). To make this coverage decision, we will check to see if the medical care you paid for is a covered service; see the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**. We will also check to see if you followed all the rules for using your coverage for medical care (these rules are given in Chapter 3 of this booklet: "Using our plan's coverage for your medical services").

**We will say *yes* or *no* to your request**

- If the medical care you paid for is covered and you followed all the rules, we will send you the payment for our share of the cost of your medical care within 60 calendar days after we receive your request. Or if you haven't paid for the services, we will send the payment directly to the provider. (When we send the payment, it's the same as saying *yes* to your request for a coverage decision.)
- If the medical care is not covered, or you did not follow all the rules, we will not send payment. Instead, we will send you a letter that says we will not pay for the services and the reasons why in detail. (When we turn down your request for payment, it's the same as saying *no* to your request for a coverage decision.)



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### What if you ask for payment and we say that we will not pay?

If you do not agree with our decision to turn you down, **you can make an appeal**. If you make an appeal, it means you are asking us to change the coverage decision we made when we turned down your request for payment.

To make this appeal, follow the process for appeals that we describe in Section 5.3. Go to this section for step-by-step instructions. When you are following these instructions, please note:

- If you make an appeal for reimbursement, we must give you our answer within 60 calendar days after we receive your appeal. (If you are asking us to pay you back for medical care you have already received and paid for yourself, you are not allowed to ask for a fast appeal.)
- If the Independent Review Organization reverses our decision to deny payment, we must send the payment you have requested to you or to the provider within 30 calendar days. If the answer to your appeal is *yes* at any stage of the appeals process after Level 2, we must send the payment you requested to you or to the provider within 60 calendar days.

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## SECTION 6. Your Part D prescription drugs: How to ask for a coverage decision or make an appeal

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Have you read Section 4 in this chapter ("A guide to the basics of coverage decisions and appeals")? If not, you may want to read it before you start this section.

### Section 6.1 This section tells what to do if you have problems getting a Part D drug or you want us to pay you back for a Part D drug

Your benefits as a member of our plan include coverage for many prescription drugs. Please refer to our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**. To be covered, the drug must be used for a medically accepted indication. (A "medically accepted indication" is a use of the drug that is either approved by the Food and Drug Administration or supported by certain reference books. See Chapter 5, Section 3, for more information about a medically accepted indication.)

- **This section is about your Part D drugs only.** To keep things simple, we generally say "drug" in the rest of this section, instead of repeating "covered outpatient prescription drug" or "Part D drug" every time.
- For details about what we mean by Part D drugs, the **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**, rules and restrictions on coverage, and cost information, see Chapter 5 ("Using our plan's coverage for your Part D prescription drugs") and Chapter 6

("What you pay for your Part D prescription drugs") or the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

### Part D coverage decisions and appeals

As discussed in Section 4 of this chapter, a coverage decision is a decision we make about your benefits and coverage or about the amount we will pay for your drugs.

Legal Terms
An initial coverage decision about your Part D drugs is called a " <b>coverage determination</b> ."

Here are examples of coverage decisions you ask us to make about your Part D drugs:

- You ask us to make an exception, including:
  - ◆ Asking us to cover a Part D drug that is not on our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**.
  - ◆ Asking us to waive a restriction on our plan's coverage for a drug (such as limits on the amount of the drug you can get).
  - ◆ Asking to pay a lower cost-sharing amount for a covered drug on a higher cost-sharing tier.
- You ask us whether a drug is covered for you and whether you satisfy any applicable coverage rules. For example, when your drug is on our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary**, but we require you to get approval from us before we will cover it for you.
  - ◆ **Please note:** If your pharmacy tells you that your prescription cannot be filled as written, you will get a written notice explaining how to contact us to ask for a coverage decision.
- You ask us to pay for a prescription drug you already bought. This is a request for a coverage decision about payment.

If you disagree with a coverage decision we have made, you can appeal our decision.

This section tells you both how to ask for coverage decisions and how to request an appeal. Use the chart below to help you determine which part has information for your situation:

### Which of these situations are you in?

If you are in this situation:	This is what you can do:
Do you need a drug that isn't on our Drug List or need us to waive a rule or restriction on a drug we cover?	You can ask us to make an exception. (This is a type of coverage decision.) <b>Start with Section 6.2 in this chapter.</b>
Do you want us to cover a drug on our Drug List and you believe you meet any plan	You can ask us for a coverage decision. <b>Skip ahead to Section 6.4 in this chapter.</b>

rules or restrictions (such as getting approval in advance) for the drug you need?	
Do you want to ask us to pay you back for a drug you have already received and paid for?	You can ask us to pay you back. (This is a type of coverage decision.) <b>Skip ahead to Section 6.4 in this chapter.</b>
Have we already told you that we will not cover or pay for a drug in the way that you want it to be covered or paid for?	You can make an appeal. (This means you are asking us to reconsider.) <b>Skip ahead to Section 6.5 in this chapter.</b>

## Section 6.2 What is an exception?

If a drug is not covered in the way you would like it to be covered, you can ask us to make an "**exception**." An exception is a type of coverage decision. Similar to other types of coverage decisions, if we turn down your request for an exception, you can appeal our decision.

When you ask for an exception, your doctor or other prescriber will need to explain the medical reasons why you need the exception approved. We will then consider your request. Here are three examples of exceptions that you or your doctor or other prescriber can ask us to make:

### 1. Covering a Part D drug for you that is not on our Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary. (We call it the "Drug List" for short.)

#### Legal Terms

Asking for coverage of a drug that is not on the Drug List is sometimes called asking for a "**formulary exception**."

- If we agree to make an exception and cover a drug that is not on the Drug List, you will need to pay the cost-sharing amount that applies to drugs in Tier 4 (nonpreferred brand-name drugs). You cannot ask for an exception to the copayment or coinsurance amount we require you to pay for the drug.
2. **Removing a restriction on our coverage for a covered drug.** There are extra rules or restrictions that apply to certain drugs on our **Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary** (for more information, go to Chapter 5 and look for Section 4).

Legal Terms
Asking for removal of a restriction on coverage for a drug is sometimes called asking for a " <b>formulary exception.</b> "

- The extra rules and restrictions on coverage for certain drugs include:
    - ◆ Being required to use the generic version of a drug instead of the brand-name drug.
    - ◆ Getting **plan approval in advance** before we will agree to cover the drug for you. (This is sometimes called "prior authorization.")
  - If we agree to make an exception and waive a restriction for you, you can ask for an exception to the copayment or coinsurance amount we require you to pay for the drug.
- 3. Changing coverage of a drug to a lower cost-sharing tier.** Every drug on our Drug List is in one of six cost-sharing tiers. In general, the lower the cost-sharing tier number, the less you will pay as your share of the cost of the drug.

Legal Terms
Asking to pay a lower price for a covered nonpreferred drug is sometimes called asking for a " <b>tiering exception.</b> "

- If our Drug List contains alternative drug(s) for treating your medical condition that are in a lower cost-sharing tier than your drug, you can ask us to cover your drug at the cost-sharing amount that applies to the alternative drug(s). This would lower your share of the cost for the drug.
  - ◆ If the drug you're taking is a brand-name drug you can ask us to cover your drug at the cost-sharing amount that applies to the lowest tier that contains brand-name alternatives for treating your condition.
- If the drug you're taking is a generic drug you can ask us to cover your drug at the cost-sharing amount that applies to the lowest tier that contains either brand or generic alternatives for treating your condition.
- You cannot ask us to change the cost-sharing tier for any drug in Tier 5 (specialty-tier drugs).
- If we approve your request for a tiering exception and there is more than one lower cost-sharing tier with alternative drugs you can't take, you will usually pay the lowest amount.

<b>Section 6.3 Important things to know about asking for exceptions</b>
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### Your doctor must tell us the medical reasons

Your doctor or other prescriber must give us a statement that explains the medical reasons for requesting an exception. For a faster decision, include this medical information from your doctor or other prescriber when you ask for the exception.

Typically, our Drug List includes more than one drug for treating a particular condition. These different possibilities are called "**alternative**" drugs. If an alternative drug would be just as effective as the drug you are requesting and would not cause more side effects or other health problems, we will generally not approve your request for an exception. If you ask us for a tiering exception, we will generally not approve your request for an exception unless all the alternative drugs in the lower cost-sharing tier(s) won't work as well for you.

### **We can say yes or no to your request**

- If we approve your request for an exception, our approval usually is valid until the end of the plan year. This is true as long as your doctor continues to prescribe the drug for you and that drug continues to be safe and effective for treating your condition.
- If we say *no* to your request for an exception, you can ask for a review of our decision by making an appeal. Section 6.5 tells you how to make an appeal if we say no.

The next section tells you how to ask for a coverage decision, including an exception.

## **Section 6.4 Step-by-step: How to ask for a coverage decision, including an exception**

**Step 1: You ask us to make a coverage decision about the drug(s) or payment you need.** If your health requires a quick response, you must ask us to make a "fast coverage decision." You cannot ask for a fast coverage decision if you are asking us to pay you back for a drug you already bought.

*What to do:*

- **Request the type of coverage decision you want.** Start by calling, writing, or faxing us to make your request. You, your representative, or your doctor (or other prescriber) can do this. You can also access the coverage decision process through our website. For the details, go to Chapter 2, Section 1, and look for the section called "How to contact us when you are asking for a coverage decision or making a complaint about your Part D prescription drugs." Or if you are asking us to pay you back for a drug, go to the section called "Where to send a request asking us to pay for our share of the cost for medical care or a drug you have received."
- **You or your doctor or someone else who is acting on your behalf** can ask for a coverage decision. Section 4 in this chapter tells you how you can give written permission to someone else to act as your representative. You can also have a lawyer act on your behalf.
- **If you want to ask us to pay you back for a drug,** start by reading Chapter 7 of this booklet: "Asking us to pay our share of a bill you have received for covered medical services or drugs." Chapter 7 describes the situations in which you may need to ask for reimbursement. It also tells you how to send us the paperwork that asks us to pay you back for our share of the cost of a drug you have paid for.
- **If you are requesting an exception, provide the "supporting statement."** Your doctor or other prescriber must give us the medical reasons for the drug exception you are requesting. (We call this the "supporting statement.") Your doctor or other prescriber can fax or mail the

statement to us. Or your doctor or other prescriber can tell us on the phone and follow up by faxing or mailing a written statement if necessary. See Sections 6.2 and 6.3 for more information about exception requests.

- **We must accept any written request**, including a request submitted on the CMS Model Coverage Determination Request Form, which is available on our website.

<b>Legal Terms</b>
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A "fast coverage decision" is called an " <b>expedited coverage determination.</b> "
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If your health requires it, ask us to give you a "fast coverage decision"

- When we give you our decision, we will use the "standard" deadlines unless we have agreed to use the "fast" deadlines. A standard coverage decision means we will give you an answer **within 72 hours after we receive your doctor's statement**. A fast coverage decision means we will answer within 24 hours after we receive your doctor's statement.
- **To get a fast coverage decision, you must meet two requirements:**
  - ◆ You can get a fast coverage decision only if you are asking for a drug you have not yet received. (You cannot get a fast coverage decision if you are asking us to pay you back for a drug you have already bought.)
  - ◆ You can get a fast coverage decision only if using the standard deadlines could cause serious harm to your health or hurt your ability to function.
- **If your doctor or other prescriber tells us that your health requires a "fast coverage decision,"** we will automatically agree to give you a fast coverage decision.
- **If you ask for a fast coverage decision on your own** (without your doctor's or other prescriber's support), we will decide whether your health requires that we give you a fast coverage decision.
  - ◆ If we decide that your medical condition does not meet the requirements for a fast coverage decision, we will send you a letter that says so (and we will use the standard deadlines instead).
  - ◆ This letter will tell you that if your doctor or other prescriber asks for the fast coverage decision, we will automatically give a fast coverage decision.
  - ◆ The letter will also tell you how you can file a complaint about our decision to give you a standard coverage decision instead of the fast coverage decision you requested. It tells you how to file a "fast complaint," which means you would get our answer to your complaint within 24 hours of receiving the complaint. (The process for making a complaint is different from the process for coverage decisions and appeals. For more information about the process for making complaints, see Section 10 in this chapter.)

**Step 2: We consider your request and we give you our answer.**

*Deadlines for a "fast coverage decision"*

- If we are using the fast deadlines, we must give you our answer **within 24 hours**.



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- ◆ Generally, this means within 24 hours after we receive your request. If you are requesting an exception, we will give you our answer within 24 hours after we receive your doctor's statement supporting your request. We will give you our answer sooner if your health requires us to.
  - ◆ If we do not meet this deadline, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent, outside organization. Later in this section, we talk about this review organization and explain what happens at Appeal Level 2.
  - **If our answer is *yes to part or all of what you requested***, we must provide the coverage we have agreed to provide within 24 hours after we receive your request or doctor's statement supporting your request.
  - **If our answer is *no to part or all of what you requested***, we will send you a written statement that explains why we said no. We will also tell you how to appeal.

*Deadlines for a "standard coverage decision" about a drug you have not yet received*

- If we are using the standard deadlines, we must give you our answer **within 72 hours**.
  - ◆ Generally, this means within 72 hours after we receive your request. If you are requesting an exception, we will give you our answer within 72 hours after we receive your doctor's statement supporting your request. We will give you our answer sooner if your health requires us to.
  - ◆ If we do not meet this deadline, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent organization. Later in this section, we talk about this review organization and explain what happens at Appeal Level 2.
- **If our answer is *yes to part or all of what you requested***:
  - ◆ If we approve your request for coverage, we must provide the coverage we have agreed to provide within 72 hours after we receive your request or doctor's statement supporting your request.
- **If our answer is *no to part or all of what you requested***, we will send you a written statement that explains why we said no. We will also tell you how to appeal.

*Deadlines for a "standard coverage decision" about payment for a drug you have already bought*

- We must give you our answer **within 14 calendar days** after we receive your request.
  - ◆ If we do not meet this deadline, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent organization. Later in this section, we talk about this review organization and explain what happens at Appeal Level 2.
- **If our answer is *yes to part or all of what you requested***, we are also required to make payment to you within 14 calendar days after we receive your request.

- **If our answer is *no* to part or all of what you requested**, we will send you a written statement that explains why we said no. We will also tell you how to appeal.

**Step 3: If we say *no* to your coverage request, you decide if you want to make an appeal.**

- If we say no, you have the right to request an appeal. Requesting an appeal means asking us to reconsider—and possibly change—the decision we made.

**Section 6.5 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 Appeal**

(how to ask for a review of a coverage decision made by our plan)

**Legal Terms**

An appeal to our plan about a Part D drug coverage decision is called a plan "**redetermination**."

**Step 1: You contact us and make your Level 1 Appeal. If your health requires a quick response, you must ask for a "fast appeal."**

*What to do:*

- **To start your appeal, you (or your representative or your doctor or other prescriber) must contact us.**
  - ♦ For details about how to reach us by phone, fax, or mail, or on our website for any purpose related to your appeal, go to Chapter 2, Section 1, and look for the section called "How to contact us when you are making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs."
- **If you are asking for a standard appeal, make your appeal by submitting a written request.**
- **If you are asking for a fast appeal, you may make your appeal in writing or you may call us at the phone number shown in Chapter 2, Section 1, "How to contact us when you are making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs."**
- We must accept any written request, including a request submitted on the CMS Model Coverage Determination Request Form, which is available on our website.
- **You must make your appeal request within 60 calendar days from the date on the written notice** we sent to tell you our answer to your request for a coverage decision. If you miss this deadline and have a good reason for missing it, we may give you more time to make your appeal. Examples of good cause for missing the deadline may include if you had a serious illness that prevented you from contacting us or if we provided you with incorrect or incomplete information about the deadline for requesting an appeal.
- **You can ask for a copy of the information in your appeal and add more information.**
  - ♦ You have the right to ask us for a copy of the information regarding your appeal. We are allowed to charge a fee for copying and sending this information to you.

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**



- ◆ If you wish, you and your doctor or other prescriber may give us additional information to support your appeal.

<b>Legal Terms</b>
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A "fast appeal" is also called an " <b>expedited redetermination.</b> "
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*If your health requires it, ask for a "fast appeal"*

- If you are appealing a decision we made about a drug you have not yet received, you and your doctor or other prescriber will need to decide if you need a "fast appeal."
- The requirements for getting a "fast appeal" are the same as those for getting a "fast coverage decision" in Section 6.4 of this chapter.

**Step 2: We consider your appeal and we give you our answer.**

- When we are reviewing your appeal, we take another careful look at all of the information about your coverage request. We check to see if we were following all the rules when we said **no** to your request. We may contact you or your doctor or other prescriber to get more information.

*Deadlines for a "fast appeal"*

- If we are using the fast deadlines, we must give you our answer **within 72 hours after we receive your appeal**. We will give you our answer sooner if your health requires it.
  - ◆ If we do not give you an answer within 72 hours, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an Independent Review Organization. Later in this section, we talk about this review organization and explain what happens at Level 2 of the appeals process.
- **If our answer is yes to part or all of what you requested**, we must provide the coverage we have agreed to provide within 72 hours after we receive your appeal.
- **If our answer is no to part or all of what you requested**, we will send you a written statement that explains why we said **no** and how to appeal our decision.

*Deadlines for a "standard appeal"*

- If we are using the standard deadlines, we must give you our answer **within 7 calendar days after we receive your appeal for a drug you have not received yet**. We will give you our decision sooner if you have not received the drug yet and your health condition requires us to do so. If you believe your health requires it, you should ask for a "fast appeal".
- If we do not give you a decision within 7 calendar days, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an Independent Review Organization. Later in this section, we tell you about this review organization and explain what happens at Level 2 of the appeals process.
- **If our answer is yes to part or all of what you requested:**

- ◆ If we approve a request for coverage, we must provide the coverage we have agreed to provide as quickly as your health requires, but no later than 7 calendar days after we receive your appeal.
- ◆ If we approve a request to pay you back for a drug you already bought, we are required to send payment to you within 30 calendar days after we receive your appeal request.
- **If our answer is *no* to part or all of what you requested**, we will send you a written statement that explains why we said *no* and how to appeal our decision.
- If you are requesting that we pay you back for a drug you have already bought, we must give you our answer **within 14 calendar days** after we receive your request.
  - ◆ If we do not give you a decision within 14 calendar days, we are required to send your request on to Level 2 of the appeals process, where it will be reviewed by an independent organization. Later in this section, we talk about this review organization and explain what happens at Appeal Level 2.
- **If our answer is *yes* to part or all of what you requested**, we are also required to make payment to you within 30 calendar days after we receive your request.
- **If our answer is *no* to part or all of what you requested**, we will send you a written statement that explains why we said no. We will also tell you how to appeal.

**Step 3: If we say *no* to your appeal, you decide if you want to continue with the appeals process and make *another* appeal.**

- If we say *no* to your appeal, you then choose whether to accept this decision or continue by making another appeal.

If you decide to make another appeal, it means your appeal is going on to Level 2 of the appeals process (see below).

### Section 6.6 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 2 Appeal

If we say *no* to your appeal, you then choose whether to accept this decision or continue by making another appeal. If you decide to go on to a Level 2 Appeal, the **Independent Review Organization** reviews the decision we made when we said *no* to your first appeal. This organization decides whether the decision we made should be changed.

<b>Legal Terms</b>
The formal name for the "Independent Review Organization" is the " <b>Independent Review Entity</b> ." It is sometimes called the " <b>IRE</b> ."

**Step 1: To make a Level 2 Appeal, you (or your representative or your doctor or other prescriber) must contact the Independent Review Organization and ask for a review of your case.**

- If we say *no* to your Level 1 Appeal, the written notice we send you will include instructions about how to make a Level 2 Appeal with the Independent Review Organization. These

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instructions will tell you who can make this Level 2 Appeal, what deadlines you must follow, and how to reach the review organization.

- When you make an appeal to the Independent Review Organization, we will send the information we have about your appeal to this organization. This information is called your "case file." You have the right to ask us for a copy of your case file. We are allowed to charge you a fee for copying and sending this information to you.
- You have a right to give the Independent Review Organization additional information to support your appeal.

### **Step 2: The Independent Review Organization does a review of your appeal and gives you an answer.**

- **The Independent Review Organization is an independent organization that is hired by Medicare.** This organization is not connected with us and it is not a government agency. This organization is a company chosen by Medicare to review our decisions about your Part D benefits with us.
- Reviewers at the Independent Review Organization will take a careful look at all of the information related to your appeal. The organization will tell you its decision in writing and explain the reasons for it.

#### *Deadlines for "fast appeal" at Level 2*

- If your health requires it, ask the Independent Review Organization for a "fast appeal."
- If the review organization agrees to give you a fast appeal, the review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 Appeal **within 72 hours after it receives your appeal request.**
- If the Independent Review Organization says **yes** to part or all of what you requested, we must provide the drug coverage that was approved by the review organization within 24 hours after we receive the decision from the review organization.

#### *Deadlines for "standard appeal" at Level 2*

- If you have a standard appeal at Level 2, the review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 Appeal **within 7 calendar days after it receives your appeal** if it is for a drug you have not received yet. If you are requesting that we pay you back for a drug you have already bought, the review organization must give you an answer to your Level 2 appeal within 14 calendar days after it receives your request.
- If the Independent Review Organization says **yes** to part or all of what you requested:
  - ◆ If the Independent Review Organization approves a request for coverage, we must provide the drug coverage that was approved by the review organization within 72 hours after we receive the decision from the review organization.
  - ◆ If the Independent Review Organization approves a request to pay you back for a drug you already bought, we are required to send payment to you within 30 calendar days after we receive the decision from the review organization.

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### **What if the review organization says *no* to your appeal?**

If this organization says *no* to your appeal, it means the organization agrees with our decision not to approve your request. (This is called "upholding the decision." It is also called "turning down your appeal.")

If the Independent Review Organization "upholds the decision," you have the right to a Level 3 Appeal. However, to make another appeal at Level 3, the dollar value of the drug coverage you are requesting must meet a minimum amount. If the dollar value of the drug coverage you are requesting is too low, you cannot make another appeal and the decision at Level 2 is final. The notice you get from the Independent Review Organization will tell you the dollar value that must be in dispute to continue with the appeals process.

### **Step 3: If the dollar value of the coverage you are requesting meets the requirement, you choose whether you want to take your appeal further.**

- There are three additional levels in the appeals process after Level 2 (for a total of five levels of appeal).
- If your Level 2 Appeal is turned down and you meet the requirements to continue with the appeals process, you must decide whether you want to go on to Level 3 and make a third appeal. If you decide to make a third appeal, the details about how to do this are in the written notice you got after your second appeal.
- The Level 3 Appeal is handled by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator. Section 9 in this chapter tells you more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

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## **SECTION 7. How to ask us to cover a longer inpatient hospital stay if you think the doctor is discharging you too soon**

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When you are admitted to a hospital, you have the right to get all of your covered hospital services that are necessary to diagnose and treat your illness or injury. For more information about our coverage for your hospital care, including any limitations on this coverage, see the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.

During your covered hospital stay, your doctor and the hospital staff will be working with you to prepare for the day when you will leave the hospital. They will also help arrange for care you may need after you leave.

- The day you leave the hospital is called your "**discharge date**."
- When your discharge date has been decided, your doctor or the hospital staff will let you know.
- If you think you are being asked to leave the hospital too soon, you can ask for a longer hospital stay and your request will be considered. This section tells you how to ask.

**Section 7.1 During your inpatient hospital stay, you will get a written notice from Medicare that tells about your rights**

During your covered hospital stay, you will be given a written notice called **An Important Message from Medicare about Your Rights**. Everyone with Medicare gets a copy of this notice whenever they are admitted to a hospital. Someone at the hospital (for example, a caseworker or nurse) must give it to you within two days after you are admitted. If you do not get the notice, ask any hospital employee for it. If you need help, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). You can also call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.

- Read this notice carefully and ask questions if you don't understand it. It tells you about your rights as a hospital patient, including:
  - ◆ Your right to receive Medicare-covered services during and after your hospital stay, as ordered by your doctor. This includes the right to know what these services are, who will pay for them, and where you can get them.
  - ◆ Your right to be involved in any decisions about your hospital stay, and know who will pay for it.
  - ◆ Where to report any concerns you have about quality of your hospital care.
  - ◆ Your right to appeal your discharge decision if you think you are being discharged from the hospital too soon.

**Legal Terms**

The written notice from Medicare tells you how you can "**request an immediate review**." Requesting an immediate review is a formal, legal way to ask for a delay in your discharge date so that we will cover your hospital care for a longer time. (Section 7.2 below tells you how you can request an immediate review.)

- **You must sign the written notice** to show that you received it and understand your rights.
  - ◆ You or someone who is acting on your behalf must sign the notice. (Section 4 in this chapter tells you how you can give written permission to someone else to act as your representative.)
  - ◆ Signing the notice shows **only** that you have received the information about your rights. The notice does not give your discharge date (your doctor or hospital staff will tell you your discharge date). Signing the notice does not mean you are agreeing on a discharge date.
- **Keep your copy** of the signed notice so you will have the information about making an appeal (or reporting a concern about quality of care) handy if you need it.

- ◆ If you sign the notice more than two days before the day you leave the hospital, you will get another copy before you are scheduled to be discharged.
- ◆ To look at a copy of this notice in advance, you can call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) or **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**. You can also see it online at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/BNI/HospitalDischargeAppealNotices.html>.

## **Section 7.2 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 Appeal to change your hospital discharge date**

If you want to ask for your inpatient hospital services to be covered by us for a longer time, you will need to use the appeals process to make this request. Before you start, understand what you need to do and what the deadlines are.

- **Follow the process.** Each step in the first two levels of the appeals process is explained below.
- **Meet the deadlines.** The deadlines are important. Be sure that you understand and follow the deadlines that apply to things you must do.
- **Ask for help if you need it.** If you have questions or need help at any time, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). Or call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program, a government organization that provides personalized assistance (see Section 2 in this chapter).

### **During a Level 1 Appeal, the Quality Improvement Organization reviews your appeal.**

It checks to see if your planned discharge date is medically appropriate for you.

### **Step 1: Contact the Quality Improvement Organization for your state and ask for a "fast review" of your hospital discharge. You must act quickly.**

#### *What is the Quality Improvement Organization?*

- This organization is a group of doctors and other health care professionals who are paid by the federal government. These experts are not part of our plan. This organization is paid by Medicare to check on and help improve the quality of care for people with Medicare. This includes reviewing hospital discharge dates for people with Medicare.

#### *How can you contact this organization?*

- The written notice you received (**An Important Message from Medicare About Your Rights**) tells you how to reach this organization. (Or find the name, address, and phone number of the Quality Improvement Organization for your state in Chapter 2, Section 4, of this booklet.)



*Act quickly:*

- To make your appeal, you must contact the Quality Improvement Organization **before** you leave the hospital and **no later than your planned discharge date**. (Your "planned discharge date" is the date that has been set for you to leave the hospital.)
  - ◆ **If you meet this deadline**, you are allowed to stay in the hospital after your discharge date without paying for it while you wait to get the decision on your appeal from the Quality Improvement Organization.
  - ◆ **If you do not meet this deadline**, and you decide to stay in the hospital after your planned discharge date, you may have to pay all of the costs for hospital care you receive after your planned discharge date.
- If you miss the deadline for contacting the Quality Improvement Organization about your appeal, you can make your appeal directly to our plan instead. For details about this other way to make your appeal, see Section 7.4.

*Ask for a "fast review":*

- You must ask the Quality Improvement Organization for a "fast review" of your discharge. Asking for a "fast review" means you are asking for the organization to use the "fast" deadlines for an appeal instead of using the standard deadlines.

Legal Terms
A "fast review" is also called an "immediate review" or an "expedited review."

**Step 2: The Quality Improvement Organization conducts an independent review of your case.***What happens during this review?*

- Health professionals at the Quality Improvement Organization (we will call them "the reviewers" for short) will ask you (or your representative) why you believe coverage for the services should continue. You don't have to prepare anything in writing, but you may do so if you wish.
- The reviewers will also look at your medical information, talk with your doctor, and review information that the hospital and we have given to them.
- By noon of the day after the reviewers informed our plan of your appeal, you will also get a written notice that gives you your planned discharge date and explains in detail the reasons

why your doctor, the hospital, and we think it is right (medically appropriate) for you to be discharged on that date.

### Legal Terms

This written explanation is called the "**Detailed Notice of Discharge**." You can get a sample of this notice by calling Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) or **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. (TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.) Or you can see a sample notice online at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/BNI/HospitalDischargeAppealNotices.html>.

**Step 3: Within one full day after it has all the needed information, the Quality Improvement Organization will give you its answer to your appeal.**

*What happens if the answer is **yes**?*

- If the review organization says **yes** to your appeal, **we must keep providing your covered inpatient hospital services for as long as these services are medically necessary.**
- You will have to keep paying your share of the costs (such as deductibles or copayments, if these apply). In addition, there may be limitations on your covered hospital services. (See the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**.)

*What happens if the answer is **no**?*

- If the review organization says **no** to your appeal, they are saying that your planned discharge date is medically appropriate. If this happens, our coverage for your **inpatient hospital services will end** at noon on the day after the Quality Improvement Organization gives you its answer to your appeal.
- If the review organization says **no** to your appeal and you decide to stay in the hospital, then **you may have to pay the full cost of hospital care** you receive after noon on the day after the Quality Improvement Organization gives you its answer to your appeal.

**Step 4: If the answer to your Level 1 Appeal is *no*, you decide if you want to make another appeal.**

- If the Quality Improvement Organization has turned down your appeal, and you stay in the hospital after your planned discharge date, then you can make another appeal. Making another appeal means you are going on to "Level 2" of the appeals process.

### **Section 7.3 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 2 Appeal to change your hospital discharge date**

If the Quality Improvement Organization has turned down your appeal, and you stay in the hospital after your planned discharge date, then you can make a Level 2 Appeal. During a Level 2 Appeal, you ask the Quality Improvement Organization to take another look at the decision they made on your first appeal. If the Quality Improvement Organization turns down

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your Level 2 Appeal, you may have to pay the full cost for your stay after your planned discharge date.

Here are the steps for Level 2 of the appeals process:

**Step 1: You contact the Quality Improvement Organization again and ask for another review.**

- **You must ask for this review within 60 calendar days** after the day the Quality Improvement Organization said *no* to your Level 1 Appeal. You can ask for this review only if you stayed in the hospital after the date that your coverage for the care ended.

**Step 2: The Quality Improvement Organization does a second review of your situation.**

- Reviewers at the Quality Improvement Organization will take another careful look at all of the information related to your appeal.

**Step 3: Within 14 calendar days of receipt of your request for a second review, the Quality Improvement Organization reviewers will decide on your appeal and tell you their decision.**

*If the review organization says **yes**:*

- We must reimburse you for our share of the costs of hospital care you have received since noon on the day after the date your first appeal was turned down by the Quality Improvement Organization. We must continue providing coverage for your inpatient hospital care for as long as it is medically necessary.
- You must continue to pay your share of the costs and coverage limitations may apply.

*If the review organization says **no**:*

- It means they agree with the decision they made on your Level 1 Appeal and will not change it. This is called "upholding the decision."
- The notice you get will tell you in writing what you can do if you wish to continue with the review process. It will give you the details about how to go on to the next level of appeal, which is handled by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator.

**Step 4: If the answer is *no*, you will need to decide whether you want to take your appeal further by going on to Level 3.**

- There are three additional levels in the appeals process after Level 2 (for a total of five levels of appeal). If the review organization turns down your Level 2 Appeal, you can choose whether to accept that decision or whether to go on to Level 3 and make another appeal. At Level 3, your appeal is reviewed by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator.
- Section 9 in this chapter tells you more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

## Section 7.4 What if you miss the deadline for making your Level 1 Appeal?

### You can appeal to us instead

As explained above in Section 7.2, you must act quickly to contact the Quality Improvement Organization to start your first appeal of your hospital discharge. ("Quickly" means before you leave the hospital and no later than your planned discharge date.) If you miss the deadline for contacting this organization, there is another way to make your appeal.

If you use this other way of making your appeal, the first two levels of appeal are different.

### Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 Alternate Appeal

If you miss the deadline for contacting the Quality Improvement Organization, you can make an appeal to us, asking for a "fast review." A fast review is an appeal that uses the fast deadlines instead of the standard deadlines.

<b>Legal Terms</b>
A "fast review" (or "fast appeal") is also called an " <b>expedited appeal.</b> "

*Step 1: Contact us and ask for a "fast review."*

- For details about how to contact us, **go to Chapter 2**, Section 1, and look for the section called "How to contact us when you are making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs."
- **Be sure to ask for a "fast review."** This means you are asking us to give you an answer using the "fast" deadlines rather than the "standard" deadlines.

*Step 2: We do a "fast review" of your planned discharge date, checking to see if it was medically appropriate.*

- During this review, we take a look at all of the information about your hospital stay. We check to see if your planned discharge date was medically appropriate. We will check to see if the decision about when you should leave the hospital was fair and followed all the rules.
- In this situation, we will use the "fast" deadlines rather than the standard deadlines for giving you the answer to this review.

*Step 3: We give you our decision within 72 hours after you ask for a "fast review" ("fast appeal").*

- **If we say yes to your fast appeal**, it means we have agreed with you that you still need to be in the hospital after the discharge date, and will keep providing your covered inpatient hospital services for as long as it is medically necessary. It also means that we have agreed to reimburse you for our share of the costs of care you have received since the date when we said your coverage would end. (You must pay your share of the costs and there may be coverage limitations that apply.)

- **If we say *no* to your fast appeal**, we are saying that your planned discharge date was medically appropriate. Our coverage for your inpatient hospital services ends as of the day we said coverage would end.
- **If you stayed in the hospital after your planned discharge date, then you may have to pay the full cost of hospital care you received after the planned discharge date.**

*Step 4: If we say no to your fast appeal, your case will automatically be sent on to the next level of the appeals process.*

- To make sure we were following all the rules when we said ***no*** to your fast appeal, we are required to send your appeal to the Independent Review Organization. When we do this, it means that you are **automatically** going on to Level 2 of the appeals process.

### **Step-by-step: Level 2 Alternate Appeal Process**

If we say ***no*** to your Level 1 Appeal, your case will automatically be sent on to the next level of the appeals process. During the Level 2 Appeal, an **Independent Review Organization** reviews the decision we made when we said ***no*** to your "fast appeal." This organization decides whether the decision we made should be changed.

<b>Legal Terms</b>
The formal name for the "Independent Review Organization" is the <b>"Independent Review Entity."</b> It is sometimes called the <b>"IRE."</b>

*Step 1: We will automatically forward your case to the Independent Review Organization.*

- We are required to send the information for your Level 2 Appeal to the Independent Review Organization within 24 hours of when we tell you that we are saying ***no*** to your first appeal. (If you think we are not meeting this deadline or other deadlines, you can make a complaint. The complaint process is different from the appeals process. Section 10 in this chapter tells you how to make a complaint.)

*Step 2: The Independent Review Organization does a "fast review" of your appeal. The reviewers give you an answer within 72 hours.*

- The Independent Review Organization is an independent organization that is hired by Medicare. This organization is not connected with our plan and it is not a government agency. This organization is a company chosen by Medicare to handle the job of being the Independent Review Organization. Medicare oversees its work.
- Reviewers at the Independent Review Organization will take a careful look at all of the information related to your appeal of your hospital discharge.
- If this **organization says *yes*** to your appeal, then we must reimburse you (pay you back) for our share of the costs of hospital care you have received since the date of your planned discharge. We must also continue our plan's coverage of your inpatient hospital services for as long as it is medically necessary. You must continue to pay your share of the costs. If there are

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coverage limitations, these could limit how much we would reimburse or how long we would continue to cover your services.

- **If this organization says *no* to your appeal**, it means they agree with us that your planned hospital discharge date was medically appropriate.
  - ◆ The notice you get from the Independent Review Organization will tell you in writing what you can do if you wish to continue with the review process. It will give you the details about how to go on to a Level 3 Appeal, which is handled by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator.

*Step 3: If the Independent Review Organization turns down your appeal, you choose whether you want to take your appeal further.*

- There are three additional levels in the appeals process after Level 2 (for a total of five levels of appeal). If reviewers say *no* to your Level 2 Appeal, you decide whether to accept their decision or go on to Level 3 and make a third appeal.
- Section 9 in this chapter tells you more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

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## **SECTION 8. How to ask us to keep covering certain medical services if you think your coverage is ending too soon**

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### **Section 8.1** *This section is about three services only: Home health care, skilled nursing facility care, and Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services*

This section is **only** about the following types of care:

- **Home health care services** you are getting.
- **Skilled nursing care** you are getting as a patient in a skilled nursing facility. (To learn about requirements for being considered a "skilled nursing facility," see Chapter 12, "Definitions of important words.")
- **Rehabilitation care** you are getting as an outpatient at a Medicare-approved Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF). Usually this means you are getting treatment for an illness or accident, or you are recovering from a major operation. (For more information about this type of facility, see Chapter 12, "Definitions of important words.")

When you are getting any of these types of care, you have the right to keep getting your covered services for that type of care for as long as the care is needed to diagnose and treat your illness or injury. For more information about your covered services, including your share of the cost and any limitations to coverage that may apply, see the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this EOC.

When we decide it is time to stop covering any of the three types of care for you, we are required to tell you in advance. When your coverage for that care ends, **we will stop paying our share of the cost for your care.**

If you think we are ending the coverage of your care too soon, you can appeal our decision. This section tells you how to ask for an appeal.

### **Section 8.2 We will tell you in advance when your coverage will be ending**

- **You receive a notice in writing.** At least two days before our plan is going to stop covering your care, you will receive a notice.
  - ◆ The written notice tells you the date when we will stop covering the care for you.
  - ◆ The written notice also tells you what you can do if you want to ask us to change this decision about when to end your care, and keep covering it for a longer period of time.

#### **Legal Terms**

In telling you what you can do, the written notice is telling how you can request a "**fast-track appeal.**" Requesting a fast-track appeal is a formal, legal way to request a change to our coverage decision about when to stop your care. (Section 8.3 below tells you how you can request a fast-track appeal.)

The written notice is called the "**Notice of Medicare Non-Coverage.**" To get a sample copy, call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) or **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. (TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048.**) Or see a copy online at **<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/BNI/MAEDNotices.html>**.

- You must sign the written notice to show that you received it.
  - ◆ You or someone who is acting on your behalf must sign the notice. (Section 4 tells you how you can give written permission to someone else to act as your representative.)
  - ◆ Signing the notice shows **only** that you have received the information about when your coverage will stop. **Signing it does not mean you agree** with us that it's time to stop getting the care.

### **Section 8.3 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 Appeal to have our plan cover your care for a longer time**

If you want to ask us to cover your care for a longer period of time, you will need to use the appeals process to make this request. Before you start, understand what you need to do and what the deadlines are.

- **Follow the process.** Each step in the first two levels of the appeals process is explained below.

- **Meet the deadlines.** The deadlines are important. Be sure that you understand and follow the deadlines that apply to things you must do. There are also deadlines our plan must follow. (If you think we are not meeting our deadlines, you can file a complaint. Section 10 in this chapter tells you how to file a complaint.)
- **Ask for help if you need it.** If you have questions or need help at any time, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). Or call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program, a government organization that provides personalized assistance (see Section 2 in this chapter).

**If you ask for a Level 1 Appeal on time, the Quality Improvement Organization reviews your appeal and decides whether to change the decision made by our plan.**

**Step 1: Make your Level 1 Appeal: Contact the Quality Improvement Organization for your state and ask for a review. You must act quickly.**

*What is the Quality Improvement Organization?*

- This organization is a group of doctors and other health care experts who are paid by the federal government. These experts are not part of our plan. They check on the quality of care received by people with Medicare and review plan decisions about when it's time to stop covering certain kinds of medical care.

*How can you contact this organization?*

- The written notice you received tells you how to reach this organization. (Or find the name, address, and phone number of the Quality Improvement Organization for your state in Chapter 2, Section 4, of this booklet.)

*What should you ask for?*

- Ask this organization for a "fast-track appeal" (to do an independent review) of whether it is medically appropriate for us to end coverage for your medical services.

*Your deadline for contacting this organization.*

- You must contact the Quality Improvement Organization to start your appeal no later than noon of the day after you receive the written notice telling you when we will stop covering your care.
- If you miss the deadline for contacting the Quality Improvement Organization about your appeal, you can make your appeal directly to us instead. For details about this other way to make your appeal, see Section 8.5 in this chapter.

**Step 2: The Quality Improvement Organization conducts an independent review of your case.**

*What happens during this review?*

- Health professionals at the Quality Improvement Organization (we will call them "the reviewers" for short) will ask you (or your representative) why you believe coverage



for the services should continue. You don't have to prepare anything in writing, but you may do so if you wish.

- The review organization will also look at your medical information, talk with your doctor, and review information that our plan has given to them.
- By the end of the day the reviewers inform us of your appeal, you will also get a written notice from us that explains in detail our reasons for ending our coverage for your services.

<b>Legal Terms</b>
This notice of explanation is called the " <b>Detailed Explanation of Non-Coverage.</b> "

**Step 3: Within one full day after they have all the information they need, the reviewers will tell you their decision.**

*What happens if the reviewers say **yes** to your appeal?*

- If the reviewers say **yes** to your appeal, then **we must keep providing your covered services for as long as it is medically necessary.**
- You will have to keep paying your share of the costs (such as deductibles or copayments, if these apply). In addition, there may be limitations on your covered services (see the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**).

*What happens if the reviewers say **no** to your appeal?*

- If the reviewers say **no** to your appeal, then **your coverage will end** on the date we have told you. We will stop paying our share of the costs of this care on the date listed on the notice.
- If you decide to keep getting the home health care, or skilled nursing facility care, or Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services after this date when your coverage ends, **then you will have to pay the full cost of this care yourself.**

**Step 4: If the answer to your Level 1 Appeal is *no*, you decide if you want to make another appeal.**

- This first appeal you make is "Level 1" of the appeals process. If reviewers say **no** to your Level 1 Appeal, and you choose to continue getting care after your coverage for the care has ended, then you can make another appeal.
- Making another appeal means you are going on to "Level 2" of the appeals process.

<b>Section 8.4 Step-by-step: How to make a Level 2 Appeal to have our plan cover your care for a longer time</b>
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If the Quality Improvement Organization has turned down your appeal and you choose to continue getting care after your coverage for the care has ended, then you can make a Level 2 Appeal. During a Level 2 Appeal, you ask the Quality Improvement Organization to take another

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look at the decision they made on your first appeal. If the Quality Improvement Organization turns down your Level 2 Appeal, you may have to pay the full cost for your home health care, or skilled nursing facility care, or Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services after the date when we said your coverage would end.

Here are the steps for Level 2 of the appeals process:

**Step 1: You contact the Quality Improvement Organization again and ask for another review.**

- **You must ask for this review within 60 days** after the day when the Quality Improvement Organization said *no* to your Level 1 Appeal. You can ask for this review only if you continued getting care after the date that your coverage for the care ended.

**Step 2: The Quality Improvement Organization does a second review of your situation.**

- Reviewers at the Quality Improvement Organization will take another careful look at all of the information related to your appeal.

**Step 3: Within 14 days of receipt of your appeal request reviewers will decide on your appeal and tell you their decision.**

*What happens if the review organization says **yes** to your appeal?*

- **We must reimburse you** for our share of the costs of care you have received since the date when we said your coverage would end. **We must continue providing coverage** for the care for as long as it is medically necessary.
- You must continue to pay your share of the costs and there may be coverage limitations that apply.

*What happens if the review organization says **no**?*

- It means they agree with the decision we made to your Level 1 Appeal and will not change it.
- The notice you get will tell you in writing what you can do if you wish to continue with the review process. It will give you the details about how to go on to the next level of appeal, which is handled by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator.

**Step 4: If the answer is *no*, you will need to decide whether you want to take your appeal further.**

- There are three additional levels of appeal after Level 2, for a total of five levels of appeal. If reviewers turn down your Level 2 Appeal, you can choose whether to accept that decision or to go on to Level 3 and make another appeal. At Level 3, your appeal is reviewed by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator.
- Section 9 in this chapter tells you more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.



## Section 8.5 What if you miss the deadline for making your Level 1 Appeal?

### You can appeal to us instead

As explained above in Section 8.3, you must act quickly to contact the Quality Improvement Organization to start your first appeal (within a day or two, at the most). If you miss the deadline for contacting this organization, there is another way to make your appeal. If you use this other way of making your appeal, the first two levels of appeal are different.

### Step-by-step: How to make a Level 1 Alternate Appeal

If you miss the deadline for contacting the Quality Improvement Organization, you can make an appeal to us, asking for a "fast review." A fast review is an appeal that uses the fast deadlines instead of the standard deadlines.

Here are the steps for a Level 1 Alternate Appeal:

<b>Legal Terms</b>
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A "fast review" (or "fast appeal") is also called an " <b>expedited appeal</b> ."
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#### *Step 1: Contact us and ask for a "fast review."*

- For details about how to contact us, go to Chapter 2, Section 1, and look for the section called "How to contact us when you are making an appeal about your medical care or Part D prescription drugs."
- **Be sure to ask for a "fast review."** This means you are asking us to give you an answer using the "fast" deadlines rather than the "standard" deadlines.

