

## **Preferred provider organization (PPO) medical plan**

### **Booklet**

#### **Prepared for:**

|                      |                            |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
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**Third Party Administrative Services provided by  
Aetna Life Insurance Company**

## Table of contents

|                                                          |    |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Welcome .....                                            | 3  |
| Coverage and exclusions.....                             | 5  |
| General plan exclusions .....                            | 29 |
| How your plan works .....                                | 34 |
| Complaints, claim decisions and appeals procedures ..... | 46 |
| Eligibility, starting and stopping coverage .....        | 50 |
| General provisions – other things you should know .....  | 54 |
| Glossary.....                                            | 57 |

Schedule of benefits

Issued with your booklet

# Welcome

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At Aetna®, your health goals lead the way, so we're joining you to put them first. We believe that whatever you decide to do for your health, you can do it with the right support. And no matter where you are on this personal journey, it's our job to enable you to feel the joy of achieving your best health.

Welcome to Aetna.

## Introduction

This is your booklet. It describes your **covered services** – what they are and how to get them. It also describes how we manage the plan, according to our policies, and applicable laws and regulations. The schedule of benefits tells you how we share expenses for **covered services** and explains any limits. Together, these documents describe the benefits covered by your Employer's self-funded health benefit plan. Each may have amendments attached to them. These change or add to the document. This booklet takes the place of any others sent to you before.

It's really important that you read the entire