#### *Step 2: We do a "fast review" of the decision we made about when to end coverage for your services.*

- During this review, we take another look at all of the information about your case. We check to see if we were following all the rules when we set the date for ending our plan's coverage for services you were receiving.
- We will use the "fast" deadlines rather than the standard deadlines for giving you the answer to this review.

#### *Step 3: We give you our decision within 72 hours after you ask for a "fast review" ("fast appeal").*

- **If we say yes to your fast appeal,** it means we have agreed with you that you need services longer, and will keep providing your covered services for as long as it is medically necessary. It also means that we have agreed to reimburse you for our share of the costs of care you have received since the date when we said your coverage would end. (You must pay your share of the costs and there may be coverage limitations that apply.)

- **If we say *no* to your fast appeal**, then your coverage will end on the date we told you and we will not pay any share of the costs after this date.
- If you continued to get home health care, or skilled nursing facility care, or Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) services after the date when we said your coverage would end, **then you will have to pay the full cost of this care yourself**.

*Step 4: If we say **no** to your fast appeal, your case will automatically go on to the next level of the appeals process.*

- To make sure we were following all the rules when we said **no** to your fast appeal, **we are required to send your appeal to the Independent Review Organization**. When we do this, it means that you are automatically going on to Level 2 of the appeals process.

### **Step-by-step: Level 2 Alternate Appeal Process**

If we say **no** to your Level 1 Appeal, your case will automatically be sent on to the next level of the appeals process. During the Level 2 Appeal, the **Independent Review Organization** reviews the decision we made when we said **no** to your "fast appeal." This organization decides whether the decision we made should be changed.

<b>Legal Terms</b>
The formal name for the "Independent Review Organization" is the " <b>Independent Review Entity</b> ." It is sometimes called the " <b>IRE</b> ."

*Step 1: We will automatically forward your case to the Independent Review Organization.*

- We are required to send the information for your Level 2 Appeal to the Independent Review Organization within 24 hours of when we tell you that we are saying **no** to your first appeal. (If you think we are not meeting this deadline or other deadlines, you can make a complaint. The complaint process is different from the appeals process. Section 10 in this chapter tells you how to make a complaint.)

*Step 2: The Independent Review Organization does a "fast review" of your appeal. The reviewers give you an answer within 72 hours.*

- The **Independent Review Organization** is an independent organization that is hired by Medicare. This organization is not connected with our plan and it is not a government agency. This organization is a company chosen by Medicare to handle the job of being the Independent Review Organization. Medicare oversees its work.
- Reviewers at the Independent Review Organization will take a careful look at all of the information related to your appeal.
- **If this organization says *yes* to your appeal**, then we must reimburse you (pay you back) for our share of the costs of care you have received since the date when we said your coverage would end. We must also continue to cover the care for as long as it is medically necessary.

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You must continue to pay your share of the costs. If there are coverage limitations, these could limit how much we would reimburse or how long we would continue to cover your services.

- **If this organization says *no* to your appeal**, it means they agree with the decision our plan made to your first appeal and will not change it.
  - ◆ The notice you get from the Independent Review Organization will tell you in writing what you can do if you wish to continue with the review process. It will give you the details about how to go on to a Level 3 Appeal.

*Step 3: If the Independent Review Organization turns down your appeal, you choose whether you want to take your appeal further.*

- There are three additional levels of appeal after Level 2, for a total of five levels of appeal. If reviewers say *no* to your Level 2 Appeal, you can choose whether to accept that decision or whether to go on to Level 3 and make another appeal. At Level 3, your appeal is reviewed by an administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator.
- Section 9 in this chapter tells you more about Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the appeals process.

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## **SECTION 9. Taking your appeal to Level 3 and beyond**

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### **Section 9.1 Levels of Appeal 3, 4, and 5 for Medical Service Appeals**

This section may be appropriate for you if you have made a Level 1 Appeal and a Level 2 Appeal, and both of your appeals have been turned down.

If the dollar value of the item or medical service you have appealed meets certain minimum levels, you may be able to go on to additional levels of appeal. If the dollar value is less than the minimum level, you cannot appeal any further. If the dollar value is high enough, the written response you receive to your Level 2 Appeal will explain whom to contact and what to do to ask for a Level 3 Appeal.

For most situations that involve appeals, the last three levels of appeal work in much the same way. Here is who handles the review of your appeal at each of these levels.

**Level 3 Appeal: A judge (called an administrative law judge) or attorney adjudicator who works for the federal government** will review your appeal and give you an answer.

- **If the administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator says *yes* to your appeal, the appeals process may or may not be over.** We will decide whether to appeal this decision to Level 4. Unlike a decision at Level 2 (Independent Review Organization), we have the right to appeal a Level 3 decision that is favorable to you.

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- ◆ If we decide **not** to appeal the decision, we must authorize or provide you with the service **within 60 calendar days** after receiving the administrative law judge's or attorney adjudicator's decision.
  - ◆ If we decide to appeal the decision, we will send you a copy of the Level 4 Appeal request with any accompanying documents. We may wait for the Level 4 Appeal decision before authorizing or providing the service in dispute.
  - **If the administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator says *no* to your appeal, the appeals process may or may not be over.**
    - ◆ If you decide to accept this decision that turns down your appeal, the appeals process is over.
    - ◆ If you do not want to accept the decision, you can continue to the next level of the review process. If the administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator says ***no*** to your appeal, the notice you get will tell you what to do next if you choose to continue with your appeal.

**Level 4 Appeal:** The Medicare **Appeals Council** (Council) will review your appeal and give you an answer. The Council is part of the federal government.

- **If the answer is *yes*, or if the Council denies our request to review a favorable Level 3 Appeal decision, the appeals process may or may not be over.** We will decide whether to appeal this decision to Level 5. Unlike a decision at Level 2 (Independent Review Organization), we have the right to appeal a Level 4 decision that is favorable to you.
  - ◆ If we decide **not** to appeal the decision, we must authorize or provide you with the service **within 60 calendar days** after receiving the Council's decision.
  - ◆ If we decide to appeal the decision, we will let you know in writing.
- **If the answer is *no* or if the Council denies the review request, the appeals process may or may not be over.**
  - ◆ If you decide to accept this decision that turns down your appeal, the appeals process is over.
  - ◆ If you do not want to accept the decision, you might be able to continue to the next level of the review process. If the Council says ***no*** to your appeal, the notice you get will tell you whether the rules allow you to go on to a Level 5 Appeal. If the rules allow you to go on, the written notice will also tell you whom to contact and what to do next if you choose to continue with your appeal.

**Level 5 Appeal:** A judge at the **Federal District Court** will review your appeal.

- This is the last step of the appeals process.

## Section 9.2 Levels of Appeal 3, 4, and 5 for Part D Drug Appeals

This section may be appropriate for you if you have made a Level 1 Appeal and a Level 2 Appeal, and both of your appeals have been turned down.

If the value of the drug you have appealed meets a certain dollar amount, you may be able to go on to additional levels of appeal. If the dollar amount is less, you cannot appeal any further. The written response you receive to your Level 2 Appeal will explain whom to contact and what to do to ask for a Level 3 Appeal.

For most situations that involve appeals, the last three levels of appeal work in much the same way. Here is who handles the review of your appeal at each of these levels.

**Level 3 Appeal: A judge (called an administrative law judge or an attorney adjudicator who works for the federal government)** will review your appeal and give you an answer.

- **If the answer is *yes*, the appeals process is over.** What you asked for in the appeal has been approved. We must authorize or provide the drug coverage that was approved by the administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator **within 72 hours (24 hours for expedited appeals)** or make payment no later than **30 calendar days** after we receive the decision.
- **If the answer is *no*, the appeals process may or may not be over.**
  - ◆ If you decide to accept this decision that turns down your appeal, the appeals process is over.
  - ◆ If you do not want to accept the decision, you can continue to the next level of the review process. If the administrative law judge or attorney adjudicator says ***no*** to your appeal, the notice you get will tell you what to do next if you choose to continue with your appeal.

**Level 4 Appeal: The Medicare Appeals Council (Council)** will review your appeal and give you an answer. The Council is part of the federal government.

- **If the answer is *yes*, the appeals process is over.** What you asked for in the appeal has been approved. We must authorize or provide the drug coverage that was approved by the Council **within 72 hours (24 hours for expedited appeals)** or make payment no later than 30 calendar days after we receive the decision.
- **If the answer is *no*, the appeals process may or may not be over.**
  - ◆ If you decide to accept this decision that turns down your appeal, the appeals process is over.
  - ◆ If you do not want to accept the decision, you might be able to continue to the next level of the review process. If the Council says ***no*** to your appeal or denies your request to review the appeal, the notice you get will tell you whether the rules allow you to go on to a Level 5 Appeal. If the rules allow you to go on, the written notice will also tell you whom to contact and what to do next if you choose to continue with your appeal.

**Level 5 Appeal:** A judge at the **Federal District Court** will review your appeal.

- This is the last step of the appeals process.

## Making complaints

### SECTION 10. How to make a complaint about quality of care, waiting times, customer service, or other concerns



If your problem is about decisions related to benefits, coverage, or payment, then this section is not for you. Instead, you need to use the process for coverage decisions and appeals. Go to Section 4 in this chapter.

#### Section 10.1 What kinds of problems are handled by the complaint process?

This section explains how to use the process for making complaints. The complaint process is **only** used for certain types of problems. This includes problems related to quality of care, waiting times, and the customer service you receive. Here are examples of the kinds of problems handled by the complaint process.

#### If you have any of these kinds of problems, you can "make a complaint":

- **Quality of your medical care**
  - ◆ Are you unhappy with the quality of care you have received (including care in the hospital)?
- **Respecting your privacy**
  - ◆ Do you believe that someone did not respect your right to privacy or shared information about you that you feel should be confidential?
- **Disrespect, poor customer service, or other negative behaviors**
  - ◆ Has someone been rude or disrespectful to you?
  - ◆ Are you unhappy with how our Member Services has treated you?
  - ◆ Do you feel you are being encouraged to leave our plan?
- **Waiting times**
  - ◆ Are you having trouble getting an appointment, or waiting too long to get it?
  - ◆ Have you been kept waiting too long by doctors, pharmacists, or other health professionals? Or by Member Services or other staff at our plan?
  - ◆ Examples include waiting too long on the phone, in the waiting room, when getting a prescription, or in the exam room.
- **Cleanliness**

- ◆ Are you unhappy with the cleanliness or condition of a clinic, hospital, or doctor's office?
- **Information you get from our plan**
  - ◆ Do you believe we have not given you a notice that we are required to give?
  - ◆ Do you think written information we have given you is hard to understand?

### **Timeliness (these types of complaints are all related to the timeliness of our actions related to coverage decisions and appeals)**

The process of asking for a coverage decision and making appeals is explained in Sections 4–9 of this chapter. If you are asking for a decision or making an appeal, you use that process, not the complaint process.

However, if you have already asked for a coverage decision or made an appeal, and you think that we are not responding quickly enough, you can also make a complaint about our slowness. Here are examples:

- If you have asked us to give you a "fast coverage decision" or a "fast appeal," and we have said we will not, you can make a complaint.
- If you believe our plan is not meeting the deadlines for giving you a coverage decision or an answer to an appeal you have made, you can make a complaint.
- When a coverage decision we made is reviewed and our plan is told that we must cover or reimburse you for certain medical services or drugs, there are deadlines that apply. If you think we are not meeting these deadlines, you can make a complaint.
- When we do not give you a decision on time, we are required to forward your case to the Independent Review Organization. If we do not do that within the required deadline, you can make a complaint.

### **Section 10.2 The formal name for "making a complaint" is "filing a grievance"**

#### **Legal Terms**

- What this section calls a "complaint" is also called a "grievance."
- Another term for "making a complaint" is "filing a grievance."
- Another way to say "using the process for complaints" is "using the process for filing a grievance."

### **Section 10.3 Step-by-step: Making a complaint**

**Step 1: Contact us promptly—either by phone or in writing.**

- **Usually calling Member Services is the first step.** If there is anything else you need to do, Member Services will let you know. Call toll-free **1-800-476-2167 (TTY 711)**, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.



- **If you do not wish to call (or you called and were not satisfied), you can put your complaint in writing and send it to us.** If you put your complaint in writing, we will respond to you in writing. We will also respond in writing when you make a complaint by phone if you request a written response or your complaint is related to quality of care.
- **If you have a complaint, we will try to resolve your complaint over the phone.** If we cannot resolve your complaint over the phone, we have a formal procedure to review your complaints. Your grievance must explain your concern, such as why you are dissatisfied with the services you received. Please see Chapter 2 for whom you should contact if you have a complaint.
  - ◆ You must submit your grievance to us (orally or in writing) within 60 calendar days of the event or incident. We must address your grievance as quickly as your health requires, but no later than 30 calendar days after receiving your complaint.  
We may extend the time frame to make our decision by up to 14 calendar days if you ask for an extension, or if we justify a need for additional information and the delay is in your best interest.
  - ◆ You can file a fast grievance about our decision not to expedite a coverage decision or appeal, or if we extend the time we need to make a decision about a coverage decision or appeal. We must respond to your fast grievance within 24 hours.
- **Whether you call or write, you should contact Member Services right away.**  
The complaint must be made within 60 calendar days after you had the problem you want to complain about.
- **If you are making a complaint because we denied your request for a "fast coverage decision" or a "fast appeal," we will automatically give you a "fast complaint."**  
If you have a "fast complaint," it means we will give you an answer **within 24 hours**.

<b>Legal Terms</b>
What this section calls a " <b>fast complaint</b> " is also called an " <b>expedited grievance</b> ."

**Step 2: We look into your complaint and give you our answer.**

- **If possible, we will answer you right away.** If you call us with a complaint, we may be able to give you an answer on the same phone call. If your health condition requires us to answer quickly, we will do that.
- **Most complaints are answered in 30 calendar days.** If we need more information and the delay is in your best interest or if you ask for more time, we can take up to 14 more calendar days (44 calendar days total) to answer your complaint. If we decide to take extra days, we will tell you in writing.
- **If we do not agree** with some or all of your complaint or don't take responsibility for the problem you are complaining about, we will let you know. Our response will include our reasons for this answer. We must respond whether we agree with the complaint or not.



### **Section 10.4 You can also make complaints about quality of care to the Quality Improvement Organization**

You can make your complaint about the quality of care you received to us by using the step-by-step process outlined above.

When your complaint is about quality of care, you also have two extra options:

- **You can make your complaint to the Quality Improvement Organization.** If you prefer, you can make your complaint about the quality of care you received directly to this organization (without making the complaint to us).
  - ◆ The Quality Improvement Organization is a group of practicing doctors and other health care experts paid by the federal government to check and improve the care given to Medicare patients.
  - ◆ To find the name, address, and phone number of the Quality Improvement Organization for your state, look in Chapter 2, Section 4, of this booklet. If you make a complaint to this organization, we will work with them to resolve your complaint.
- **Or you can make your complaint to both at the same time.** If you wish, you can make your complaint about quality of care to us and also to the Quality Improvement Organization.

### **Section 10.5 You can also tell Medicare about your complaint**

You can submit a complaint about our plan directly to Medicare. To submit a complaint to Medicare, go to <https://www.medicare.gov/MedicareComplaintForm/home.aspx>. Medicare takes your complaints seriously and will use this information to help improve the quality of the Medicare program.

If you have any other feedback or concerns, or if you feel the plan is not addressing your issue, please call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**. TTY/TDD users can call **1-877-486-2048**.

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## **CHAPTER 10. Ending your membership in our plan**

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## SECTION 1. Introduction

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### Section 1.1 This chapter focuses on ending your membership in our plan

Ending your membership in our plan may be **voluntary** (your own choice) or **involuntary** (not your own choice):

- **You might leave our plan because you have decided that you want to leave.**
  - ◆ There are only certain times during the year, or certain situations, when you may voluntarily end your membership in our plan. Section 2 tells you when you can end your membership in our plan.
  - ◆ The process for voluntarily ending your membership varies depending upon what type of new coverage you are choosing. Section 3 tells you how to end your membership in each situation.
- There are also limited situations where you do not choose to leave, but we are required to end your membership. Section 5 tells you about situations when we must end your membership.

If you are leaving our plan, you must continue to get your medical care through our plan until your membership ends.

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## SECTION 2. When can you end your membership in our plan?

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You may end your membership in our plan only during certain times of the year, known as enrollment periods. All members have the opportunity to leave our plan during your group's open enrollment period. In certain situations, you may also be eligible to leave our plan at other times of the year. Before you request disenrollment, please check with your group to determine if you are able to continue your group membership.

If you request disenrollment during your group's open enrollment, your disenrollment effective date is determined by the date your written request is received by us and the date your group coverage ends. The effective date will not be earlier than the first day of the following month after we receive your written request, and no later than three months after we receive your request.

If you request disenrollment at a time other than your group's open enrollment, your disenrollment effective date will be the first day of the month following our receipt of your disenrollment request.

### **Section 2.1 Where can you get more information about when you can end your group membership?**

If you have any questions or would like more information about when you can end your group membership:

- Contact your group's benefits administrator.
- You can **call Member Services** (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).
- You can find the information in the **Medicare & You 2020** handbook.
  - ◆ Everyone with Medicare receives a copy of **Medicare & You** each fall. Those new to Medicare receive it within a month after first signing up.
  - ◆ You can also download a copy from the Medicare website (<https://www.medicare.gov>). Or you can order a printed copy by calling Medicare at the number below.

You can contact **Medicare** at **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**.

## **SECTION 3. How do you end your membership in our plan?**

### **Section 3.1 There are several ways to end your Senior Advantage membership**

You may request disenrollment by:

- Requesting disenrollment with your group's benefits administrator. You should always consult them before taking any action because it can affect your eligibility for group benefits.
- Calling toll-free **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**, or
- Sending written notice to the following address:  
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc.  
California Service Center  
P.O. Box 232407  
San Diego, CA 92193-2400

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## **SECTION 4. Until your membership ends, you must keep getting your medical services and drugs through our plan**

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### **Section 4.1 Until your membership ends, you are still a member of our plan**

If you leave our plan, it may take time before your membership ends and your new Medicare coverage goes into effect. (See Section 2 for information about when your new coverage begins.) During this time, you must continue to get your medical care and prescription drugs through our plan.

- **You should continue to use our network pharmacies to get your prescriptions filled until your membership in our plan ends.** Usually, your prescription drugs are only covered if they are filled at a network pharmacy, including through our mail-order pharmacy services.
- If you are hospitalized on the day that your membership ends, your hospital stay will usually be covered by our plan until you are discharged (even if you are discharged after your new health coverage begins).

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## **SECTION 5. We must end your membership in our plan in certain situations**

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### **Section 5.1 When must we end your membership in our plan?**

**We must end your membership in our plan if any of the following happen:**

- If you no longer have Medicare Part A and/or Part B.
- If you move out of our service area.
- If you are away from our service area for more than six months.
  - ◆ If you move or take a long trip, you need to call Member Services to find out if the place you are moving or traveling to is in our plan's area. Phone numbers for Member Services are printed on the back cover of this booklet.
- If you become incarcerated (go to prison).
- If you are not a United States citizen or lawfully present in the United States.
- If you lie about or withhold information about other insurance you have that provides prescription drug coverage.
- If you intentionally give us incorrect information when you are enrolling in our plan and that information affects your eligibility for our plan. We cannot make you leave our plan for this reason unless we get permission from Medicare first.
- If you continuously behave in a way that is disruptive and makes it difficult for us to provide medical care for you and other members of our plan. We cannot make you leave our plan for this reason unless we get permission from Medicare first.

- If you let someone else use your membership card to get medical care. We cannot make you leave our plan for this reason unless we get permission from Medicare first.
  - ◆ If we end your membership because of this reason, Medicare may have your case investigated by the Inspector General.
- If you are required to pay the extra Part D amount because of your income and you do not pay it, Medicare will disenroll you from our plan and you will lose prescription drug coverage.

### **Where can you get more information?**

If you have questions or would like more information about when we can end your membership:

- You can call Member Services for more information (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet).

### **Section 5.2 We cannot ask you to leave our plan for any reason related to your health**

We are not allowed to ask you to leave our plan for any reason related to your health.

### **What should you do if this happens?**

If you feel that you are being asked to leave our plan because of a health-related reason, you should call Medicare at **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**. TTY users should call **1-877-486-2048**. You may call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

### **Section 5.3 You have the right to make a complaint if we end your membership in our plan**

If we end your membership in our plan, we must tell you our reasons in writing for ending your membership. We must also explain how you can file a grievance or make a complaint about our decision to end your membership. You can look in Chapter 9, Section 10, for information about how to make a complaint.

### **Section 5.4 What happens if you are no longer eligible for group coverage?**

After your group notifies us to terminate your group 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 Health Plan member.

- If you are no longer eligible for group membership, you can request enrollment in our Senior Advantage Individual Plan if you still meet the eligibility requirements for Senior Advantage. The premiums and coverage under our individual plan will differ from those under this **Evidence of Coverage** and will include Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage.
- You may not be eligible to enroll in our Senior Advantage individual plan if your membership ends for the reasons stated under Section 5.1. For more information or

information about other individual plans, call Member Services. Phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet.

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## **SECTION 1. Notice about governing law**

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Many laws apply to this **Evidence of Coverage** and some additional provisions may apply because they are required by law. This may affect your rights and responsibilities even if the laws are not included or explained in this document. The principal law that applies to this document is Title XVIII of the Social Security Act and the regulations created under the Social Security Act by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, or CMS. In addition, other federal laws may apply and, under certain circumstances, the laws of the state you live in.

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## **SECTION 2. Notice about nondiscrimination**

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Our plan must obey laws that protect you from discrimination or unfair treatment. We don't discriminate based on race, ethnicity, national origin, color, religion, sex, gender, age, mental or physical disability, health status, claims experience, medical history, genetic information, evidence of insurability, or geographic location within the service area. All organizations that provide Medicare Advantage plans, like our plan, must obey federal laws against discrimination, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, all other laws that apply to organizations that get federal funding, and any other laws and rules that apply for any other reason.

If you want more information or have concerns about discrimination or unfair treatment, please call the Department of Health and Human Services' **Office for Civil Rights** at **1-800-368-1019** (TTY **1-800-537-7697**) or your local Office for Civil Rights.

If you have a disability and need help with access to care, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet). If you have a complaint, such as a problem with wheelchair access, Member Services can help.

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## **SECTION 3. Notice about Medicare Secondary Payer subrogation rights**

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We have the right and responsibility to collect for covered Medicare services for which Medicare is not the primary payer. According to CMS regulations at 42 CFR sections 422.108 and 423.462, Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage, as a Medicare Advantage Organization, will exercise the same rights of recovery that the Secretary exercises under CMS regulations in subparts B through D of part 411 of 42 CFR and the rules established in this section supersede any state laws.

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## **SECTION 4 Administration of this Evidence of Coverage**

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We may adopt reasonable policies, procedures, and interpretations to promote orderly and efficient administration of this **Evidence of Coverage**.

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## **SECTION 5. Amendment of this Agreement**

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Your group's Agreement with us will change periodically. If these changes affect this **Evidence of Coverage**, your group is required to inform you in accord with applicable law and your group's Agreement.

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## **SECTION 6. Applications and statements**

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You must complete any applications, forms, or statements that we request in our normal course of business or as specified in this **Evidence of Coverage**.

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## **SECTION 7. Assignment**

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You may not assign this **Evidence of Coverage** or any of the rights, interests, claims for money due, benefits, or obligations hereunder without our prior written consent.

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## **SECTION 8. Attorney and advocate fees and expenses**

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In any dispute between a member and Health Plan, the Medical Group, or Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, each party will bear its own fees and expenses, including attorneys' fees, advocates' fees, and other expenses except as otherwise required by law.

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## **SECTION 9. Coordination of benefits**

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As described in Chapter 1 (Section 10) "How other insurance works with our plan," if you have other insurance, you are required to use your other coverage in combination with your coverage as a Senior Advantage member to pay for the care you receive. This is called "coordination of benefits" because it involves coordinating all of the health benefits that are available to you. You will get your covered care as usual from network providers, and the other coverage you have will simply help pay for the care you receive.

If your other coverage is the primary payer, it will often settle its share of payment directly with us, and you will not have to be involved. However, if payment owed to us by a primary payer is sent directly to you, you are required by Medicare law to give this primary payment to us. For

more information about primary payments in third party liability situations, see Section 18, and for primary payments in workers' compensation cases, see Section 20.

You must tell us if you have other health care coverage, and let us know whenever there are any changes in your additional coverage.

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### **SECTION 10. Employer responsibility**

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For any services that the law requires an employer to provide, we will not pay the employer, and when we cover any such services, we may recover the value of the services from the employer.

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### **SECTION 11. Evidence of Coverage binding on members**

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By electing coverage or accepting benefits under this **Evidence of Coverage**, all members legally capable of contracting, and the legal representatives of all members incapable of contracting, agree to all provisions of this **Evidence of Coverage**.

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### **SECTION 12. Government agency responsibility**

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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 such services we may recover the value of the services from the government agency.

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### **SECTION 13. Member nonliability**

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Our contracts with network providers provide that you are not liable for any amounts we owe. However, you are liable for the cost of noncovered services you obtain from network providers or out-of-network providers.

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### **SECTION 14. No waiver**

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Our failure to enforce any provision of this **Evidence of Coverage** will not constitute a waiver of that or any other provision, or impair our right thereafter to require your strict performance of any provision.

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### **SECTION 15. Notices**

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Our notices to you will be sent to the most recent address we have. You are responsible for notifying us of any change in your address. If you move, please call Member Services (phone numbers are printed on the back of this booklet) and Social Security at **1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778)** as soon as possible to report your address change.

**Note:** When we tell your group about changes to this **Evidence of Coverage** or provide your group other information that affects you, your group is required to notify the subscriber within 30 calendar days (or five days if we terminate your group's Agreement) after receiving the information from us.

### **SECTION 16. Overpayment recovery**

We may recover any overpayment we make for services from anyone who receives such an overpayment or from any person or organization obligated to pay for the services.

### **SECTION 17. Surrogacy**

In situations where a member receives monetary compensation to act as a surrogate, our plan will seek reimbursement of all Plan Charges for covered services the member receives that are associated with conception, pregnancy and/or delivery of the child. A surrogate arrangement is one in which a woman agrees to become pregnant and to surrender the baby to another person or persons who intend to raise the child.

### **SECTION 18. Third party liability**

As stated in Chapter 1, Section 10, third parties who cause you injury or illness (and/or their insurance companies) usually must pay first before Medicare or our plan. Therefore, we are entitled to pursue these primary payments. If you obtain a judgment or settlement from or on behalf of a third party who allegedly caused an injury or illness for which you received covered services, you must ensure we receive reimbursement for those services. Note: This Section 18 does not affect your obligation to pay cost-sharing for these services.

To the extent permitted or required by law, we shall be subrogated to all claims, causes of action, and other rights you may have against a third 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 the third 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.

To secure our rights, we will have a lien and reimbursement rights to the proceeds of any judgment or settlement you or we obtain against a third party that results in any settlement proceeds or judgment, from other types of coverage that include but are not limited to: liability, uninsured motorist, underinsured motorist, personal umbrella, worker's compensation, personal injury, medical payments and all other first party types. The proceeds of any judgment or settlement that you or we obtain shall first be applied to satisfy our lien, regardless of whether you are made whole and regardless of whether the total amount of the proceeds is less than the actual losses and damages you incurred. We are not required to pay attorney fees or costs to any attorney hired by you to pursue your damages claim.

Within 30 days after submitting or filing a claim or legal action against a third party, you must send written notice of the claim or legal action to:

Patient Business Services

**1-800-476-2167, 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (TTY 711)**

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado  
2500 South Havana Street  
Aurora, CO 80014-1622

Please contact our Patient Business Services Department at **303-743-5900**, or TTY users may call **711**.

In order for us to determine the existence of any rights we may have and to satisfy those rights, you must complete and send us all consents, releases, authorizations, assignments, and other documents, including lien forms directing your attorney, the third party, and the third party's liability insurer to pay us directly. You may not agree to waive, release, or reduce our rights under this provision without our prior, written consent.

If your estate, parent, guardian, or conservator asserts a claim against a third party based on your injury or illness, your estate, parent, guardian, or conservator and any settlement 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 the third party. We may assign our rights to enforce our liens and other rights.

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## **SECTION 19. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**

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For any services for conditions arising from military service that the law requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide, we will not pay the Department of Veterans Affairs, and when we cover any such services we may recover the value of the services from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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## **SECTION 20. Workers' compensation or employer's liability benefits**

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As stated in Chapter 1, Section 10, workers' compensation usually must pay first before Medicare or our plan. Therefore, we are entitled to pursue primary payments under workers' compensation or employer's liability law. You may be eligible for payments or other benefits, including amounts received as a settlement (collectively referred to as "Financial Benefit"), under workers' compensation or employer's liability law. We will provide covered services even if it is unclear whether you are entitled to a Financial Benefit, but we may recover the value of any covered services from the following sources:

- From any source providing a Financial Benefit or from whom a Financial Benefit is due.

From you, to the extent that a Financial Benefit is provided or payable or would have been required to be provided or payable if you had diligently sought to establish your rights to the Financial Benefit under any workers' compensation or employer's liability law.

## **CHAPTER 12. Definitions of important words**

**Allowance** – A specified credit amount that you can use toward the cost of an item. If the cost of the item(s) you select exceeds the allowance, you will pay the amount in excess of the allowance, which does not apply to the annual out-of-pocket maximum.

**Ambulatory Surgical Center** – An Ambulatory Surgical Center is an entity that operates exclusively for the purpose of furnishing outpatient surgical services to patients not requiring hospitalization and whose expected stay in the center does not exceed 24 hours.

**Appeal** – An appeal is something you do if you disagree with our decision to deny a request for coverage of health care services or prescription drugs or payment for services or drugs you already received. You may also make an appeal if you disagree with our decision to stop services that you are receiving. For example, you may ask for an appeal if we don't pay for a drug, item, or service you think you should be able to receive. Chapter 9 explains appeals, including the process involved in making an appeal.

**Balance Billing** – When a provider (such as a doctor or hospital) bills a patient more than the plan's allowed cost-sharing amount. As a member of our plan, you only have to pay our plan's cost-sharing amounts when you get services covered by our plan. We do not allow providers to "balance bill" or otherwise charge you more than the amount of cost-sharing your plan says you must pay.

**Benefit Period** – The way that both our plan and Original Medicare measure your use of skilled nursing facility (SNF) services. A benefit period begins the day you go into a hospital or skilled nursing facility. The benefit period ends when you haven't received any inpatient hospital care (or skilled care in a SNF) for 60 days in a row. If you go into a hospital or a skilled nursing facility after one benefit period has ended, a new benefit period begins. There is no limit to the number of benefit periods.

**Brand-Name Drug** – A prescription drug that is manufactured and sold by the pharmaceutical company that originally researched and developed the drug. Brand-name drugs have the same active-ingredient formula as the generic version of the drug. However, generic drugs are manufactured and sold by other drug manufacturers and are generally not available until after the patent on the brand-name drug has expired.

**Catastrophic Coverage Stage** – The stage in the Part D Drug Benefit when you pay a low copayment or coinsurance for your drugs after you or other qualified parties on your behalf have spent **\$6,350** in covered drugs during the covered year.

**Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)** – The federal agency that administers Medicare. Chapter 2 explains how to contact CMS.

**Coinsurance** – An amount you may be required to pay as your share of the cost for services or prescription drugs after you pay any deductibles, if applicable. Coinsurance is usually a percentage (for example, 20%) of Plan Charges.

**Complaint** – The formal name for "making a complaint" is "filing a grievance." The complaint process is used for certain types of problems only. This includes problems related to quality of



care, waiting times, and the customer service you receive. See also "Grievance," in this list of definitions.

**Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF)** – A facility that mainly provides rehabilitation services after an illness or injury, and provides a variety of services, including physical therapy, social or psychological services, respiratory therapy, occupational therapy and speech-language pathology services, and home environment evaluation services.

**Coordination of Benefits (COB)** – Coordination of Benefits is a provision used to establish the order in which claims are paid when you have other insurance. If you have Medicare and other health insurance or coverage, each type of coverage is called a "payer." When there is more than one payer, there are "coordination of benefits" rules that decide which one pays first. The "primary payer" pays what it owes on your bills first, and then sends the rest to the "secondary payer" to pay. If payment owed to us is sent directly to you, you are required under Medicare law to give the payment to us. In some cases, there may also be a third payer. See Chapter 1 (Section 10) and Chapter 11 (Section 9) for more information.

**Copayment (or "copay")** – An amount you may be required to pay as your share of the cost for a medical service or supply, like a doctor's visit, hospital outpatient visit, or a prescription drug. A copayment is a set amount, rather than a percentage. For example, you might pay \$10 or \$20 for a doctor's visit or prescription drug.

**Cost-Sharing** – Cost-sharing refers to amounts that a member has to pay when services or drugs are received. (This is in addition to our plan's monthly premium.) Cost-sharing includes any combination of the following three types of payments: (1) any deductible amount a plan may impose before services or drugs are covered; (2) any fixed "copayment" amount that a plan requires when a specific service or drug is received; or (3) any "coinsurance" amount, a percentage of the total amount paid for a service or drug that a plan requires when a specific service or drug is received. A "daily cost-sharing rate" may apply when your doctor prescribes less than a full month's supply of certain drugs for you and you are required to pay a copayment. Note: In some cases, you may not pay all applicable cost-sharing at the time you receive the services, and we will send you a bill later for the cost-sharing. For example, if you receive nonpreventive care during a scheduled preventive care visit, we may bill you later for the cost-sharing applicable to the nonpreventive care. For items ordered in advance, you may pay the cost-sharing in effect on the order date (although we will not cover the item unless you still have coverage for it on the date you receive it) and you may be required to pay the copayment when the item is ordered. For outpatient prescription drugs, the order date is the date that the pharmacy processes the order after receiving all of the information they need to fill the prescription.

**Cost-Sharing Tier** – Every drug on the list of covered drugs is in one of six cost-sharing tiers. In general, the higher the cost-sharing tier, the higher your cost for the drug.

**Coverage Determination** – A decision about whether a drug prescribed for you is covered by our plan and the amount, if any, you are required to pay for the prescription. In general, if you take your prescription to a pharmacy and the pharmacy tells you the prescription isn't covered under your plan, that isn't a coverage determination. You need to call or write to your plan to ask for a formal decision about the coverage. Coverage determinations are called "coverage decisions" in this booklet. Chapter 9 explains how to ask us for a coverage decision.

**Covered Drugs** – The term we use to mean all of the prescription drugs covered by our plan.

**Covered Services** – The general term we use to mean all of the health care services and items that are covered by our plan.

**Creditable Prescription Drug Coverage** – Prescription drug coverage (for example, from an employer or union) that is expected to pay, on average, at least as much as Medicare's standard prescription drug coverage. People who have this kind of coverage when they become eligible for Medicare can generally keep that coverage without paying a penalty, if they decide to enroll in Medicare prescription drug coverage later.

**Custodial Care** – Custodial care is personal care provided in a nursing home, hospice, or other facility setting when you do not need skilled medical care or skilled nursing care. Custodial care is personal care that can be provided by people who don't have professional skills or training, such as help with activities of daily living like bathing, dressing, eating, getting in or out of a bed or chair, moving around, and using the bathroom. It may also include the kind of health-related care that most people do themselves, like using eye drops. Medicare doesn't pay for custodial care.

**Daily Cost-Sharing Rate** – A "daily cost-sharing rate" may apply when your doctor prescribes less than a full month's supply of certain drugs for you and you are required to pay a copayment. A daily cost-sharing rate is the copayment divided by the number of days in a month's supply. Here is an example: If your copayment for a one-month supply of a drug is \$30, and a one-month's supply in your plan is 30 days, then your "daily cost-sharing rate" is \$1 per day. This means you pay \$1 for each day's supply when you fill your prescription.

**Deductible** – The amount you must pay for health care or prescriptions before our plan begins to pay.

**Dependent** – A member who meets the eligibility requirements as a dependent (for dependent eligibility requirements, see Chapter 1, Section 2).

**Disenroll or Disenrollment** – The process of ending your membership in our plan. Disenrollment may be voluntary (your own choice) or involuntary (not your own choice).

**Dispensing Fee** – A fee charged each time a covered drug is dispensed to pay for the cost of filling a prescription. The dispensing fee covers costs such as the pharmacist's time to prepare and package the prescription.

**Durable Medical Equipment (DME)** – Certain medical equipment that is ordered by your doctor for medical reasons. Examples include walkers, wheelchairs, crutches, powered mattress systems, diabetic supplies, IV infusion pumps, speech-generating devices, oxygen equipment, nebulizers, or hospital beds ordered by a provider for use in the home.

**Emergency** – A medical emergency is when you, or any other prudent layperson with an average knowledge of health and medicine, believe that you have medical symptoms that require immediate medical attention to prevent loss of life, loss of a limb, or loss of function of a limb. The medical symptoms may be an illness, injury, severe pain, or a medical condition that is quickly getting worse.

**Emergency Care** – Covered services that are (1) rendered by a provider qualified to furnish emergency services; and (2) needed to treat, evaluate, or stabilize an emergency medical condition.



**Emergency Medical Condition** – Either: (1) a medical or psychiatric condition that manifests itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) such that you could reasonably expect the absence of immediate medical attention to result in serious jeopardy to your health or body functions or organs, or (2) active labor when there isn't enough time for safe transfer to a plan hospital (or designated hospital) before delivery or if transfer poses a threat to your (or your unborn child's) health and safety.

**Evidence of Coverage (EOC) and Disclosure Information** – This document, along with your enrollment form and any other attachments, riders, or other optional coverage selected, which explains your coverage, what we must do, your rights, and what you have to do as a member of our plan.

**Exception** – A type of coverage determination that, if approved, allows you to get a drug that is not on your plan sponsor's formulary (a formulary exception), or get a nonpreferred drug at a lower cost-sharing level (a tiering exception). You may also request an exception if we limit the quantity or dosage of the drug you are requesting (a formulary exception).

**Excluded Drug** – A drug that is not a "covered Part D drug," as defined under 42 U.S.C. Section 1395w-102(e).

**Extra Help** – A Medicare program to help people with limited income and resources pay Medicare prescription drug program costs, such as premiums, deductibles, and coinsurance.

**Family** – A subscriber and all of his or her dependents.

**Formulary** – A list of Medicare Part D drugs covered by our plan.

**Generic Drug** – A prescription drug that is approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as having the same active ingredient(s) as the brand-name drug. Generally, a "generic" drug works the same as a brand-name drug and usually costs less.

**Grievance** – A type of complaint you make about us, including a complaint concerning the quality of your care. This type of complaint does not involve coverage or payment disputes.

**Group** – The entity with which we have entered into the *Agreement* that includes this **Evidence of Coverage**.

**Home Health Aide** – A home health aide provides services that don't need the skills of a licensed nurse or therapist, such as help with personal care (for example, bathing, using the toilet, dressing, or carrying out the prescribed exercises). Home health aides do not have a nursing license or provide therapy.

**Home Health Care** – Skilled nursing care and certain other health care services that you get in your home for the treatment of an illness or injury. Covered services are listed in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC**. We cover home health care in accord with Medicare guidelines. Home health care can include services from a **home health aide** if the services are part of the home health plan of care for your illness or injury. They aren't covered unless you are also getting a covered skilled service. Home health services do not include the services of housekeepers, food service arrangements, or full-time nursing care at home.

**Hospice** – A member who has six months or less to live has the right to elect hospice. We, your plan, must provide you with a list of hospices in your geographic area. If you elect hospice and continue to pay premiums, you are still a member of our plan. You can still obtain all medically

necessary services as well as the supplemental benefits we offer. The hospice will provide special treatment for your state.

**Hospital Inpatient Stay** – A hospital stay when you have been formally admitted to the hospital for skilled medical services. Even if you stay in the hospital overnight, you might still be considered an "outpatient."

**Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount (IRMAA)** – If your modified adjusted gross income as reported on your IRS tax return from two years ago is above a certain amount, you'll pay the standard premium amount and an Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount, also known as IRMAA. IRMAA is an extra charge added to your premium. Less than 5 % of people with Medicare are affected, so most people will not pay a higher premium.

**Initial Coverage Limit** – The maximum limit of coverage under the Initial Coverage Stage.

**Initial Coverage Stage** – This is the stage after you have met your deductible, if applicable, and before your total drug costs, including amounts you have paid and what your plan has paid on your behalf, for the year have reached **\$4,020**.

**Initial Enrollment Period** – When you are first eligible for Medicare, the period of time when you can sign up for Medicare Part A and Part B. For example, if you're eligible for Medicare when you turn 65, your Initial Enrollment Period is the seven month period that begins three months before the month you turn 65, includes the month you turn 65, and ends three months after the month you turn 65.

**Inpatient Hospital Care** – Health care that you get during an inpatient stay in an acute care general hospital.

**Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (Health Plan)** – Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado is a Colorado nonprofit corporation and a Medicare Advantage organization. This **Evidence of Coverage** sometimes refers to Health Plan as "we" or "us."

**Kaiser Permanente** – Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado and the Medical Group.

**Kaiser Permanente 2020 Comprehensive Formulary (Formulary or "Drug List")** – A list of prescription drugs covered by our plan. The drugs on this list are selected by us with the help of doctors and pharmacists. The list includes both brand-name and generic drugs.

**Kaiser Permanente Region** – A Kaiser Foundation Health Plan organization that conducts a direct-service health care program. When you are outside our service area, you can get medically necessary health care and ongoing care for chronic conditions from designated providers in another Kaiser Permanente region's service area. For more information, please refer to Chapter 3, Section 2.2.

**Long-Term Care Hospital** – A Medicare-certified acute-care hospital that typically provide Medicare covered services such as comprehensive rehabilitation, respiratory therapy, head trauma treatment, and pain management. They are not long-term care facilities such as convalescent or assisted living facilities.

**Low Income Subsidy (LIS)** – See "Extra Help."

**Maximum Out-of-Pocket Amount** – The most that you pay out-of-pocket during the calendar year for in-network covered Part A and Part B services. Amounts you pay for any contributions

toward your group's monthly premium, your Medicare Part A and Part B premiums, and Part D prescription drugs do not count toward the maximum out-of-pocket amount. See Chapter 4, Section 1.2, for information about your maximum out-of-pocket amount.

**Medicaid (or Medical Assistance)** – A joint federal and state program that helps with medical costs for some people with low incomes and limited resources. Medicaid programs vary from state to state, but most health care costs are covered if you qualify for both Medicare and Medicaid. See Chapter 2, Section 6, for information about how to contact Medicaid in your state.

**Medical Care or Services** – Health care services or items. Some examples of health care items include durable medical equipment, eyeglasses, and drugs covered by Medicare Part A or Part B, but not drugs covered under Medicare Part D.

**Medical Group** – It is the network of plan providers that our plan contracts with to provide covered services to you. The name of our medical group is Colorado Permanente Medical Group, P.C., a for-profit professional corporation.

**Medically Accepted Indication** – A use of a drug that is either approved by the Food and Drug Administration or supported by certain reference books. See Chapter 5, Section 3, for more information about a medically accepted indication.

**Medically Necessary** – Services, supplies, or drugs that are needed for the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of your medical condition and meet accepted standards of medical practice.

**Medicare** – The federal health insurance program for people 65 years of age or older, some people under age 65 with certain disabilities, and people with End-Stage Renal Disease (generally those with permanent kidney failure who need dialysis or a kidney transplant). People with Medicare can get their Medicare health coverage through Original Medicare, PACE plan, or a Medicare Advantage Plan.

**Medicare Advantage (MA) Plan** – Sometimes called Medicare Part C. A plan offered by a private company that contracts with Medicare to provide you with all your Medicare Part A and Part B benefits. A Medicare Advantage Plan can be an HMO, a PPO, a Private Fee-for-Service (PFFS) plan, or a Medicare Medical Savings Account (MSA) plan. When you are enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan, Medicare services are covered through the plan and are not paid for under Original Medicare. In most cases, Medicare Advantage Plans also offer Medicare Part D (prescription drug coverage). These plans are called **Medicare Advantage Plans with Prescription Drug Coverage**. Everyone who has Medicare Part A and Part B is eligible to join any Medicare health plan that is offered in their area, except people with End-Stage Renal Disease (unless certain exceptions apply).

**Medicare Coverage Gap Discount Program** – A program that provides discounts on most covered Part D brand-name drugs to Part D members who have reached the Coverage Gap Stage and who are not already receiving "Extra Help." Discounts are based on agreements between the federal government and certain drug manufacturers. For this reason, most, but not all, brand-name drugs are discounted.

**Medicare-Covered Services** – Services covered by Medicare Part A and Part B. All Medicare health plans, including our plan, must cover all of the services that are covered by Medicare Part A and B.

**Medicare Health Plan** – A Medicare health plan is offered by a private company that contracts with Medicare to provide Part A and Part B benefits to people with Medicare who enroll in the plan. This term includes all Medicare Advantage Plans, Medicare Cost Plans, Demonstration/Pilot Programs, and Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE).

**Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage (Medicare Part D)** – Insurance to help pay for outpatient prescription drugs, vaccines, biologicals, and some supplies not covered by Medicare Part A or Part B.

**"Medigap" (Medicare Supplement Insurance) Policy** – Medicare supplement insurance sold by private insurance companies to fill "gaps" in Original Medicare. Medigap policies only work with Original Medicare. (A Medicare Advantage Plan is not a Medigap policy.)

**Member (Member of our Plan, or "Plan Member")** – A person with Medicare who is eligible to get covered services, who has enrolled in our plan, and whose enrollment has been confirmed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

**Member Services and Customer Experience** – Departments within our plan responsible for answering your questions about your membership, benefits, grievances, and appeals. See Chapter 2 for information about how to contact Member Services and Customer Experience.

**Network Pharmacy** – A network pharmacy is a pharmacy where members of our plan can get their prescription drug benefits. We call them "network pharmacies" because they contract with our plan. In most cases, your prescriptions are covered only if they are filled at one of our network pharmacies.

**Network Physician** – Any licensed physician who is a partner or employee of the Medical Group, or any licensed physician who contracts to provide services to our members (but not including physicians who contract only to provide referral services).

**Network Provider** – "Provider" is the general term we use for doctors, other health care professionals, (including but not limited to, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and nurses), hospitals, and other health care facilities that are licensed or certified by Medicare and by the state to provide health care services. We call them "**network providers**" when they have an agreement with our plan to accept our payment as payment in full, and in some cases, to coordinate as well as provide covered services to members of our plan. We play network providers based on the agreements it has with the providers or if the providers agree to provide you with plan-covered services. Network providers may also be referred to as "plan providers."

**Organization Determination** – The Medicare Advantage plan has made an organization determination when it makes a decision about whether items or services are covered or how much you have to pay for covered items or services. Organization determinations are called "coverage decisions" in this booklet. Chapter 9 explains how to ask us for a coverage decision.

**Original Medicare** ("Traditional Medicare" or "Fee-for-Service" Medicare) – Original Medicare is offered by the government, and not a private health plan like Medicare Advantage Plans and prescription drug plans. Under Original Medicare, Medicare services are covered by paying doctors, hospitals, and other health care providers payment amounts established by Congress. You can see any doctor, hospital, or other health care provider that accepts Medicare. You must pay the deductible. Medicare pays its share of the Medicare-approved amount, and you pay your

share. Original Medicare has two parts: Part A (Hospital Insurance) and Part B (Medical Insurance) and is available everywhere in the United States.

**Out-of-Network Pharmacy** – A pharmacy that doesn't have a contract with our plan to coordinate or provide covered drugs to members of our plan. As explained in this **Evidence of Coverage**, *most drugs you get from out-of-network pharmacies are not covered by our plan unless certain conditions apply* (see Chapter 5, Section 2.5, for more information).

**Out-of-Network Provider or Out-of-Network Facility** – A provider or facility with which we have not arranged to coordinate or provide covered services to members of our plan. Out-of-network providers are providers that are not employed, owned, or operated by our plan or are not under contract to deliver covered services to you. Using out-of-network providers or facilities is explained in this booklet in Chapter 3.

**Out-of-Pocket Costs** – See the definition for "Cost-Sharing" above. A member's cost-sharing requirement to pay for a portion of services or drugs received is also referred to as the member's "out-of-pocket" cost requirement.

**PACE Plan** – A PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly) plan combines medical, social, and long-term care (LTC) services for frail people to help people stay independent and living in their community (instead of moving to a nursing home) for as long as possible, while getting the high-quality care they need. People enrolled in PACE plans receive both their Medicare and Medicaid benefits through the plan.

**Part C** – See "**Medicare Advantage (MA) Plan.**"

**Part D** – The voluntary Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Program. (For ease of reference, we will refer to the prescription drug benefit program as Part D.)

**Part D Drugs** – Drugs that can be covered under Part D. We may or may not offer all Part D drugs. (See your formulary for a specific list of covered drugs.) Certain categories of drugs were specifically excluded by Congress from being covered as Part D drugs.

**Part D Late Enrollment Penalty** – An amount added to your monthly premium for Medicare drug coverage if you go without creditable coverage (coverage that is expected to pay, on average, at least as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage) for a continuous period of 63 days or more. You pay this higher amount as long as you have a Medicare drug plan. There are some exceptions. For example, if you receive "Extra Help" from Medicare to pay your prescription drug plan costs, you will not pay a late enrollment penalty.

**Plan** – Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage.

**Plan Charges** – Plan Charges means the following:

- For services provided by the Medical Group or Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, the charges in Health Plan's schedule of Medical Group and Kaiser Foundation Hospitals charges for services provided to members.
- For services for which a provider (other than the Medical Group or Kaiser Foundation Hospitals) is compensated on a capitation basis, the charges in the schedule of charges that Kaiser Permanente negotiates with the capitated provider.



- For items obtained at a pharmacy owned and operated by Kaiser Permanente, the amount the pharmacy would charge a member for the item if a member's benefit plan did not cover the item (this amount is an estimate of: the cost of acquiring, storing, and dispensing drugs; the direct and indirect costs of providing Kaiser Permanente pharmacy services to members; and the pharmacy program's contribution to the net revenue requirements of Health Plan).
- For all other services, the payments that Kaiser Permanente makes for the services or, if Kaiser Permanente subtracts cost-sharing from its payment, the amount Kaiser Permanente would have paid if it did not subtract cost-sharing.

**Post-Stabilization Care** – Medically necessary services related to your emergency medical condition that you receive after your treating physician determines that this condition is clinically stable. You are considered clinically stable when your treating physician believes, within a reasonable medical probability and in accordance with recognized medical standards, that you are safe for discharge or transfer and that your condition is not expected to get materially worse during or as a result of the discharge or transfer.

**Preferred Cost-Sharing** – Preferred cost-sharing means lower cost-sharing for certain covered Part D drugs at certain network pharmacies.

**Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) Plan** – A Preferred Provider Organization plan is a Medicare Advantage Plan that has a network of contracted providers that have agreed to treat plan members for a specified payment amount. A PPO plan must cover all plan benefits whether they are received from network or out-of-network providers. Member cost-sharing will generally be higher when plan benefits are received from out-of-network providers. PPO plans have an annual limit on your out-of-pocket costs for services received from network (preferred) providers and a higher limit on your total combined out-of-pocket costs for services from both network (preferred) and out-of-network (nonpreferred) providers.

**Premium** – The periodic payment to Medicare, an insurance company, or a health care plan for health care or prescription drug coverage.

**Primary Care Provider (PCP)** – Your primary care provider is the doctor or other provider you see first for most health problems. He or she makes sure you get the care you need to keep you healthy. He or she also may talk with other doctors and health care providers about your care and refer you to them. In many Medicare health plans, you must see your primary care provider before you see any other health care provider. See Chapter 3, Section 2.1, for information about primary care providers.

**Prior Authorization** – Approval in advance to get services or certain drugs that may or may not be on our formulary. Some in-network medical services are covered only if your doctor or other network provider gets "prior authorization" from our plan. Covered services that need prior authorization are marked in the Medical Benefits Chart found at the front of this **EOC** and described in Chapter 3, Section 2.3. Some drugs are covered only if your doctor or other network provider gets "prior authorization" from us. Covered drugs that need prior authorization are marked in the formulary.

**Prosthetics and Orthotics** – These are medical devices ordered by your doctor or other health care provider. Covered items include, but are not limited to, arm, back, and neck braces; artificial

limbs; artificial eyes; and devices needed to replace an internal body part or function, including ostomy supplies and enteral and parenteral nutrition therapy.

**Quality Improvement Organization (QIO)** – A group of practicing doctors and other health care experts paid by the federal government to check and improve the care given to Medicare patients. See Chapter 2, Section 4, for information about how to contact the QIO for your state.

**Quantity Limits** – A management tool that is designed to limit the use of selected drugs for quality, safety, or utilization reasons. Limits may be on the amount of the drug that we cover per prescription or for a defined period of time.

**Rehabilitation Services** – These services include physical therapy, speech and language therapy, and occupational therapy.

**Service Area** – A geographic area where a health plan accepts members if it limits membership based on where people live. For plans that limit which doctors and hospitals you may use, it's also generally the area where you can get routine (nonemergency) services. Our plan may disenroll you if you permanently move out of our plan's service area.

**Services** – Health care services or items.

**Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Care** – Skilled nursing care and rehabilitation services provided on a continuous, daily basis, in a skilled nursing facility. Examples of skilled nursing facility care include physical therapy or intravenous injections that can only be given by a registered nurse or doctor.

**Specialty-Tier Drugs** – Very high-cost drugs approved by the FDA that are on our formulary.

**Spouse** – Your legal husband or wife.

**Standard Cost-Sharing** – Standard cost-sharing is cost-sharing other than preferred cost-sharing offered at a network pharmacy.

**Subscriber** – A member who is eligible for membership on his or her own behalf and not by virtue of dependent status (for subscriber eligibility requirements, see Chapter 1, Section 2).

**Supplemental Security Income (SSI)** – A monthly benefit paid by Social Security to people with limited income and resources who are disabled, blind, or age 65 and older. SSI benefits are not the same as Social Security benefits.

**Urgently Needed Services** – Urgently needed services are provided to treat a nonemergency, unforeseen medical illness, injury, or condition that requires immediate medical care. Urgently needed services may be furnished by network providers or by out-of-network providers when network providers are temporarily unavailable or inaccessible.

***PRA Disclosure Statement*** According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0938-1051. If you have comments or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Attn: PRA Reports Clearance Officer, Mail Stop C4-26-05, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

## **Notice of nondiscrimination**

Kaiser Permanente complies with applicable federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Kaiser Permanente does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. 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 **1-800-476-2167 (TTY 711)**, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., seven days a week.

If you believe that Kaiser Permanente does has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance with our Civil Rights Coordinator by writing to 2500 South Havana, Aurora, CO 80014 or calling Member Services at the number listed above. You can file a grievance by mail or phone. If you need help filing a grievance, our Civil Rights Coordinator is available to help you. 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, **1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD)**. Complaint forms are available at **<http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>**.



## Multi-language Interpreter Services

### English

ATTENTION: If you speak a language other than English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**).

### Spanish

ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**).

### 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 **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**)。

### Vietnamese

CHÚ Ý: Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**).

### Tagalog

PAUNAWA: Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, maaari kang gumamit ng mga serbisyo ng tulong sa wika nang walang bayad. Tumawag sa **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**).

### Korean

주의: 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다.

**1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**)번으로 전화해 주십시오.

### Russian

ВНИМАНИЕ: Если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните **1-800-476-2167** (телетайп: **711**).

### 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。

**1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**) まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

### Amharic

ማስታወሻ: የሚናገሩት ቋንቋ አማርኛ ከሆነ የትርጉም እርዳታ ድርጅቶች፣ በነጻ ሊያግዝዎት ተዘጋጅተዋል፡ ወደ ሚከተለው ቁጥር ይደውሉ **1-800-476-2167** (መስማት ለተሳናቸው: **711**)።

### German

ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**).

### French

ATTENTION : Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le **1-800-476-2167** (ATS : **711**).

### Farsi

توجه: اگر به زبان فارسی گفتگو می کنید، تسهیلات زبانی بصورت رایگان برای شما فراهم می باشد. یا **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: **711**) تماس بگیرید.

### Arabic

ملحوظة: إذا كنت تتحدث اذكر اللغة، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم **1-800-476-2167** (رقم هاتف الصم والبكم: **117**).

**Yoruba**

AKIYESI: Ti o ba nso ede Yoruba ofe ni iranlowo lori ede wa fun yin o. E pe ero ibanisoro yi **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: 711).

**Cushite-Oromo**

XIYYEEFFANNAA: Afaan dubbattu Oroomiffa, tajaajila gargaarsa afaanii, kanfaltiidhaan ala, ni argama. Bilbilaa **1-800-476-2167** (TTY: 711).

**Nepali**

ध्यान दिनुहोस्: तपाईंले नेपाली बोल्नुहुन्छ भने तपाईंको निम्ति भाषा सहायता सेवाहरू निःशुल्क रूपमा उपलब्ध छ । फोन गर्नुहोस् **1-800-476-2167** (टिटिवाइ: 711) ।

## ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

Please refer to the Summary Chart in this booklet for specific charges and other limitations that may apply to the coverage(s) described below.

### DOMESTIC PARTNER COVERAGE

Your Group coverage includes health benefits for same-sex domestic partners. To be covered they must meet:

- (1) the eligibility requirements as described in the “Eligibility” section of this EOC; and
- (2) the conditions for domestic partnership as described in the Affidavit of Domestic Partnership.

You are required to complete and submit an Affidavit of Domestic Partnership to Health Plan. Please check with your Group's benefit administrator for details.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for same-sex domestic partners. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

DOMP0AA (01-18)

### SURVIVING DEPENDENTS

Your Group coverage includes health benefit coverage for surviving Dependents.

Surviving Dependents include your:

1. Spouses; and
2. Other eligible Dependents.

Their coverage may continue based on the Group's personnel policy.

SRDC0AE (01-12)

WOR0AA

### ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT

**(Does not apply to Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage HMO Plan)**

The following paragraph of your EOC is amended, as follows:

#### I. Eligibility

##### A. Who Is Eligible

###### 1. General

To be eligible to enroll and to remain enrolled in this health benefit plan, you must meet the following requirements:

- a. You must meet your Group's eligibility requirements that we have approved. Your Group is required to inform Subscribers of the Group's eligibility requirements; and
- b. You must also meet the Subscriber or Dependent eligibility requirements as described below; and
- c. The Subscriber must live, reside, or work in our Service Area. Our Service Area is described in the “Definitions” section.

This rider amends the general eligibility provision of the EOC. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

WOR0AA (01-20)

### CHIROPRACTIC CARE

1. Coverage

Chiropractic Services are covered as shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” when provided by contracted providers. Coverage includes:

- a. Evaluation;
- b. Manual and manipulative therapy of the spinal and extraspinal regions.

You may self-refer for visits to contracted providers.

**Note:** The following are covered, but not under this section: X-ray and laboratory tests, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”.

2. Exclusions

- a. Hypnotherapy.
- b. Behavior training.
- c. Sleep therapy.
- d. Weight loss programs.
- e. Services related to the treatment of the musculoskeletal system, except for the spinal and extraspinal regions.
- f. Vocational rehabilitation Services.
- g. Thermography.
- h. Air conditioners, air purifiers, therapeutic mattresses, supplies, or any other similar devices and appliances.
- i. Transportation costs. This includes local ambulance charges.
- j. Prescription drugs, vitamins, minerals, food supplements, or other similar products.
- k. Educational programs.
- l. Non-medical self-care or self-help training.
- m. All diagnostic testing related to these excluded Services.
- n. MRI and/or other types of diagnostic radiology.
- o. Physical or massage therapy that is not a part of the manual and manipulative therapy.
- p. Durable medical equipment (DME) and/or supplies for use in the home.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for Chiropractic Care. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

CHIR0AA (01-18)

**ACUPUNCTURE SERVICES**

1. Coverage

Acupuncture Services are covered as shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” when provided by contracted acupuncturists and if clinically appropriate.

Coverage includes treatment for:

- a. Neuromusculoskeletal pain due to an injury or illness; or
- b. Allergy, asthma, nausea or vomiting.

Services include:

- a. Acupuncture by manual stimulation.
- b. Electro-acupuncture applied to inserted needles and acupressure.

Cupping or moxibustion are only covered in lieu of electrical stimulation.

You may self-refer for visits to contracted acupuncturists.

2. Acupuncture Services Exclusions:

- a. Rental or purchase of durable medical equipment (DME);
- b. Air purifiers, therapeutic mattresses, supplies or similar devices, appliances, or equipment. Their use or installation does not have to be for therapy or easy access;

- c. Radiology and lab tests;
- d. Prescription drugs, vitamins, herbs or food supplements. It does not matter if they are prescribed or recommended by a contracted acupuncturist;
- e. Massage or soft tissue techniques, except acupressure;
- f. Treatment mainly for obesity or weight control;
- g. Vocational, stroke or long term rehabilitation;
- h. Hypnotherapy;
- i. Behavior training;
- j. Sleep therapy or biofeedback;
- k. Acupuncture Services provided for maintenance or preventive care Services;
- l. Addiction. This includes quitting smoking;
- m. Expenses for acupuncture Services provided during visits that exceed the member's visit limit;
- n. Expenses for any Services provided before coverage begins or after coverage ends for this benefit;
- o. Any Services provided by an acupuncturist who is not contracted. It does not matter if the Services are obtained in or out of Health Plan's Service Area;
- p. Acupuncture Services that Health Plan determines are not clinically appropriate in its utilization review. (Members may not be surcharged for such Services);
- q. Services not authorized by Health Plan. This exclusion does not apply to the initial evaluation;
- r. Any techniques or procedures not generally accepted in a majority of state acupuncture licensing boards; and
- s. Benefits, items, or Services that are limited or excluded in the EOC, unless changed by this benefit.

This rider amends the EOC to provide limited coverage for acupuncture Services. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

CMPL0AA (01-19)

DMES0AB

### **DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT (DME) AND PROSTHETIC AND ORTHOTIC DEVICES**

When prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan on either a purchase or rental basis, as determined by Health Plan, DME, prosthetics and orthotics, including replacements other than those necessitated by misuse, theft, or loss, are provided as shown on the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" for your use during the period prescribed. Necessary fittings, repairs and adjustments, other than those necessitated by misuse, are covered. Health Plan may repair or replace a device at its option. Repair or replacement of defective equipment is covered at no additional charge.

Health Plan uses Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) and National Coverage Determinations (NCD) (hereinafter referred to as Medicare Guidelines) for our DME, prosthetic, and orthotic formulary guidelines. These are guidelines only. Health Plan reserves the right to exclude items listed in the Medicare Guidelines (does not apply to Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage plans). Please note that this EOC may contain some, but not all, of these exclusions.

**Limitations:** Coverage is limited to a standard item of DME, prosthetic device, or orthotic device that adequately meets your medical needs.

1. Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

a. Coverage

- i. DME is equipment that is appropriate for use in the home, able to withstand repeated use, Medically Necessary, not of use to a person in the absence of illness or injury, and approved for coverage under Medicare. It includes, but is not limited to, infant apnea monitors, insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies, and oxygen and oxygen dispensing equipment.
- ii. Insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iii. When use is no longer prescribed by a Plan Physician, DME must be returned to Health Plan or its designee. If the equipment is not returned, you must pay Health Plan or its designee the fair market price, established by Health Plan, for the equipment.

b. Limitation: Coverage is limited to the lesser of the purchase or rental price, as determined by Health Plan.

c. Durable Medical Equipment Exclusions

- i. Electronic monitors of bodily functions, except infant apnea monitors are covered.
- ii. Devices to perform medical testing of body fluids, excretions or substances, except nitrate urine test strips for home use for pediatric patients are covered.
- iii. Non-medical items such as sauna baths or elevators.
- iv. Exercise or hygiene equipment.
- v. Comfort, convenience, or luxury equipment or features.
- vi. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze\*, tape, antiseptics, dressings, and ace-type bandages.  
\*Gauze not excluded in Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Part D plans.
- vii. Replacement of lost or stolen equipment.
- viii. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.
- ix. More than one piece of DME serving essentially the same function, except for replacements.
- x. Spare equipment or alternate use equipment is not covered.

## 2. Prosthetic Devices

### a. Coverage

Prosthetic devices are those rigid or semi-rigid external devices that are required to replace all or part of a body organ or extremity. Coverage of prosthetic devices includes:

- i. Internally implanted devices for functional purposes, such as pacemakers and hip joints.
- ii. Prosthetic devices for Members who have had a mastectomy. Medical Group or Health Plan will designate the source from which external prostheses can be obtained. Replacement will be made when a prosthesis is no longer functional. Custom-made prostheses will be provided when necessary.
- iii. Prosthetic devices, such as obturators and speech and feeding appliances, required for the treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate are covered when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iv. Prosthetic devices intended to replace, in whole or in part, an arm or leg when prescribed by a Plan Physician, as Medically Necessary and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.

### b. Prosthetic Devices Exclusions

- i. Dental prostheses, except for Medically Necessary prosthodontic treatment for treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate, as described above.
- ii. Internally implanted devices, equipment, and prosthetics related to treatment of sexual dysfunction.
- iii. More than one prosthetic device for the same part of the body, except for replacements.
- iv. Spare devices or alternate use devices.
- v. Replacement of lost or stolen prosthetic devices.
- vi. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.

## 3. Orthotic Devices

### a. Coverage

Orthotic devices are those rigid or semi-rigid external devices that are 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.

### b. Orthotic Devices Exclusions

- i. Corrective shoes and orthotic devices for podiatric use and arch supports, except for diabetic shoes in accordance with clinical guidelines and therapeutic shoes for patients with a diagnosis of peripheral vascular disease or peripheral neuropathy.
- ii. Dental devices and appliances except that Medically Necessary treatment of cleft lip or cleft palate is covered when prescribed by a Plan Physician, unless you are covered for these Services under a dental insurance policy or contract.
- iii. Experimental and research braces.
- iv. More than one orthotic device for the same part of the body, except for covered replacements.
- v. Spare devices or alternate use devices.
- vi. Replacement of lost or stolen orthotic devices.
- vii. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and prosthetic and orthotic devices. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

DMES0AB (01-20)

OPT0AB

## OPTICAL BENEFIT

### 1. Coverage

A credit, as shown in the "Vision Services and Optical" section of the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)," applies toward

the purchase of one pair of: (i) regular lenses; (ii) frames; or (iii) contact lenses, including cosmetic lenses, when obtained at a Plan Medical Office and prescribed by a physician or an optometrist. This includes: a \$60 replacement credit for single vision and contact lenses; and \$90 replacement credit for multifocal lenses if a Member's prescription changes .50 diopter or more within 12 months of the initial exam.

Covered Services include:

- a. The frame;
- b. Mounting of lenses in the frames; and
- c. The original fitting and subsequent adjustment of the frame.

Professional Services for exams and fitting of contact lenses that are not Medically Necessary are provided at an additional charge, when obtained at Plan Medical Offices.

## 2. Exclusions

Replacement of lost or broken lenses or frames.

This rider amends the EOC to provide optical hardware coverage. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

OPT0AB (01-20)

RX0BL

### **PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT**

**NOTE:** When used in this Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement, the term “preferred” refers to drugs that are included in the Health Plan drug formulary. The term “non-preferred” refers to drugs that are not included in the Health Plan drug formulary.

Please refer to the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” in this booklet for the specific Copayments, Coinsurance, Deductible, and supply limits that apply to the covered prescription drugs described below.

#### 1. Coverage

Prescribed covered drugs are provided at the applicable prescription drug Copayment or Coinsurance for each tier of drug coverage. This may include: a preferred generic drug tier; a tier for preferred brand-name drugs or medications not having a generic or a generic equivalent; a tier for prescribed non-preferred drugs authorized through the non-preferred drug process; and a tier for certain specialty drugs. **Note:** Some specialty drugs are available in other tiers. To learn more, please visit our website at [kp.org/formulary](http://kp.org/formulary).

Non-Formulary Drug Exception Process:

You, your designee, or your Plan Provider may request access to clinically appropriate drugs not otherwise covered by Health Plan (non-formulary drugs) through a special exception process. We will make a coverage determination within 72 hours of receipt for standard requests and within 24 hours of receipt for expedited requests. As long as you are an active Member and the exception request is granted, Health Plan will provide coverage of the non-formulary drug for the duration of the prescription. If the exception request is denied, you, your designee, or your Plan Provider may request an external review of the decision by an independent review organization. For additional information about the prescription drug exception processes for non-formulary drugs, please contact **Member Services**.

Prescribed supplies and accessories include, but may not be limited to:

- a. Home glucose monitoring supplies.
- b. Glucose test strips.
- c. Acetone test tablets.
- d. Nitrate urine test strips for pediatric patients.
- e. Disposable syringes for the administration of insulin.

Such items are provided when obtained at Plan Pharmacies or from sources designated by Health Plan.

For Copayment or Coinsurance information related to contraceptive drugs and certain devices please refer to your “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

For each drug, the amount covered will be the lesser of the quantity prescribed or the day supply limit. Any amount you receive that exceeds the day supply will not be covered. If you receive more than the day supply limit, you will be charged as a non-Member for any prescribed amount exceeding the limit. Certain drugs have a significant potential for waste and diversion. Those drugs will be provided for up to a 30-day supply. Each prescription refill is provided on the same basis as the original prescription. Kaiser Permanente may, in its sole discretion, establish quantity limits for specific prescription drugs.

Generic drugs that are available in the United States only from a single manufacturer and that are not listed as generic in the then-current commercially available drug database(s) to which Health Plan subscribes are provided at the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance. The amount covered will be the lesser of the quantity prescribed or the day supply limit.

Prescription drugs are covered only when prescribed by a:

- a. Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies; or
- b. Physician to whom a Member has been referred by a Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies; or
- c. Dentist (when prescribed for acute conditions) and obtained at Plan Pharmacies.

Covered drugs include:

- a. Drugs for which a prescription is required by law. Plan Pharmacies may substitute a generic equivalent for a brand-name drug unless prohibited by the Plan Physician. If you request a brand-name drug when a generic equivalent drug is the preferred product, you must pay the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance, plus any difference in price between the preferred generic equivalent drug prescribed by the Plan Physician and the requested brand-name drug. If the brand-name drug is prescribed due to Medical Necessity, you pay only the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance.
- b. Insulin.
- c. Renewal of prescription eye drops and one additional bottle of prescription eye drops in accordance with state law.
- d. Compounded medications. **Note:** In all Service Areas, if you use a Kaiser Permanente pharmacy, compounded medications must be picked up or mailed from the pharmacy that is designated by Health Plan. Refills of compounded medications cannot be ordered on [kp.org](http://kp.org), by mail order, or through the automated refill line. Please call **303-764- 4900 (TTY 711)** and press “0” to speak to the pharmacy staff for assistance. In the *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Service Areas, you may fill or refill compounded medications at a network pharmacy.

## 2. Limitations

- a. Some drugs may require prior authorization. You do not need prior authorization for any FDA-approved prescription drug listed on our formulary, for the treatment of substance use disorder.
- b. With the exception of substance use disorder drugs, we may apply Step Therapy to certain drugs. You or your Plan Provider may request an exception if you previously tried a drug and your use of the drug was discontinued due to lack of efficacy or effectiveness, diminished effect, or an adverse event.
- c. Coverage determinations for the off-label use of medications will be consistent with Medicare compendia, and coverage determinations for the off-label use of oncologic agents will be consistent with the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) of 2008.

### 3. Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements Exclusions

- a. Drugs for which a prescription is not required by law.
- b. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze, tape, antiseptics, dressing and ace-type bandages.
- c. Prescription drugs necessary for Services excluded in the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement.
- d. Non-preferred drugs, except those prescribed and authorized through the non-preferred drug process.
- e. Any drugs listed as not covered in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”.
- f. Drugs to shorten the length of the common cold.
- g. Drugs to enhance athletic performance.
- h. Drugs available over the counter and by prescription for the same strength.
- i. Individual drugs determined excluded by our Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.
- j. Drugs for the treatment of weight control.
- k. Any prescription drug packaging except the dispensing pharmacy's standard packaging.
- l. Replacement of prescription drugs for any reason. This includes spilled, lost, damaged, or stolen prescriptions.
- m. Drugs administered during a medical office visit.
- n. Medical Foods and Medical Devices.
- o. Unless approved by Health Plan, drugs not approved by the FDA.

This rider amends the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement to provide coverage for Prescription Drugs. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

RX0BL (01-20)  
SNKR0AA

## **SILVER SNEAKERS FITNESS BENEFIT**

A health and fitness benefit is covered and provided at participating fitness or wellness facilities within our Service Area. Health and fitness benefits include:

1. Fitness classes (to improve posture, flexibility and strength).
2. Toning with weights.
3. Aerobic classes.
4. Circuit training.

Additional benefits provided at some facilities include:



1. Swimming.
2. Court sports.
3. Running tracks.
4. Saunas.

You may access Services by taking your current Plan Identification Card to one of the participating fitness facilities within our Service Area and enrolling in the program. To get a list of the participating facilities, please call **Member Services**.

You will be given a one-time activity readiness assessment. Participation in the Fitness Benefit program is dependent upon the result of this assessment and may require a subsequent evaluation at a Plan Medical Office. There is no initiation fee and no monthly dues for participation.

Programs, Services and facilities which carry additional charges such as:

1. Racquetball;
2. Tennis and other court sports;
3. Massage therapy;
4. Lessons related to recreational sports;
5. Tournaments; and
6. Similar fee-based activities;

are excluded.

SNKR0AA (01-12)

### **ELECTIVE ABORTION EXCLUSION**

Voluntary, elective abortions and any related Services, drugs or supplies are excluded. Exceptions to this are:

1. When an abortion is Medically Necessary to preserve the life or health of the mother if the pregnancy continues to term; or
2. When the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest; or
3. Treatment of complications following an abortion.

TABS0AA (01-12)

# NOTES

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## **Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Member Services**

<b>METHOD</b>	<b>Member Services – contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-800-476-2167</b> Calls to this number are free. 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Member Services also has free language interpreter services available for non-English speakers.
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> Calls to this number are free. Seven days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
<b>WRITE</b>	Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado Customer Experience 2500 South Havana Street Aurora, CO 80014-1622
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>kp.org</b>

## **Colorado State Health Insurance Assistance Program**

Colorado State Health Insurance Assistance Program is a state program that gets money from the federal government to give free local health insurance counseling to people with Medicare.

<b>METHOD</b>	<b>Contact information</b>
<b>CALL</b>	<b>1-888-696-7213</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	SHIP, Colorado Division of Insurance 1650 Broadway Street, Suite 850 Denver, CO 80202
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b><a href="https://www.dora.state.co.us/insurance/senior/senior.htm">https://www.dora.state.co.us/insurance/senior/senior.htm</a></b>

**Kaiser Foundation Health  
Plan of Colorado**  
2500 S. Havana St.  
Aurora, CO 80014-1622

## DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

### Important plan information

**TITLE PAGE (Cover Page)**

# **Important Benefit Information Enclosed Evidence of Coverage**

## **About this Evidence of Coverage (EOC)**

This Evidence of Coverage (EOC) describes the health care coverage provided under the Agreement between Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (Health Plan) and your Group. This EOC is for your Group's 2020 contract year.

In this EOC, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado is sometimes referred to as “Kaiser Permanente,” “Kaiser,” “Health Plan,” “we,” or “us.” Members are sometimes referred to as “you.” Out-of-Health Plan is sometimes referred to as “Out-of-Plan.” Some capitalized terms have special meaning in this EOC; please see the “Definitions” section for terms you should know.

The health care coverage described in this EOC has been designed to be a High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP) compatible for use with a Health Savings Account (HSA). An HSA is a tax-exempt account established under Section 223(d) of the Internal Revenue Code exclusively for the purpose of paying qualified medical expenses of the account beneficiary. Contributions to such an account are tax deductible but in order to qualify for and make contributions to an HSA, you must be enrolled in a qualified High Deductible Health Plan.

Please note that the tax references contained in this document relate to federal income tax only. The tax treatment of HSA contributions and distributions under your state’s income tax laws may differ from the federal tax treatment, and differs from state to state. Kaiser Permanente does not provide tax advice. Consult with your financial or tax advisor for tax advice or more information about your eligibility for an HSA.



## NONDISCRIMINATION NOTICE

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado (Kaiser Health Plan) complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Kaiser Health Plan does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. 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 **1-800-632-9700** (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, or sex, you can file a grievance by mail at: Customer Experience Department, Attn: Kaiser Permanente Civil Rights Coordinator, 2500 South Havana, Aurora, CO 80014, or by phone at Member Services: 1-800-632-9700.

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, 1-800-368-1019, 1-800-537-7697 (TDD). Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.

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## HELP IN YOUR LANGUAGE

**ATTENTION:** If you speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**አማርኛ (Amharic) ማስታወሻ:** የሚናገሩት ቋንቋ አማርኛ ከሆነ የትርጉም እርዳታ ድርጅቶች፣ በነጻ ሊያገዝዎት ተዘጋጅተዋል። ወደ ሚከተለው ቁጥር ይደውሉ **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**)።

**العربية (Arabic) ملحوظة:** إذا كنت تتحدث العربية، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) .

**Bàsòò Wùdù (Bassa) Dè dɛ nià kɛ dyédé gbo:** ɔ jũ ké ñ Bàsòò-wùdù-po-nyò jũ ní, nií, à wuɖu kà kò dò po-poò béin ñ gbo kpáa. Đá **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) 。

**فارسی (Farsi) توجه:** اگر به زبان فارسی گفتگو می کنید، تسهیلات زبانی بصورت رایگان برای شما فراهم می باشد. با **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) تماس بگیرید.

**Français (French) ATTENTION:** Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**Deutsch (German) ACHTUNG:** Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung.  
Rufnummer: **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**Igbo (Igbo) NRUBAMA:** O bụrụ na ị na asụ Igbo, ọrụ enyemaka asụsụ, n'efu, dijiri gi. Kpọọ **1-800-632-9700** (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。 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

**한국어 (Korean) 주의:** 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) 번으로 전화해 주십시오.

**Naabeehó (Navajo) Díí baa akó nínízin:** Díí saad bee yáníłti'go Diné Bizaad, saad bee áká'ánída'áwo'déé', t'áá jiik'eh, éi ná hóló, kobji' hódíílnih **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**नेपाली (Nepali) ध्यान दिनुहोस्:** तपाईंले नेपाली बोल्नुहुन्छ भने तपाईंको निम्ति भाषा सहायता सेवाहरू निःशुल्क रूपमा उपलब्ध छ । **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**) फोन गर्नुहोस् ।

**Afaan Oromoo (Oromo) XIYYEEFFANNAA:** Afaan dubbattu Oroomiffa, tajaajila gargaarsa afaanii, kanfaltiidhaan ala, ni argama. Bilbilaa **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**Русский (Russian) ВНИМАНИЕ:** если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**Español (Spanish) ATENCIÓN:** si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (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 **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).

**Yorùbá (Yoruba) AKIYESI:** Ti o ba nso ede Yoruba ofe ni iranlowo lori ede wa fun yin o. E pe ero ibanisoro yi **1-800-632-9700** (TTY: **711**).



**DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT  
NON-MEDICARE EMPLOYEES  
EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE AMENDMENT - 2020**

**I. The following definitions are *in addition* to those detailed in this Evidence of Coverage (EOC).**

- 1) "Child" shall mean a primary insured's natural child, adopted child, or the natural child or adopted child of either a primary insured's spouse, or primary insured's partner in a civil union.
- 2) "Eligible dependent" shall mean the primary insured's child or spouse
  - a) An eligible dependent may not also be a primary insured on the same insurance plan.
  - b) If spouses are each eligible employees, each may enroll in medical or dental coverage as either a primary insured or eligible dependent, but not both.
  - c) An eligible dependent shall not include any form of grandchild of a primary insured or spouse, unless the primary insured or spouse has a court order of adoption.
  - d) An eligible dependent may be covered by one (1) primary insured only for each insurance plan.
- 3) "Eligible employee" shall mean:
  - a) Members of the classified service of the police department.
- 4) "Employee only" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee only.
- 5) "Employee plus children" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and one (1) or more eligible dependents other than a spouse.
- 6) "Employee plus spouse" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and a spouse.
- 7) "Employer contribution" shall mean funds paid by the city for insurance programs approved by the employee health insurance committee.
- 8) "Family" coverage shall mean insurance coverage for an eligible employee and a spouse or spousal equivalent and one (1) or more other eligible dependent.
- 9) "Primary insured" shall mean an eligible employee who enrolls for insurance coverage.
  - a) A primary insured may not also be an eligible dependent on the same insurance.
- 10) "Spouse" shall mean an eligible employee's lawful spouse, a lawful partner in a civil union in accordance with the Colorado Civil Union Act or spousal equivalent.
- 11) "Spousal equivalent" shall mean an adult of the same gender with whom the employee is in an exclusive committed relationship, who is not related to the employee and who shares basic living expenses with the intent for the relationship to last indefinitely. A spousal equivalent cannot be related by blood to a degree which would prevent marriage in Colorado and cannot be married to another person. An employee claiming a spousal equivalent as an eligible dependent shall file with the Department of Safety Human Resources department, an affidavit of spousal equivalency or may register as a committed partnership with the clerk's office.

**II. The following definition is removed from those detailed in this Evidence of Coverage (EOC).**

- c. Other dependent persons (but not including foster children) who meet all of the following requirements:
  - i. They are under the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)"; and
  - ii. You or your Spouse is the court-appointed permanent legal guardian (or was before the person reached age 18).

## SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS (WHO PAYS WHAT)

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This Schedule of Benefits discusses:

- I. DEDUCTIBLES (if applicable)
- II. ANNUAL OUT-OF-POCKET MAXIMUMS (OPM)
- III. COPAYMENTS AND COINSURANCE
- IV. DEPENDENT LIMITING AGE

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION: PLEASE READ

This Schedule of Benefits does not fully describe the Services covered under this EOC. ***For a complete understanding of the benefits, limitations and exclusions that apply to your coverage under this plan, it is important to read this EOC in conjunction with this Schedule of Benefits.*** Please refer to the identical heading in the "Benefits/Coverage (What Is Covered)" section and to the "Limitations/Exclusions (What Is Not Covered)" section of this EOC.

Services received may be described in multiple sections of this Schedule of Benefits (for example, Office Services, Durable Medical Equipment, X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures may all apply to a broken arm). See the appropriate sections for applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and Deductible information.

You are responsible for any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for Services performed as part of or in conjunction with other outpatient Services, including but not limited to: office visits, Emergency Services, urgent care, and outpatient surgery.

Here is some important information to keep in mind as you read this Schedule of Benefits:

1. For a Service to be a covered Service:
  - a. The Service must be Medically Necessary (refer to the "Definitions" section in this EOC); **and**
  - b. The Service must be provided, prescribed, recommended, or directed by a Plan Provider; **and**
  - c. The Service must be described in this EOC as covered. Refer to the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.
2. The Charges for your Services are not always known at the time you receive the Service. You **will get a bill** for any Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance that are not known at the time you receive the Service.
3. The Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance listed here apply to covered Services provided to Members enrolled in this plan. Only covered Services apply to the Deductible and OPM. Non-covered Services will not apply to the Deductible and OPM.
4. Copayments for Services are due at the time you receive the Service. Deductibles or Coinsurance for Services may also be due at the time you receive the Service.
5. Except for #6 below, you may be responsible for any amounts over eligible Charges in addition to any Copayment or Coinsurance.
6. With respect to Emergency Services received in a non-Plan Facility, or Services rendered by a non-Plan Provider in a Plan Facility, you will not be balance billed by either the non-Plan Provider or non-Plan Facility. You are responsible for the same Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance amounts that you would pay if the care was provided in a Plan Facility or provided by a Plan Provider.
7. You may be charged separate Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance for additional Services you receive during your visit or if you receive Services from more than one provider during your visit.
8. We reserve the right to reschedule non-emergency, non-routine care if you do not pay all amounts due at the time you receive the Service.
9. For items ordered in advance, you pay the Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance in effect on the order date.
10. You, as the Subscriber, are responsible for any Deductibles, Copayments, and/or Coinsurance incurred by your Dependents enrolled in the Plan.

11. If you are the only person on your plan, your plan will become a family plan upon the addition of any eligible Dependent to your plan. This includes, but is not limited to, any temporary additions to your plan, such as the coverage of a newborn for 31 days as required by state law.

## **I. DEDUCTIBLES**

The medical Deductible represents the full amount you must pay for certain covered Services during the Accumulation Period before any Copayment or Coinsurance applies.

For covered Services that are subject to the medical Deductible, any amounts you pay over eligible Charges will not apply toward the medical Deductible.

- A. For covered Services that **ARE** subject to the medical Deductible:
  1. You must pay full charges for covered Services until your medical Deductible is satisfied. Please see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance” to find out which covered Services are subject to the medical Deductible.
  2. Once you have met your medical Deductible for the Accumulation Period, you will then pay, for the rest of the Accumulation Period, your applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for those covered Services subject to the medical Deductible (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”).
  3. Your applicable Copayment and Coinsurance may apply to your annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum (OPM) (see “II. Annual Out-of-Pocket Maximums”).
- B. For covered Services that **ARE NOT** subject to the medical Deductible: Your Copayment or Coinsurance will always apply, as listed in “III. Copayments and Coinsurance.”

## **II. ANNUAL OUT-OF-POCKET MAXIMUMS**

The OPM limits the total amount you must pay during the Accumulation Period for certain covered Services. Covered Services may or may not apply to the OPM (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”). It depends on the plan your Group has purchased.

For covered Services that apply to the OPM, any amounts you pay over eligible Charges will not apply toward the OPM.

- A. Your medical Deductible applies to the OPM (see “I. Deductibles”).
- B. For covered Services that **APPLY** to the OPM.
  1. The only Copayments or Coinsurance **that apply** toward the OPM are those made for covered Services listed as **applying** to the OPM (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”).
  2. Once your OPM is met, you will no longer pay for covered Services **that apply** to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period.
- C. For covered Services that do **NOT APPLY** to the OPM.
  1. The only Copayments or Coinsurance that **do not apply** toward the OPM are those made for covered Services listed as **not** applying to the OPM (see “III. Copayments and Coinsurance”).
  2. Once your OPM is met, you will continue to pay for covered Services that **do not apply** to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period.

### **Tracking Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Amounts**

Once you have received Services and we have processed the claim for Services rendered, we will provide an Explanation of Benefits (EOB). The EOB will list the Services you received, the cost of those Services, and the payments made for the Services. It will also include information regarding what portion of the payments were applied to your medical Deductible and/or OPM amounts.

For more information about your medical Deductible or OPM amounts, please call **Member Services** or go to **kp.org**.

**Benefits for DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT  
68 - 050**

**III. COPAYMENTS AND COINSURANCE**

**Note:** Day, visit, and dollar limits, Deductibles, and Out-of-Pocket Maximums are based on a calendar year Accumulation Period.

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**Medical Deductible**

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AGGREGATE Medical Deductible  
*(Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

\$1,450/Individual per Accumulation  
Period  
\$2,900/Family per Accumulation  
Period

An Aggregate Medical Deductible means:

- If you are the only person covered on your plan, the individual Medical Deductible amount applies. After the individual medical Deductible is met, the Member will begin paying Copayments or Coinsurance for most covered Services for the rest of the Accumulation Period.
  - If there are two or more family Members on your plan, the individual Medical Deductible amount does not apply. The entire family Medical Deductible must be met before Copayment or Coinsurance is applied for any individual family Member. No one in the family is considered to have met the Deductible until the entire family Deductible is met.
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**Out-of-Pocket Maximum**

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AGGREGATE OPM

\$2,900/Individual per Accumulation  
Period  
\$5,800/Family per Accumulation  
Period

An Aggregate OPM means:

- If you are the only person covered on your plan, the individual OPM amount applies. After the individual OPM is met, the Member will no longer pay Copayments or Coinsurance for those covered Services that apply to the OPM for the rest of the Accumulation Period.
  - If there are two or more family Members on your plan, the individual OPM amount does not apply. The family OPM amount applies to the entire family as a whole. The entire family medical OPM amount must be met before any covered family Member will no longer pay Copayments or Coinsurance for covered Services. No one in the family is considered to have met the OPM until the entire family OPM is met.
-

<b>Office Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.	
Primary care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Specialty care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Consultations with clinical pharmacists <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Allergy evaluation and testing	
• Primary care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: 20% Coinsurance
• Specialty care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Visit: 20% Coinsurance
Allergy injections <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Gynecology care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Routine prenatal and postpartum visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Office-administered drugs <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
• Travel immunizations <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<b>Virtual Care Services</b>	
• Email	
o Primary care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
o Specialty care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
• Chat with a doctor online via kp.org	
o Primary care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
o Specialty care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
• Telephone visits	
o Primary care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
o Specialty care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
• Video visits	
o Primary care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
o Specialty care visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Covered Services not otherwise listed in this Schedule of Benefits received during an office visit, a scheduled procedure visit, video visit, or provided by a Plan Medical Office <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance

<b>Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.	

<p>Outpatient surgery at Plan Facilities <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></p>	<p>Ambulatory surgical center: 10% Coinsurance Outpatient hospital: 20% Coinsurance</p>
<p>Outpatient hospital Services <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></p>	<p>20% Coinsurance</p>
<p><b>Hospital Inpatient Care</b></p>	<p><b>You Pay</b></p>
<p><i>(See Hospital Inpatient Care in "Benefits/Coverage (What Is Covered)" in this EOC for the list of covered Services.)</i> <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></p>	<p>20% Coinsurance</p>
<p>Inpatient professional Services <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></p>	<p>20% Coinsurance</p>
<p><b>Alternative Medicine</b></p>	<p><b>You Pay</b></p>
<p>Chiropractic care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluation and/or manipulation <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> <li>• Laboratory Services or x-rays required for chiropractic care <i>(See "X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information)</i></li> </ul>	<p>20% Coinsurance each visit Limited to 20 visits per Accumulation Period See Additional Provisions See "X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.</p>
<p>Acupuncture Services <i>(Not subject to Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></p>	<p>Not Covered</p>
<p><b>Ambulance Services</b></p>	<p><b>You Pay</b></p>
<p><i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></p>	<p>20% Coinsurance</p>
<p><b>Bariatric Surgery</b></p>	<p><b>You Pay</b></p>
<p><i>(Not subject to Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></p>	<p>Not Covered</p>
<p><b>Dental Services following Accidental Injury</b></p>	<p><b>You Pay</b></p>
<p><i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></p>	<p>Not Covered</p>
<p><b>Dialysis Care</b></p>	<p><b>You Pay</b></p>
<p><i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></p>	<p>20% Coinsurance</p>

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**Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Prosthetics and Orthotics**

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**You Pay**

Durable Medical Equipment

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

See Additional Provisions

- Breast pumps

*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

No Charge

Prosthetic devices

- Internally implanted prosthetic devices

*(See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)*

See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for applicable Copayment(s) and/or Coinsurance.

- Prosthetic arm or leg

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

- All other prosthetic devices

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Orthotic devices

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Oxygen

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Maximum limit paid by Health Plan for Durable Medical Equipment, certain prosthetic devices, and orthotic devices

Not Applicable

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**Emergency Services**

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**You Pay**

Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.

Plan and non-Plan emergency room visits and related covered Services unless otherwise noted (covered 24 hours a day)

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

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**Urgent Care**

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**You Pay**

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Note: Additional charges may apply for Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits.

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**Plan Facility within Service Area**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Urgent care may require additional Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits (for example: Office Services, Durable Medical Equipment, X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures). See the appropriate section for applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and Deductible information.

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**Urgent care outside Service Area**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

Urgent care may require additional Services described elsewhere in this Schedule of Benefits (for example: Office Services, Durable Medical Equipment, X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures). See the appropriate section for applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and Deductible information.

Covered only if all the following requirements are met:

- The care is required to prevent serious decline of health
  - The need for care results from an unforeseen illness or injury when temporarily away from our Service Area
  - The care cannot be delayed until you return to our Service Area
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**Family Planning and Sterilization Services**

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**You Pay**

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**Family planning counseling**

*(See "Office Services" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)*

See "Office Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.

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**Associated outpatient surgery procedures**

*(See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)*

See "Office Services" or "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.

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**Health Education Services**

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**You Pay**

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**Training in self-care and preventive care**

*(See "Office Services" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)*

See "Office Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.

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<b>Hearing Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction when performed by an audiologist <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction when performed by a specialist other than an audiologist <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Hearing aids for Members up to age 18 <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fitting and recheck visits <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	20% Coinsurance
Hearing aids for Members age 18 and over <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fitting and recheck visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<b>Home Health Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Home health Services prescribed by a Plan Physician <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<b>Hospice Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Special Services program for hospice-eligible Members who have not yet elected hospice care <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Hospice care for terminally ill patients <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<b>Mental Health Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Inpatient psychiatric hospitalization <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inpatient day limit</li> </ul>	Not Applicable
Inpatient professional Services for psychiatric hospitalization <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Outpatient individual therapy or intensive outpatient therapy <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance including partial hospitalization
Outpatient group therapy <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance

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**Out-of-Area Benefit****You Pay**

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The following Services are limited to Dependents up to the age of 26 outside the Service Area

**Outpatient office visits**

*(Combined office visit limit between primary care, specialty care, outpatient mental health and substance use disorder services, gynecology care, hearing exam, prevention immunizations, preventive care, and the administration of allergy injections. Office visits do not include: allergy evaluation, routine prenatal and postpartum visits, chiropractic care, acupuncture services, hearing aids, hearing tests, home health visits, hospice services, and applied behavioral analysis (ABA).)*

*Visit: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

*Other Services: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

*Preventive immunizations: (Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

Visit limit: Limited to 5 visits per Accumulation Period

Visit: 20% Coinsurance

Other Services received during an office visit: Not Covered

Preventive immunizations:  
No Charge

**Diagnostic X-ray Services**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

Diagnostic X-ray Services limit:  
Limited to 5 diagnostic X-rays per Accumulation Period  
20% Coinsurance

**Outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits**

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

Therapy visit limit: Limited to 5 therapy visits (any combination) per Accumulation Period  
Visit: 20% Coinsurance

**Outpatient prescription drugs**

Prescription drug fills: Limited to 5 prescription drug fills (any combination) per Accumulation Period

- Copayment/Coinsurance (except as listed below)  
*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

50% Coinsurance Generic/50%  
Coinsurance Brand name/50%  
Coinsurance Non-preferred/50%  
Coinsurance Specialty

- Prescribed diabetic supplies  
*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

- Preventive drugs
  - Contraceptive drugs  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
  - Over the counter (OTC) items:  
*(Federally mandated over the counter items)*  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
  - Tobacco cessation drugs  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

No Charge

No Charge

No Charge

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**Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy and Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services**

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**You Pay**

Inpatient treatment in a multidisciplinary rehabilitation program provided in a designated rehabilitation facility  
*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

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20% Coinsurance; Up to 60 days per condition per Accumulation Period

Short-term outpatient physical, occupational and speech therapy visits

- **Habilitative Services**  
*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
- **Rehabilitative Services**  
*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance  
Limited to 20 visits per therapy per Accumulation Period  
20% Coinsurance  
Limited to 20 visits per therapy per Accumulation Period

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Outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits to treat Autism Spectrum Disorder  
*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

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20% Coinsurance

Applied Behavioral Services

- **Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)**  
*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

20% Coinsurance

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Pulmonary rehabilitation

*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

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20% Coinsurance

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**Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements****You Pay**

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Outpatient prescription drugs Copayment/Coinsurance  
(except as listed below):

\$10 Generic/\$35 Brand name/\$60  
Non-Preferred

*(Prescriptions are subject to the medical Deductible and apply to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum  
except as otherwise listed in this "Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements" section.)*

- Pharmacy Deductible
- Infertility drugs  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*
- Insulin
  - o Prescribed supplies  
*(When obtained from sources designated by Kaiser Permanente)  
(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

Not Applicable

Not Covered

Applicable Copayment/Coinsurance  
not to exceed \$100 up to a 30-day  
supply  
20% Coinsurance

- Over the counter (OTC) items:  
*(Federally mandated over the counter (OTC) items. OTCs require a prescription and  
must be filled at a Kaiser Permanente pharmacy.)  
(Not subject to medical or pharmacy Deductible)*

No Charge

- Prescription contraceptives  
*(Supply limit according to applicable law)  
(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

No Charge

- Preventive tier drugs  
*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

See applicable Outpatient  
prescription drug  
Copayment/Coinsurance

- Sexual dysfunction drugs  
*(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

Not Covered

- Specialty drugs  
*(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)*

See applicable Outpatient  
prescription drug  
Copayment/Coinsurance

- Tobacco cessation drugs  
*(Not subject to medical or pharmacy Deductible)*

No Charge

**Supply Limit**

- Day supply limit
- Mail-order supply limit

30 days

\$20 Generic/\$70 Brand/\$120  
Non-Preferred

Up to 90 days

See Additional Provisions

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<b>Preventive Care Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Preventive care visits <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult preventive care exams and screenings</li> <li>• Behavioral health screening</li> <li>• Well-woman care exams and screenings</li> <li>• Well-child care exams</li> <li>• Immunizations</li> </ul>	
Colorectal cancer screenings <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colonoscopies</li> <li>• Flexible sigmoidoscopies</li> </ul>	No Charge
Preventive Virtual Care Services <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	No Charge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Email</li> <li>• Chat with a doctor online via kp.org</li> <li>• Telephone</li> <li>• Video visits</li> </ul>	
Non-preventive covered Services received in conjunction with preventive care exam <i>(See "Office Services" or "Laboratory Services" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Office Services" or "Laboratory Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
<b>Reconstructive Surgery</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services" or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
<b>Reproductive Support Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Covered Services for diagnosis and treatment of infertility (including lab and X-ray) <i>(Not subject to Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
Intrauterine insemination (IUI) <i>(Not subject to Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
Gamete Intrafallopian Transfer (GIFT) <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
Zygote Intrafallopian Transfer (ZIFT) <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered
<b>Skilled Nursing Facility Care</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance Limited to 100 days per Accumulation Period

<b>Substance Use Disorder Services (formerly Chemical Dependency Services)</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Inpatient medical detoxification <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Inpatient professional Services for medical detoxification <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Outpatient individual therapy or intensive outpatient therapy <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance including partial hospitalization
Outpatient group therapy <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Residential rehabilitation <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance per inpatient admission
<b>Transplant Services</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
<i>(See "Office Services", "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services", or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for medical Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum information.)</i>	See "Office Services", "Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services", or "Hospital Inpatient Care" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
<b>Vision Services and Optical</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Eye exams for treatment of injuries and/or diseases	See "Office Services" for applicable Copayment or Coinsurance.
Routine eye exam when performed by an Optometrist	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members up to the end of the calendar year he/she turns age 19 <i>Visit: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: 20% Coinsurance Test: 20% Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members age 19 and over <i>Visit: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: 20% Coinsurance Test: 20% Coinsurance
Routine eye exam when performed by an Ophthalmologist	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members up to the end of the calendar year he/she turns age 19 <i>Visit: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: 20% Coinsurance Test: 20% Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members age 19 and over <i>Visit: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i> <i>Refraction test: (Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Visit: 20% Coinsurance Test: 20% Coinsurance
Covered Services not otherwise listed in this Schedule of Benefits received during an office visit, a scheduled procedure visit, or provided by a Plan Medical Office <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Optical hardware	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members up to the end of the calendar year he/she turns age 19 <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members age 19 and over <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered

<b>X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Diagnostic laboratory Services <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Diagnostic X-ray Services <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
Therapeutic X-ray Services <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
X-ray special procedures including but not limited to CT, PET, MRI, nuclear medicine <i>(Subject to medical Deductible; Applies to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	20% Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diagnostic procedures include administered drugs.</li> <li>• Therapeutic procedures may incur an additional charge for administered drugs.</li> </ul> <i>(See "Office Services" for "Office-administered Drugs")</i>	

<b>Plus Benefit</b>	<b>You Pay</b>
Maximum limit per Accumulation Period	Not Applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preventive care visits with a non-Plan Provider <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary care and allergy injection visits, hearing exams, outpatient mental health and substance use disorder individual therapy visits, and short-term outpatient physical, occupational, or speech therapy visits with a non-Plan Provider. Visits include phone or email virtual care Services. <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specialty and gynecology care visits, hearing exams, and allergy testing and evaluations with a non-Plan Provider. Visits include phone or email virtual care Services. <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Covered Services received during an office visit with a non-Plan Provider, allergy injections, durable medical equipment, diagnostic X-ray and laboratory Services, and implantable or injectable contraceptives. <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
Prescription Drug fill maximum per Accumulation Period	Not Applicable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outpatient prescription drugs filled at a non-Plan Pharmacy <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i></li> </ul>	Not Covered
Outpatient prescription drugs prescribed by a non-Plan Provider and filled at a Plan Pharmacy <i>(Not subject to medical Deductible; Does not apply to Out-of-Pocket Maximum)</i>	Not Covered

#### **IV. DEPENDENT LIMITING AGE**

The Dependent limiting age as described under Dependents in the "Eligibility" section of the EOC is the end of the month in which age 26 is reached. A Dependent child will continue to be eligible until the Dependent child reaches this age, if he or she continues to meet all other eligibility requirements. For additional information regarding eligible Dependents, including certain Dependents over the limiting age, please refer to the "Eligibility" section in the EOC.

#### **Additional Provisions**

Please see "Additional Provisions" for any supplemental information that applies to your coverage.





**CONTACT US**

**Appointments and Medical Advice (Advice Nurses) – Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week**

**CALL** *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-338-4545** or toll-free **1-800-218-1059**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-800-218-1059**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **970-207-7171** or toll-free **1-800-218-1059**

**TTY** **711**  
 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**Behavioral Health**

**CALL** *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-471-7700**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-866-702-9026**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-866-359-8299**

**TTY** **711**  
 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**Member Services**

**CALL** *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-338-3800** or toll-free **1-800-632-9700**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-888-681-7878**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-844-201-5824**

**TTY** **711**  
 This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**FAX** **303-338-3444**

**WRITE** **Member Services**  
**Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado**  
**2500 South Havana Street**  
**Aurora, CO 80014-1622**

**WEBSITE** [kp.org](http://kp.org)

**Appeals Program**

<b>CALL</b>	<b>303-344-7933</b> or toll free <b>1-888-370-9858</b>
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
<b>FAX</b>	<b>1-866-466-4042</b>
<b>WRITE</b>	<b>Appeals Program</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 378066</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-8066</b>

**Claims Department**

<b>CALL</b>	<i>Denver/Boulder</i> Members: <b>303-338-3600</b> or toll-free <b>1-800-382-4661</b> <i>Southern Colorado</i> Members: <b>1-888-681-7878</b> <i>Northern Colorado</i> Members: <b>1-800-382-4661</b>
<b>TTY</b>	<b>711</b> This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.
<b>WRITE</b>	<i>Denver/Boulder</i> Members: <b>Claims Department</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 373150</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-3150</b>  <i>Southern Colorado</i> Members: <b>Claims Department</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 372910</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-6910</b>  <i>Northern Colorado</i> Members: <b>Claims Department</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 373150</b> <b>Denver, CO 80237-3150</b>

**Membership Administration**

<b>WRITE</b>	<b>Membership Administration</b> <b>Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado</b> <b>P.O. Box 203004</b> <b>Denver, CO 80220-9004</b>
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**Patient Financial Services**

**CALL** *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-743-5900**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-888-681-7878**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-844-201-5824**

**TTY** **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**WRITE** **Patient Financial Services**  
**Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado**  
**2500 South Havana Street, Suite 500**  
**Aurora, CO 80014-1622**

**Personal Physician Selection Services**

**CALL** *Denver/Boulder* Members: **303-338-4477**  
*Southern Colorado* Members: **1-855-208-7221**  
*Northern Colorado* Members: **1-855-208-7221**

**TTY** **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.

**WEBSITE** [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations) for a list of providers and facilities

**Transplant Administrative Offices**

**CALL** **303-636-3131**

**TTY** **711**  
This number requires special telephone equipment and is only for people who have difficulties with hearing or speaking.



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**ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS**





## I. ELIGIBILITY

### A. Who Is Eligible

#### 1. General

To be eligible to enroll and to remain enrolled in this health benefit plan, you must meet the following requirements:

- a. You must meet your Group's eligibility requirements that we have approved. Your Group is required to inform Subscribers of the Group's eligibility requirements; and
- b. You must also meet the Subscriber or Dependent eligibility requirements as described below; and
- c. The Subscriber must live or reside in our Service Area. Our Service Area is described in the "Definitions" section.

#### 2. Subscribers

You may be eligible to enroll as a Subscriber if you are entitled to Subscriber coverage under your Group's eligibility requirements. An example would be an employee of your Group who works at least the number of hours stated in those requirements.

#### 3. Dependents

If you are a Subscriber, the following persons may be eligible to enroll as your Dependents under this plan:

- a. Your Spouse. (Spouse includes a partner in a valid civil union under state law.)
- b. Your or your Spouse's children (including adopted children and children placed with you for adoption) who are under the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)."
- c. Other dependent persons (but not including foster children) who meet all of the following requirements:
  - i. They are under the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)"; and
  - ii. You or your Spouse is the court-appointed permanent legal guardian (or was before the person reached age 18).
- d. Your or your Spouse's unmarried children over the dependent limiting age shown in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" who are medically certified as disabled and dependent upon you or your Spouse are eligible to enroll or continue coverage as your Dependents if the following requirements are met:
  - i. They are dependent on you or your Spouse; and
  - ii. You give us proof of the Dependent's disability and dependency annually if we request it.
- e. Subscriber's designated beneficiary prescribed by Colorado law, if your employer elects to cover designated beneficiaries as dependents.

**Students on Medical Leave of Absence.** Dependent children who lose dependent student status at a postsecondary educational institution due to a Medically Necessary leave of absence may remain eligible for coverage until the earlier of (i) one year after the first day of the Medically Necessary leave of absence; or (ii) the date dependent coverage would otherwise terminate under this EOC. We must receive written certification by a treating physician of the dependent child which states 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.

If your plan has different eligibility requirements, please see "Additional Provisions."

#### 4. Health Savings Account Eligibility

Enrollment in a High Deductible Health Plan that is HSA-compatible is only one of the eligibility requirements for establishing and contributing to an HSA. Other requirements include that you must not be: (a) covered by another health coverage plan (for example, through your spouse's employer) that is not also an HSA-compatible health plan, with certain exceptions; (b) enrolled in Medicare; or (c) able to be claimed as a Dependent on another person's tax return. Consult your tax advisor for more information about your eligibility for an HSA.

### B. Enrollment and Effective Date of Coverage

Eligible people may enroll as follows, and membership begins at 12:00 a.m. on the membership effective date.

#### 1. New Employees and their Dependents

If you are a new employee, you may enroll yourself and any eligible Dependents by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application to your Group within 31 days after you become eligible. You should check with your Group to see when new employees become eligible. Your membership will become effective on the date specified by your Group.

#### 2. Members Who are Inpatient on Effective Date of Coverage

If you are an inpatient in a hospital or institution when your coverage with us becomes effective and you had other coverage when you were admitted, state law will determine whether we or your prior carrier will be responsible for payment for your care until your date of discharge.

3. Special Enrollment Due to Newly Acquired Dependents

You may enroll as a Subscriber (along with any eligible Dependents), and existing Subscribers may add eligible Dependents, by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application to your Group within 31 days after a Dependent becomes newly eligible.

The membership effective date for the Dependents (and, if applicable, the new Subscriber) will be:

- a. For newborn children, the moment of birth. Your newborn child is covered for the first 31 days following birth. This coverage is required by state law, whether or not you intend to add the newborn to this plan.

For existing Subscribers:

- i. If the addition of the newborn child to the Subscriber's coverage will change the amount the Subscriber is required to pay for that coverage, then the Subscriber, in order for the newborn to keep coverage beyond the first 31-day period of coverage, is required to: (A) pay the new amount due for coverage after the first 31-day period of coverage; and (B) notify Health Plan within 31 days of the newborn's birth.
- ii. If the addition of the newborn child to the Subscriber's coverage will not change the amount the Subscriber pays for coverage, the Subscriber must still notify Health Plan after the birth of the newborn to get the newborn enrolled onto the Subscriber's Health Plan coverage.

- b. For newly adopted children (including children newly placed for adoption), the date of the adoption or placement for adoption. An eligible adopted child must be enrolled within 31 days from the date the child is placed in your custody or the date of the final decree of adoption.

For existing Subscribers:

- i. If the addition of the newly adopted child to the Subscriber's coverage will change the amount the Subscriber is required to pay for that coverage, then the Subscriber, in order for the newly adopted child to continue coverage beyond the initial 31-day period of coverage, is required to (A) pay the new amount due for coverage after the initial 31-day period of coverage; and (B) notify Health Plan within 31 days of the child's adoption or placement for adoption.
- ii. If the addition of the newly adopted child to the Subscriber's coverage will not change the amount the Subscriber pays for coverage, the Subscriber must still notify Health Plan after the adoption or placement for adoption of the child to get the child enrolled onto the Subscriber's Health Plan coverage.

- c. For all other Dependents, if enrolled within 31 days of becoming eligible, no later than the first day of the month following the date your Group receives the enrollment application. Your Group will let you know the membership effective date. Employees and Dependents who are not enrolled when newly eligible must wait until the next open enrollment period to become Members of Health Plan, unless: (i) they enroll under special circumstances, as agreed to by your Group and Health Plan; or (ii) they enroll under the provisions described in "Special Enrollment".

4. Special Enrollment

You or your Dependent may experience a triggering event that allows a change in your enrollment. Examples of triggering events are the loss of coverage, a Dependent's aging off this plan, marriage, and birth of a child. The triggering event results in a special enrollment period that usually (but not always) starts on the date of the triggering event and lasts for 30 days. During the special enrollment period, you may enroll your Dependent(s) in this plan or, in certain circumstances, you may change plans (your plan choice may be limited). There are requirements that you must meet to take advantage of a special enrollment period including showing proof of your own or your Dependent's triggering event. To learn more about triggering events, special enrollment periods, how to enroll or change your plan (if permitted), timeframes for submitting information to Health Plan and other requirements, call **Member Services** to obtain a copy of Health Plan's *Special Enrollment Guide*.

5. Open Enrollment

You may enroll as a Subscriber (along with any eligible Dependents), and existing Subscribers may add eligible Dependents, by submitting a Health Plan-approved enrollment application to your Group during the open enrollment period. Your Group will let you know when the open enrollment period begins and ends and the membership effective date.

6. Persons Barred from Enrolling

You cannot enroll if you have had your entitlement to receive Services through Health Plan terminated for cause.

## II. HOW TO ACCESS YOUR SERVICES AND OBTAIN APPROVAL OF BENEFITS

As a Member, you are selecting our medical care program to provide your health care. You must receive all covered Services from Plan Providers inside your home Service Area, except as described under the following headings:

- "Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)" in "Emergency Services and Urgent Care" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.

- “Urgent Care Outside the Service Area” in “Emergency Services and Urgent Care” in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.
- “Out-of-Area Benefit” in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.
- “Access to Other Providers” in this section.
- “Cross Market Access” in this section.
- “Visiting Other Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Areas” in this section.
- “Plus Benefit” if purchased by your Group. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if your Group has purchased this coverage.

Your home Service Area is printed on your Health Plan Identification (ID) card. For more information about your ID card, please refer to the “Using Your Health Plan Identification Card” section.

In some circumstances, you might receive emergency or non-emergency Services from a non-Plan Provider or non-Plan Facility. **Non-emergency Services from non-Plan Providers are not covered unless they are authorized by us.** If Services from a non-Plan Provider are authorized, the Deductible, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance for these authorized Services are the same as for covered Services received from a Plan Provider. You have the right and responsibility to request a Plan Provider to provide Services.

**Note:** *Denver/Boulder* Members do not have access to Affiliated Providers within the *Denver/Boulder* Service Area unless authorized by Health Plan. *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Members do have access to Affiliated Providers within their home Service Area.

## A. Your Primary Care Provider

Your primary care provider (PCP) plays an important role in coordinating your health care needs. This includes hospital stays and referrals to specialists. Every member of your family should have his or her own PCP.

### 1. Choosing Your Primary Care Provider

You may select a PCP from family medicine, pediatrics, or internal medicine within your home Service Area. You may also receive a second medical opinion from a Plan Physician upon request. Please refer to the “Second Opinions” section.

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

You may choose your PCP from our provider directory. To review a list of Plan Providers and their biographies, visit our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). You can also get a copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. To choose a PCP, sign in to your account online or call **Personal Physician Selection Services**. This team will help you choose a primary care provider, accepting new patients, based on your health care needs.

#### b. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

You must choose a PCP when you enroll. If you do not select a PCP upon enrollment, we will assign you one near your home.

Medical Group contracts with a panel of Affiliated Physicians, specialists, and other health care professionals to provide medical Services in the *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Service Areas. You may choose your PCP from our panel of *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* providers.

You can find these physicians, along with a list of affiliated specialists and ancillary providers, in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your specific home Service Area. You can review a list of *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Plan Providers by visiting our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). You can also get a copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. To choose a PCP, call **Personal Physician Selection Services**. This team will help you choose a primary care provider, accepting new patients, based on your health care needs.

If you are seeking routine or specialty care in *Denver/Boulder*, you must have a referral from your local PCP with an Authorization from Health Plan. If you do not have an Authorization, you will be billed for the full amount of the office visit Charges. If you are visiting in the *Denver/Boulder* Service Area and need urgent or emergency care, you can visit a *Denver/Boulder* Plan Facility without a referral. For a referral from a specialist, see the “Access to Other Providers” section. For care in *Denver/Boulder* Plan Medical Offices, see “Cross Market Access”.

### 2. Changing Your Primary Care Provider

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

Please call **Personal Physician Selection Services** to change your PCP. You may also change your PCP online or when visiting a Plan Facility. You may change your PCP at any time.

#### b. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

Please call **Personal Physician Selection Services** to change your PCP. Notify us of your new PCP choice by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month. Your selection will be effective on the first day of the following month.

## B. Access to Other Providers

### 1. Referrals and Authorizations

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

If your Medical Group physician decides that you need covered Services not available from us, he or she will request a referral for you to see a non-Medical Group physician inside or outside our Service Area. This referral request will result in an Authorization or a denial. However, there may be circumstances where Health Plan will partially authorize your provider's referral request.

An Authorization is a referral request that has received approval from Health Plan. An Authorization is limited to a specific Service, treatment or series of treatments, and period of time. The provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid. Copayments or Coinsurance for authorized Services are the same as those required for Services provided by a Medical Group physician.

An Authorization is required for Services provided by non-Plan Providers, non-Medical Group physicians, or non-Plan Facilities. If your provider refers you to a non-Medical Group physician, non-Plan Provider, or non-Plan Facility, inside or outside our Service Area, you must have a written Authorization in order for us to cover the Services.

All referral Services must be requested and authorized in advance. We will not pay for any care rendered by a provider unless the care is specifically authorized by Health Plan and approved in advance. A written or verbal recommendation by a provider that you get non-covered Services (whether Medically Necessary or not) is not considered an Authorization, and is **not** covered.

#### b. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

If your Medical Group physician decides that you need covered Services not available from us, he or she will request a referral for you to see a non-Medical Group physician inside or outside our Service Area. This referral request will result in an Authorization or a denial. However, there may be circumstances where Health Plan will partially authorize your provider's referral request.

An Authorization is a referral request that has received approval from Health Plan. An Authorization is limited to a specific Service, treatment or series of treatments, and period of time. The provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid. Copayments or Coinsurance for authorized Services are the same as those required for Services provided by a Medical Group physician.

An Authorization is required for Services provided by non-Plan Providers, non-Medical Group physicians, or non-Plan Facilities. If your provider refers you to a non-Medical Group physician, non-Plan Provider, or non-Plan Facility, inside or outside our Service Area, you must have a written Authorization in order for us to cover the Services.

All referral Services must be requested and authorized in advance. We will not pay for any care rendered by a provider unless the care is specifically authorized by Health Plan and approved in advance. A written or verbal recommendation by a provider that you get non-covered Services (whether Medically Necessary or not) is not considered an Authorization, and is **not** covered.

### 2. Specialty Self-Referrals

#### a. Denver/Boulder Service Area

In some cases you can refer yourself for consultation (routine office) visits to specialty-care departments within Kaiser Permanente, with the exception of certain specialty-care departments such as the anesthesia clinical pain department. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to eye care services from a Plan Provider. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a Plan Provider who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology.

You will find specialty-care providers in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your home Service Area. The Provider Directory is available on our website, [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). If you need a printed copy of the Provider Directory, please call **Member Services**.

A self-referral provides coverage for routine office visits only. Certain Services other than those provided as part of a routine office visit will not be covered unless authorized by Kaiser Permanente before Services are rendered.

Authorization from Kaiser Permanente is required for: (i) Services in addition to those provided as part of the visit, such as surgery; and (ii) visits to specialty-care Plan Providers not eligible for self-referrals; and (iii) non-Plan Providers. The request for these Services can be generated by either your PCP or by a specialty-care provider. If the request is approved, the provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and

you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid.

A Plan Provider can directly refer you for some laboratory or radiology Services and for specialty procedures such as a CT scan or MRI. However, certain laboratory or radiology Services and specialty procedures will still require an Authorization.

b. **Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas**

In some cases you can refer yourself for consultation (routine office) visits to specialty-care departments within Kaiser Permanente, with the exception of certain specialty-care departments such as the anesthesia clinical pain department. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to eye care services from a Plan Provider. You do not need a referral or prior Authorization in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a Plan Provider who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology.

You will find specialty-care providers in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your home Service Area. The Provider Directory is available on our website, [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations). If you need a printed copy of the Provider Directory, please call **Member Services**.

A self-referral provides coverage for routine office visits only. Certain Services other than those provided as part of a routine office visit will not be covered unless authorized by Kaiser Permanente before Services are rendered.

Authorization from Kaiser Permanente is required for: (i) Services in addition to those provided as part of the visit, such as surgery; and (ii) visits to specialty-care Plan Providers not eligible for self-referrals; and (iii) non-Plan Providers. The request for these Services can be generated by either your PCP or by a specialty-care provider. If the request is approved, the provider or facility to whom you are referred will receive a notice of the Authorization, and you will receive a written notice of the Authorization. This notice will tell you the provider's information. It will also tell you the Services authorized and the time period that the Authorization is valid.

A Plan Provider can directly refer you for some laboratory or radiology Services and for specialty procedures such as a CT scan or MRI. However, certain laboratory or radiology Services and specialty procedures will still require an Authorization.

**Southern and Northern Colorado** Members may be able to self-refer to Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices in the **Denver/Boulder** Service Area (see "Cross Market Access" in this section).

3. **Second Opinions**

Upon request and subject to payment of any applicable Deductible, Copayments, and/or Coinsurance, you may get a second opinion from a Plan Physician about any proposed covered Services.

If the recommendations of the first and second physician differ regarding the need for surgery (or other major procedure), a third opinion may be covered if authorized by Health Plan. Third medical opinions are not covered unless authorized by Health Plan before Services are rendered.

## C. **Plan Facilities**

Plan Facilities are Plan Medical Offices or Plan Hospitals in our Service Area that we contract with to provide covered Services to our Members.

1. **Denver/Boulder Service Area**

We offer health care at Plan Medical Offices conveniently located throughout the **Denver/Boulder** Service Area. At most of our Plan Facilities, you can usually receive all the covered Services you need. This includes specialized care. You are not restricted to a certain Plan Facility. We encourage you to use the Plan Facility in your home Service Area that will be most convenient for you.

Plan Facilities are listed in our provider directory, which we update regularly. You can get a current copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. You can also get a list of Plan Facilities on our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations).

2. **Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas**

When you select your PCP, you will receive your Services at that provider's office. You can find **Southern and Northern Colorado** Plan Physicians and their facilities, along with a list of affiliated specialists and ancillary providers, in the Kaiser Permanente Provider Directory for your specific home Service Area. You can get a copy of the directory by calling **Member Services**. You can also get a list from our website. Go to [kp.org/locations](http://kp.org/locations).

## D. **Getting the Care You Need**

Emergency care is covered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week anywhere in the world. **If you think you have a Life or Limb Threatening Emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room.** For coverage information about emergency care, including out-of-Plan Emergency Services, and emergency benefits away from home, please refer to "Emergency Services" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.

If you need urgent care, you may use one of the designated urgent care Plan Facilities. The Copayment or Coinsurance for urgent care received in Plan Facilities listed in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” will apply. For additional information about urgent care, please refer to “Urgent Care” in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.

Urgent care received at a non-Plan Facility inside your Service Area is **not covered**. If you receive care for minor medical problems at non-Plan Facilities inside your Service Area, you will be responsible for payment for any treatment received.

There may be instances when you need to receive unauthorized urgent care outside your Service Area. Please see “Urgent Care” in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section for coverage information about urgent care Services outside the Service Area.

#### **E. Visiting Other Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Areas**

You may receive visiting member services from another Kaiser regional health plan as directed by that other plan so long as such services would be covered under this EOC. Kaiser regional health plan service areas may change at any time. Currently they are: the District of Columbia and parts of California, Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Maryland, Oregon, Virginia, and Washington. For more information, please call **Member Services**. Visiting member services shall be subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this EOC including but not limited to those pertaining to prior Authorization, Deductible, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance, as further described in the Visiting Member Brochure available online at [kp.org/travel](http://kp.org/travel). Certain services are not covered as visiting member services.

For more information about receiving visiting member services in other Kaiser regional health plan service areas, including 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).

#### **F. Moving Outside of our Service Area**

If you move to an area not within any Kaiser regional health plan service area, your membership may be terminated. We will provide you with thirty (30) days’ notice of termination which will include the reason for termination.

#### **G. Using Your Health Plan Identification Card**

Each Member is issued a Health Plan Identification (ID) card with a Health Record Number on it. This is useful when you call for advice, make an appointment, or go to a Plan Provider for care. The Health Record Number is used to identify your medical records and membership information. You should always have the same Health Record Number. Please call **Member Services** if: (1) we ever inadvertently issue you more than one Health Record Number; or (2) you need to replace your Health Plan ID card.

Your Health Plan ID card is for identification only. To receive covered Services, you must be a current Health Plan Member. Anyone who is not a Member will be billed as a non-Member for any Services we provide. In addition, claims for Emergency or non-emergency care Services from non-Plan Providers will be denied. If you let someone else use your Health Plan ID card, we may keep your card and terminate your membership upon 30 days written notice that will include the reason for termination.

When you receive Services, you will need to show photo identification along with your Health Plan ID card. This allows us to ensure proper identification and to better protect your coverage and medical information from fraud. If you suspect you or your membership is a victim of fraud, please call **Member Services** to report your concern.

#### **H. Cross Market Access**

Members may access certain Services at Kaiser Permanente Colorado Plan Medical Offices outside of their home Service Area.

1. **Denver/Boulder Members**

**Denver/Boulder** Members have access for certain Services at designated Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices in the **Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Service Areas. **Denver/Boulder** Members do not have access to Affiliated Providers in **Southern** and **Northern Colorado** unless authorized by Health Plan.

2. **Southern and Northern Colorado Members**

**Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Members have access for certain Services at any Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Office in the **Denver/Boulder**, **Southern**, and **Northern Colorado** Service Areas. **Southern** and **Northern Colorado** Members do not have access to Affiliated Providers outside their home Service Area unless authorized by Health Plan.

Services available to Members at Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices outside of their home Service Area include: primary care; specialty care; urgent care; pharmacy; laboratory; X-ray; vision; and hearing Services. These Services may not be available at all Plan Medical Offices and are subject to change. For more information on what Services you may access outside your designated home Service Area and at which Kaiser Permanente Plan Medical Offices you may receive Services, please call **Member Services**.

### III. BENEFITS/COVERAGE (WHAT IS COVERED)

The Services described in this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section are covered only if all the following conditions are satisfied:

- The Services are Medically Necessary; and
- The Services are provided, prescribed, recommended, or directed by a Plan Provider. This does not apply where specifically noted to the contrary in the following sections of this EOC: (a) “Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)” and “Urgent Care Outside the Service Area” in “Emergency Services and Urgent Care”; and (b) “Out-of-Area Benefit”; and (c) “Plus Benefit” if purchased by your Group (see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if your Group has purchased this coverage); and
- You receive the Services from Plan Providers inside our Service Area. This does not apply where noted to the contrary in the following sections of this EOC: (a) “Referrals and Authorizations” and “Specialty Self-Referrals”; and (b) “Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)” and “Urgent Care Outside the Service Area” in “Emergency Services and Urgent Care”; and (c) “Out-of-Area Benefit”; and (d) “Visiting Other Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Areas”; and (e) “Plus Benefit” if purchased by your Group (see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if your Group has purchased this coverage); and
- Your provider has received prior Authorization for your Services, as appropriate; and
- You have met any Deductible requirements described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

Exclusions and limitations that apply only to a certain benefit are described in this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section. Exclusions, limitations, and reductions that apply to all benefits are described in the “Limitations/Exclusions (What is Not Covered)” section.

**Note:** Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance may apply to the benefits and are described below. For a complete list of Deductible, Copayment, and Coinsurance requirements, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” You are responsible for any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for Services performed as part of or in conjunction with other outpatient Services, including but not limited to: office visits, Emergency Services, urgent care, and outpatient surgery.

#### A. Office Services

##### Office Services for Preventive Care, Diagnosis, and Treatment

We cover, under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section and subject to any specific limitations, exclusions, or exceptions as noted throughout this EOC, the following office Services for preventive care, diagnosis, and treatment, including professional medical Services of physicians and other health care professionals in the physician’s office, during medical office consultations, in a Skilled Nursing Facility, or at home:

1. Primary care visits: Services from family medicine, internal medicine, and pediatrics.
2. Specialty care visits: Services from providers that are not primary care, as defined above.
3. Routine prenatal and postpartum visits: The routine prenatal benefit covers office exams, routine chemical urinalysis and fetal stress tests performed during the office visit. See the applicable section of your “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for the Copayment and/or Coinsurance for all other Services received during a prenatal visit.
4. Consultations with clinical pharmacists (*Denver/Boulder* Members only).
5. Other covered Services received during an office visit or a scheduled procedure visit.
6. Outpatient hospital clinic visits with an Authorization from Health Plan.
7. Blood, blood products, and their administration.
8. Second opinion.
9. House calls when care can best be provided in your home as determined by a Plan Physician.
10. Medical social Services.
11. Preventive care Services (see “Preventive Care Services” in this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section for more details).
12. Professional review and interpretation of patient data from a remote monitoring device.
13. Virtual care Services.
14. Office-administered drugs.

**Note:** If the following are administered in a Plan Medical Office or during home visits, and administration or observation by medical personnel is required, they are covered at the applicable office-administered drug Copayment or Coinsurance shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” This Copayment or Coinsurance may be in addition to your Office Services Copayment or Coinsurance.

Drugs and injectables; radioactive materials used for therapeutic purposes; vaccines and immunizations approved for use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA); and allergy test and treatment materials.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” If your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, you must meet Medical Group’s criteria to be eligible for coverage.

## B. Outpatient Hospital and Surgical Services

### Outpatient Services at Designated Facilities

We cover, only as described under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section and subject to any specific limitations, exclusions, or exceptions as noted throughout this EOC, the following outpatient Services for diagnosis and treatment, including professional medical Services of physicians:

1. Outpatient surgery at designated Plan Facilities, including an ambulatory surgical center, surgical suite, or outpatient hospital facility. Kaiser Permanente applies Medicare global surgery guidelines in accordance with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).
2. Outpatient hospital Services at designated facilities, including but not limited to: electroencephalogram, sleep study, stress test, pulmonary function test, any treatment room, or any observation room. You may be charged an additional Copayment or Coinsurance for any Service which is listed as a separate benefit under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” If your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, you must meet Medical Group’s criteria to be eligible for coverage.

## C. Hospital Inpatient Care

### 1. Inpatient Services in a Plan Hospital

We cover, only as described under this “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section and subject to any specific limitations, exclusions or exceptions as noted throughout this EOC, the following inpatient Services in a Plan Hospital, when the Services are generally and customarily provided by acute care general hospitals in our Service Areas:

- a. Room and board, such as semiprivate accommodations or, when it is Medically Necessary, private accommodations or private duty nursing care.
- b. Intensive care and related hospital Services.
- c. Professional Services of physicians and other health care professionals during a hospital stay.
- d. General nursing care.
- e. Obstetrical care and delivery. This includes Cesarean section. If the covered stay for child birth ends after 8 p.m., coverage will be continued until 8 a.m. the following morning. **Note:** If you are discharged within 48 hours after delivery (or 96 hours if delivery is by Cesarean section), your Plan Physician may order a follow-up visit for you and your newborn to take place within 48 hours after discharge. Charges incurred by the newborn are subject to all Health Plan provisions. This includes the newborn’s own Deductible, Out-of-Pocket Maximum, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance requirements. This applies even if the newborn is covered only for the first 31 days that is required by state law.
- f. Meals and special diets.
- g. Other hospital Services and supplies, such as:
  - i. Operating, recovery, maternity, and other treatment rooms.
  - ii. Prescribed drugs and medicines.
  - iii. Diagnostic laboratory tests and X-rays.
  - iv. Blood, blood products and their administration.
  - v. Dressings, splints, casts, and sterile tray Services.
  - vi. Anesthetics, including nurse anesthetist Services.
  - vii. Medical supplies, appliances, medical equipment, including oxygen, and any covered items billed by a hospital for use at home.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” If your Group has the bariatric surgery benefit, you must meet Medical Group’s criteria to be eligible for coverage.

### 2. Hospital Inpatient Care Exclusions

- a. Dental Services are excluded, except that we cover hospitalization and general anesthesia for dental Services provided to Members as required by state law.
- b. Cosmetic surgery related to bariatric surgery.

## D. Ambulance Services and Other Transportation

### 1. Coverage

We cover ambulance Services only if your condition requires the use of medical Services that only a licensed ambulance can provide. Kaiser Permanente applies Medicare guidelines for ambulance Services in accordance with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).



2. Ambulance Services Exclusions

- a. Non-emergency routine ambulance services to home or other non-acute health care setting are not covered.
- b. Transportation by other than a licensed ambulance is not covered. Transportation by car, taxi, bus, gurney van, minivan, or any other type of transportation is not covered, even if it is the only way to travel to a Plan Provider.

**Note:** Health Plan will cover certain non-emergent, non-ambulance transportation when there is prior Authorization by Health Plan.

**E. Clinical Trials**

**Note:** We cover the initial evaluation for eligibility and acceptance into a clinical trial only if authorized by Health Plan.

1. Coverage (applies to non-grandfathered health plans only)

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

- a. We would have covered the Services if they were not related to a clinical trial.
- b. You are eligible to participate in the clinical trial according to the trial protocol with respect to treatment of cancer or other life-threatening condition (a condition from which the likelihood of death is probable unless the course of the condition is interrupted), as determined in one of the following ways:
  - i. A Plan Provider makes this determination.
  - ii. You provide us with medical and scientific information establishing this determination.
- c. If any Plan 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 Plan Provider unless the clinical trial is outside the state where you live.
- d. The clinical trial is a phase I, phase II, phase III, or phase IV clinical trial related to the prevention, detection, or treatment of cancer or other life-threatening condition and it meets one of the following requirements:
  - i. The study or investigation is conducted under an investigational new drug application reviewed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
  - ii. The study or investigation is a drug trial that is exempt from having an investigational new drug application.
  - iii. The study or investigation is approved or funded by at least one of the following:
    - (a) The National Institutes of Health.
    - (b) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
    - (c) The Agency for Health Care Research and Quality.
    - (d) The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.
    - (e) A cooperative group or center of any of the above entities or of the Department of Defense or the Department of Veterans Affairs.
    - (f) A qualified non-governmental research entity identified in the guidelines issued by the National Institutes of Health for center support grants.
    - (g) 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:
      - (i) It is comparable to the National Institutes of Health system of peer review of studies and investigations.
      - (ii) 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 applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” that you would pay if the Services were not related to a clinical trial. For example, see “Hospital Inpatient Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for the Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible that apply to hospital inpatient care.

2. Clinical Trials Exclusions

- a. The investigational Service.
- b. Services provided solely for data collection and analysis and that are not used in your direct clinical management.

**F. Dialysis Care**

We cover dialysis Services related to acute renal failure and end-stage renal disease if the following criteria are met:

1. The Services are provided inside our Service Area; and
2. You meet all medical criteria developed by Medical Group and by the facility providing the dialysis; and
3. The facility is certified by Medicare and contracts with Health Plan; and
4. A Plan Physician provides a written referral for care at the facility.

After the referral to a dialysis facility, we cover: equipment; training; and medical supplies required for home dialysis. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

## G. Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Prosthetics and Orthotics

We cover DME and prosthetics and orthotics, when prescribed by a Plan Physician as described below; when prescribed by a Plan Physician during a covered stay in a Skilled Nursing Facility, but only if Skilled Nursing Facilities ordinarily furnish the DME or prosthetics and orthotics.

Health Plan uses Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) and National Coverage Determinations (NCD) (hereinafter referred to as Medicare Guidelines) for our DME, prosthetic, and orthotic formulary guidelines. These are guidelines only. Health Plan reserves the right to exclude items listed in the Medicare Guidelines. Please note that this EOC may contain some, but not all, of these exclusions.

**Limitations:** Coverage is limited to the standard item of DME, prosthetic device, or orthotic device that adequately meets your medical needs.

### 1. Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

#### a. Coverage

DME, with the exception of the following, is **not** covered unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for DME, including prosthetic and orthotic devices. See “Additional Provisions.”

- i. Oxygen dispensing equipment and oxygen used in your home are covered. Oxygen refills are covered while you are temporarily outside the Service Area. To qualify for coverage, you must have a pre-existing oxygen order and must obtain your oxygen from the vendor designated by Health Plan.
- ii. Insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iii. Infant apnea monitors are provided.
- iv. Enteral nutrition, medical foods, and related feeding equipment and supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.

#### b. Durable Medical Equipment Exclusions

- i. All other DME not described above, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for DME. See “Additional Provisions.”
- ii. Replacement of lost or stolen equipment.
- iii. Repair, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.
- iv. Spare equipment or alternate use equipment.
- v. More than one piece of DME serving essentially the same function, except for replacements.

### 2. Prosthetic Devices

#### a. Coverage

We cover the following prosthetic devices, including repairs, adjustments, and replacements other than those necessitated by misuse, theft, or loss, when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan:

- i. Internally implanted devices for functional purposes, such as pacemakers and hip joints.
- ii. Prosthetic devices for Members who have had a mastectomy. Medical Group or Health Plan will designate the source from which external prostheses can be obtained. Replacement will be made when a prosthesis is no longer functional. Custom-made prostheses will be provided when necessary.
- iii. Prosthetic devices, such as obturators and speech and feeding appliances, required for treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iv. Prosthetic devices intended to replace, in whole or in part, an arm or leg when prescribed by a Plan Physician, as Medically Necessary and provided in accordance with this EOC, including repairs and replacements of such prosthetic devices.

Your Group may have purchased additional coverage for prosthetic devices. See “Additional Provisions.”

#### b. Prosthetic Devices Exclusions

- i. All other prosthetic devices not described above, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for prosthetic devices. See “Additional Provisions.” Your Plan Physician can provide the Services necessary to determine your need for prosthetic devices and help you make arrangements to obtain such devices at a reasonable rate.
- ii. Internally implanted devices, equipment, and prosthetics related to treatment of sexual dysfunction, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for this benefit.

### 3. Orthotic Devices

Orthotic devices are **not** covered unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for DME, including prosthetic and orthotic devices. See “Additional Provisions.”

## H. Early Childhood Intervention Services

### 1. Coverage

Covered children, from birth up to age three (3), who have significant delays in development or have a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in significant delays in development as defined by state law, are covered for the number of Early Intervention Services (EIS) visits as required by state law. EIS are subject to the Deductible and apply toward the Out-of-Pocket Maximum. EIS are not subject to any Copayments or Coinsurance.

**Note:** You may be billed for any EIS received after the number of visits required by state law is satisfied.

### 2. Limitations

The number of visits as required by state law does not apply to:

- a. Rehabilitation or therapeutic Services which are necessary as the result of an acute medical condition or post-surgical rehabilitation;
- b. Services provided to a child who is not an eligible child and whose services are not provided pursuant to an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP); and
- c. Assistive technology covered by the durable medical equipment benefit provisions of this EOC.

### 3. Early Childhood Intervention Services Exclusions

- a. Respite care;
- b. Non-emergency medical transportation;
- c. Service coordination other than case management services; or
- d. Assistive technology, not to include durable medical equipment that is otherwise covered under this EOC.

## I. Emergency Services and Urgent Care

### 1. Emergency Services

Emergency Services are available at all times - 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK. If you have an Emergency Medical Condition or mental health emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest hospital emergency department. You do not need prior Authorization for Emergency Services. When you have an Emergency Medical Condition, we cover Emergency Services you receive from Plan Providers and non-Plan Providers anywhere in the world, as long as the Services would have been covered under your plan if you had received them from Plan Providers. For information about emergency benefits away from home, please call **Member Services**.

You will pay your plan's Deductible, Copayment, and/or Coinsurance for covered Emergency Services, regardless of whether the Services are provided by a Plan Provider or a non-Plan Provider.

Please note that in addition to any Copayment or Coinsurance that applies under this section, you may incur additional Copayment or Coinsurance amounts for Services and procedures covered under other sections of this EOC.

#### a. **Emergency Services Provided by non-Plan Providers (out-of-Plan Emergency Services)**

“Out-of-Plan Emergency Services” are Emergency Services that are not provided by a Plan Physician. There may be times when you or a family member may receive Emergency Services from non-Plan Providers. The patient's medical condition may be so critical that you cannot call or come to one of our Plan Medical Offices or the emergency room of a Plan Hospital, or, the patient may need Emergency Services while traveling outside our Service Area.

**Please refer to “ii. Emergency Services Limitation for non-Plan Providers” if you are hospitalized for Emergency Services.**

#### i. We cover out-of-Plan Emergency Services as follows:

- A. Outside our Service Area. If you are injured or become unexpectedly ill while you are outside our Service Area, we will cover out-of-Plan Emergency Services that could not reasonably be delayed until you could get to a Plan Hospital, a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, or a Plan Facility, only if a prudent layperson having average knowledge of health services and medicine and acting reasonably would have believed that an Emergency Medical Condition or Life or Limb Threatening Emergency existed. Covered benefits include Medically Necessary out-of-Plan Emergency Services for conditions that arise unexpectedly, including but not limited to myocardial infarction, appendicitis, or premature delivery.
- B. Inside our Service Area. If you are inside our Service Area, we will cover out-of-Plan Emergency Services only if a prudent layperson would have reasonably believed that the delay in going to a Plan Hospital, a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, or a Plan Facility for treatment would result in death or serious impairment of health.

#### ii. Emergency Services Limitation for non-Plan Providers

If you are admitted to a non-Plan Hospital, non-Plan Facility, or a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, you or someone on your behalf must notify us within 24 hours, or as soon as reasonably possible. Please call the **Telephonic Medicine Center at 303-743-5763**.

We will decide whether to make arrangements for necessary continued care where you are, or to transfer you to a Plan Facility we designate once you are Stabilized. If you are admitted to a non-Plan Hospital, non-Plan Facility, or a hospital where we have contracted for Emergency Services, we may transfer you to a Plan Hospital or Plan Facility. By notifying us of your hospitalization as soon as possible, you will protect yourself from potential liability for payment for Services you receive after transfer to one of our Plan Facilities would have been possible.

b. Emergency Services Limitations

Continuing or follow-up treatment: We cover only the Emergency Services that are required before you could have been moved to a Plan Facility we designate either inside or outside our Service Area. If you are admitted to a Plan Facility, we may transfer you to another Plan Facility. When approved by Health Plan, we will cover ambulance Services or other transportation Medically Necessary to move you to a designated Plan Facility for continuing or follow-up treatment.

c. Payment

Our payment is reduced by:

- i. any applicable Copayment and/or Coinsurance for Emergency Services and X-ray special procedures performed in the emergency room. The emergency room and X-ray special procedures Copayments, if applicable, are waived if you are admitted directly to the hospital as an inpatient; and
- ii. the Copayment or Coinsurance for ambulance Services, if any; and
- iii. coordination of benefits; and
- iv. all amounts paid or payable, or which in the absence of this EOC would be payable, for the Services in question, under any insurance policy or contract, or any other contract, or any government program except Medicaid; and
- v. amounts you or your legal representative recover from motor vehicle insurance or because of third-party liability.

**Note:** If you receive out-of-Plan Emergency Services, our payment is also reduced by any other payments you would have had to make if you received the same Services from our Plan Providers. The procedure for receiving reimbursement for out-of-Plan Emergency Services is described in the “Appeals and Complaints” section regarding “Post-Service Claims and Appeals.”

**Note:** As part of an emergent care episode, Medically Necessary DME and prosthetics and orthotics following Stabilization will be covered if authorized by Health Plan.

2. Urgent Care

a. Urgent Care Provided by Plan Providers

i. Denver/Boulder Service Area

Urgent care Services are Services that are not Emergency Services, are required to prevent serious deterioration of your health, and that are required as a result of an unforeseen illness, injury, or condition.

Urgent care that cannot wait for a scheduled visit with your PCP or specialist can be received at one of our designated urgent care Plan Facilities. In some circumstances, you may be able to receive care in your home. For Copayment and Coinsurance information, see “Urgent Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. For information regarding the designated urgent care Plan Facilities, please call **Member Services** during normal business hours. You can also go to our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org), for information on designated urgent care facilities.

You may call **Advice Nurses** at any time, and one of our advice nurses can speak with you. Our advice nurses are registered nurses (RNs) specially trained to help assess medical symptoms and provide advice over the phone, when medically appropriate. They can often answer questions about a minor concern or advise you about what to do next, including making an appointment for you if appropriate.

ii. Southern and Northern Colorado Service Areas

Urgent care Services are Services that are not Emergency Services, are required to prevent serious deterioration of your health, and that are required as a result of an unforeseen illness, injury, or condition.

Urgent care that cannot wait for a scheduled visit with your PCP or specialist can be received at one of our designated urgent care Plan Facilities. In some circumstances, you may be able to receive care in your home. For Copayment and Coinsurance information, see “Urgent Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. For information regarding the designated urgent care Plan Facilities, please call **Member Services** during normal business hours. You can also go to our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org), for information on designated urgent care facilities.

You may call **Advice Nurses** at any time, and one of our advice nurses can speak with you. Our advice nurses are registered nurses (RNs) specially trained to help assess medical symptoms and provide advice over the phone, when medically appropriate. They can often answer questions about a minor concern or advise you about what to do next, including making an appointment for you if appropriate.

b. Urgent Care Outside the Service Area

There may be situations when it is necessary for you to receive unauthorized urgent care outside your Service Area. Urgent care received from non-Plan Providers outside your Service Area is covered only if all of the following requirements are met:

- i. The care is required to prevent serious deterioration of your health; and
- ii. The need for care results from an unforeseen illness or injury when you are temporarily away from our Service Area; and
- iii. The care cannot be delayed until you return to our Service Area.

**Note:** If you receive urgent care outside the Service Area, you may be responsible for any amounts over eligible Charges, in addition to any Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance. The procedure for receiving reimbursement for urgent care Services outside the Service Area is described in the “Appeals and Complaints” section regarding “Post-Service Claims and Appeals.”

**Note:** As part of an urgent care episode, Medically Necessary DME and prosthetics and orthotics following Stabilization will be covered if authorized by Health Plan.

**J. Family Planning and Sterilization Services**

1. Coverage

- a. Family planning counseling. This includes counseling and information on birth control.
- b. Tubal ligations.
- c. Vasectomies.

**Note:** The following are covered, but not under this section: diagnostic procedures, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”; contraceptive drugs and devices, see the “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements” section.

2. Family Planning and Sterilization Services Exclusions

- a. Any and all Services to reverse voluntary, surgically induced sterilization.
- b. Acupuncture for the treatment of infertility.
- c. Donor semen or eggs.
- d. Any and all Services, supplies, office administered drugs and prescription drugs related to the procurement and/or storage of semen and/or eggs.
- e. Any and all Services, supplies, office administered drugs and prescription drugs received from the pharmacy that are related to intrauterine insemination or conception by artificial means. This includes, but is not limited to: in vitro fertilization, ovum transplants, gamete intra fallopian transfer, and zygote intra fallopian transfer.

**Note:** See “Additional Provisions” for additional coverage or exclusions, if applicable to your Group.

**K. Health Education Services**

We provide health education appointments to support understanding of chronic diseases such as diabetes and hypertension. We also teach self-care on topics such as stress management and nutrition.

**L. Hearing Services**

1. Members up to Age 18

We cover hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction. For minor children with a verified hearing loss, coverage shall also include:

- a. Initial hearing aids and replacement hearing aids not more frequently than every five (5) years;
- b. A new hearing aid when alterations to the existing hearing aid cannot adequately meet the needs of the child; and
- c. Services and supplies including, but not limited to, the initial assessment, fitting, adjustments, and auditory training that is provided according to accepted professional standards.

2. Members Age 18 Years and Older

a. Coverage

We cover hearing exams and tests to determine the need for hearing correction. Your Group may have purchased additional coverage for hearing aids. See “Additional Provisions.”

b. Hearing Services Exclusions

- i. Tests to determine an appropriate hearing aid model, unless your Group has purchased that coverage.
- ii. Hearing aids and tests to determine their usefulness, unless your Group has purchased that coverage.

**M. Home Health Care**

1. Coverage

We cover skilled nursing care, home health aide Services, home infusion therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, and medical social Services:

- a. only on a Part-Time or Intermittent Care basis; and
- b. only within our Service Area; and
- c. only to an eligible Member when ordered by a Plan Physician and either self-administered or administered by a Plan Provider. Care must be provided under a home health care plan established by the Plan Physician and the approved Plan Provider; and
- d. only if a Plan Physician determines that it is feasible to maintain effective supervision and control of your care in your home.

Part-Time Care or Intermittent Care means part-time or intermittent skilled nursing and home health aide Services.

**Note:** Services that are performed in the home, but that do not meet the Home Health Care requirements above, will be covered at the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance and limits for the Service performed (e.g. urgent care, physical, occupational, and/or speech therapy). See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”.

**Note:** X-ray, laboratory, and X-ray special procedures are not covered under this section. See “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”.

2. Home Health Care Exclusions

- a. Custodial care.
- b. Homemaker Services.
- c. Care that Medical Group determines may be appropriately provided in a Plan Facility or Skilled Nursing Facility, if we offer to provide that care in one of these facilities.

**N. Hospice Special Services and Hospice Care**

1. Hospice Special Services

If you have been diagnosed with a life limiting illness with a life expectancy of 24 months or less, but are not yet ready to elect hospice care, you are eligible for Hospice Special Services. Coverage of hospice care is described below.

Hospice Special Services give you and your family time to become more familiar with hospice-type Services and to decide what is best for you. It helps you bridge the gap between your diagnosis and preparing for the end of life.

The difference between Hospice Special Services and regular Home Health Care visiting nurse visits is that: you may or may not be homebound or have skilled nursing care needs; or you may only require spiritual or emotional care. Services available through this program are provided by professionals with specific training in end-of-life issues.

2. Hospice Care

We cover hospice care for terminally ill Members inside our Service Area. If a Plan Physician diagnoses you with a terminal illness and determines that your life expectancy is six (6) months or less, you can choose hospice care instead of traditional Services otherwise provided for your illness.

If you elect to receive hospice care, you will not receive **additional** benefits for the terminal illness. However, you can continue to receive Health Plan benefits for conditions other than the terminal illness.

We cover the following Services and other benefits when: (1) prescribed by a Plan Physician and the hospice care team; and (2) received from a licensed hospice approved, in writing, by Kaiser Permanente:

- a. Physician care.
- b. Nursing care.
- c. Physical, occupational, speech, and respiratory therapy.
- d. Medical social Services.
- e. Home health aide and homemaker Services.
- f. Medical supplies, drugs, biologicals, and appliances.
- g. Palliative drugs in accordance with our drug formulary guidelines.
- h. Short-term inpatient care including respite care, care for pain control, and acute and chronic pain management.
- i. Counseling and bereavement Services.
- j. Services of volunteers.

**O. Mental Health Services**

1. Coverage

We cover mental health Services as shown below. Coverage includes evaluation and Services for conditions which, in the judgment of a Plan Physician, would respond to therapeutic management. Mental health includes but is not limited to biologically based illnesses or disorders.

a. Outpatient Therapy

We cover: diagnostic evaluation; individual therapy; intensive outpatient therapy; psychiatric treatment; crisis intervention and stabilization for acute episodes; and psychiatrically oriented child and teenage guidance counseling.

Visits for the purpose of monitoring drug therapy are covered.

Psychological testing as part of diagnostic evaluation is covered.

b. Inpatient Services

We cover psychiatric hospitalization in a facility designated by Medical Group or Health Plan. Hospital Services for psychiatric conditions include all Services of Plan Physicians and mental health professionals and the following Services and supplies as prescribed by a Plan Physician while you are a registered bed patient: room and board; psychiatric nursing care; group therapy; electroconvulsive therapy; occupational therapy; drug therapy; and medical supplies.

Separate Coinsurance applies to Services of Plan Physicians and mental health professionals.

c. Partial Hospitalization

We cover partial hospitalization in a Plan Hospital-based program.

We cover mental health Services, whether they are voluntary or are court-ordered as a result of contact with the criminal justice or juvenile justice system, when they are Medically Necessary and otherwise covered under the plan, and when rendered by a Plan Provider. We do not cover court-ordered treatment that exceeds the scope of coverage of this health benefit plan.

2. Mental Health Services Exclusions

- a. Evaluations for any purpose other than mental health treatment. This includes evaluations for: child custody; disability; or fitness for duty/return to work, unless Medically Necessary.
- b. Court-ordered testing and testing for ability, aptitude, intelligence, or interest.
- c. Services which are custodial or residential in nature.

**P. Out-of-Area Benefit**

A limited benefit is available to Dependents, up to the age of 26, receiving care outside any Kaiser regional health plan service area.

1. Coverage

The Out-of-Area Benefit is limited to certain office visits, diagnostic X-rays, physical, occupational, and speech therapy, and prescription drug fills as covered under this EOC:

- a. Office visit exam limited to:
  - i. Primary care visit.
  - ii. Specialty care visit.
  - iii. Preventive care visit.
  - iv. Gynecology care visit.
  - v. Hearing exam.
  - vi. Mental health visit.
  - vii. Substance use disorder visit.
  - viii. The administration of allergy injections.
  - ix. Prevention immunizations pursuant to the schedule established by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).
- b. Diagnostic X-rays.
- c. Physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits.
- d. Prescription drug fills.

See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for more details.

2. Out-of-Area Benefit Exclusions and Limitations

The Out-of-Area Benefit does not include the following Services:

- a. Other Services provided during a covered office visit such as, but not limited to: procedures, laboratory tests, and office administered drugs and devices, except for allergy injections and prevention immunizations as listed in the “Coverage” section of this benefit.
- b. Services received outside the United States.
- c. Transplant Services.
- d. Services covered outside the Service Area under another section of this EOC (e.g., Emergency Services and Urgent Care).

- e. Allergy evaluation, routine prenatal and postpartum visits, chiropractic care, acupuncture services, applied behavior analysis (ABA), hearing tests, hearing aids, home health visits, hospice services, and travel immunizations.
- f. X-ray special procedures, including but not limited to CT, PET, MRI, nuclear medicine.
- g. Any and all Services not listed in the “Coverage” section of this benefit.

## Q. Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy and Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services

### 1. Coverage

#### a. Hospital Inpatient Care, Care in a Skilled Nursing Facility, and Home Health Care

We cover physical, occupational, and speech therapy as part of your Hospital Inpatient Care, Skilled Nursing Facility, and Home Health Care benefit. Therapies that are performed in the home, but that do not meet the Home Health Care requirements, will be covered at the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance and limits for the therapy performed (i.e., physical, occupational, and/or speech). See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”.

#### b. Outpatient Care

We cover three (3) types of outpatient therapy (i.e., physical, occupational, and speech therapy) in a Plan Facility or other location approved by Health Plan, to improve or develop skills or functioning due to medical deficits, illness, or injury. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

#### c. Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services

We will cover treatment in an organized, multidisciplinary rehabilitation Services program in a designated facility or a Skilled Nursing Facility. After your Deductible has been met, we also cover multidisciplinary rehabilitation Services while you are an inpatient in a designated facility. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

#### d. Pulmonary Rehabilitation

We cover treatment in a pulmonary rehabilitation program if prescribed or recommended by a Plan Physician and provided by therapists at designated facilities. After your Deductible has been met, you pay the applicable physical, occupational and speech therapy Coinsurance.

#### e. Therapies for Congenital Defects and Birth Abnormalities

After the first 31 days of life, the limitations and exclusions applicable to this EOC apply, except that Medically Necessary physical, occupational, and speech therapy for the care and treatment of congenital defects and birth abnormalities for covered children from age three (3) to age six (6) shall be provided. The benefit level shall be the greater of the number of such visits provided under this health benefit plan or 20 therapy visits per Accumulation Period for each physical, occupational, and speech therapy. Such visits shall be distributed as Medically Necessary throughout the Accumulation Period without regard to whether the condition is acute or chronic and without regard to whether the purpose of the therapy is to maintain or improve functional capacity. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**Note 1:** This benefit is also available for eligible children under the age of three (3) who are not participating in Early Intervention Services.

**Note 2:** The visit limit for therapy to treat congenital defects and birth abnormalities is not applicable if such therapy is Medically Necessary to treat autism spectrum disorders.

#### f. Therapies for the Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders

For the treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders when prescribed by a Plan Physician and Medically Necessary, we cover:

- i. Outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapy in a Plan Medical Office or other location approved by Health Plan. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”
- ii. Applied behavior analysis, including consultations, direct care, supervision, or treatment, or any combination thereof by autism services providers. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

### 2. Limitations

Occupational therapy is limited to treatment to achieve improved self-care and other customary activities of daily living.

### 3. Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy and Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation Services Exclusions

- a. Long-term rehabilitation, not including treatment for autism spectrum disorders.
- b. Speech therapy that is not Medically Necessary, such as: (i) therapy for educational placement or other educational purposes; or (ii) training or therapy to improve articulation in the absence of injury, illness, or medical condition affecting articulation; or (iii) therapy for tongue thrust in the absence of swallowing problems.

## R. Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements

We use drug formularies. A drug formulary includes the list of prescription drugs that have been approved by our formulary committees for our Members. Our committees are comprised of Plan Physicians, pharmacists, and a nurse practitioner. The committees select prescription drugs for our drug formularies based on a number of factors, including safety and effectiveness as determined from a review of medical literature and research. The committees meet regularly to consider adding and removing



prescription drugs on the drug formularies. If you would like information about whether a particular drug is included in our drug formularies, please call **Member Services**.

In any Accumulation Period, you must pay full Charges for all drugs until you meet your Deductible. After you meet your Deductible, you pay the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for these drugs for the rest of the Accumulation Period, subject to the annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum limits.

If your prescription drug has a Copayment shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” and it exceeds the Charges for your prescribed medication, then you pay Charges for the medication instead of the Copayment. The drug formulary, discussed above, also applies.

## 1. Coverage

### a. Limited Drug Coverage Under Your Basic Drug Benefit

If your Group has not purchased supplemental prescription drug coverage, then prescribed drug coverage under your basic drug benefit is limited. It includes base drugs such as: contraceptives; orally administered anti-cancer medication; and post-surgical immunosuppressive drugs required after a transplant. These drugs are available only when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies. You may obtain these drugs at the Copayment or Coinsurance shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).” The amount covered cannot exceed the day supply for each maintenance drug or up to the day supply for each non-maintenance drug. Any amount you receive that exceeds the day supply will not be covered. If you receive more than the day supply, you will be charged as a non-Member for any amount that exceeds that limit. Each prescription refill is provided on the same basis as the original prescription.

If your Group has purchased supplemental prescription drug coverage, the applicable generic or brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance and any pharmacy Deductible apply for these types of drugs. For more information, please refer to the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**Note:** Kaiser Permanente may, in its sole discretion, establish quantity limits for specific prescription drugs, regardless of whether your Group has limited or supplemental prescription drug coverage.

#### i. We cover:

##### (a) prescription contraceptives intended to last:

- (i) for a three-month period the first time the prescription contraceptive is dispensed to the covered person; and
- (ii) for a twelve-month period or through the end of the covered person’s coverage under the policy, contract, or plan, whichever is shorter, for any subsequent dispensing of the same prescription contraceptive to the covered person, regardless of whether the covered person was enrolled in the policy, contract, or plan at the time the prescription contraceptive was first dispensed; or

##### (b) a prescribed vaginal contraceptive ring intended to last for a three-month period.

For Copayment or Coinsurance information related to contraceptive drugs and certain devices, please refer to your “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

#### ii. We cover a five-day supply of an FDA-approved drug for the treatment of opioid dependence without prior authorization, except that the drug supply is limited to a first request within a twelve-month period.

### b. Outpatient Prescription Drugs

Unless your Group has purchased additional outpatient prescription drug coverage, we do not cover outpatient drugs except as provided in other provisions of this “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements” section. If your Group has purchased additional coverage for outpatient prescription drugs, see “Additional Provisions.” The drug formulary, discussed above, also applies.

#### i. Prescriptions by Mail

If requested, refills of maintenance drugs will be mailed through Kaiser Permanente’s mail-order prescription service by First-Class U.S. Mail with no charge for postage and handling. Refills of maintenance drugs prescribed by Plan Physicians or Affiliated Physicians may be obtained for up to the day supply by mail order at the applicable Copayment or Coinsurance. Maintenance drugs are determined by Health Plan. Certain drugs and supplies may not be available through our mail-order service, for example, drugs that require special handling or refrigeration, have a significant potential for waste or diversion, or are high cost. Drugs and supplies available through our mail-order prescription service are subject to change at any time without notice. For information regarding our mail-order prescription service and specialty drugs not available by mail order, please call **Member Services**.

#### ii. Specialty Drugs

Prescribed specialty drugs, including self-administered injectable drugs, are provided at the specialty drug Copayment or Coinsurance up to the maximum amount per drug dispensed shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

c. Food Supplements

We cover prescribed amino acid modified products used in the treatment of congenital errors of amino acid metabolism and severe protein allergic conditions, elemental enteral nutrition, and parenteral nutrition. Such products are covered for self-administered use upon payment of a \$3.00 Copayment per product, per day. Food products for enteral feedings are not covered.

d. Prescribed Supplies and Accessories

Prescribed supplies and accessories, when obtained at Plan Pharmacies or from sources designated by Health Plan, will be provided. Such items include, but may not be limited to:

- i. home glucose monitoring supplies.
- ii. disposable syringes for the administration of insulin.
- iii. glucose test strips.
- iv. acetone test tablets and nitrate screening test strips for pediatric patient home use.

For more information, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What),” and, if your Group has purchased supplemental prescription drug coverage, see “Additional Provisions.”

2. Limitations

- a. Adult and pediatric immunizations are limited to those that are not experimental, are medically indicated and are consistent with accepted medical practice.
- b. Some drugs may require prior authorization.
- c. If applicable, we may apply Step Therapy to certain drugs. You or your Plan Provider may request an exception if you previously tried a drug and your use of the drug was discontinued due to lack of efficacy or effectiveness, diminished effect, or an adverse event.
- d. Coverage determinations for the off-label use of medications will be consistent with Medicare compendia, and coverage determinations for the off-label use of oncologic agents will be consistent with the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) of 2008.

3. Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements Exclusions

- a. Drugs for which a prescription is not required by law.
- b. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze, tape, antiseptics, dressing and ace-type bandages.
- c. Drugs or injections for treatment of sexual dysfunction, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage, which is described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”
- d. Any packaging except the dispensing pharmacy’s standard packaging.
- e. Replacement of prescription drugs for any reason. This includes spilled, lost, damaged, or stolen prescriptions.
- f. Drugs or injections for the treatment of infertility, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage, which is described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” and “Additional Provisions”.
- g. Drugs to shorten the length of the common cold.
- h. Drugs to enhance athletic performance.
- i. Drugs for the treatment of weight control.
- j. Drugs available over the counter and by prescription for the same strength.
- k. Individual drugs determined excluded by our Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.
- l. Unless approved by Health Plan, drugs not approved by the FDA.
- m. Non-preferred drugs, except those prescribed and authorized through the non-preferred drug process.
- n. Prescription drugs necessary for Services excluded under this EOC.
- o. Drugs administered during a medical office visit. See “Office Services”.
- p. Medical Foods and Medical Devices. See “Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Prosthetics and Orthotics”.

**S. Preventive Care Services**

If your plan has a different preventive care Services benefit, please see “Additional Provisions.”

We cover certain preventive care Services that do one or more of the following:

- 1. Protect against disease;
- 2. Promote health; and/or
- 3. Detect disease in its earliest stages before noticeable symptoms develop.

If you receive any other covered Services during a preventive care visit, you may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, and Coinsurance for those Services.

**T. Reconstructive Surgery**1. Coverage

We cover reconstructive surgery when it: (a) will correct significant disfigurement resulting from an injury or Medically Necessary surgery; or (b) will correct a congenital defect, disease, or anomaly to produce major improvement in physical function; or (c) will treat congenital hemangioma and port wine stains. Following Medically Necessary removal of all or part of a breast, we also cover reconstruction of the breast, surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance, and treatment of physical complications, including lymphedemas. An Authorization is required for all types of reconstructive surgeries.

2. Reconstructive Surgery Exclusions

Plastic surgery or other cosmetic Services and supplies primarily to change your appearance. This includes cosmetic surgery related to bariatric surgery.

**U. Reproductive Support Services**

Reproductive Support Services are not covered unless your Group has purchased additional supplemental coverage.

**Note:** To determine if your Group has the Reproductive Support Services benefit, see the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**V. Skilled Nursing Facility Care**1. Coverage

We cover skilled inpatient Services in a licensed Skilled Nursing Facility. Prior Authorization is required for all Skilled Nursing Facility admissions. The skilled inpatient Services must be those usually provided by Skilled Nursing Facilities. A prior three (3)-day stay in an acute care hospital is not required. We cover the following Services:

- a. Room and board.
- b. Nursing care.
- c. Medical social Services.
- d. Medical and biological supplies.
- e. Blood, blood products, and their administration.

A Skilled Nursing Facility is an institution that: provides skilled nursing or skilled rehabilitation Services, or both; provides Services on a daily basis 24 hours a day; is licensed under applicable state law; and is approved in writing by Medical Group.

**Note:** The following are covered, but not under this section: drugs, see “Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements”; DME and prosthetics and orthotics, see “Durable Medical Equipment and Prosthetics and Orthotics”; X-ray, laboratory, and X-ray special procedures, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”.

2. Skilled Nursing Facility Care Exclusion

Custodial Care, as defined in “Exclusions” under the “Limitations/Exclusions (What is Not Covered)” section.

**W. Substance Use Disorder Services**1. Inpatient Medical and Hospital Services

We cover Services for the medical management of withdrawal symptoms. Medical Services for alcohol and drug detoxification are covered the same way as any other medical condition. Detoxification is the process of removing toxic substances from the body.

2. Residential Rehabilitation

The determination of the need for Services of a residential rehabilitation program and referral to such a facility or program is made by or under the supervision of a Plan Physician.

We cover inpatient Services and partial hospitalization in a residential rehabilitation program authorized by Health Plan for the treatment of alcoholism, drug abuse, or drug addiction.

3. Outpatient Services

Outpatient rehabilitative Services for the treatment of alcohol and drug dependency are covered when referred by a Plan Physician.

We cover substance use disorder Services, whether they are voluntary or are court-ordered as a result of contact with the criminal justice or juvenile justice system, when they are Medically Necessary and otherwise covered under the plan, and when rendered by a Plan Provider. We do not cover court-ordered treatment that exceeds the scope of coverage of this health benefit plan.

Mental health Services required in connection with treatment for substance use disorder are covered as provided in the “Mental Health Services” section.

4. Substance Use Disorder Services Exclusion

Counseling for a patient who is not responsive to therapeutic management, as determined by a Plan Physician.

**X. Transgender Services**

We cover transgender Services when Medically Necessary to treat gender dysphoria or gender identity disorder. Prior Authorization may be required. You must meet all medical criteria developed by Medical Group to be eligible for coverage. Coverage includes, but is not limited to: office Services, hormone therapy, outpatient surgery, and hospital inpatient care. You pay the applicable Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. For example, see “Hospital Inpatient Care” in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for the Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible that apply to hospital inpatient care.

**Y. Transplant Services**1. Coverage

Transplants are covered on a limited basis as follows:

- a. Covered transplants are limited to: kidney transplants; heart transplants; heart-lung transplants; liver transplants; liver transplants for children with biliary atresia and other rare congenital abnormalities; small bowel transplants; small bowel and liver transplants; lung transplants; cornea transplants; simultaneous kidney-pancreas transplants; and pancreas alone transplants.
- b. Bone marrow transplants (autologous stem cell or allogenic stem cell) associated with high dose chemotherapy for germ cell tumors and neuroblastoma in children; and bone marrow transplants for aplastic anemia, leukemia, severe combined immunodeficiency disease, and Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome.
- c. If all medical criteria developed by Medical Group are met, we cover: stem cell rescue; and transplants of organs, tissue, or bone marrow.

2. Related Prescription Drugs

Prescribed post-surgical immunosuppressive outpatient drugs required after a transplant are provided at the applicable outpatient prescription drug Copayment or Coinsurance and are subject to any pharmacy Deductible shown in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

3. Terms and Conditions

- a. Health Plan, Medical Group, and Plan Physicians do not undertake: to provide a donor or donor organ or bone marrow or cornea; or to assure the availability of a donor or donor organ or bone marrow or cornea; or to assure the availability or capacity of referral transplant facilities approved by Medical Group. In accordance with our guidelines for living transplant donors, we provide certain donation-related Services for a donor, or a person as a potential donor, even if the donor is not a Member. These Services must be directly related to a covered transplant for you. For information specific to your situation, please call your assigned Transplant Coordinator; or the **Transplant Administrative Offices**.
- b. Plan Physicians must determine that the Member satisfies Medical Group medical criteria before the Member receives Services.
- c. A Plan Physician must provide a written referral for care at a transplant facility. The transplant facility must be from a list of approved facilities selected by Medical Group. The referral may be to a transplant facility outside our Service Area. Transplants are covered only at the facility Medical Group selects for the particular transplant, even if another facility within the Service Area could also perform the transplant.
- d. After referral, if a Plan Physician or the medical staff of the referral facility determines the Member does not satisfy its respective criteria for the Service, Health Plan’s obligation is only to pay for covered Services provided prior to such determination.

4. Transplant Services Exclusions and Limitations

- a. Bone marrow transplants, associated with high dose chemotherapy for solid tissue tumors, (except bone marrow transplants covered under this EOC) are excluded.
- b. Non-human and artificial organs and their implantation are excluded.
- c. Pancreas alone transplants are limited to patients without renal problems who meet set criteria.
- d. Travel and lodging expenses are excluded, except that in some situations, when Medical Group or a Plan Physician refers you to a non-Plan Provider outside our Service Area for transplant Services, as described in “Access to Other Providers” in the “How to Access Your Services and Obtain Approval of Benefits” section, we may pay certain expenses we preauthorize under our internal travel and lodging guidelines. For information specific to your situation, please call your assigned Transplant Coordinator or the **Transplant Administrative Offices**.

**Z. Vision Services**1. Coverage

We cover routine and non-routine eye exams. Refraction tests to determine the need for vision correction and to provide a prescription for eyeglasses are covered unless specifically excluded in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”. We also cover professional exams and the fitting of Medically Necessary contact lenses when a Plan Physician or Plan Optometrist prescribes them for a specific medical condition.

Professional Services for exams and fitting of contact lenses that are not Medically Necessary are provided at an additional Charge when obtained at Health Plan Medical Offices.

2. Vision Services Exclusions

- a. Eyeglass lenses and frames.
- b. Contact lenses.
- c. Professional exams for fittings and dispensing of contact lenses except when Medically Necessary as described above.
- d. All Services related to eye surgery for the purpose of correcting refractive defects such as myopia, hyperopia, or astigmatism (for example, radial keratotomy, photo-refractive keratectomy, and similar procedures).
- e. Orthoptic (eye training) therapy or low vision therapy.

Your Group may have purchased additional optical coverage. See “Additional Provisions.”

**AA. X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures**1. Coveragea. Outpatient

We cover the following Services:

- i. Diagnostic X-ray tests, Services, and materials, including but not limited to isotopes, mammograms, and ultrasounds.
- ii. Laboratory tests, Services, and materials, including but not limited to electrocardiograms.  
**Note:** We use a laboratory formulary. A laboratory formulary is a list of laboratory tests, Services, and other materials that have been approved by Health Plan for our Members. If you would like information about whether a particular test or Service is included in our laboratory formulary, please call **Member Services**.
- iii. Therapeutic X-ray Services and materials.
- iv. X-ray special procedures such as MRI, CT, PET, and nuclear medicine.  
**Note:** For X-ray special procedures, you will be billed for each individual procedure performed. A procedure is defined in accordance with the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) medical billing codes published annually by the American Medical Association. You are responsible for any applicable Copayment or Coinsurance for X-ray special procedures performed as a part of or in conjunction with other outpatient Services, including but not limited to Emergency Services, urgent care, and outpatient surgery.

Diagnostic procedures include administered drugs. Therapeutic procedures may incur an additional charge for administered drugs.

b. Inpatient

During hospitalization, prescribed diagnostic X-ray and laboratory tests, Services and materials, including diagnostic and therapeutic X-rays and isotopes, electrocardiograms, electroencephalograms, MRI, CT, PET, and nuclear medicine are covered under your hospital inpatient care benefit.

2. X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures Exclusions

- a. Testing of a Member for a non-Member’s use and/or benefit.
- b. Testing of a non-Member for a Member’s use and/or benefit.

**IV. LIMITATIONS/EXCLUSIONS (WHAT IS NOT COVERED)****A. Exclusions**

The Services listed below are not covered. These exclusions apply to all covered Services under this EOC. Additional exclusions that apply only to a particular Service are listed in the description of that Service in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.

1. **Alternative Medical Services.** The following are not covered unless your Group has purchased additional coverage for these Services. See the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” to determine if your Group has purchased additional coverage.
  - a. Acupuncture Services;
  - b. Naturopathy Services;
  - c. Massage therapy;

- d. Chiropractic Services and supplies that are not provided by a Plan Provider under this Agreement.
- 2. **Behavioral Problems.** Any treatment or Service for a behavioral problem not associated with a manifest mental disorder or condition.
- 3. **Cosmetic Services.** Services that are intended: primarily to change or maintain your appearance; and that will not result in significant improvement in physical function. This includes cosmetic surgery related to bariatric surgery. Exception: Services covered under “Reconstructive Surgery” in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.
- 4. **Cryopreservation.** Any and all Services related to cryopreservation, unless your Group has purchased additional coverage. This excludes, but is not limited to, the procurement and/or storage of semen, sperm, eggs, reproductive materials, and/or embryos. See “Additional Provisions” for additional coverage or exclusions, if applicable to your Group.
- 5. **Custodial or Residential Care.** Assistance with activities of daily living or care that can be performed safely and effectively by people who, in order to provide the care, do not require medical licenses or certificates or the presence of a supervising licensed nurse. Assistance with activities of daily living include: walking; getting in and out of bed; bathing; dressing; feeding; toileting; and taking medicine.
- 6. **Dental Services.** Dental Services and dental X-rays, including: dental Services following injury to teeth; dental appliances; implants; orthodontia; TMJ; and dental Services as a result of and following medical treatment such as radiation treatment. This exclusion does not apply to: (a) Medically Necessary Services for the treatment of cleft lip or cleft palate when prescribed by a Plan Physician, unless the Member is covered for these Services under a dental insurance policy or contract, or (b) hospitalization and general anesthesia for dental Services, prescribed or directed by a Plan Physician for Dependent children who: (i) have a physical, mental, or medically compromising condition; or (ii) have dental needs for which local anesthesia is ineffective because of acute infection, anatomic variations, or allergy; or (iii) are extremely uncooperative, unmanageable, anxious, or uncommunicative with dental needs deemed sufficiently important that dental care cannot be deferred; or (iv) have sustained extensive orofacial and dental trauma. Unless otherwise specified herein, (a) and (b) must be received at a Plan Facility or Skilled Nursing Facility.

The following Services for TMJ may be covered if determined Medically Necessary: diagnostic X-rays; laboratory testing; physical therapy; and surgery.

- 7. **Directed Blood Donations.**
- 8. **Disposable Supplies.** Disposable supplies for home use such as:
  - a. Bandages;
  - b. Gauze;
  - c. Tape;
  - d. Antiseptics;
  - e. Dressings;
  - f. Ace-type bandages; and
  - g. Any other supplies, dressings, appliances, or devices not specifically listed as covered in the “Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)” section.
- 9. **Educational Services.** Educational services are not health care services and are not covered. Examples include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Items and services to increase academic knowledge or skills;
  - b. Special education or care for learning deficiencies, whether or not associated with a manifest mental disorder or condition, including but not limited to attention deficit disorder, learning disabilities, and developmental delays;
  - c. Teaching and support services to increase academic performance;
  - d. Academic coaching or tutoring for skills such as grammar, math, and time management;
  - e. Speech training that is not Medically Necessary, and not part of an approved treatment plan, and not provided by or under the direct supervision of a Plan Provider acting within the scope of his or her license under Colorado law that is intended to address speech impediments;
  - f. Teaching you how to read, whether or not you have dyslexia;
  - g. Educational testing;
  - h. Teaching (or any other items or services associated with) activities such as art, dance, horse riding, music, swimming, or teaching you how to play.
- 10. **Employer or Government Responsibility.** Financial responsibility for Services that an employer or a government agency is required by law to provide.
- 11. **Experimental or Investigational Services**
  - a. A Service is experimental or investigational for a Member’s condition if any of the following statements apply at the time the Service is or will be provided to the Member. The Service:

- i. Has not been approved or granted by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA); or
  - ii. Is the subject of a current new drug or new device application on file with the FDA; or
  - iii. Is provided as part of a Phase I or Phase II clinical trial, as the experimental or research arm of a Phase III clinical trial or in any other manner that is intended to determine the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of the Service; or
  - iv. Is provided pursuant to a written protocol or other document that lists an evaluation of the Service's safety, toxicity, or efficacy as among its objectives; or
  - v. Is subject to the approval or review of an Institutional Review Board (IRB) or other body that approves or reviews research on the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of Services; or
  - vi. The Service has not been recommended for coverage by the Regional New Technology and Benefit Interpretation Committee, the Interregional New Technology Committee or the Medical Technology Assessment Unit based on analysis of clinical studies and literature for safety and appropriateness, unless otherwise covered by Health Plan; or,
  - vii. Is provided pursuant to informed consent documents that describe the Service as experimental or investigational or in other terms that indicate that the Service is being looked at for its safety, toxicity, or efficacy; or
  - viii. Is part of a prevailing opinion among experts as expressed in the published authoritative medical or scientific literature that (A) use of the Service should be substantially confined to research settings or (B) further research is needed to determine the safety, toxicity, or efficacy of the Service.
- b. In determining whether a Service is experimental or investigational, the following sources of information will be solely relied upon:
- i. The Member's medical records; and
  - ii. The written protocol(s) or other document(s) under which the Service has been or will be provided; and
  - iii. Any consent document(s) the Member or the Member's representative has executed or will be asked to execute to receive the Service; and
  - iv. 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; and
  - v. The published authoritative medical or scientific literature on the Service as applied to the Member's illness or injury; and
  - vi. Regulations, records, applications and other documents or actions issued by, filed with, or taken by the FDA, or other agencies within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, or any state agency performing similar functions.
- c. If two (2) or more Services are part of the same plan of treatment or diagnosis, all of the Services are excluded if one of the Services is experimental or investigational.
- d. Health Plan consults Medical Group and then uses the criteria described above to decide if a particular Service is experimental or investigational.

**Note:** For non-grandfathered health plans only, this exclusion does not apply to Services covered under "Clinical Trials" in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section.

- 12. **Genetic Testing.** Genetic testing unless determined to be: Medically Necessary; and meets Medical Group criteria.
- 13. **Infertility Services.** All Services related to the diagnosis or treatment of infertility unless your Group has purchased supplemental coverage.
- 14. **Intermediate Care.** Care in an intermediate care facility.
- 15. **Routine Foot Care Services.** Routine foot care Services that are not Medically Necessary.
- 16. **Services for Members in the Custody of Law Enforcement Officers.** Non-Plan Provider Services provided or arranged by criminal justice institutions for Members in the custody of law enforcement officers, unless the Services are covered as out-of-Plan Emergency Services or urgent care outside the Service Area.
- 17. **Services Not Available in our Service Area.** Services not generally and customarily available in our Service Area, except when it is a generally accepted medical practice in our Service Area to refer patients outside our Service Area for the Service.
- 18. **Services Related to a Non-Covered Service.** When a Service is not covered, all Services related to the non-covered Service are excluded. This does not include Services we would otherwise cover to treat complications as a result of the non-covered Service.
- 19. **Third Party Requests or Requirements.** Physical exams, tests, or other services that do not directly treat an actual illness, injury, or condition, and any related reports or paperwork in connection with third party requests or requirements, including but not limited to those for:

- a. Employment;
- b. Participation in employee programs;
- c. Insurance;
- d. Disability;
- e. Licensing;
- f. School events, sports, or camp;
- g. Governmental agencies;
- h. Court order, parole, or probation;
- i. Travel.

20. **Travel and Lodging Expenses.** Travel and lodging expenses are excluded. We may pay certain expenses we preauthorize in accordance with our internal travel and lodging guidelines in some situations, when Medical Group refers you to a non-Plan Provider outside our Service Area as described under “Access to Other Providers” in the “How to Access Your Services and Obtain Approval of Benefits” section.
21. **Unclassified Medical Technology Devices and Services.** Medical technology devices and Services which have not been classified as durable medical equipment or laboratory by a National Coverage Determination (NCD) issued by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), unless otherwise covered by Health Plan.
22. **Weight Management Facilities.** Services received in a weight management facility.
23. **Workers’ Compensation or Employer’s Liability.** Financial responsibility for Services for any illness, injury, or condition, to the extent a payment or any other benefit, including any amount received as a settlement (collectively referred to as “Financial Benefit”), is provided under any workers’ compensation or employer’s liability law. We will provide Services even if it is unclear whether you are entitled to a Financial Benefit, but we may recover Charges for any such Services from the following sources:
- a. Any source providing a Financial Benefit or from whom a Financial Benefit is due.
  - b. You, to the extent that a Financial Benefit is provided or payable or would have been required to be provided or payable if you had diligently sought to establish your rights to the Financial Benefit under any workers’ compensation or employer’s liability law.

**B. Limitations**

We will use our best efforts to provide or arrange covered Services in the event of unusual circumstances that delay or render impractical the provision of Services. Examples include: major disaster; epidemic; war; riot, civil insurrection; disability of a large share of personnel at a Plan Facility; complete or partial destruction of facilities; and labor disputes not involving Health Plan, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals or Medical Group. In these circumstances, Health Plan, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, Medical Group and Medical Group Plan Physicians will not have any liability for any delay or failure in providing covered Services. In the case of a labor dispute involving Health Plan, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, or Medical Group, we may postpone care until the dispute is resolved if delaying your care is safe and will not result in harmful health consequences.

**C. Reductions**

1. Coordination of Benefits (COB)

The Services covered under this EOC are subject to Coordination of Benefit (COB) rules. If you have health care coverage with another health plan or insurance company, we will coordinate benefits with the other coverage under the COB guidelines below.

This 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 govern 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% 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. However, 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.
  - i. **Plan** includes: group insurance contracts, health maintenance organization (HMO) contracts, closed panel plans or other forms of group or group-type coverage (whether insured or uninsured); medical care components of long-term care contracts, such as skilled nursing care; medical benefits under group or individual automobile contracts; and Medicare or any other federal governmental plan, as permitted by law.



- ii. **Plan** does not include: hospital indemnity coverage or other fixed indemnity coverage; accident only coverage; specified disease or specified accident coverage; limited benefit health coverage, as defined by state law; school accident type coverage; benefits for non-medical components of 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 i. or ii. 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 determine whether **This plan** is a **Primary plan** or **Secondary plan** when the person has health coverage under more than one **Plan**.

When **This plan** is primary, its benefits are determined before those of any other **Plan** and without considering any other **Plan's** benefits. When **This plan** is secondary, its benefits are determined after those of another **Plan** and may be reduced because of the **Primary plan's** benefits, so that all **Plan** benefits do not exceed 100% 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**:

- i. 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 or the patient's stay is medically necessary in terms of generally accepted medical practice or the hospital does not have a semi-private room.
- ii. 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**.
- iii. 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**.
- iv. 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.
- v. 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. **Claim determination period** is usually a calendar year, but a **Plan** may use some other period of time that fits the coverage of the group contract. A person is covered by a **Plan** during a portion of a **Claim determination period** if that person's coverage starts or ends during the **Claim determination period**. However, it does not include any part of a year during which a person has no coverage under **This plan**, or before the date this **COB** provision or a similar provision takes effect.
- f. **Closed panel plan** is a **Plan** that provides health benefits to covered persons primarily in the form of services through a panel of providers that have contracted with either directly or indirectly or are employed by the **Plan**, and that limits or excludes benefits for services provided by other providers, except in cases of emergency or referral by a panel member.
- g. **Custodial parent** means a parent awarded primary custody by a court decree. In the absence of a court decree, it is the parent with whom the child resides more than one half of the calendar year without regard to 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 payment are as follows:

- a. The **Primary plan** pays or provides its benefits according to its terms of coverage and without regard to the benefits under any other **Plan**.
- b.
  - i. Except as provided in paragraph ii, a **Plan** that does not contain a coordination of benefits provision that is consistent with these rules is always primary unless the provisions of both **Plans** state that the complying **Plan** is primary.
  - ii. Coverage that is obtained by virtue of being members in a group, and designed to supplement part of the basic package of benefits, may provide supplementary coverage that shall be in excess of 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 determining 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:
  - i. 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**.
  - ii. 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:
      1. The **Plan** of the parent whose birthday (month and day) falls earlier in the calendar year is the **Primary plan**; or
      2. 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:
      1. 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;
      2. 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;
      3. 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
      4. 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:
        - The **Plan** covering the **Custodial parent**;
        - The **Plan** covering the spouse of the **Custodial parent**;
        - The **Plan** covering the **non-custodial parent**; and then
        - 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.
  - iii. 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.

- iv. 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.
- v. Longer or Shorter Length of Coverage. The **Plan** that covered the person as an employee, member, policyholder, subscriber or retiree longer is the **Primary plan** and the **Plan** that covered the person the shorter period of time is the **Secondary plan**.
- vi. 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 Health Plan 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, Health Plan 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**. Health 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 reasonable cash value of the benefits provided in the form of services.

#### **RIGHT OF RECOVERY**

If the amount of the payments made by Health Plan is more than it should have paid under this **COB** provision, we may recover the excess from one or more of the persons we have paid or for whom we have 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.

If you have any questions about COB, please call or write **Patient Financial Services**.

#### 2. Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties

You must ensure we receive the maximum reimbursement allowed by law for covered Services you receive for an injury or illness that is alleged to be caused by another party. You do not have to reimburse us more than you receive from or on behalf of any other party, insurance company or organization as a result of the injury or illness. Our right to reimbursement shall include all sources as allowed by law. This includes, but is not limited to, any recovery you receive from: (a) uninsured motorist coverage; or (b) underinsured motorist coverage; or (c) automobile medical payment coverage; or (d) workers’ compensation coverage; or (e) any other liability coverage; or (f) any responsible party or entity.

**Note:** This “Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties” section does not affect your obligation to pay your Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible for these Services. The amount of reimbursement due the Plan is not limited by or subject to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum provision.

To the extent allowed 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 the other 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.

We shall have a first priority lien on the proceeds of any judgment or settlement, whether by compromise or otherwise, you obtain against any or from other party, entity or insurer, regardless of whether the other party, entity or insurer admits fault. Proceeds of such judgment, award or settlement in your or your attorney's possession shall be held in trust for our benefit.

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

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

For us to determine the existence of any rights we may have and to satisfy those rights, you must complete and send to Equian: all consents; releases; authorizations; assignments; and other documents, including lien forms directing your attorney, any other party or entity and any respective insurer to pay us or our legal representatives directly. You must cooperate to protect our interests under this "Injuries or Illnesses Alleged to be Caused by Other Parties" provision and must not take any action prejudicial to our rights.

If your estate, parent, guardian or conservator asserts a claim against another party, entity or insurer based on your injury or illness, your estate, parent, guardian or conservator and any settlement 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. We may assign our rights to enforce our liens and other rights.

Some providers have contracted with Kaiser Permanente to provide certain Services to Members at rates that are typically less than the fees that the providers normally charge to the general public ("General Fees"). However, these contracts may allow providers to assert any independent lien rights they may have to recover their General Fees from a judgment or settlement that you receive from or on behalf of another party, entity or insurer. For Services the provider furnished, our recovery and the provider's recovery together will not exceed the provider's General Fees.

If you are entitled to Medicare, Medicare law may apply with respect to Services covered by Medicare.

3. Traditional or Gestational Surrogacy

In situations where you receive monetary compensation to act as either a traditional or gestational surrogate, Health Plan will seek reimbursement for covered Services you receive that are associated with conception, pregnancy and/or delivery of the child, except that we will recover no more than half of the monetary compensation you receive. A surrogate arrangement is one in which a woman agrees to become pregnant and to surrender the baby to another person or persons who intend to raise the child. 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 applies to both traditional surrogacy and gestational carriers.

**Note:** This "Traditional or Gestational Surrogacy" section does not affect your obligation to pay your Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or Deductible for these Services.

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) receives, including names, addresses, and telephone numbers for any health insurance that will cover Services that the baby (or babies) receives
- 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:

Equian, LLC  
Attn: Surrogacy Subrogation Operations  
PO Box 36380  
Louisville, KY 40233

Fax: 502-214-1291

## V. MEMBER PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITY

Information on Member payment responsibility, including applicable Deductibles, annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum, Copayments, and Coinsurance, is located in the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)." Payment responsibility information for Emergency Services and urgent care is located in the "Benefits/Coverage (What is Covered)" section. For additional questions, contact **Member Services**.

Our contracts with Plan Providers provide that you are not liable for any amounts we owe them for covered Services. However, you may be liable for the cost of non-covered Services or Services you obtain from non-Plan Providers. If our contract with any Plan Provider terminates while you are under the care of that provider, we will retain financial responsibility for covered Services you receive from that provider, in excess of any applicable Deductibles, Copayments, or Coinsurance amounts, until we make arrangements for the Services to be provided by another Plan Provider and so notify the Subscriber.

## VI. CLAIMS PROCEDURE (HOW TO FILE A CLAIM)

Plan Providers submit claims for payment for covered Services directly to Health Plan. For general information on claims, and how to submit pre-service claims, concurrent care claims, and post-service claims, see the "Appeals and Complaints" section. For covered Services by non-Plan Providers, you may need to submit a claim on your own. Contact **Member Services** for more information on how to submit such claims. Health Plan complies with the time frames for resolution and payment of filed claims as required by state law.

## VII. GENERAL POLICY PROVISIONS

### A. Access Plan

Colorado law requires that an Access Plan be available that describes Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado's network of provider Services. To obtain a copy, please call **Member Services**.

### B. Access to Services for Foreign Language Speakers

1. **Member Services** will provide a telephone interpreter to assist Members who speak limited or no English.
2. Plan Physicians have telephone access to interpreters in over 150 languages.
3. Plan Physicians can also request an onsite interpreter for an appointment, procedure, or Service.
4. Any interpreter assistance we arrange or provide will be at no Charge to the Member.

### C. Administration of Agreement

We may adopt reasonable policies, procedures, and interpretations to promote efficient administration of the Group Agreement and this EOC.

### D. Advance Directives

Federal law requires Kaiser Permanente to tell you about your right to make health care decisions.

Colorado law recognizes the right of an adult to accept or reject medical treatment, artificial nourishment and hydration, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Each adult has the right to establish, in advance of the need for medical treatment, any directives and instructions for the administration of medical treatment in the event the person lacks the decisional capacity to provide informed consent to or refusal of medical treatment. (Colorado Revised Statutes, Section 15-14-504).

Kaiser Permanente will not discriminate against you whether or not you have an advance directive. We will follow the requirements of Colorado law respecting advance directives. If you have an advance directive, please give a copy to the Kaiser Permanente medical records department or to your provider.

A health care provider or health care facility shall provide for the prompt transfer of the principal to another health care provider or health care facility if such health care provider or health care facility wishes not to comply with an agent's medical treatment decision on the basis of policies based on moral convictions or religious beliefs. (Colorado Revised Statutes, Section 15-14-507).

Two (2) brochures are available: *Your Right to Make Health Care Decisions* and *Making Health Care Decisions*. For copies of these brochures or for more information, please call **Member Services**.

### E. Agreement 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.

## **F. Amendment of Agreement**

Your Group's Agreement with us will change periodically. If these changes affect this EOC, your Group is required to notify you of them. If it is necessary to make revisions to this EOC, we will issue revised materials to you.

## **G. 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.

## **H. Assignment**

You may assign, in writing, payments due under the policy to a licensed hospital, other licensed health care provider, an occupational therapist, or a massage therapist, for covered Services provided to you. You may not assign this EOC or any other rights, interests, or obligations hereunder without our prior written consent.

## **I. Attorney Fees and Expenses**

In any dispute between a Member and Health Plan or Plan Providers, each party will bear its own attorneys' fees and other expenses.

## **J. Claims Review Authority**

We are responsible for determining whether you are entitled to benefits under this EOC. We have the authority to review and evaluate claims that arise under this EOC. We conduct this evaluation independently by interpreting the provisions of this EOC. If this EOC is part of a health benefit plan that is subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), then we are a "named fiduciary" to review claims under this EOC.

## **K. Contracts with Plan Providers**

Plan Providers are paid in a number of ways, including: salary; capitation; per diem rates; case rates; fee for service; and incentive payments. If you would like further information about the way Plan Providers are paid to provide or arrange medical and hospital care for Members, please call **Member Services**.

Our contracts with Plan Providers provide that you are not liable for any amounts we owe. However, you may be liable for the cost of non-covered Services or Services you obtain from non-Plan Providers. If our contract with any Plan Provider terminates while you are under the care of that provider, we will retain financial responsibility for covered Services you receive from that provider, in excess of any applicable Deductibles, Copayments and Coinsurance, until we make arrangements for the Services to be provided by another Plan Provider and so notify the Subscriber.

## **L. Deductible/Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit**

Deductible/Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit is a one-time event which occurs at the point of the initial open enrollment. It applies only to:

1. Members of new groups enrolling with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado for the first time. (In this situation, Members must have been covered under one of the group's other carriers at the time of the group's enrollment.)
2. Members of new or current groups who move from non-sole carrier status to sole-carrier status with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado. Non-sole carrier status refers to when an employee has the option of choosing a group health plan either through Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado or through another carrier. (In this situation, Members must have been covered under one of the group's other carriers at the time the group moved to sole-carrier status.)

A credit will be applied toward your Deductible with Health Plan for certain eligible expenses accumulated toward your deductible under your prior coverage. You may also be eligible for a credit to be applied toward your Out-of-Pocket Maximum accumulated under your prior coverage. In order for expenses to be eligible for this credit, you must submit an Explanation of Benefits ("EOB") issued by your prior carrier showing that the expense was applied toward your deductible and/or out-of-pocket maximum under your prior coverage. All such expenses must be for Services that are covered and subject to the Deductible and/or Out-of-Pocket Maximum under this EOC.

For groups with effective dates of coverage during the months of April through December, expenses incurred from January 1 of the current year through the effective date of coverage with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado may be eligible for credit.

For groups with effective dates of coverage during the months of January through March, expenses incurred up to 90 days prior to the effective date of coverage with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan may be eligible for credit.

You must submit all claims for Deductible/Out-of-Pocket Maximum Takeover Credit within 90 days from the effective date of coverage with Health Plan. To submit a claim, send all EOBs along with a completed Prior Carrier Information Cover Form to the **Kaiser Permanente Claims Department**. To get a copy of the Prior Carrier Information Cover Form, please call the **Claims Department**.

## **M. Governing Law**

Except as preempted by federal law, this EOC will be governed in accordance with Colorado law. Any provision that is required to be in this EOC by state or federal law shall bind Members and Health Plan whether or not set forth in this EOC.

## **N. Group and Members are not Health Plan's Agents**

Neither your Group nor any Member is the agent or representative of Health Plan.

## **O. 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.

## **P. Nondiscrimination**

We do not discriminate in our employment practices or in the delivery of health care Services on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or physical or mental disability.

## **Q. Notices**

Our notices to you will be sent to the most recent address we have for the Subscriber. The Subscriber is responsible for notifying us of any change in address. Members who move should call **Member Services** as soon as possible to give us their new address.

## **R. Overpayment Recovery**

We may recover any overpayment we make for Services from anyone who receives such an overpayment, or from any person or organization obligated to pay for the Services.

## **S. Privacy Practices**

Kaiser Permanente will protect the privacy of your Protected Health Information (PHI). We also require contracting providers to protect your PHI. PHI is health information that includes your name, Social Security number or other information that reveals who you are. 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* (see below). Giving us authorization is at your discretion.

**This is only a brief summary of some of our key privacy practices. Our *Notice of Privacy Practices* explains our privacy practices in detail. To request a copy, please call Member Services. You can also find the notice at your local Plan Facility or on our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org).**

## **T. Value-Added Services**

In addition to the Services we cover under this EOC, we make available a variety of value-added services. Value-added services are not covered by your plan. They are intended to give you more options for a healthy lifestyle. Examples may include:

1. Certain health education classes not covered by your plan;
2. Certain health education publications;
3. Discounts for fitness club memberships;
4. Health promotion and wellness programs; and
5. Rewards for participating in those programs.

Some of these value-added services are available to all Members. Others may be available only to Members enrolled through certain groups or plans. To take advantage of these services, you may need to:

1. Show your Health Plan ID card, and
2. Pay the fee, if any,

to the company that provides the value-added service. Because these services are not covered by your plan, any fees you pay will not count toward any coverage calculations, such as Deductible or Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

To learn about value-added services and which ones are available to you, please check our website, [kp.org](http://kp.org).

These value-added services are neither offered nor guaranteed under your Health Plan coverage. Health Plan may change or discontinue some or all value-added services at any time and without notice to you. Value-added services are not offered as inducements to purchase a health care plan from us. Although value-added services are not covered by your plan, we may have included an estimate of their cost when we calculated Premiums.

Health Plan does not endorse or make any representations regarding the quality or medical efficacy of value-added services, or the financial integrity of the companies offering them. We expressly disclaim any liability for the value-added services provided by these companies. If you have a dispute regarding a value-added service, you must resolve it with the company offering such service. Although Health Plan has no obligation to assist with this resolution, you may call **Member Services**, and a representative may try to assist in getting the issue resolved.

**U. Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act**

In accordance with the “Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998,” as determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient, we provide the following coverage after a mastectomy:

1. Reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy was performed.
2. Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical (balanced) appearance.
3. Prostheses (artificial replacements).
4. Services for physical complications resulting from the mastectomy.

**VIII. TERMINATION/NONRENEWAL/CONTINUATION**

Your Group is required to inform the Subscriber of the date coverage terminates. If your membership terminates, all rights to benefits end at 11:59 p.m. on the termination date. Dependents’ memberships end at the same time the Subscriber’s membership ends. You will be billed as a non-Member for any Services you receive after your membership terminates. Health Plan and Plan Providers have no further responsibility under this EOC after your membership terminates, except as provided under “Termination of Group Agreement” in this “Termination of Membership” section.

This section describes: how your membership may end; and explains how you may maintain Health Plan coverage if your membership under this EOC ends.

**A. Termination Due to Loss of Eligibility**

If you no longer meet the eligibility requirements in the “Eligibility” section, we or your Group will provide 30 days’ advance written notice of termination.

**B. Termination of Group Agreement**

If your Group’s Agreement with us terminates for any reason, your membership ends on the same date.

If your Group’s Agreement terminates for reasons other than nonpayment of Premiums, fraud or abuse, while you are inpatient in a hospital or institution, your coverage will continue until your date of discharge.

**C. Termination for Cause**

We may terminate the memberships in your Family Unit if anyone in your Family Unit commits any of the following acts.

1. We will send written notice that will include the reason for termination to the Subscriber at least 30 days before the termination date if:
  - a. You are disruptive, unruly, or abusive so that Health Plan’s or a Plan Provider’s ability to provide Services to you, or to other Members, is seriously impaired; or
  - b. You fail to establish and maintain a satisfactory provider-patient relationship, after the Plan Provider has made reasonable efforts to promote such a relationship; or
2. We will send written notice that will include the reason for termination to the Subscriber at least 30 days before the termination date if:
  - a. You knowingly: (a) misrepresent membership status; (b) present an invalid prescription or physician order; (c) misuse (or let someone else misuse) a Health Plan ID card; or (d) commit any other type of fraud in connection with your membership (including your enrollment application), Health Plan or a Plan Provider; or
  - b. You knowingly: furnish incorrect or incomplete information to us; or fail to notify us of changes in your family status or Medicare coverage that may affect your eligibility or benefits.

Termination of membership for any one of these reasons applies to all members of your Family Unit. All rights to benefits cease on the date of termination. You will be billed as a non-Member for any Services received after the termination date. You have the right to appeal such a termination. To appeal, please call **Member Services**; or you can call the Colorado Division of Insurance.

We may report any member fraud to the authorities for prosecution. We may also pursue appropriate civil remedies.

**D. Termination for Nonpayment**

You are entitled to coverage only for the period for which we have received the appropriate Premiums from your Group. If your Group fails to pay us the appropriate Premiums for your Family Unit, we will terminate the memberships of everyone in your Family Unit.

After termination of your enrollment for nonpayment of Premiums, Health Plan may require payment of any outstanding Premiums for prior coverage if permitted by applicable law.

**E. Termination of a Product or all Products (applies to non-grandfathered health plans only)**

We may terminate a particular product or all products offered in the group market as permitted or required by law. If we discontinue offering a particular product in the group market, we will terminate just the particular product by sending you



written notice at least 90 days before the product terminates. If we discontinue offering all products in the group market, we may terminate your Group's Agreement by sending you written notice at least 180 days before the Agreement terminates.

#### **F. Rescission of Membership**

We may rescind your membership after it is effective if you or anyone on your behalf did one of the following with respect to your membership (or application) prior to your membership effective date:

1. Performed an act, practice, or omission that constitutes fraud; or
2. Misrepresented a material fact with intent, such as an omission on the application.

We will send written notice to the Subscriber in your Family at least 30 days before we rescind your membership. The rescission will cancel your membership so no coverage ever existed. You will be required to pay as a non-Member for any Services we covered. We will refund all applicable Premiums, less any amounts you owe us.

#### **G. Continuation of Group Coverage Under Federal Law, State Law or USERRA**

##### **1. Federal Law (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. Please contact your Group if you want to know how to elect COBRA coverage or how much you will have to pay your Group for it.

##### **2. State Law**

If you are not eligible to continue uninterrupted group coverage under federal law (COBRA), you may be eligible to continue group coverage under Colorado law. Colorado law states that if you have been a Member for at least six (6) consecutive months immediately prior to termination of employment, continue to meet the eligibility requirements of Group and Health Plan and continue to pay applicable monthly Premiums to your Group, you may continue uninterrupted group coverage. If loss of eligibility occurs because of the following reasons, you and/or your Dependents may continue group coverage subject to the terms below:

- a. Your coverage is through a Subscriber who dies, divorces or legally separates, or becomes entitled to Medicare or Medicaid benefits; or
- b. You are a Subscriber (or your coverage is through a Subscriber) whose employment terminates, including voluntary termination or layoff, or whose hours of employment have been reduced.

You may enroll children born or placed for adoption with you during the period of continuation coverage. The enrollment and effective date shall be as specified under the "Eligibility" section.

To continue coverage, you must request continuation of group coverage on a form furnished by and returned to your Group along with payment of applicable Premiums, no later than 30 days after the date on which your Group coverage would otherwise terminate.

**Termination of State Continuation Coverage.** Continuation of coverage under this provision continues upon payment of the applicable Premiums to your Group and terminates on the earlier of:

- a. 18 months after your coverage would have otherwise terminated because of termination of employment; or
- b. The date you become covered under another group medical plan; or
- c. The date Health Plan terminates its contract with the Group.

We may terminate your continuation coverage if payment is not received when due.

If you have chosen an alternate health care plan offered through your Group but elect during open enrollment to receive continuation coverage through Health Plan, you will only be entitled to continued coverage for the remainder of the 18-month maximum coverage period.

##### **3. 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 the federal USERRA law. You must submit a 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 or how much you will have to pay your Group for it.

#### **H. Moving to Another Kaiser Regional Health Plan Service Area**

You must notify us immediately if you permanently move outside the Service Area. If you move to another Kaiser regional health plan service area, you should contact your Group's benefits administrator before you move to learn about your Group health care options. You will be terminated from this plan, but you may be able to transfer your group membership if there is an arrangement with your Group in the new service area. However, eligibility requirements, benefits, Premiums, Copayments and Coinsurance may not be the same in the other service area.

## IX. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

### A. Claims and Appeals

Health Plan will review claims and appeals, and we may use medical experts to help us review them. The following terms have the following meanings when used in this “Appeals and Complaints” section:

1. A **claim** is a request for us to:
  - a. provide or pay for a Service that you have not received (pre-service claim),
  - b. continue to provide or pay for a Service that you are currently receiving (concurrent care claim), or
  - c. pay for a Service that you have already received (post-service claim).
2. An **adverse benefit determination** is our decision to do any of the following:
  - a. deny your claim, in whole or in part, including (1) a denial, in whole or in part, of a pre-service claim (preauthorization for a Service), a concurrent care claim (continue to provide or pay for a Service that you are currently receiving) or a post-service claim (a request to pay for a Service) in whole or in part; (2) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is not Medically Necessary, appropriate, effective or efficient or is not provided in or at the appropriate health care setting or level of care; or, (3) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is experimental or investigational,
  - b. terminate your membership retroactively except as the result of non-payment of Premiums (also called rescission or cancellation retroactively),
  - c. deny your (or, if applicable, your dependent’s) application for individual plan coverage,
  - d. uphold our previous adverse benefit determination when you appeal.

In addition, when we deny a request for medical care because it is excluded under this EOC, and you present evidence from a Colorado medical professional that there is a reasonable medical basis that the contractual exclusion does not apply to the denied medical care, then our denial shall be considered an adverse benefit determination.

3. An **appeal** is a request for us to review our initial adverse benefit determination.

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

Except when simultaneous external review can occur, you must exhaust the internal claims and appeals procedure as described in this “Appeals and Complaints” section unless we fail to follow the claims and appeals process described in this Section IX.

#### Language and Translation Assistance

You may request language assistance with your claim and/or appeal by calling **Member Services**.

SPANISH (Español): Para obtener asistencia en Español, llame al 303-338-3800.

TAGALOG (Tagalog): Kung kailangan ninyo ang tulong sa Tagalog tumawag sa 303-338-3800.

CHINESE (中文): 如果需要中文的帮助, 请拨打这个号码 303-338-3800.

NAVAJO (Dine): Dinek'ehgo shika at'ohwol ninisingo, kwijigo holne' 303-338-3800.

#### Appointing a Representative

If you would like someone (including your provider (medical facility or health care professional)) to act on your behalf regarding your claim, you may appoint an authorized representative. You must make this appointment in writing. Please 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

You may contact the Colorado Division of Insurance at:

Colorado Division of Insurance  
1560 Broadway, Suite 850  
Denver, Colorado 80202  
(303) 894-7499

#### 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. You may request our Authorization for Release of Appeal Information form by calling the **Appeals Program**.

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 and/or Appeal

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, if you ask for one. Please send all additional information to the Department that issued the adverse benefit determination.

When you appeal, you may give testimony in writing or by telephone. Please send your written testimony to the **Appeals Program**. To arrange to give testimony by telephone, you should contact the **Appeals Program**.

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 our next 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 next decision, that decision will be based on the information already in your claim file.

### **Internal Claims and Appeals Procedures**

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:

1. Pre-service claims (urgent and non-urgent)
2. Concurrent care claims (urgent and non-urgent)
3. Post-service claims

In addition, there is a separate appeals procedure for adverse benefit determinations due to a retroactive termination of membership (rescission) or a denial of an application for individual plan coverage.

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 he/she be the subordinate of someone who did participate in our original decision.

#### **1. 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 or pre-certified in order to be a covered Service may be the basis for our denial of your pre-service claim. 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 pre-service claim, a non-urgent pre-service appeal, and an urgent pre-service appeal.

##### **a. Pre-Service Claim**

Tell Health Plan in writing that you want 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 must either mail or fax your claim to **Member Services**.

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 unless your attending health care provider tells us your claim is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, creates an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent claim and appeal, to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

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 not later than 15 days after we receive your claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, so long as we notify you prior to the expiration of the initial 15-day period and explain the circumstances for which we need the extra time and when we expect to make a decision. If we tell you we need more information, we will ask you for the information within 15 days of receiving your claim, and we will give you 45 days to send the information. We will make a decision within 15 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 all of the information that you send us when we make our decision. If we do not receive any of the requested information (including documents) within 45 days after we send our request, we will make a decision based on the information we have within 15 days following the end of the 45-day period.

We will send written notice of our decision to you and, if applicable to your provider. Please let us know if you wish to have our decision sent to your provider.

If your pre-service claim was considered on an urgent basis, we will notify you of our decision (whether adverse or not) orally or in writing within a timeframe appropriate to your clinical condition but not later than 72 hours after we receive your claim. Within 24 hours after we receive your claim, we may ask you for more information. We will notify you of our decision within 48 hours of receiving the first piece of requested information. If we do not receive any of the requested information, then we will notify you of our decision within 48 hours after making our request. If we notify you of our decision orally, we will send you written confirmation within three (3) days after that.

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.

b. Non-Urgent Pre-Service Appeal

Within 180 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 Medical 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 denial, and (5) all supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must either mail or fax your appeal to the **Appeals Program**.

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The members of the appeals committee who will review your appeal will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least 5 days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that 5 day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within a reasonable period of time that is appropriate given your medical condition but not more than 30 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, that may be available to you.

c. 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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 may submit your appeal orally, by mail or by fax to the **Appeals Program**.

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 “Appeals and Complaints” section), if our internal appeal decision is not in your favor.

We will decide whether your appeal is urgent or non-urgent unless your attending health care provider tells us your appeal is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, create an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent appeal to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

You do not have the right to attend or have counsel, advocates and health care professionals in attendance at the expedited review. You are, however, entitled to submit written comments, documents, records and other materials for the reviewer or reviewers to consider; and receive, upon request and free of charge, copies of all documents, records and other information regarding your request for benefits.

We will review your appeal and give you oral or written notice of our decision as soon as your clinical condition requires, but not 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 (3) days after that.

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, that may be available to you.

2. Concurrent Care Claims and Appeals.

Concurrent care claims are requests that Health Plan continue to provide, or pay for, an ongoing course of covered treatment or Services for a period of time or number of treatments or Services, when the course of treatment already being received will end. If you have any general questions about concurrent care claims or appeals, please call **Member Services**.

Unless you are appealing an urgent care concurrent 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 then appeal our decision (an adverse benefit determination), 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 we will only pay for the continuation of Services until we notify you of our appeal decision.

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

a. Concurrent Care Claim

Tell us in writing 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 either mail or fax your claim to **Member Services**.

If you want us to consider your claim on an urgent basis and you contact us at least 24 hours before your 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 unless your attending health care provider tells us your claim is 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, health or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, create an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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 extending your course of covered treatment. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent claim or an appeal thereof, to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

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 care is ending, we will make our decision before your authorized care actually ends (that is, within 24 hours of receipt of your claim). If your authorized care ended before you submitted your claim, we will make our decision within a reasonable period of time but no later than 15 days after we receive your claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, if we send you notice before the initial 15 days end and explain why we need the extra time and when we expect to make a decision. If we tell you we need more information, we will ask you for the information before the initial decision period ends, and we will give you until your care is ending or, if your care has ended, 45 days to send us the information. We will make our decision as soon as possible, if your care has not ended, or within 15 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 days following the end of the 45 days that we gave you for sending the additional information.

We will send written notice of our decision to you and, if applicable to your provider, upon request. Please let us know if you wish to have our decision sent to your provider.

If we consider your concurrent claim on an urgent basis, we will notify you of our decision orally or in writing as soon as your clinical condition requires, but not later than 24 hours after we received your appeal. If we notify you of our decision orally, we will send you written confirmation within three (3) days after receiving your claim.

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

b. Non-Urgent Concurrent Care Appeal

Within 180 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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 the **Appeals Program**.

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The members of the appeals committee who will review your appeal will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least 5 days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that 5 day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision as soon as possible if your care has not ended but not later than 30 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, that may be available to you.

c. 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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 may submit your appeal orally, by mail or by fax to the **Appeals Program**.

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 “Appeals and Complaints” section).

We will decide whether your appeal is urgent or non-urgent unless your attending health care provider tells us your appeal is 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, health, or ability to regain maximum function or if you have a physical or mental disability, create an imminent and substantial limitation on your existing ability to live independently; or (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 continuing your course of covered treatment. We may, but are not required to, waive the requirements related to an urgent appeal to permit you to pursue an expedited external review.

You do not have the right to attend or have counsel, advocates and health care professionals in attendance at the expedited review. You are, however, entitled to submit written comments, documents, records and other materials for the reviewer or reviewers to consider; and receive, upon request and free of charge, copies of all documents, records and other information regarding your request for benefits.

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 (3) days after that.

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.

3. Post-Service Claims and Appeals

Post-service claims are requests that we for 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:

a. Post-Service Claim

Within twelve (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, and (4) why you think we should pay for the Services. You must include a copy of the bill, your medical record(s) and any supporting documents. Your letter and the related documents constitute your claim. Or, you may contact **Member Services** to obtain a claims form. You must either mail or fax your claim to the **Claims Department**.

We will not accept or pay for claims received from you after twelve (12) months from the date of Services.

We will review your claim, and if we have all the information we need we will send you a written decision within 30 days after we receive your claim. We may extend the time for making a decision for an additional 15 days if circumstances beyond our control delay our decision, if we notify you within 15 days after we receive your claim and explain the circumstances for which we need the extra time and when we expect to make a decision. If we tell you we need more information, we will ask you for the information, and we will give you 45 days to send us the information. We will make a decision within 15 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 days after we send our request, we will make a decision based on the information we have within 15 days following the end of the 45-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.

b. Post-Service Appeal

Within 180 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 Medical Record Number, (2) your medical condition or 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) include all supporting documents such as medical records. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must either mail or fax your appeal to the **Appeals Program**.

We will schedule an appeal meeting in a timeframe that permits us to decide your appeal in a timely manner. You may be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, and you may bring counsel, advocates and health care professionals to the appeal meeting. Unless you request to be present for the appeal meeting in person or by telephone conference, we will conduct your appeal as a file review. You may present additional materials at the appeal meeting. The appeals committee members who will review your appeal (who were not involved in our original decision regarding your claim) will consider this additional material. Upon request, we will provide copies of all information that we intend to present at the appeal meeting at least 5 days prior to the meeting, unless any new material is developed after that 5 day deadline. You will have the option to elect to have a recording made of the appeal meeting, if applicable, and if you elect to have the meeting recorded, we will make a copy available to you.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within 30 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.

Voluntary Second Level of Appeal

Within 60 days after you receive our adverse decision regarding your appeal, you may ask us to review our adverse benefit decisions again. We will schedule a review of your second appeal within 60 days of receiving your request, and we will notify you about the date and time of this review no less than 20 days before it occurs. You have the right to request a postponement. You have the right to appear in person or by telephone conference at the meeting. We will make our decision within 7 days of the completion of this meeting.

Appeals of Retroactive Membership Termination (rescission or cancellation retroactively)

We may terminate your membership retroactively (see “Rescission of Membership” under the “Termination/Nonrenewal/Continuation” section). We will send you written notice at least 30 days prior to the termination. If you have general questions about retroactive membership terminations or appeals, please call **Member Services**.

Here is the procedure for filing an appeal of a retroactive membership termination:

Within 180 days after you receive our adverse benefit determination that your membership will be terminated retroactively, you must tell us in writing that you want to appeal our termination of your membership retroactively. Please include the following: (1) your name and Medical Record Number, (2) all of the reasons why you disagree with our retroactive membership termination, and (3) all supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must mail your appeal to **Member Services**.

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within 30 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, that may be available to you.

Appeals of Denial of Individual Plan Application

Here is the procedure for filing an appeal of our denial of an individual plan application:

Within 180 days after you receive our adverse benefit determination regarding your individual plan application, you must tell us in writing that you want to appeal our denial of an individual plan application. Please include the following: (1) your name and

application reference number, (2) all of the reasons why you disagree with our adverse benefit determination, and (3) all supporting documents. Your request and the supporting documents constitute your appeal. You must mail your appeal to:

Member Services  
P.O. Box 203004  
Denver, CO 80220-9004

We will review your appeal and send you a written decision within 30 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 that may be available to you.

### **External Review**

Following receipt of an adverse decision letter regarding your First Level Appeal or Voluntary Second Level Appeal, you may have a right to request an external review.

You have the right to request an independent external review of our decision, if our decision involves an adverse benefit determination regarding a denial of a claim, in whole or in part, that is (1) a denial of a preauthorization for a Service; (2) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is not Medically Necessary, appropriate, effective or efficient or is not provided in or at the appropriate health care setting or level of care; and/or (3) a denial of a request for Services on the ground that the Service is experimental or investigational. If our final adverse decision does not involve an adverse benefit determination described in the preceding sentence, then your claim is **not** eligible for external review provided, however, independent external review is available when we deny your appeal because you request medical care that is excluded under your Kaiser Permanente plan and you present evidence from a licensed Colorado professional that there is a reasonable medical basis that the exclusion does not apply.

You will not be responsible for the cost of the external review. There is no minimum dollar amount for a claim to be eligible for an external review.

To request external review, you must:

1. Submit a completed Independent External Review of Carrier's Final Adverse Determination form which will be included with the mandatory internal appeal decision letter and explanation of your appeal rights (you may call the **Appeals Program** to request a copy of this form) to the **Appeals Program** within four (4) months of the date of receipt of the mandatory internal appeal decision or Voluntary Second Level Appeal decision. We shall consider the date of receipt for our notice to be three (3) days after the date on which our notice was drafted, unless you can prove that you received our notice after the three (3) day period ends.
2. Include in your written request a statement authorizing us to release your claim file with your health information including your medical records; or, you may submit a completed Authorization for Release of Appeal Information form which is included with the mandatory internal appeal decision letter and explanation of your appeal rights (you may call **Appeals Program** to request a copy of this form).

If we do not receive your external review request form and/or authorization form to release your health information, then we will not be able to act on your request. We must receive all of this information prior to the end of the applicable timeframe for your request of external review.

### **Expedited External Review**

**You may request an expedited review if (1) you have a medical condition for which the timeframe for completion of a standard review would seriously jeopardize your life, health, or ability to regain maximum function, or, if you have a physical or mental disability, would create an imminent and substantial limitation to your existing ability to live independently, or (2) in the opinion of a physician with knowledge of your medical condition, the timeframe for completion of a standard review would subject you to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the medical services that you are seeking. A request for an expedited external review must be accompanied by a written statement from your physician that your condition meets the expedited criteria. You must include the physician's certification that you meet expedited external review criteria when you submit your request for external review along with the other required information (described, above).**

### **Additional Requirements for External Review regarding Experimental or Investigational Services**

**You may request external review or expedited external review involving an adverse benefit determination based upon the Service being experimental or investigational. Your request for external review or expedited external review must include a written statement from your physician that either (a) standard health care services or treatments have not been effective in improving your condition or are not medically appropriate for you, or (b) there is no available standard health care service or treatment covered under this EOC that is more beneficial than the recommended or requested health care service (the physician must certify that scientifically valid studies using accepted protocols demonstrate that the requested health care service or treatment is more likely to be more beneficial to you than an available standard health care services or**



treatments), and the physician is a licensed, board-certified, or board-eligible physician to practice in the area of medicine to treat your condition. If you are requesting expedited external review, then your physician must also certify that the requested health care service or treatment would be less effective if not promptly initiated. These certifications must be submitted with your request for external review.

No expedited external review is available when you have already received the medical care that is the subject of your request for external review. If you do not qualify for expedited external review, we will treat your request as a request for standard external review.

After we receive your request for external review, we shall notify you of the information regarding the independent external review entity that the Division of Insurance has selected to conduct the external review.

If we deny your request for standard or expedited external review, including any assertion that we have not complied with the applicable requirements related to our internal claims and appeals procedure, then we may notify you in writing and include the specific reasons for the denial. Our notice will include information about your right to appeal the denial to the Division of Insurance. At the same time that we send this denial notice to you, we will send a copy of it to the Division of Insurance.

**You will not be able to present your appeal in person to the independent external review organization. You may, however, send any additional information that is significantly different from information provided or considered during the internal claims and appeal procedure and, if applicable Voluntary Second Level of Appeal process. If you send new information, we may consider it and reverse our decision regarding your appeal.**

**You may submit your additional information to the independent external review organization for consideration during its review within five (5) working days of your receipt of our notice describing the independent review organization that has been selected to conduct the external review of your claim. Although it is not required to do so, the independent review organization may accept and consider additional information submitted after this five (5) working day period ends.**

The independent external review entity shall review information regarding your benefit claim and shall base its determination on an objective review of relevant medical and scientific evidence. Within 45 days of the independent external review entity's receipt of your request for standard external review, it shall provide written notice of its decision to you. If the independent external review entity is deciding your expedited external review request, then the independent external review entity shall make its decision as expeditiously as possible and no more than 72 hours after its receipt of your request for external review and within 48 hours of notifying you orally of its decision provide written confirmation of its decision. This notice shall explain the external review entity's decision and that the external review decision is the final appeal available under state insurance law. An external review decision is binding on Health Plan and you except to the extent Health Plan and you have other remedies available under federal or state law. You or your designated representative may not file a subsequent request for external review involving the same Health Plan adverse determination for which you have already received an external review decision.

**If the independent external review organization overturns our denial of payment for care you have already received, we will issue payment within five (5) working days. If the independent review organization overturns our decision not to authorize pre-service or concurrent care claims, Kaiser Permanente will authorize care within one (1) working day. Such covered services shall be provided subject to the terms and conditions applicable to benefits under your plan.**

Except when external review is permitted to occur simultaneously with your urgent pre-service appeal or urgent concurrent care appeal, you must exhaust our internal claims and appeals procedure (but not the Voluntary Second Level of Appeal) for your claim before you may request external review unless we have failed to substantially comply with federal and/or state law requirements regarding our claims and appeals procedures.

#### **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.

## **B. Complaints**

1. If you are not satisfied with the Services received at a particular Plan 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:
  - a. Sending your written complaint to **Member Services**;
  - b. Requesting to meet with a Member Services Liaison at the Health Plan Administrative Offices; or
  - c. Telephoning **Member Services**.
2. After you notify us of a complaint, this is what happens:
  - a. A Member Services Liaison reviews the complaint and conducts an investigation, verifying all the relevant facts.

- b. The Member Services Liaison or a Plan Physician evaluates the facts and makes a recommendation for corrective action, if any.
  - c. When you file a written complaint, we usually respond in writing within 30 calendar days, unless additional information is required.
  - d. When you make a verbal complaint, a verbal response is usually made within 30 calendar days.
3. If you are dissatisfied with the resolution, you have the right to request a second review. Please put your request in writing to **Member Services**. **Member Services** will respond to you in writing within 30 calendar days of receipt of your request.

We want you to be satisfied with our Plan Facilities, Services, and Plan Physicians. 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. Please call **Member Services**.

## X. INFORMATION ON POLICY AND RATE CHANGES

Your Group's Agreement with us will change periodically. If these changes affect this EOC or your Premiums, your Group is required to notify you of them. If it is necessary to make revisions to this EOC, we will issue revised materials to you.

## XI. DEFINITIONS

The following terms, when capitalized and used in any part of this EOC, have the following meaning:

**Accumulation Period:** As stated in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What),” the period of time during which benefits are paid and are counted toward the maximum allowed for the specific benefit.

**Affiliated Physician:** Any doctor of medicine contracting with Medical Group to provide covered Services to Members under this EOC.

**Affiliated Provider:** A health care provider that we designate as an Affiliated Provider.

**Authorization:** A referral request that has received approval from Health Plan.

**Charge(s):**

1. For Services provided by Plan Providers or Medical Group, the charges in Health Plan’s schedule of Medical Group and Health Plan charges for Services provided to Members; or
2. For Services for which a provider (other than Medical Group or Health Plan) is compensated on a capitation basis, the charges in the schedule of charges that Kaiser Permanente negotiates with the capitated provider; or
3. For items obtained at a Plan Pharmacy, the amount the Plan Pharmacy would charge a Member for the item if a Member’s benefit plan did not cover the item (this amount is an estimate of: the cost of acquiring, storing, and dispensing drugs, the direct and indirect costs of providing Kaiser Permanente pharmacy Services to Members, and the Plan Pharmacy program’s contribution to the net revenue requirements of Health Plan); or
4. For all other Services, the payments that Health Plan makes for the Services (or, if Health Plan subtracts a Copayment, Coinsurance or Deductible from its payment, the amount Health Plan would have paid if it did not subtract the Copayment, Coinsurance or Deductible).

**CMS:** The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the federal agency responsible for administering Medicare.

**Coinsurance:** A percentage of Charges that you must pay when you receive a covered Service, as listed in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**Copayment:** The specific dollar amount you must pay for a covered Service, as listed in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**Deductible:** The amount you must pay in an Accumulation Period for certain Services before we will cover those Services in that Accumulation Period. The “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” explains the amount of the Deductible and which Services are subject to the Deductible.

**Dependent:** A Member whose relationship to a Subscriber is the basis for membership eligibility and who meets the eligibility requirements as a Dependent. For Dependent eligibility requirements, see “Who Is Eligible” in the “Eligibility” section.

**Emergency Medical Condition:** A medical condition that manifests itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity, including severe pain, that a prudent layperson with an average knowledge of health and medicine could reasonably expect, in the absence of immediate medical attention, to result in:

1. Serious jeopardy to the health of the individual or, with respect to a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child;
2. Serious impairment to bodily functions; or
3. Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part.

**Emergency Services:** With respect to an Emergency Medical Condition:

1. A medical screening examination that is within the capability of the emergency department of a hospital, including ancillary services routinely available to the emergency department to evaluate the Emergency Medical Condition; and
2. Within the capabilities of the staff and facilities available at the hospital, further medical examination and treatment as required to Stabilize the patient 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 individual from a facility.

**Family Unit:** A Subscriber and all of his or her Dependents.

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

**Health Plan:** Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado, a Colorado nonprofit corporation.

**Health Savings Account (HSA):** A tax-exempt trust or custodial account established under Section 223(d) of the Internal Revenue Code exclusively for the purpose of paying qualified medical expenses of the account beneficiary. Contributions made to a Health Savings Account by an eligible individual are tax deductible under federal tax law whether or not the individual itemizes deductions. In order to make contributions to a Health Savings Account, you must be covered under a qualified High Deductible Health Plan and meet other tax law requirements. Kaiser Permanente does not provide tax advice. Consult with your financial or tax advisor for tax advice or more information about your eligibility for a Health Savings Account.

**High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP):** A health benefit plan that meets the requirements of Section 223 (c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code. The health care coverage under this EOC has been designed to be a High Deductible Health Plan compatible for use with a Health Savings Account.

**Kaiser Permanente:** Health Plan and Medical Group

**Life or Limb Threatening Emergency:** Any event that a prudent layperson would believe threatens his or her life or limb in such a manner that a need for immediate medical care is created to prevent death or serious impairment of health.

**Medical Group:** The Colorado Permanente Medical Group, P.C., a for-profit medical corporation.

**Medically Necessary** services or supplies are those that are determined by Health Plan to be all of the following:

- Required to prevent, diagnose, or treat your condition or clinical symptoms; and
- In accordance with generally accepted standards of medical practice; and
- Not solely for the convenience of you, your family, and/or your provider; and
- The most appropriate level of care that can safely be provided to you.

The fact that a Plan or non-Plan Provider prescribes, recommends, or refers you to a Service does not make that Service Medically Necessary or covered under this EOC.

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

**Member:** A person who is eligible and enrolled under this EOC, and for whom we have received applicable Premiums. This EOC sometimes refers to a Member as “you” or “your.”

**Out-of-Pocket Maximum:** The annual limit to the total amount of Deductible (if any), certain Copayments and certain Coinsurance you must pay in an Accumulation Period for covered Services, as described in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

**Plan Facility:** A Plan Medical Office or Plan Hospital.

**Plan Hospital:** Any hospital listed as a Plan Hospital in our provider directory. Plan Hospitals are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Plan Medical Office:** Any medical office listed in our provider directory, including any outpatient facility designated by Health Plan. Plan Medical Offices are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Plan Optometrist:** Any licensed optometrist who is an employee of Health Plan or any licensed optometrist who contracts to provide Services to Members.

**Plan Pharmacy:** A pharmacy owned and operated by Kaiser Permanente or another pharmacy that we designate. Plan Pharmacies are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Plan Physician:** Any licensed physician who is an employee of Medical Group, an Affiliated Physician or any licensed physician who contracts to provide Services to Members (but not including physicians who contract only to provide referral Services).

**Plan Provider:** A Plan Hospital, Plan Physician, or other health care provider that we designate as Plan Provider, except that Plan Providers are subject to change at any time without notice.

**Premiums:** Periodic membership charges paid by Group.

**Service Area:**

The **Denver/Boulder** Service Area is that portion of Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Clear Creek, Denver, Douglas, Elbert, Gilpin, Jefferson, Larimer, Park, Teller, and Weld counties within the following zip codes: 80001, 80002, 80003, 80004, 80005, 80006, 80007, 80010, 80011, 80012, 80013, 80014, 80015, 80016, 80017, 80018, 80019, 80020, 80021, 80022, 80023, 80024, 80025, 80026, 80027, 80030, 80031, 80033, 80034, 80035, 80036, 80037, 80038, 80040, 80041, 80042, 80044, 80045, 80046, 80047, 80102, 80104, 80107, 80108, 80109, 80110, 80111, 80112, 80113, 80116, 80117, 80120, 80121, 80122, 80123, 80124, 80125, 80126, 80127, 80128, 80129, 80130, 80131, 80134, 80135, 80137, 80138, 80150, 80151, 80155, 80160, 80161, 80162, 80163, 80165, 80166, 80201, 80202, 80203, 80204, 80205, 80206, 80207, 80208, 80209, 80210, 80211, 80212, 80214, 80215, 80216, 80217, 80218, 80219, 80220, 80221, 80222, 80223, 80224, 80225, 80226, 80227, 80228, 80229, 80230, 80231, 80232, 80233, 80234, 80235, 80236, 80237, 80238, 80239, 80241, 80243, 80244, 80246, 80247, 80248, 80249, 80250, 80251, 80256, 80257, 80259, 80260, 80261, 80262, 80263, 80264, 80265, 80266, 80271, 80273, 80274, 80281, 80290, 80291, 80293, 80294, 80299, 80301, 80302, 80303, 80304, 80305, 80306, 80307, 80308, 80309, 80310, 80314, 80401, 80402, 80403, 80419, 80421, 80422, 80425, 80427, 80433, 80436, 80437, 80439, 80444, 80452, 80453, 80454, 80455, 80457, 80465, 80466, 80470, 80471, 80474, 80481, 80501, 80502, 80503, 80504, 80510, 80514, 80516, 80520, 80530, 80533, 80540, 80544, 80601, 80602, 80603, 80614, 80621, 80640, 80642, 80643.

The **Northern Colorado** Service Area is that portion of Adams, Boulder, Larimer, Morgan, and Weld counties within the following zip codes: 69128, 69145, 80511, 80512, 80513, 80515, 80517, 80521, 80522, 80523, 80524, 80525, 80526, 80527, 80528, 80532, 80534, 80535, 80536, 80537, 80538, 80539, 80541, 80542, 80543, 80545, 80546, 80547, 80549, 80550, 80551, 80553, 80610, 80611, 80612, 80615, 80620, 80622, 80623, 80624, 80631, 80632, 80633, 80634, 80638, 80639, 80644, 80645, 80646, 80648, 80649, 80650, 80651, 80652, 80654, 80729, 80732, 80742, 80754, 82063, 82070, 82082.

The **Southern Colorado** Service Area is that portion of Crowley, Custer, Douglas, El Paso, Elbert, Fremont, Huerfano, Las Animas, Lincoln, Otero, Park, Pueblo, and Teller counties within the following zip codes: 80106, 80118, 80132, 80133, 80808, 80809, 80813, 80814, 80816, 80817, 80819, 80820, 80827, 80829, 80831, 80832, 80833, 80840, 80841, 80860, 80863, 80864, 80866, 80901, 80902, 80903, 80904, 80905, 80906, 80907, 80908, 80909, 80910, 80911, 80912, 80913, 80914, 80915, 80916, 80917, 80918, 80919, 80920, 80921, 80922, 80923, 80924, 80925, 80926, 80927, 80928, 80929, 80930, 80931, 80932, 80933, 80934, 80935, 80936, 80937, 80938, 80939, 80941, 80942, 80946, 80947, 80949, 80950, 80951, 80960, 80962, 80970, 80977, 80995, 80997, 81001, 81002, 81003, 81004, 81005, 81006, 81007, 81008, 81009, 81010, 81011, 81012, 81019, 81022, 81023, 81025, 81039, 81062, 81069, 81212, 81215, 81221, 81222, 81223, 81226, 81232, 81233, 81240, 81244, 81253, 81290.

**Services:** Health care services or items.

**Skilled Nursing Facility:** A facility that is licensed as such by the state of Colorado, certified by Medicare and approved by Health Plan. The facility's primary business must be the provision of 24-hour-a-day licensed skilled nursing care for patients who need skilled nursing or skilled rehabilitation care, or both, on a daily basis, as part of an ongoing medical treatment plan.

**Spouse:** Your partner in marriage or a civil union as determined by state law.

**Stabilize:** To provide the medical treatment of the Emergency Medical 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 (including the placenta).

**Step Therapy:** A protocol that requires a covered person to use a prescription drug or sequence of prescription drugs, other than the drug that the covered person's health care provider recommends for the covered person's treatment, before the carrier provides coverage for the recommended prescription drug.

**Subscriber:** A Member who is eligible for membership on his or her own behalf and not by virtue of Dependent status and who meets the eligibility requirements as a Subscriber (for Subscriber eligibility requirements, see "Who Is Eligible" in the "Eligibility" section).

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## ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

Please refer to the Summary Chart in this booklet for specific charges and other limitations that may apply to the coverage(s) described below.

### DOMESTIC PARTNER COVERAGE

Your Group coverage includes health benefits for same-sex domestic partners. To be covered they must meet:

- (1) the eligibility requirements as described in the “Eligibility” section of this EOC; and
- (2) the conditions for domestic partnership as described in the Affidavit of Domestic Partnership.

You are required to complete and submit an Affidavit of Domestic Partnership to Health Plan. Please check with your Group's benefit administrator for details.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for same-sex domestic partners. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

DOMP0AA (01-18)

### SURVIVING DEPENDENTS

Your Group coverage includes health benefit coverage for surviving Dependents.

Surviving Dependents include your:

1. Spouses; and
2. Other eligible Dependents.

Their coverage may continue based on the Group's personnel policy.

SRDC0AE (01-12)

WOR0AA

### ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT

**(Does not apply to Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage HMO Plan)**

The following paragraph of your EOC is amended, as follows:

#### I. Eligibility

##### A. Who Is Eligible

###### 1. General

To be eligible to enroll and to remain enrolled in this health benefit plan, you must meet the following requirements:

- a. You must meet your Group's eligibility requirements that we have approved. Your Group is required to inform Subscribers of the Group's eligibility requirements; and
- b. You must also meet the Subscriber or Dependent eligibility requirements as described below; and
- c. The Subscriber must live, reside, or work in our Service Area. Our Service Area is described in the “Definitions” section.

This rider amends the general eligibility provision of the EOC. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

WOR0AA (01-20)

### CHIROPRACTIC CARE

#### 1. Coverage

Chiropractic Services are covered as shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” when provided by contracted providers. Coverage includes:

- a. Evaluation;

- b. Manual and manipulative therapy of the spinal and extraspinal regions.

You may self-refer for visits to contracted providers.

**Note:** The following are covered, but not under this section: X-ray and laboratory tests, see “X-ray, Laboratory, and X-ray Special Procedures”.

2. Exclusions

- a. Hypnotherapy.
- b. Behavior training.
- c. Sleep therapy.
- d. Weight loss programs.
- e. Services related to the treatment of the musculoskeletal system, except for the spinal and extraspinal regions.
- f. Vocational rehabilitation Services.
- g. Thermography.
- h. Air conditioners, air purifiers, therapeutic mattresses, supplies, or any other similar devices and appliances.
- i. Transportation costs. This includes local ambulance charges.
- j. Prescription drugs, vitamins, minerals, food supplements, or other similar products.
- k. Educational programs.
- l. Non-medical self-care or self-help training.
- m. All diagnostic testing related to these excluded Services.
- n. MRI and/or other types of diagnostic radiology.
- o. Physical or massage therapy that is not a part of the manual and manipulative therapy.
- p. Durable medical equipment (DME) and/or supplies for use in the home.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for Chiropractic Care. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

CHIR0AA (01-18)  
DMES0AB

**DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT (DME) AND  
PROSTHETIC AND ORTHOTIC DEVICES**

When prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan on either a purchase or rental basis, as determined by Health Plan, DME, prosthetics and orthotics, including replacements other than those necessitated by misuse, theft, or loss, are provided as shown on the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” for your use during the period prescribed. Necessary fittings, repairs and adjustments, other than those necessitated by misuse, are covered. Health Plan may repair or replace a device at its option. Repair or replacement of defective equipment is covered at no additional charge.

Health Plan uses Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) and National Coverage Determinations (NCD) (hereinafter referred to as Medicare Guidelines) for our DME, prosthetic, and orthotic formulary guidelines. These are guidelines only. Health Plan reserves the right to exclude items listed in the Medicare Guidelines (does not apply to Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage plans). Please note that this EOC may contain some, but not all, of these exclusions.

**Limitations:** Coverage is limited to a standard item of DME, prosthetic device, or orthotic device that adequately meets your medical needs.

1. Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

a. Coverage

- i. DME is equipment that is appropriate for use in the home, able to withstand repeated use, Medically Necessary, not of use to a person in the absence of illness or injury, and approved for coverage under Medicare. It includes, but is not limited to, infant apnea monitors, insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies, and oxygen and oxygen dispensing equipment.
- ii. Insulin pumps and insulin pump supplies are provided when clinical guidelines are met and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iii. When use is no longer prescribed by a Plan Physician, DME must be returned to Health Plan or its designee. If the equipment is not returned, you must pay Health Plan or its designee the fair market price, established by Health Plan, for the equipment.

b. Limitation: Coverage is limited to the lesser of the purchase or rental price, as determined by Health Plan.

c. Durable Medical Equipment Exclusions

- i. Electronic monitors of bodily functions, except infant apnea monitors are covered.
- ii. Devices to perform medical testing of body fluids, excretions or substances, except nitrate urine test strips for home use for pediatric patients are covered.
- iii. Non-medical items such as sauna baths or elevators.

- iv. Exercise or hygiene equipment.
- v. Comfort, convenience, or luxury equipment or features.
- vi. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze\*, tape, antiseptics, dressings, and ace-type bandages.  
\*Gauze not excluded in Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Part D plans.
- vii. Replacement of lost or stolen equipment.
- viii. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.
- ix. More than one piece of DME serving essentially the same function, except for replacements.
- x. Spare equipment or alternate use equipment is not covered.

## 2. Prosthetic Devices

### a. Coverage

Prosthetic devices are those rigid or semi-rigid external devices that are required to replace all or part of a body organ or extremity. Coverage of prosthetic devices includes:

- i. Internally implanted devices for functional purposes, such as pacemakers and hip joints.
- ii. Prosthetic devices for Members who have had a mastectomy. Medical Group or Health Plan will designate the source from which external prostheses can be obtained. Replacement will be made when a prosthesis is no longer functional. Custom-made prostheses will be provided when necessary.
- iii. Prosthetic devices, such as obturators and speech and feeding appliances, required for the treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate are covered when prescribed by a Plan Physician and obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.
- iv. Prosthetic devices intended to replace, in whole or in part, an arm or leg when prescribed by a Plan Physician, as Medically Necessary and when obtained from sources designated by Health Plan.

### b. Prosthetic Devices Exclusions

- i. Dental prostheses, except for Medically Necessary prosthodontic treatment for treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate, as described above.
- ii. Internally implanted devices, equipment, and prosthetics related to treatment of sexual dysfunction.
- iii. More than one prosthetic device for the same part of the body, except for replacements.
- iv. Spare devices or alternate use devices.
- v. Replacement of lost or stolen prosthetic devices.
- vi. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.

## 3. Orthotic Devices

### a. Coverage

Orthotic devices are those rigid or semi-rigid external devices that are 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.

### b. Orthotic Devices Exclusions

- i. Corrective shoes and orthotic devices for podiatric use and arch supports, except for diabetic shoes in accordance with clinical guidelines and therapeutic shoes for patients with a diagnosis of peripheral vascular disease or peripheral neuropathy.
- ii. Dental devices and appliances except that Medically Necessary treatment of cleft lip or cleft palate is covered when prescribed by a Plan Physician, unless you are covered for these Services under a dental insurance policy or contract.
- iii. Experimental and research braces.
- iv. More than one orthotic device for the same part of the body, except for covered replacements.
- v. Spare devices or alternate use devices.
- vi. Replacement of lost or stolen orthotic devices.
- vii. Repairs, adjustments, or replacements necessitated by misuse.

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and prosthetic and orthotic devices. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

DMES0AB (01-20)

## PREVENTIVE SERVICES RIDER

Preventive care services, as defined under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, are provided at no charge including those shown on the "Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)" when prescribed by a Plan Physician. Please contact **Member Services** for a complete list of covered Preventive Services.

**Note:** If you receive any other covered Services before, during, or after a preventive care visit, you may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, and Coinsurance for those Services. For example:



- You schedule a routine physical maintenance exam. During your preventive exam your provider finds a problem with your health and orders non-preventive Services to diagnose your problem (such as laboratory or radiology tests). You may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance for these additional diagnostic Services.
- You schedule a routine preventive exam. Your provider orders laboratory tests that are not preventive care Services according to the guidelines below. You may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance for these additional non-preventive Services.
- You schedule a routine well-person exam. During your exam, you discuss new symptoms with your provider, or new health concerns are discovered. You may pay the applicable Deductible, Copayment, or Coinsurance for this visit.

Coverage includes, but is not limited to, preventive health care Services for the following in accordance with the A or B recommendations of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, the Health Resources Services Administration women’s preventive services guidelines, and those preventive services mandates required by state law, for the particular preventive health care Service:

1. Office visits for preventive care Services.
2. Alcohol misuse screening and behavioral counseling interventions for adults by your primary care provider.
3. Cervical cancer screening.
4. Breast cancer screening.
5. Blood pressure screening.
6. Cholesterol screening.
7. Colorectal cancer screening.
8. Prostate cancer screening.
9. Immunizations pursuant to the schedule established by the ACIP.
10. Tobacco use screening, counseling, cessation attempt services, FDA-approved tobacco cessation medications, and the Colorado QuitLine.
11. Type 2 diabetes screening for adults with high blood pressure.
12. Diet counseling for adults with hyperlipidemia and at higher risk for cardiovascular and diet-related chronic disease.
13. Cervical cancer vaccines.
14. Influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations.
15. Approved Affordable Care Act contraceptive categories.

“ACIP” means the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention in the federal Department of Health and Human Services, or any successor entity. Go to [cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/](http://cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/). For a list of preventive services that have a rating of A or B from the U.S. Preventive Task Force, go to [uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Name/uspstf-a-and-b-recommendations/](http://uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Name/uspstf-a-and-b-recommendations/). For the Health Resources and Services Administration women’s preventive services guidelines, go to [hrsa.gov/womensguidelines/](http://hrsa.gov/womensguidelines/).

This rider amends the EOC to provide coverage for preventive Services. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the EOC shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

PV0AD (01-20)

RX0BL

### PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT

**NOTE:** When used in this Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement, the term “preferred” refers to drugs that are included in the Health Plan drug formulary. The term “non-preferred” refers to drugs that are not included in the Health Plan drug formulary.

Please refer to the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)” in this booklet for the specific Copayments, Coinsurance, Deductible, and supply limits that apply to the covered prescription drugs described below.

#### 1. Coverage

Prescribed covered drugs are provided at the applicable prescription drug Copayment or Coinsurance for each tier of drug coverage. This may include: a preferred generic drug tier; a tier for preferred brand-name drugs or medications not having a generic or a generic equivalent; a tier for prescribed non-preferred drugs authorized through the non-preferred drug process; and a tier for certain specialty drugs. **Note:** Some specialty drugs are available in other tiers. To learn more, please visit our website at [kp.org/formulary](http://kp.org/formulary).

#### Non-Formulary Drug Exception Process:

You, your designee, or your Plan Provider may request access to clinically appropriate drugs not otherwise covered by Health Plan (non-formulary drugs) through a special exception process. We will make a coverage determination within 72 hours of receipt for standard requests and within 24 hours of receipt for expedited requests. As long as you are an active Member and the exception request is granted, Health Plan will provide coverage of the non-formulary drug for the duration of the prescription. If the exception request is denied, you, your designee, or your Plan Provider may request an external review of the decision by an independent review organization. For additional information about the prescription drug exception processes for non-formulary drugs, please contact **Member Services**.

Prescribed supplies and accessories include, but may not be limited to:

- a. Home glucose monitoring supplies.
- b. Glucose test strips.
- c. Acetone test tablets.
- d. Nitrate urine test strips for pediatric patients.
- e. Disposable syringes for the administration of insulin.

Such items are provided when obtained at Plan Pharmacies or from sources designated by Health Plan.

For Copayment or Coinsurance information related to contraceptive drugs and certain devices please refer to your “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What).”

For each drug, the amount covered will be the lesser of the quantity prescribed or the day supply limit. Any amount you receive that exceeds the day supply will not be covered. If you receive more than the day supply limit, you will be charged as a non-Member for any prescribed amount exceeding the limit. Certain drugs have a significant potential for waste and diversion. Those drugs will be provided for up to a 30-day supply. Each prescription refill is provided on the same basis as the original prescription. Kaiser Permanente may, in its sole discretion, establish quantity limits for specific prescription drugs.

Generic drugs that are available in the United States only from a single manufacturer and that are not listed as generic in the then-current commercially available drug database(s) to which Health Plan subscribes are provided at the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance. The amount covered will be the lesser of the quantity prescribed or the day supply limit.

Prescription drugs are covered only when prescribed by a:

- a. Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies; or
- b. Physician to whom a Member has been referred by a Plan Physician and obtained at Plan Pharmacies; or
- c. Dentist (when prescribed for acute conditions) and obtained at Plan Pharmacies.

Covered drugs include:

- a. Drugs for which a prescription is required by law. Plan Pharmacies may substitute a generic equivalent for a brand-name drug unless prohibited by the Plan Physician. If you request a brand-name drug when a generic equivalent drug is the preferred product, you must pay the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance, plus any difference in price between the preferred generic equivalent drug prescribed by the Plan Physician and the requested brand-name drug. If the brand-name drug is prescribed due to Medical Necessity, you pay only the brand-name Copayment or Coinsurance.
- b. Insulin.
- c. Renewal of prescription eye drops and one additional bottle of prescription eye drops in accordance with state law.
- d. Compounded medications. **Note:** In all Service Areas, if you use a Kaiser Permanente pharmacy, compounded medications must be picked up or mailed from the pharmacy that is designated by Health Plan. Refills of compounded medications cannot be ordered on [kp.org](http://kp.org), by mail order, or through the automated refill line. Please call **303-764-4900 (TTY 711)** and press “0” to speak to the pharmacy staff for assistance. In the *Southern* and *Northern Colorado* Service Areas, you may fill or refill compounded medications at a network pharmacy.

## 2. Limitations

- a. Some drugs may require prior authorization. You do not need prior authorization for any FDA-approved prescription drug listed on our formulary, for the treatment of substance use disorder.
- b. With the exception of substance use disorder drugs, we may apply Step Therapy to certain drugs. You or your Plan Provider may request an exception if you previously tried a drug and your use of the drug was discontinued due to lack of efficacy or effectiveness, diminished effect, or an adverse event.
- c. Coverage determinations for the off-label use of medications will be consistent with Medicare compendia, and coverage determinations for the off-label use of oncologic agents will be consistent with the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) of 2008.

### 3. Prescription Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements Exclusions

- a. Drugs for which a prescription is not required by law.
- b. Disposable supplies for home use such as bandages, gauze, tape, antiseptics, dressing and ace-type bandages.
- c. Prescription drugs necessary for Services excluded in the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement.
- d. Non-preferred drugs, except those prescribed and authorized through the non-preferred drug process.
- e. Any drugs listed as not covered in the “Schedule of Benefits (Who Pays What)”.
- f. Drugs to shorten the length of the common cold.
- g. Drugs to enhance athletic performance.
- h. Drugs available over the counter and by prescription for the same strength.
- i. Individual drugs determined excluded by our Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.
- j. Drugs for the treatment of weight control.
- k. Any prescription drug packaging except the dispensing pharmacy's standard packaging.
- l. Replacement of prescription drugs for any reason. This includes spilled, lost, damaged, or stolen prescriptions.
- m. Drugs administered during a medical office visit.
- n. Medical Foods and Medical Devices.
- o. Unless approved by Health Plan, drugs not approved by the FDA.

This rider amends the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement to provide coverage for Prescription Drugs. All of the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the Evidence of Coverage or Membership Agreement shall also apply to this rider except where specifically changed by this rider.

RX0BL (01-20)

# NOTES

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# NOTES

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# NOTES

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**Kaiser Foundation Health  
Plan of Colorado**  
2500 S. Havana St.  
Aurora, CO 80014-1622

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DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT



## Important plan information



Group Name: CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

Group Number: 75

Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

Sub Group	Sub Group Name	Non Medicare Medicare	Plan ID	Plan Name
050	CITY AND CNTY OF DEN ACT DHMO	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
051	C&C DENVER-DHMO-CB-DB	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
052	C&C DENVER-DHMO-RT-DB	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
053	C&C DENVER-DHMO-AC-CS	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
054	C&C DENVER-DHMO-CB-CS	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
055	C&C DENVER-DHMO-RT-CS	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
056	C&C DENVER-DHMO-AC-PB	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
057	C&C DENVER-DHMO-CB-PB	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
058	C&C DENVER-DHMO-RT-PB	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
059	C&C DENVER-DHMO-RT-NC	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
060	C&C DENVER-DHMO-AC-NC	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
061	C&C DENVER-DHMO-CB-NC	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG

Steps	Total
Employee Only	\$608.53
Spouse Only	\$608.53
Child Only	\$608.53
Employee & Spouse	\$1,338.76
Employee & Child	\$1,217.06
Spouse & Child	\$1,217.06
Children Only (CK)	\$1,217.06
Employee, Spouse & Child/Children	\$1,947.29
Employee & Children (ECK+)	\$1,217.06
Spouse & Children (SCK+)	\$1,217.06
Children Only (CKK+)	\$1,217.06

NOTE: Employees and their spouses age 65 and over who are entitled to Medicare benefits, but who elect this coverage as their primary health coverage pursuant to the applicable provisions of federal law, will be considered for purposes of rates as members under age 65 who are not entitled to Medicare.

Group Name: CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

Group Number: 75

Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

<b>Sub Group</b>	<b>Sub Group Name</b>	<b>Non Medicare Medicare</b>	<b>Plan ID</b>	<b>Plan Name</b>
050	CITY AND CNTY OF DEN ACT DHMO	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
051	C&C DENVER-DHMO-CB-DB	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
052	C&C DENVER-DHMO-RT-DB	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
053	C&C DENVER-DHMO-AC-CS	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
054	C&C DENVER-DHMO-CB-CS	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
055	C&C DENVER-DHMO-RT-CS	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
056	C&C DENVER-DHMO-AC-PB	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
057	C&C DENVER-DHMO-CB-PB	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
058	C&C DENVER-DHMO-RT-PB	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
059	C&C DENVER-DHMO-RT-NC	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
060	C&C DENVER-DHMO-AC-NC	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
061	C&C DENVER-DHMO-CB-NC	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG

<b>Plan /ENTL</b>	<b>Total</b>
Medicare Risk AB	\$169.34
Medicare Risk B	\$558.26
Medicare Risk BD	\$558.26
Medicare Risk CD	\$169.34

Group Name: CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

Group Number: 75

Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

Sub Group	Sub Group Name	Non Medicare Medicare	Plan ID	Plan Name
013	C&C OF DENVER HDHP DB	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
014	C&C OF DENVER HDHP RT	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
015	C&C OF DENVER HDHP CB	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
033	C&C DENVER-HDHP-AC-PB	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
034	C&C DENVER-HDHP-RT-PB	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
035	C&C DENVER-HDHP-CB-PB	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
043	C&C DENVER-HDHP-AC-NC	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
044	C&C DENVER-HDHP-RT-NC	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
045	C&C DENVER-HDHP-CB-NC	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
065	C&C DENVER-HDHP-AC-CS	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
066	C&C DENVER-HDHP-RT-CS	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
067	C&C DENVER-HDHP-CB-CS	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF

Steps	Total
Employee Only	\$491.41
Spouse Only	\$491.41
Child Only	\$491.41
Employee & Spouse	\$1,081.09
Employee & Child	\$982.81
Spouse & Child	\$982.81
Children Only (CK)	\$982.81
Employee, Spouse & Child/Children	\$1,572.25
Employee & Children (ECK+)	\$982.81
Spouse & Children (SCK+)	\$982.81
Children Only (CKK+)	\$982.81

NOTE: Employees and their spouses age 65 and over who are entitled to Medicare benefits, but who elect this coverage as their primary health coverage pursuant to the applicable provisions of federal law, will be considered for purposes of rates as members under age 65 who are not entitled to Medicare.

Group Name: CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

Group Number: 75

Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

<b>Sub Group</b>	<b>Sub Group Name</b>	<b>Non Medicare Medicare</b>	<b>Plan ID</b>	<b>Plan Name</b>
013	C&C OF DENVER HDHP DB	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
014	C&C OF DENVER HDHP RT	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
015	C&C OF DENVER HDHP CB	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
033	C&C DENVER-HDHP-AC-PB	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
034	C&C DENVER-HDHP-RT-PB	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
035	C&C DENVER-HDHP-CB-PB	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
043	C&C DENVER-HDHP-AC-NC	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
044	C&C DENVER-HDHP-RT-NC	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
045	C&C DENVER-HDHP-CB-NC	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
065	C&C DENVER-HDHP-AC-CS	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
066	C&C DENVER-HDHP-RT-CS	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
067	C&C DENVER-HDHP-CB-CS	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF

<b>Plan /ENTL</b>	<b>Total</b>
Medicare Risk AB	\$169.34
Medicare Risk B	\$558.26
Medicare Risk BD	\$558.26
Medicare Risk CD	\$169.34

Group Name: DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Group Number: 68

Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

<b>Sub Group</b>	<b>Sub Group Name</b>	<b>Non Medicare Medicare</b>	<b>Plan ID</b>	<b>Plan Name</b>
030	DPD DHMO 500 DB/AC	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
031	DPD DHMO 500 DB/CB	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
032	DPD DHMO RET PRE 65 DB	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
033	DPD DHMO 500 CS/AC	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
034	DPD DHMO 500 CS/CB	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
035	DPD DHMO RET PRE 65 CS	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
036	DPD DHMO 500 PB/AC	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
037	DPD DHMO 500 PB/CB	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
038	DPD DHMO RET PRE 65 PB	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
039	DPD DHMO 500 NC/AC	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
040	DPD DHMO 500 NC/CB	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
041	DPD DHMO RET PRE 65 NC	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
042	DPD DHMO RET PRE 65 DB/CB	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
043	DPD DHMO RET PRE 65 CS/CB	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
044	DPD DHMO RET PRE 65 PB/CB	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
045	DPD DHMO RET PRE 65 NC/CB	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
046	DPD DHMO 500 RET POST 65 DB	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
047	DPD DHMO RET POST 65 CS	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
048	DPD DHMO RET POST 65 PB	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
049	DPD DHMO RET POST 65 NC	Non Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG

Group Name: DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Group Number: 68

Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

**Sub Group**  
**Group Name**

**Non Medicare**  
**Medicare**

**Plan**  
**ID**

**Plan**  
**Name**

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<b>Steps</b>	<b>Total</b>
Employee Only	\$480.94
Spouse Only	\$480.94
Child Only	\$480.94
Employee & Spouse	\$1,058.12
Employee & Child	\$961.89
Spouse & Child	\$961.89
Children Only (CK)	\$961.89
Employee, Spouse & Child/Children	\$1,538.97
Employee & Children (ECK+)	\$961.89
Spouse & Children (SCK+)	\$961.89
Children Only (CKK+)	\$961.89

NOTE: Employees and their spouses age 65 and over who are entitled to Medicare benefits, but who elect this coverage as their primary health coverage pursuant to the applicable provisions of federal law, will be considered for purposes of rates as members under age 65 who are not entitled to Medicare.

Group Name: DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Group Number: 68

Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

Sub Group	Sub Group Name	Non Medicare Medicare	Plan ID	Plan Name
030	DPD DHMO 500 DB/AC	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
031	DPD DHMO 500 DB/CB	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
032	DPD DHMO RET PRE 65 DB	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
033	DPD DHMO 500 CS/AC	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
034	DPD DHMO 500 CS/CB	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
035	DPD DHMO RET PRE 65 CS	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
036	DPD DHMO 500 PB/AC	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
037	DPD DHMO 500 PB/CB	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
038	DPD DHMO RET PRE 65 PB	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
039	DPD DHMO 500 NC/AC	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
040	DPD DHMO 500 NC/CB	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
041	DPD DHMO RET PRE 65 NC	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
042	DPD DHMO RET PRE 65 DB/CB	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
043	DPD DHMO RET PRE 65 CS/CB	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
044	DPD DHMO RET PRE 65 PB/CB	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
045	DPD DHMO RET PRE 65 NC/CB	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
046	DPD DHMO 500 RET POST 65 DB	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
047	DPD DHMO RET POST 65 CS	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
048	DPD DHMO RET POST 65 PB	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG
049	DPD DHMO RET POST 65 NC	Medicare	EM1C	EB-20% COINS HMO PLAN-LG

Plan /ENTL	Total
Medicare Risk AB	\$256.49
Medicare Risk B	\$645.41
Medicare Risk BD	\$645.41
Medicare Risk CD	\$256.49

Group Name: DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Group Number: 68

Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

<b>Sub Group</b>	<b>Sub Group Name</b>	<b>Non Medicare Medicare</b>	<b>Plan ID</b>	<b>Plan Name</b>
050	DPD HDHP 1450 DB/AC	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
051	DPD HDHP 1450 DB/AC	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
052	DPD HDHP 1450 DB/CB	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
053	DPD HDHP PRE 65 RET DB/CB	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
054	DPD HDHP RET POST 65 DB	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
060	DPD HDHP 1450 CS/AC	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
061	DPD HDHP RET PRE 65 CS	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
062	DPD HDHP 1450 CS/CB	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
063	DPD HDHP PRE 65 RET CS/CB	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
064	DPD RET POST 65 CS	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
070	DPD HDHP 1450 PB/AC	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
071	DPD HDHP RET PRE 65 PB	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
072	DPD HDHP 1450 PB/CB	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
073	DPD HDHP PRE 65 RET PB/CB	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
074	DPD RET POST 65 PB	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
080	DPD HDHP 1450 NC/AC	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
081	DPD HDHP RET PRE 65 NC	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
082	DPD HDHP 1450 NC/CB	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
083	DPD HDHP PRE 65 RET NC/CB	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
084	DPD HDHP RET POST 65 NC	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF



Group Name: DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Group Number: 68

Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

**Sub Group**  
**Group Name**

**Non Medicare**  
**Medicare**

**Plan**  
**ID**

**Plan**  
**Name**

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<b>Steps</b>	<b>Total</b>
Employee Only	\$464.24
Spouse Only	\$464.24
Child Only	\$464.24
Employee & Spouse	\$1,017.01
Employee & Child	\$924.40
Spouse & Child	\$924.40
Children Only (CK)	\$924.40
Employee, Spouse & Child/Children	\$1,476.61
Employee & Children (ECK+)	\$924.40
Spouse & Children (SCK+)	\$924.40
Children Only (CKK+)	\$924.40

NOTE: Employees and their spouses age 65 and over who are entitled to Medicare benefits, but who elect this coverage as their primary health coverage pursuant to the applicable provisions of federal law, will be considered for purposes of rates as members under age 65 who are not entitled to Medicare.

Group Name: DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Group Number: 68

Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

<b>Sub Group</b>	<b>Sub Group Name</b>	<b>Non Medicare Medicare</b>	<b>Plan ID</b>	<b>Plan Name</b>
050	DPD HDHP 1450 DB/AC	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
051	DPD HDHP 1450 DB/AC	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
052	DPD HDHP 1450 DB/CB	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
053	DPD HDHP PRE 65 RET DB/CB	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
054	DPD HDHP RET POST 65 DB	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
060	DPD HDHP 1450 CS/AC	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
061	DPD HDHP RET PRE 65 CS	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
062	DPD HDHP 1450 CS/CB	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
063	DPD HDHP PRE 65 RET CS/CB	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
064	DPD RET POST 65 CS	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
070	DPD HDHP 1450 PB/AC	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
071	DPD HDHP RET PRE 65 PB	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
072	DPD HDHP 1450 PB/CB	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
073	DPD HDHP PRE 65 RET PB/CB	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
074	DPD RET POST 65 PB	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
080	DPD HDHP 1450 NC/AC	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
081	DPD HDHP RET PRE 65 NC	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
082	DPD HDHP 1450 NC/CB	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
083	DPD HDHP PRE 65 RET NC/CB	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
084	DPD HDHP RET POST 65 NC	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF

<b>Plan /ENTL</b>	<b>Total</b>
Medicare Risk AB	\$256.49
Medicare Risk B	\$645.41
Medicare Risk BD	\$645.41
Medicare Risk CD	\$256.49

Group Name: DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Group Number: 74

Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

Sub Group	Sub Group Name	Non Medicare Medicare	Plan ID	Plan Name
042	DFD-RT-GOLD-PRE65-HDHPMED DB	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
046	DFD-HDHP-RT-GOLD-PRE65 CE	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
047	DFD-HDHP-RT-GOLD-PRE65 CE	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
048	DFD-HDHP-RT-GOLD-PRE65 CE	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
052	DFD-RT-GOLD-POS65-HDHPMED DB	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
056	DFD-HDHP-RTGOLD-PRE65-CE	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
057	DFD-HDHP-RTGOLD-PRE65-CE	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
060	DFD-RT-GOLD-PRE65-HDHPMED CE	Non Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF

Steps	Total
Employee Only	\$467.00
Spouse Only	\$467.00
Child Only	\$467.00
Employee & Spouse	\$960.00
Employee & Child	\$937.00
Spouse & Child	\$937.00
Children Only (CK)	\$937.00
Employee, Spouse & Child/Children	\$1,352.00
Employee & Children (ECK+)	\$937.00
Spouse & Children (SCK+)	\$937.00
Children Only (CKK+)	\$937.00

NOTE: Employees and their spouses age 65 and over who are entitled to Medicare benefits, but who elect this coverage as their primary health coverage pursuant to the applicable provisions of federal law, will be considered for purposes of rates as members under age 65 who are not entitled to Medicare.

Group Name: DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Group Number: 74

Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

Sub Group	Sub Group Name	Non Medicare Medicare	Plan ID	Plan Name
042	DFD-RT-GOLD-PRE65-HDHPMED DB	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
046	DFD-HDHP-RT-GOLD-PRE65 CE	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
047	DFD-HDHP-RT-GOLD-PRE65 CE	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
048	DFD-HDHP-RT-GOLD-PRE65 CE	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
052	DFD-RT-GOLD-POS65-HDHPMED DB	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
056	DFD-HDHP-RTGOLD-PRE65-CE	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
057	DFD-HDHP-RTGOLD-PRE65-CE	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF
060	DFD-RT-GOLD-PRE65-HDHPMED CE	Medicare	EMAB	DED W/HSA 20% COIN M NGF

Plan /ENTL	Total
Medicare Risk AB	\$169.34
Medicare Risk AB	\$227.67
Medicare Risk B	\$558.26
Medicare Risk B	\$616.59
Medicare Risk BD	\$558.26
Medicare Risk BD	\$616.59
Medicare Risk CD	\$169.34
Medicare Risk CD	\$227.67

Group Name: DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Group Number: 74

Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

Sub Group	Sub Group Name	Non Medicare Medicare	Plan ID	Plan Name
002	DFD RT GOLD PRE65 HMO-MEDDB	Non Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF
025	DFD-RT-GOLD-POS65-HMO-MED DB	Non Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF
028	DFD-RT-SILVER-POS65-HMO-MED CE	Non Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF
031	DFD-RT-GOLD-PRE65-HMO-MEDCS	Non Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF
032	DFD-RT-SILVER-POS65-HMOMED CS	Non Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF
036	DFD-RT-GOLD-PRE65-HMOMED NC	Non Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF
039	DFD-RT-SILVER-POS65-HMOMED-NC	Non Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF
070	DFD-RT-GOLD-POS65-HMOMED-NC	Non Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF
072	DFD-RT-GOLD-PRE65 DEF PEN DB	Non Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF

Steps	Total
Employee Only	\$630.00
Spouse Only	\$630.00
Child Only	\$630.00
Employee & Spouse	\$1,290.00
Employee & Child	\$1,258.00
Spouse & Child	\$1,258.00
Children Only (CK)	\$1,258.00
Employee, Spouse & Child/Children	\$1,819.00
Employee & Children (ECK+)	\$1,258.00
Spouse & Children (SCK+)	\$1,258.00
Children Only (CKK+)	\$1,258.00

NOTE: Employees and their spouses age 65 and over who are entitled to Medicare benefits, but who elect this coverage as their primary health coverage pursuant to the applicable provisions of federal law, will be considered for purposes of rates as members under age 65 who are not entitled to Medicare.

Group Name: DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Group Number: 74

Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

<b>Sub Group</b>	<b>Sub Group Name</b>	<b>Non Medicare Medicare</b>	<b>Plan ID</b>	<b>Plan Name</b>
002	DFD RT GOLD PRE65 HMO-MEDDB	Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF
025	DFD-RT-GOLD-POS65-HMO-MED DB	Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF
028	DFD-RT-SILVER-POS65-HMO-MED CE	Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF
031	DFD-RT-GOLD-PRE65-HMO-MEDCS	Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF
032	DFD-RT-SILVER-POS65-HMOMED CS	Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF
036	DFD-RT-GOLD-PRE65-HMOMED NC	Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF
039	DFD-RT-SILVER-POS65-HMOMED-NC	Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF
070	DFD-RT-GOLD-POS65-HMOMED-NC	Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF
072	DFD-RT-GOLD-PRE65 DEF PEN DB	Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF

<b>Plan /ENTL</b>	<b>Total</b>
Medicare Risk AB	\$169.34
Medicare Risk AB	\$227.67
Medicare Risk B	\$558.26
Medicare Risk B	\$616.59
Medicare Risk BD	\$558.26
Medicare Risk BD	\$616.59
Medicare Risk CD	\$169.34
Medicare Risk CD	\$227.67

Group Name: DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Group Number: 74

Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

Sub Group	Sub Group Name	Non Medicare Medicare	Plan ID	Plan Name
019	DFD-RT-SILVER-POS65-HMO-MEDDB	Non Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF
029	DFD-RT-GOLD-PRE65-HMO-MED-CE	Non Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF
074	DFD-RT-SILVER-PRE65 DEF PE DB	Non Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF

Steps	Total
Employee Only	\$633.00
Spouse Only	\$633.00
Child Only	\$633.00
Employee & Spouse	\$1,295.00
Employee & Child	\$1,263.00
Spouse & Child	\$1,263.00
Children Only (CK)	\$1,263.00
Employee, Spouse & Child/Children	\$1,826.00
Employee & Children (ECK+)	\$1,263.00
Spouse & Children (SCK+)	\$1,263.00
Children Only (CKK+)	\$1,263.00

NOTE: Employees and their spouses age 65 and over who are entitled to Medicare benefits, but who elect this coverage as their primary health coverage pursuant to the applicable provisions of federal law, will be considered for purposes of rates as members under age 65 who are not entitled to Medicare.

Group Name: DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Group Number: 74

Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

<b>Sub Group</b>	<b>Sub Group Name</b>	<b>Non Medicare Medicare</b>	<b>Plan ID</b>	<b>Plan Name</b>
019	DFD-RT-SILVER-POS65-HMO-MEDDB	Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF
029	DFD-RT-GOLD-PRE65-HMO-MED-CE	Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF
074	DFD-RT-SILVER-PRE65 DEF PE DB	Medicare	EMBD	\$20 OVC HMO M NGF

<b>Plan /ENTL</b>	<b>Total</b>
Medicare Risk AB	\$169.34
Medicare Risk AB	\$227.67
Medicare Risk B	\$558.26
Medicare Risk B	\$616.59
Medicare Risk BD	\$558.26
Medicare Risk BD	\$616.59
Medicare Risk CD	\$169.34
Medicare Risk CD	\$227.67



Group Name: DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Group Number: 74

Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

<b>Sub Group</b>	<b>Sub Group Name</b>	<b>Non Medicare Medicare</b>	<b>Plan ID</b>	<b>Plan Name</b>
001	DFD-HMO-ACT-DB	Non Medicare	ENAB	\$20 OVC HMO NM NGF
003	DFD-HMO-CB-DB	Non Medicare	ENAB	\$20 OVC HMO NM NGF
005	DFD-RT-PRE65-HMO-CS	Non Medicare	ENAB	\$20 OVC HMO NM NGF
007	DFD-AC-HMO-CS	Non Medicare	ENAB	\$20 OVC HMO NM NGF
012	DFD-CB-HMO-CS	Non Medicare	ENAB	\$20 OVC HMO NM NGF

<b>Steps</b>	<b>Total</b>
Employee Only	\$630.00
Spouse Only	\$630.00
Child Only	\$630.00
Employee & Spouse	\$1,290.00
Employee & Child	\$1,258.00
Spouse & Child	\$1,258.00
Children Only (CK)	\$1,258.00
Employee, Spouse & Child/Children	\$1,819.00
Employee & Children (ECK+)	\$1,258.00
Spouse & Children (SCK+)	\$1,258.00
Children Only (CKK+)	\$1,258.00

NOTE: Employees and their spouses age 65 and over who are entitled to Medicare benefits, but who elect this coverage as their primary health coverage pursuant to the applicable provisions of federal law, will be considered for purposes of rates as members under age 65 who are not entitled to Medicare.

Group Name: DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Group Number: 74

Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

Sub Group	Sub Group Name	Non Medicare Medicare	Plan ID	Plan Name
026	DFD-RT-PRE65-HMO-CE	Non Medicare	ENAB	\$20 OVC HMO NM NGF
034	DFD-HMO-ACT-NC	Non Medicare	ENAB	\$20 OVC HMO NM NGF
035	DFD-HMO-CB-NC	Non Medicare	ENAB	\$20 OVC HMO NM NGF
071	DFD-AC-HMO-PB	Non Medicare	ENAB	\$20 OVC HMO NM NGF
076	DFD-RT-PRE65-HMO-DB	Non Medicare	ENAB	\$20 OVC HMO NM NGF
077	DFD-RT-PRE65-HMO-NC	Non Medicare	ENAB	\$20 OVC HMO NM NGF

Steps	Total
Employee Only	\$633.00
Spouse Only	\$633.00
Child Only	\$633.00
Employee & Spouse	\$1,295.00
Employee & Child	\$1,263.00
Spouse & Child	\$1,263.00
Children Only (CK)	\$1,263.00
Employee, Spouse & Child/Children	\$1,826.00
Employee & Children (ECK+)	\$1,263.00
Spouse & Children (SCK+)	\$1,263.00
Children Only (CKK+)	\$1,263.00

NOTE: Employees and their spouses age 65 and over who are entitled to Medicare benefits, but who elect this coverage as their primary health coverage pursuant to the applicable provisions of federal law, will be considered for purposes of rates as members under age 65 who are not entitled to Medicare.

Group Name: DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Group Number: 74

Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

<b>Sub Group</b>	<b>Sub Group Name</b>	<b>Non Medicare Medicare</b>	<b>Plan ID</b>	<b>Plan Name</b>
013	DFD-POS3OPT-ACT-DB	Non Medicare	ENAB	\$20 OVC HMO NM NGF
014	DFD-POS3OPT-RET-PRE65-DB	Non Medicare	ENAB	\$20 OVC HMO NM NGF
016	DFD-POS3OPT-CB-DB	Non Medicare	ENAB	\$20 OVC HMO NM NGF

<b>Steps</b>	<b>Total</b>
Employee Only	\$765.00
Spouse Only	\$765.00
Child Only	\$765.00
Employee & Spouse	\$1,569.00
Employee & Child	\$1,530.00
Spouse & Child	\$1,530.00
Children Only (CK)	\$1,530.00
Employee, Spouse & Child/Children	\$2,210.00
Employee & Children (ECK+)	\$1,530.00
Spouse & Children (SCK+)	\$1,530.00
Children Only (CKK+)	\$1,530.00

NOTE: Employees and their spouses age 65 and over who are entitled to Medicare benefits, but who elect this coverage as their primary health coverage pursuant to the applicable provisions of federal law, will be considered for purposes of rates as members under age 65 who are not entitled to Medicare.

Group Name: DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Group Number: 74

Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

Sub Group	Sub Group Name	Non Medicare Medicare	Plan ID	Plan Name
038	DFD-POS3OPT-ACT-NC	Non Medicare	ENAB	\$20 OVC HMO NM NGF
058	DFD-POS3OPT-CB-NC	Non Medicare	ENAB	\$20 OVC HMO NM NGF
062	DENVER FIRE DEPT DFD POS3 T1 C	Non Medicare	ENAB	\$20 OVC HMO NM NGF
064	DFD-AC-POS3OPT-CE	Non Medicare	ENAB	\$20 OVC HMO NM NGF
C62	DENVER FIRE DEPT DFD POS3	Non Medicare	ENAB	\$20 OVC HMO NM NGF
C64	DFD-CB-POS3OPT-CE	Non Medicare	ENAB	\$20 OVC HMO NM NGF

Steps	Total
Employee Only	\$767.00
Spouse Only	\$767.00
Child Only	\$767.00
Employee & Spouse	\$1,573.00
Employee & Child	\$1,534.00
Spouse & Child	\$1,534.00
Children Only (CK)	\$1,534.00
Employee, Spouse & Child/Children	\$2,215.00
Employee & Children (ECK+)	\$1,534.00
Spouse & Children (SCK+)	\$1,534.00
Children Only (CKK+)	\$1,534.00

NOTE: Employees and their spouses age 65 and over who are entitled to Medicare benefits, but who elect this coverage as their primary health coverage pursuant to the applicable provisions of federal law, will be considered for purposes of rates as members under age 65 who are not entitled to Medicare.

Group Name: DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Group Number: 74

Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

Sub Group	Sub Group Name	Non Medicare Medicare	Plan ID	Plan Name
040	DFD-AC-HDHP-DB	Non Medicare	ENBC	DED W/HSA 20% COIN NM NGF
041	DFD-CB-HDHP-DB	Non Medicare	ENBC	DED W/HSA 20% COIN NM NGF
043	DFD-HDHP-ACT-CS	Non Medicare	ENBC	DED W/HSA 20% COIN NM NGF
044	DFD-HDHP-CB-CS	Non Medicare	ENBC	DED W/HSA 20% COIN NM NGF
045	DFD-AC-HDHP-CS	Non Medicare	ENBC	DED W/HSA 20% COIN NM NGF
049	DFD-AC-HDHP-NC	Non Medicare	ENBC	DED W/HSA 20% COIN NM NGF
050	DFD-CB-HDHP-NC	Non Medicare	ENBC	DED W/HSA 20% COIN NM NGF
051	DFD-RT-GOLD-PRE65-HDHPMED NC	Non Medicare	ENBC	DED W/HSA 20% COIN NM NGF
054	DFD-HDHP2-ACT-CS	Non Medicare	ENBC	DED W/HSA 20% COIN NM NGF
055	DFD-HDHP2-CB-CS	Non Medicare	ENBC	DED W/HSA 20% COIN NM NGF
059	DFD-HDHP2-ACT-CS	Non Medicare	ENBC	DED W/HSA 20% COIN NM NGF

Steps	Total
Employee Only	\$467.00
Spouse Only	\$467.00
Child Only	\$467.00
Employee & Spouse	\$960.00
Employee & Child	\$937.00
Spouse & Child	\$937.00
Children Only (CK)	\$937.00
Employee, Spouse & Child/Children	\$1,352.00
Employee & Children (ECK+)	\$937.00
Spouse & Children (SCK+)	\$937.00
Children Only (CKK+)	\$937.00

NOTE: Employees and their spouses age 65 and over who are entitled to Medicare benefits, but who elect this coverage as their primary health coverage pursuant to the applicable provisions of federal law, will be considered for purposes of rates as members under age 65 who are not entitled to Medicare.

Group Name: DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Group Number: 74

Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

<b>Sub Group</b>	<b>Sub Group Name</b>	<b>Non Medicare Medicare</b>	<b>Plan ID</b>	<b>Plan Name</b>
015	DENVR FIRE PRE65 RT OOA	Non Medicare	PV15	40% TRADTNL PPO - LG HCR
061	DFD-AC-OOA-PPO	Non Medicare	PV15	40% TRADTNL PPO - LG HCR

<b>Steps</b>	<b>Total</b>
Employee Only	\$765.00
Spouse Only	\$765.00
Child Only	\$765.00
Employee & Spouse	\$1,569.00
Employee & Child	\$1,530.00
Spouse & Child	\$1,530.00
Children Only (CK)	\$1,530.00
Employee, Spouse & Child/Children	\$2,210.00
Employee & Children (ECK+)	\$1,530.00
Spouse & Children (SCK+)	\$1,530.00
Children Only (CKK+)	\$1,530.00

NOTE: Employees and their spouses age 65 and over who are entitled to Medicare benefits, but who elect this coverage as their primary health coverage pursuant to the applicable provisions of federal law, will be considered for purposes of rates as members under age 65 who are not entitled to Medicare.

Group Name: DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Group Number: 74

Contract Period: 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

<b>Sub Group</b>	<b>Sub Group Name</b>	<b>Non Medicare Medicare</b>	<b>Plan ID</b>	<b>Plan Name</b>
078	DNVR FIRE PRE65 RT OOA	Non Medicare	PV15	40% TRADTNL PPO - LG HCR

<b>Steps</b>	<b>Total</b>
Employee Only	\$767.00
Spouse Only	\$767.00
Child Only	\$767.00
Employee & Spouse	\$1,573.00
Employee & Child	\$1,534.00
Spouse & Child	\$1,534.00
Children Only (CK)	\$1,534.00
Employee, Spouse & Child/Children	\$2,215.00
Employee & Children (ECK+)	\$1,534.00
Spouse & Children (SCK+)	\$1,534.00
Children Only (CKK+)	\$1,534.00

NOTE: Employees and their spouses age 65 and over who are entitled to Medicare benefits, but who elect this coverage as their primary health coverage pursuant to the applicable provisions of federal law, will be considered for purposes of rates as members under age 65 who are not entitled to Medicare.

# AMENDMENT TO GROUP AGREEMENT

## Group Determines Eligibility

This document amends your Group Agreement. The section titled “**Contribution and Participation Requirements**” is hereby amended with the addition of the following language:

### Group Determines Eligibility

Group determines its Member eligibility requirements, which must be approved by Health Plan.

Group agrees to assume responsibility for determining the eligibility of its enrolled employees and their dependents. Such self-determination includes obtaining and verifying the accuracy of all supporting documentation received from enrolled employees regarding the following eligibility categories:

- Marriage;
- Common-law marriage;
- Divorce;
- Domestic partner relationships, if applicable;
- Civil Unions;
- Eligible dependent children including natural children, stepchildren and adopted children;
- Student dependents;
- Overage dependents;
- Cancellation of coverage;
- Loss of coverage;
- COBRA eligibility.

Group further agrees to provide Health Plan with timely notification of enrollment and cancellation of employees and/or their dependents, as specified in the “**Eligibility and Enrollment**” and “**Termination of Membership**” sections of the **Evidence of Coverage** brochure.

Health Plan retains responsibility for the determination of disabled dependents. Employees must complete Health plan’s Disabled Dependent form and submit it for approval.



# AMENDMENT TO GROUP AGREEMENT

## Group Determines Eligibility

This document amends your Group Agreement. The section titled “**Contribution and Participation Requirements**” is hereby amended with the addition of the following language:

### Group Determines Eligibility

Group determines its Member eligibility requirements, which must be approved by Health Plan.

Group agrees to assume responsibility for determining the eligibility of its enrolled employees and their dependents. Such self-determination includes obtaining and verifying the accuracy of all supporting documentation received from enrolled employees regarding the following eligibility categories:

- Marriage;
- Common-law marriage;
- Divorce;
- Domestic partner relationships, if applicable;
- Eligible dependent children including natural children, stepchildren and adopted children;
- Student dependents;
- Overage dependents;
- Cancellation of coverage;
- Loss of coverage;
- COBRA eligibility
- Disabled Dependents.

Group further agrees to provide Health Plan with timely notification of enrollment and cancellation of employees and/or their dependents, as specified in the “**Eligibility and Enrollment**” and “**Termination of Membership**” sections of the **Evidence of Coverage** brochure.

## 2020 Performance Guarantees Agreement City and County of Denver

### Guaranteed Performance

**This Performance Guarantees Agreement is effective from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.** We offer performance guarantees for our fully-insured health plans backed by a percentage of your annual non-Medicare premium for Kaiser Permanente plans that have 500 or more of your non-Medicare members. Once one plan qualifies for an at-risk guarantee, other Kaiser Permanente plans with at least 100 but fewer than 500 of your non-Medicare members will report performance without financial risk. In 2021, we will conduct a review of your 2020 membership (average over 12 months) to determine the appropriate status of this agreement in each plan.

### Changes in Measures

Some of our measures or targets may change year-to-year based on medical or public health trends, performance enhancements, new systems implementation and similar factors. In addition, some of the measures use definitions established by national organizations such as the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA.) If the measure is no longer reported, the definition of a measure changes, or if there are changes to reporting rules or publications after these guarantees are in place we may no longer guarantee the measure.

### Penalty Thresholds and Reporting Frequency

To the extent possible, we set our penalty thresholds (i.e., the performance level we guarantee and below which we pay a penalty) in alignment with industry standards. Penalty thresholds for HEDIS measures are based on the applicable state/regional or national HMO averages as reported in the NCQA Quality Compass. Typically, in the fall of each year (after the annual release of HEDIS results) we provide an annual performance report for the preceding year. Performance guarantees require annual renewal and must be requested each year by the Customer.

### Proprietary and Confidential

The information contained in this agreement is proprietary and confidential. Customer agrees to not share any information contained in this document with any Kaiser Permanente competitor, nor with any other third-party unless granted specific written consent to do so by Kaiser Permanente's representative.

### Penalty Payments and Force Majeure

We report performance results based on our annual (calendar year) performance. Penalty payments are determined after the end of the year and are based on the group's total non-Medicare premium for the calendar year. We pay agreed-upon penalties by check. The group is responsible for notifying their account management team of the correct payment address to which payment should be sent when processed.

Penalty payments on sample-based measures are contingent on statistically significant differences ('margins of error') from penalty thresholds. If the result on a measure is below the penalty threshold (target) we use a standard statistical test to determine whether the difference is too large to be explained by random chance. We do not pay penalties unless the result is determined to be a true difference at the 95% or better confidence level.

If we are unable to provide any of the information guaranteed in this agreement due to force majeure or federal, state or local legislative or regulatory action, the measures affected by such action will not be subject to penalties. Customer must be currently enrolled, and its account in good standing, at the end of the reporting period, December 31, 2020, in order to receive any penalty payments for missed performance measures due under this agreement. We require that Customer dispute any performance results and/or penalty due by submitting written notice to us within 60 days after the date the final report is delivered, or payment is made. Unless Customer notifies Kaiser of a dispute within such 60-day period, the report and penalty payment, if applicable, shall be considered final and not subject to dispute. Your written response must be received within 60 days of your receipt of our final report or you will forfeit any penalties otherwise due to you under this agreement.

### Account Management Measures

Issues pertaining to satisfaction with account management are defined as matters that are under direct control of the Account Management Team (e.g. team availability, responses to customer questions, keeping customer informed of developments, etc.). Issues related to other health plan activities (e.g. pricing and rates, member call center services, claims, or eligibility processing) are not applicable to these measures and may be covered by other measures in this agreement.

Forfeiture on account management satisfaction measures is contingent on prompt notification (prior to September 1<sup>st</sup> of the agreement year) by the Customer of specific issues which may result in service failure, and adequate opportunity for resolution (agreement on corrective action plan and timeline). Failure of Kaiser Permanente account management to develop and execute on a corrective action plan constitutes failure on such measures.

### To contact Kaiser Permanente

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to provide health care services to your employees and their families. Please contact your Account Manager if you have questions or comments concerning this agreement.

## 2020 Performance Guarantees Agreement City and County of Denver

Based on projected 2020 membership, we expect the **Colorado** region will be guaranteed with premium at risk.

**This Performance Guarantees Agreement is effective from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.**

Measures are based on annual, plan-wide performance unless specified otherwise. Penalty thresholds and results are rounded to the nearest whole number except on measures where the penalty threshold is shown with a decimal point (e.g. <3.0%)

2020 Performance Measures		Penalty Threshold	Penalty (% of Premium)
<i>Implementation, Administration and Account Management</i>			
1.	<b>City and County of Denver</b> – clean eligibility files initial upload completed within 2 business days of receipt when file is received prior to 2:15 pm MST	93%	0.10%
2.	Premium reconciliation within 30 calendar days (% of PG groups)	85%	0.10%
3.	Identification card distribution – percent within 10 business days of receipt	95%	0.10%
4.	Provide contract / booklet updated within 60 days	Provide	0.09%
5.	Customer overall satisfaction with account management/team	Purchaser satisfied; see provisions on cover page	0.10%
6.	Quarterly operational performance reporting provided 60 days after the end of each quarter.	Provide	0.09%
<i>Member Services</i>			
6.	Member service calls answered within 30 seconds	80%	0.10%
7.	Telephone call abandonment rate	< 3.0%	0.10%
8.	First contact resolution (includes emails, same member / same issue call back within 30	80%	0.10%
<i>Member Satisfaction</i>			
9.	Member satisfaction with health plan (CAHPS #42) <sup>1</sup>	≥ State Avg. <sup>2*</sup>	0.10%
<i>Claims</i>			
10.	Claims financial accuracy	98.5%	0.10%
11.	Claims processing (financial incident) accuracy	97%	0.10%
12.	Claims processing turnaround within 30 calendar days (clean claims)	95%	0.10%
<i>Quality of Care</i>			
13.	BMI – Adult BMI Assessment	≥ Natl. Avg. <sup>3*</sup>	0.08%
14.	Weight Assessment & Counseling Children/Adolescents – Nutrition	≥ Natl. Avg. <sup>3*</sup>	0.08%
15.	Appropriate Treatment for Children with Upper Respiratory Infection	≥ Natl. Avg. <sup>3*</sup>	0.08%
16.	Statin Therapy for Patients with Cardiovascular Disease (Total)	≥ Natl. Avg. <sup>3*</sup>	0.08%
17.	Colorectal Cancer Screening Rate	≥ Natl. Avg. <sup>3*</sup>	0.08%
18.	Mammography Screening Rate	≥ Natl. Avg. <sup>3*</sup>	0.08%
19.	Follow-up After Mental Illness (7 days)	≥ Natl. Avg. <sup>3*</sup>	0.08%
20.	Diabetes – Controlling High Blood Pressure (140/90)	≥ Natl. Avg. <sup>3*</sup>	0.08%
21.	Diabetes – Glycemic Poor Control Rate	≥ Natl. Avg. <sup>3*</sup>	0.08%
<b>Total Percent at Risk</b>			<b>2.00 %</b>

<sup>1</sup> From the NCQA CAHPS Survey, based on the percent of respondents answering eight or higher on a 0 - 10 scale

<sup>2</sup> Based on NCQA's State/Regional HMO Average

<sup>3</sup> Based on NCQA's National HMO Average

\* Penalties are contingent on statistically significant differences from targets

**EXHIBIT B**

Kaiser Wellness Program letter of agreement

May 15, 2020

City and County of Denver  
Karen Niparko, Executive Director  
Office of Human Resources  
201 W. Colfax Ave.  
Denver, CO 80202

Re: Kaiser Permanente workforce health programs

Dear Ms. Niparko:

This letter agreement (“**Agreement**”) memorializes our previous discussions about the Kaiser Permanente workforce health programs Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado for the Colorado Region (“**Kaiser Permanente**” or “**KP**”) is providing or arranging for City and County of Denver and Denver Police Department (“**Group**”). KP and Group are collectively the “**Parties**,” and each is a “**Party**.” The services provided or arranged for under this Agreement are described in Exhibits A (any combination of Exhibits A-1, A-3, A-6, etc.) and are referred to in this Agreement as the “**Services**.” The compensation rates applicable to Services are also included in Exhibits A.

**ELIGIBLE GROUP PARTICIPANTS**

Services will be available to certain Group participants as determined by Group, and the specific Group participants eligible for each Service are described in the various Exhibits A attached to this Agreement. Group participants include the following categories of participants:

<b>Category of Group Participant</b>	<b>Description</b>
1. KP-Subscribers	Group employees who are members of a KP health plan offered by Group (referred to as “ <b>KP-Subscribers</b> ”)
2. KP-Subscriber-Dependents	KP-Subscribers’ dependents, including spouses and domestic partners, aged 18 or older who are members of a KP health plan offered by Group (referred to as “ <b>KP-Subscriber-Dependents</b> ”)
3. Non-Subscribers	Group employees who are <u>not</u> members of a KP health plan offered by Group (referred to as “ <b>Non-Subscribers</b> ”)
4. Non-Subscriber-Dependents	Non-Subscribers’ and KP-Subscribers’ dependents and domestic partners aged 18 or older who are <u>not</u> members of a KP health plan offered by Group (referred to as “ <b>Non-Subscriber-Dependents</b> ”)

The eligibility for any particular category of Group participant to access Services may vary by Exhibit and potentially within an Exhibit, and each Exhibit will control as to the availability of a Service to a particular Group participant.

**SERVICES UNDER AGREEMENT**

The Services are not regulated health plan benefits covered by KP when offered in the manner described in this Agreement. Group retains all responsibility for its group health plans’ compliance with applicable law (including, as applicable, the Employment Retirement Income Security Act and its implementing regulations), as well as for its employee wellness programs’

compliance with applicable law. KP does not provide legal advice to Group regarding the Services, and Group acknowledges its responsibility to consult with its own professionals for any legal advice regarding the Services.

### **INFORMATION NEEDED FROM GROUP**

Where KP requires information or materials (for example, information about Non-Subscribers or access to space for work-site clinics) to perform its obligations under this Agreement, Group agrees to provide such information and materials (the "**Required Materials**," as described in Exhibits A). KP will have the right (and, if necessary, Group will obtain any third party rights necessary for KP) to copy, modify, and otherwise use Required Materials and any other content, information, records, and materials provided by or for Group to KP for the purpose of KP performing its obligations and exercising its rights under this Agreement. If KP does not receive the Required Materials in the specific manner and according to the terms set forth in this Agreement, KP will be under no obligation to provide the Services that require such Required Materials.

### **USE OF KP PROPRIETARY MATERIALS**

With respect to Services provided by KP, Group acknowledges that, as between the Parties, KP will have all right, title and interest in and to: (a) all content, materials, reports, software and documentation, and any other works of authorship, analytical methodologies, data organization, processes, concepts, systems, know-how, ideas, inventions, and other technology, whether or not confidential, related to the Services, (b) all enhancements, modifications, improvements or derivatives to the foregoing (whether or not created by KP, alone or with others), and (c) all intellectual property rights related to the foregoing (collectively (a), (b) and (c) are referred to as the "**KP Proprietary Materials**"). Group will not acquire any proprietary rights or licenses in the KP Proprietary Materials.

KP grants to Group a non-exclusive, non-assignable, non-sublicensable, non-transferable right to use any KP Proprietary Materials delivered to it by KP solely in connection with this Agreement. Upon the expiration or termination of this Agreement for any reason, Group will have a non-exclusive, non-assignable, non-sublicensable, non-transferable right to continue to use the reports containing data as well as health education materials furnished by KP to Group under this Agreement. At all times, Group's use of the KP Proprietary Materials is subject to and conditioned on Group's compliance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

### **TERM AND TERMINATION**

This term of this Agreement runs from January 1, 2020 ("**Effective Date**") through December 31, 2020. If Services are still in process at the time of expiration of the term, the Agreement will continue until the Services are fully performed. Either Party may terminate this Agreement with or without cause, upon 60 days written notice to the other Party. Expiration or termination of this Agreement shall not affect those rights, obligations, powers, remedies, and liabilities that arose prior to expiration or termination or are continuing in nature.

### **NOTICES**

All notices, consents, requests, demands or other communications to or upon the respective Parties will be in writing and will be effective for all purposes upon receipt, including without limitation, in the case of (i) personal delivery, (ii) delivery by messenger, express or air courier or similar courier, (iii) delivery by United States first class certified or registered mail, postage prepaid and (iv) transmittal by facsimile, addressed to the respective address provided on the signature page. Changes in address will be communicated pursuant to this paragraph.

### **COOPERATION**

Each Party may use affiliates, consultants or other contractors (together, "**Delegates**") in connection with the performance of its obligations and the exercise of its rights under this Agreement, provided that such Delegate will be subject to those obligations applicable to the delegating Party that are relevant to activities performed by Delegate.

Each Party will perform its obligations under this Agreement in a manner in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations. Where Group provides data on its employees to KP or a Delegate as necessary for performance of Services (for example, data on Non-Subscribers), Group agrees to follow applicable privacy law, including execution of a Business Associate Agreement where required. Each Party will cooperate with and participate in any activities reasonably necessary to assist the other Party in meeting its legal and regulatory obligations with respect to the Services, including cooperation with any review or examination of the other Party by any governmental agency. Such cooperation and participation will include, without limitation, cooperation with reviews and audits of paper, electronic, or other files, except to the extent inconsistent with applicable law. In accordance with applicable law, KP may use aggregated data and information collected in providing the Services.

Each Party recognizes that the other Party and its affiliates own or have the license to use certain logos, trademarks, service marks and trade names that identify the other Party and its affiliates and contractors and its and their products and services ("**Marks**"). All goodwill resulting from use of a Party's and its affiliates' and contractors' Marks will inure solely to that Party, its affiliates or contractors, as applicable. Neither Party has acquired, and will not acquire, any right, title or interest in or to the other Party's or its affiliates' or contractors' Marks. Each Party and its affiliates will not register or attempt to register the Marks or any trademark or service mark confusingly similar to the Marks of the other Party, its affiliates or contractors, and will retain the exclusive right to apply for and obtain registrations for its Marks and those of its affiliates throughout the world.

### **INVOICES**

For any amounts owed by Group to KP, KP will submit an invoice to Group describing the Services provided. Group will pay KP within 30 days after receipt of the invoice. Payments will be made in U.S. currency to the KP address provided by KP.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

This Agreement will be governed in accordance with the laws of the State of **Colorado** without reference to conflict of laws principles. This Agreement may be executed in separate counterparts, none of which need contain the signatures of both Parties, and each of which, when so executed, shall be deemed an original and all together constitute and be one of the same instrument. The Parties agree that an electronic signature or a scanned or electronically reproduced copy or image of this Agreement bearing the signatures of the Parties will be deemed an original and will represent competent evidence of the execution, terms and existence of this Agreement notwithstanding the failure or inability to produce an original, executed counterpart of this Agreement, and without the requirement that the unavailability of such original executed counterpart of this Agreement first be proven. Any determination that any provision of this Agreement or any application thereof is invalid, illegal, or unenforceable shall not affect the validity, legality, and enforceability of such provision in any other instance, or the validity, legality or enforceability of any other provision of this Agreement. This Agreement contains the complete understanding among the Parties with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement and supersedes all prior or contemporaneous oral or written representations, communications, proposals or agreements not expressly included. All Exhibits to this Agreement are incorporated into this Agreement by this reference. No changes, amendments, cancellation, or modification to this Agreement will be effective unless signed by duly authorized representatives of both Parties.

Please indicate your agreement with the terms of this Agreement by signing the enclosed copy of this Agreement and returning it to Melissa Ford, [melissa.l.ford@kp.org](mailto:melissa.l.ford@kp.org).

Very truly yours,

"Kaiser Permanente"

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Acknowledged and agreed to by:**

"Group"

**City and County of Denver/Denver Police Department**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**EXHIBIT A-2**

**HEALTH PROMOTION PROGRAMS, CLASSES, AND WORKSHOPS**

**1. Description of the Program**

KP will provide the health promotion services described below:

**Health Promotion Programs:**

<b>Service</b>	<b>Descriptions</b>	<b># Sessions</b>
One-hour Single Session Classes and Webinars	Topics include healthy eating, active living, resilience, stress management, sleep, and emotional wellbeing.	To be determined
Cooking Demonstrations (in-person and virtual)	Registered Dietitian prepares healthy food onsite or virtually, shares recipes, cooking techniques, and answers questions	To be determined
Well-being Ambassador Training	Customizable program to educate wellness champions within your workplace. Participants are empowered to share and promote health information with peers.	To be determined
Mindfulness Training	Evidence based mindfulness trainings offered onsite or virtual. Customized offerings including session length and frequency.	To be determined

**Group Participants Eligible for this Service**

X	KP-Subscribers
	KP Subscriber-Dependents
X	Non-Subscribers
	Non-Subscriber-Dependents

**2. What needs to be supplied by Kaiser Permanente?**

KP will provide Health Promotion Programs, Classes and Workshops on the dates and in the locations as mutually agreed by the Parties.

**3. What needs to be supplied by Group (“Required Materials”)?)**

Group will provide the site location, room, projector, and other identified hardware.

**4. Fee Schedule**

<b>Service</b>	<b>Price</b>
<b>Classes</b>	
Single-Session Class	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$375 per one hour session</li> <li>For extended class greater than one hour, \$100 per portion of hour after first hour</li> </ul>
Multi-Session Class	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$375 per initial one hour session</li> <li>\$375 per additional one hour session</li> <li>For extended initial or additional sessions greater than one hour, \$100 per portion of hour after first hour</li> </ul>
Webinar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$550 per one hour session</li> </ul>
Custom Webinar Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$100 per hour custom webinar development</li> </ul>
Well-being Ambassador Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$3000 - \$5000 depending on customization</li> </ul>
Mindfulness Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pricing varies depending on course, mode and duration</li> </ul>

<b>Terms &amp; Conditions</b>	
Fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total fees may vary by event, based on actual participation, event duration, staffing, event hours, travel fees, class customization, etc. Estimated event fees will be provided when event is scheduled. Total actual fees will be detailed on a post-event invoice, as applicable. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Additional staffing fees apply to services provided weekdays after 6:00 p.m. and before 7:00 a.m., and any time during weekends.</li> <li>○ Additional fees may apply for non-standard event duration and/or non-standard staffing levels</li> <li>○ Travel fees may apply, depending on event location, and will be quoted when event is scheduled.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Class participation is limited to 50 participants unless otherwise arranged at time of scheduling. Additional fees may apply for additional participants.</li> <li>• Additional fees may apply for customized classes and supplemental class materials which will be quoted at time of event scheduling.</li> </ul>
Scheduling Guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All service requests must be submitted at least 6 weeks in advance in order to comply with staff scheduling lead-time. Requests submitted with less than 6 weeks' notice will be accommodated if possible, but are not guaranteed.</li> <li>• Requests to <u>increase</u> number of participants greater than 50 participants that are submitted less than 10 business days before the scheduled event date will be accommodated if possible, though cannot be guaranteed. Supplemental staffing and material fees may apply.</li> <li>• Requests to <u>decrease</u> number of participants (if original request is greater than 50 participants) that are submitted less than 10 business days before the scheduled event date cannot be accommodated. In such cases, billing will be based on most recent participation estimate and event schedule provided before the 10 business day cutoff.</li> <li>• Requests to change class topic less than 10 business days before the scheduled event date will be accommodated if possible, though cannot be guaranteed. If requested changes cannot be accommodated, Group may reschedule subject to rescheduling fee described below, or proceed with services confirmed before 10 business day cut off.</li> </ul>
Cancellation & Rescheduling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If a confirmed event is cancelled less than 10 business days before event date, 50% of the total estimated event fees will be charged.</li> <li>• However, if a confirmed event is cancelled less than 5 business days before event date, 100% of total estimated event fees will be charged.</li> <li>• If a confirmed event is rescheduled less than 10 business days before event date, 25% of total event fees will be charged in addition to actual cost of rescheduled event. Rescheduling requests are subject to the 6 week lead-time described above. Rescheduling requests with less than 6 weeks' notice will be accommodated if possible, but are not guaranteed.</li> </ul>

**Credits**

In connection with KP’s mission to promote wellness in the community, the following credits will be applied to the Group’s fees.

Services covered by credits	Onsite and virtual health education classes/cooking demonstrations, Wellness Ambassador Training, and Mindfulness Training
Maximum Credit	Up to \$15,000
Time Period	January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020

**EXHIBIT A-5**

**FACILITATED CONNECTIONS WITH OTHER WELLNESS COMPANIES**

**Curated Plus Arrangements**

KP will facilitate Group's introduction to other wellness companies and will offer access for Group to KP's negotiated pricing for their services.

<b>Wellness Company</b>	<b>Description of Services</b>
<b>Fruit Guys</b>	Fresh Fruit Delivery Service
<b>Mental Health First Aid at Work (MHFA@Work)</b>	In-person training program that teaches individuals how to offer help to a person developing a mental health concern or experiencing a mental health crisis.
<b>Omada Health</b>	'Focus' Phase (up to 8 months ongoing maintenance and support) and enrollment marketing materials.
<b>IncentaHealth</b>	Community program including kiosks, plus custom integration, custom challenges and custom landing pages.

**Group Participants Eligible for this Service**

X	KP-Subscribers
X	KP Subscriber-Dependents
X	Non-Subscribers
X	Non-Subscriber-Dependents

**Fee Schedule**

<b>Wellness Company</b>	<b>Fee Schedule</b>
<b>Fruit Guys</b>	<b>Fees based on items and quantities selected</b>
<b>Mental Health First Aid at Work (MHFA@Work)</b>  MHFA@Work classes will be charged the minimum class size of 15 participants (with a maximum of 30).	\$3,500 for 4-hour class \$5,500 for 8-hour class  \$750 for PowerPoint customization
<b>Omada Health</b> To be charged upon Participant's election to become enrolled into 'Focus' Phase of program (a period not to exceed 8 months).	<b>\$3700 for enrollment marketing materials</b> \$460 per enrollment \$15/month/member Focus Phase
<b>IncentaHealth</b>	<b>\$2500 per stationary kiosk renewal</b> <b>\$76,280 base rate for community program</b> <b>\$19/PMPM for the first 500, then \$10/PMPM thereafter</b>

## Payment

As part of KP's mission to promote wellness in the community, KP agrees to credit Group for certain costs actually incurred by Group for eligible wellness services provided by the wellness company(ies) and during the time period(s) noted below, up to the maximum dollar amount specified below. In the event that the fees for these wellness services to Group's participants exceed the maximum credits provided by KP, KP will invoice Group for the difference.

<b>Name of Wellness Company Eligible for KP Credit</b>	<b>Dates of Service During Which KP Credit is Eligible</b>	<b>Maximum amount of KP Credit to Group for these Services</b>
Fruit Guys	January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020	Up to \$10,000
Mental Health First Aid @ Work	January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020	Up to \$14,000
Omada	January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020	Up to \$10,000
IncentaHealth	January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020	Up to \$110,000

## **EXHIBIT C**

- Denver Police and Fire Electronic Medicare Health Plan Enrollment/Disenrollment Letter of Agreement with Kaiser



Medicare Department  
P.O. Box 232407  
San Diego, CA 92193-9914

City and County of Denver, Denver Fire and  
Police Departments  
Address:

[DATE]

Re: Letter of Agreement between City and County of Denver, Denver Fire and Police Departments and Health Plan Regarding Electronic Enrollment and Disenrollment

Dear Sponsor,

This Letter of Agreement, effective March 1, 2020, addresses the understanding of Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc. and its subsidiary health plan, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado, (together, Health Plan or Kaiser Permanente) regarding the City and County of Denver and the Denver Fire and Police Department's (Group) request to submit to Health Plan electronic enrollment and voluntary disenrollment requests on behalf of its Medicare eligible population enrolling in or disenrolling from a Medicare health plan.

Starting March 1, 2020 Health Plan has agreed to accept electronic enrollment forms and voluntary disenrollment requests without hard-copy Medicare forms from the Group on behalf of its Medicare eligible population and will:

1. Inform the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Regional Office Plan Manager of its intent to accept electronic enrollment requests and disenrollment requests from Group.
2. Upon receipt of complete enrollment and disenrollment requests from Group, as outlined by CMS in § 20 (Eligibility for Enrollment in MA Plans) and Appendix 2 (Summary of Data Elements Required for Plan Enrollment Mechanisms and Completed Enrollment Requests) of Chapter 2 (Medicare Advantage Enrollment and Disenrollment) of the Medicare Managed Care Manual (MMCM) published by CMS, and summarized herein as Attachment B, which is modified specifically for group electronic enrollment purposes, submit enrollment and disenrollment transactions to CMS according to the expectations and timelines outlined by CMS.<sup>1</sup>
3. Ensure the application date of enrollment elections using the Employer Group Health Plan Special Election Period made via electronic enrollment will be the first day of the month prior to the enrollee's effective date of enrollment, as set forth in § 40.1.6.2 (Optional Mechanism For MA

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<sup>1</sup> All references to the MMCM in this Letter of Agreement are to its current form and as periodically amended, revised, and updated by CMS.

Group-sponsored plan Enrollment) of Chapter 2 (Medicare Advantage Enrollment and Disenrollment) of the MMCM.

4. Follow existing enrollment and disenrollment procedures for calculating the effective date of voluntary enrollment elections and disenrollment requests.
5. Ensure Group understands CMS requirements for using the Electronic Enrollment and Disenrollment process.
6. Comply with CMS' security policies regarding the acceptable method of encryption utilized to provide for data security, confidentiality and integrity, and authentication and identification procedures to ensure both the sender and recipient of the data are known to each other and are authorized to receive and decrypt the information.

**Group understands and agrees:**

1. To submit or will have its third-party administrator submit on its behalf, an electronic file that accurately reflects Group's record of the election of coverage and disenrollment request made by each individual according to the processes Group has in place.
2. That each individual's enrollment request will clearly denote his/her agreement to abide by Health Plan's rules, certify his/her receipt of required disclosure information and include authorization by the individual for the disclosure and exchange of necessary information between the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (and its designees) and the Health Plan, as reflected in Attachment A.
3. That the enrollment and disenrollment election transactions sent by Health Plan to CMS shall include all the data necessary for Health Plan to determine each individual's eligibility to make an election as described in § 20 (Eligibility for Enrollment in MA Plans) and Appendix 2 (Summary of Data Elements Required for Plan Enrollment Mechanisms and Completed Enrollment Requests) of Chapter 2 (Medicare Advantage Enrollment and Disenrollment) of the MMCM published by CMS, and summarized herein as Attachment B, which is modified specifically for group electronic enrollment purposes. Such data shall include the individual enrollee's Medicare Part A and Part B effective dates, the individual enrollee's signature date or application date, as well as all data elements set forth in the Appendix 2 (Summary of Data Elements Required for Plan Enrollment Mechanisms and Completed Enrollment Requests) of Chapter 2 (Medicare Advantage Enrollment and Disenrollment) of the MMCM. Data necessary for CMS-compliant enrollment and/or disenrollment election transactions may be provided by Group or Health Plan available to each and as appropriate and mutually agreed by the parties.
4. To comply with all areas in § 20 (Eligibility for Enrollment in MA Plans) and § 40.1.6 (Additional Enrollment Request Mechanisms for Employer/Union Sponsored Coverage) of Chapter 2 (Medicare Advantage Enrollment and Disenrollment) of the MMCM, in which CMS states Group is responsible for meeting the requirement.
5. The receipt date of voluntary disenrollment requests will be the date the record of an individual's disenrollment request is received by Health Plan.

6. That the effective date calculation of voluntary enrollment elections and disenrollment requests and the collection and submission of enrollment elections and disenrollment requests to CMS will follow existing enrollment and disenrollment procedures.
7. That its record of the enrollment election and/or disenrollment requests will exist in a format that can be easily, accurately and quickly reproduced for later reference by each individual enrollee, Health Plan and/or CMS as necessary.
8. That its record of the enrollment election and disenrollment requests will be filed and retained by Group for ten years and will be maintained pursuant to the guidelines for Medicare Advantage election forms set forth in § 60.9 (Storage of Enrollment and Disenrollment Records) of Chapter 2 (Eligibility for Enrollment in MA Plans) of the MMCM. Group may retain these records on microfilm or other electronic formats, so long as the electronic version of these forms shows the signature and date.
9. To abide by all terms and conditions regarding enrollment and disenrollment otherwise set forth in the Group Agreement (agreement between Health Plan and Group to provide managed care coverage).
10. The above enrollment process will apply to both members who are new to Health Plan as well as to existing Health Plan members who become Medicare eligible.
11. Group will, or will have its third-party administrator for enrollment and disenrollment, follow the group member enrollment and disenrollment process set forth in Attachment C.

Please call, Michell Stoll, at 303-306-2809, if you have any questions about this Letter of Agreement. Otherwise, please indicate City and County of Denver and the Denver Fire and Police Department's agreement by signing and dating where indicated below and returning a signed copy via email, or U.S. mail to Eryn Wieck, Manager, Membership Administration Systems and Support Services, (720) 857-4324.



**Kaiser Permanente Account Management**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Kaiser Permanente Account Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Michelle Stoll  
Group Account Manager  
Kaiser Permanente, Medicare Sales  
2530 S. Parker Road, Suite 600  
Aurora, CO 80014  
Phone: (303)-306-2809  
Email: [Michelle.stoll@kp.org](mailto:Michelle.stoll@kp.org)

THE ABOVE TERMS ARE UNDERSTOOD  
AND AGREED TO:

**City and County of Denver and the Denver Fire and Police Department**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Group Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Kaiser Permanente is an HMO plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in Kaiser Permanente depends on contract renewal.

## ATTACHMENT A

### Health Plan Release of Information and Conditions of Enrollment

*[To be compared to the latest Kaiser Permanente Medicare Enrollment Form every year.]*

#### I. RELEASE OF INFORMATION:

By joining this Medicare health plan, I acknowledge that the Medicare health plan will release my information to Medicare and other plans as necessary for treatment, payment and health care operations. I also acknowledge that Kaiser Permanente will release my information including my prescription drug event data to Medicare, who may release it for research and other purposes which follow all applicable Federal statutes and regulations. The information on this enrollment form is correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if I intentionally provide false information on this form, I will be disenrolled from the plan.

I understand that my signature (or the signature of the person authorized to act on my behalf under the laws of the State where I live) on this application means that I have read and understand the contents of this application. If signed by an authorized individual (as described above), this signature certifies that: 1) this person is authorized under State law to complete this enrollment and 2) documentation of this authority is available upon request from Medicare.

#### II. CONDITIONS OF ENROLLMENT:

**By completing this enrollment application, I agree to the following:**

Kaiser Permanente is a Medicare Advantage plan and has a contract with the Federal government. I will need to keep my Medicare Part B, however some employer groups require both Parts A and B. I can only be in one Medicare Advantage plan at a time and I understand that my enrollment in this plan will automatically end my enrollment in another Medicare health plan. It is my responsibility to inform you of any prescription drug coverage that I have or may get in the future. I understand that if I don't have Medicare prescription drug coverage, or creditable prescription drug coverage (as good as Medicare's), I may have to pay a late enrollment penalty if I enroll in Medicare prescription drug coverage in the future. I may leave this plan at any time by sending a request to Kaiser Permanente or by calling **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227** or TTY **1-877-486-2048**), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. However, before I request disenrollment, I will check with my group or union/trust fund to determine if I am able to continue my group membership.

I understand that if I currently have Kaiser Permanente coverage through more than one employer or union/trust fund, I must choose one of these coverage options for my Senior Advantage plan because I can be enrolled in only one Senior Advantage plan at a time. My other employer or union/trust fund may allow me to enroll in one of their non-Medicare plans as well. I will contact the benefit administrators at each of my employers or union/trust funds to understand the coverage that I am entitled to before I make a decision about which employer's or union/trust fund's plan to select for my Senior Advantage plan.

Kaiser Permanente serves a specific service area. If I move out of the area that Kaiser Permanente serves, I need to notify the plan so I can disenroll and find a new plan in my new area. Once I am a member of Kaiser Permanente, I have the right to appeal plan decisions about payment or services if I disagree. I will read the Senior Advantage **Evidence of Coverage** document from Kaiser Permanente when I receive it in order to know which rules I must follow to get coverage with this Medicare Advantage plan. I understand that people with Medicare aren't usually covered under Medicare while out of the country except for limited coverage near the U.S. border.

## ATTACHMENT A (Continued)

I understand that beginning on the date Senior Advantage coverage begins, I must get all of my health care from Kaiser Permanente, except for emergency, urgently needed services or out-of-area dialysis services.

Services authorized by Kaiser Permanente and other services contained in my Senior Advantage plan **Evidence of Coverage** document (also known as a member contract or subscriber agreement) will be covered. Without authorization, **NEITHER MEDICARE NOR KAISER PERMANENTE WILL PAY FOR THE SERVICES.**

I understand that if I am getting assistance from a sales agent, broker, or other individual employed by or contracted with Kaiser Permanente, he/she may be paid based on my enrollment in Kaiser Permanente.

## ATTACHMENT B

### Summary of Data Elements Required for Plan Enrollment Mechanisms and Completed Enrollment Requests

Referenced in section(s): 20, 20.4, 40.2, 40.4.1

All data elements with a “Yes” in the “CMS Required” column are required to be collected during the enrollment process. There must be a field on the electronic file for that data element. All data elements with a “Yes” in the “Beneficiary Response Required” column must be responded to by the applicant during the enrollment process. There must be a response populated on the electronic file for that data element.

	<b>Data Element</b>	<b>CMS Required</b>	<b>Beneficiary Response Required</b>
1.	<b>MA Plan Name</b>	Yes	Yes
2.	<b>Beneficiary Name</b>	Yes	Yes
3.	<b>Beneficiary Date of Birth</b>	Yes	Yes
4.	<b>Beneficiary Sex</b>	Yes	Yes
5.	<b>Beneficiary Telephone Number</b>	Yes	No
6.	<b>Permanent Residence Address</b>	Yes	Yes
7.	<b>Mailing Address</b>	Yes	No
8.	<b>Beneficiary Medicare Number</b>	Yes	Yes
9.	<b>Response to ESRD Question</b>	Yes	Yes
10.	<b>Response to Other Insurance (Coordination of Benefits – COB) Information</b>	Yes	No <sup>1</sup>
11.	<b>Option to request materials in language other than English (language preference) or in accessible formats.</b>	Yes	No

## ATTACHMENT B (Continued)

### Summary of Data Elements Required for Plan Enrollment Mechanisms and Completed Enrollment Requests

Referenced in section(s): 20, 20.4, 40.2, 40.4.1

All data elements with a “Yes” in the “CMS Required” column are required to be collected during the enrollment process. There must be a field on the electronic file for that data element. All data elements with a “Yes” in the “Beneficiary Response Required” column must be responded to by the applicant during the enrollment process. There must be a response populated on the electronic file for that data element.

	<b>Data Element</b>	<b>CMS Required</b>	<b>Beneficiary Response Required</b>
12.	<b>Beneficiary Signature and/or Authorized Representative Signature</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes<sup>2</sup></b>
13.	<b>Date of Signature (using Receipt Date on electronic file)</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No<sup>3</sup></b>
14.	<b>Authorized Representative Contact Information. Related to Beneficiary Signature and/or Authorized Representative Signature</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>
15.	<b>Employer or Union Name and Group Number</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>
16.	<b>Information provided under "please read and sign below". All elements provided in model language must be included on enrollment request mechanisms. Option can be provided as narrative or listed as statements of understanding. Related to Conditions of Enrollment.</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>
17.	<b>Release of Information. All elements provided in model language must be included on enrollment request mechanisms.</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>

1 Refer to CMS COB guidance for additional information.

2 For Employer/Union Group MA enrollment elections as described in §40.1.6, and some other CMS approved enrollment elections, a signature is not required.

3 As explained in §40.2, the beneficiary and/or legal representative should write the date he signed the enrollment form; however, if s/he inadvertently fails to include the date on the enrollment form, then the stamped date of receipt that the MA organization places on the enrollment form may serve as the signature date of the form. Therefore, the signature date is not a necessary element. For employer group MA elections as described in §40.4.1, the "signature date" is the date the employer's process was completed as recorded.

Referenced in section(s): 20, 20.4, 40.2, 40.4.1

**ATTACHMENT C**

**Group Member Enrollment Process (to be confirmed with City and County of Denver, Denver Fire and Police Departments)**

**Primary Group Contact (Post Go-Live):**

Name:

Phone:

Email:

**Kaiser Permanente Operations Team Contact (Post Go-Live):**

Name: Arlet Duda                      Phone: (619) 890-3234              Email: [arlet.b.duda@kp.org](mailto:arlet.b.duda@kp.org)

Name: Ashley Hausner              Phone: 858-614-3132              Email: [ashley.d.hausner@kp.org](mailto:ashley.d.hausner@kp.org)

**Comments:**

**File submission notations:**

All required CMS data elements will be passed with the file. Voluntary disenrollment's will be a part of this process.

**To be mutually agreed upon by Group and Health Plan]**

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**Project Name: City and County of Denver, Denver Fire and Police Departments AME Onboarding Letter of Agreement**

**Responsible Parties**

Prepared By	Department/ Group	Region	Telephone
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TBD	Retiree Solution Manager		
Michelle Stoll	Account Manager	CO	(303)-306-2809

**Letter of Agreement Approvals**

*>A signature indicates that you have reviewed and understand the contents of this letter of agreement and attest to the validity of these contents relative to the project’s sponsorship. If there are any aspects of this document that do not adequately reflect your needs or are deemed unacceptable, this should be noted and defined with the assigned project manager.<*

Approver	Title
Michelle Stoll	Account Manager
	City and County of Denver, Denver Fire and Police Departments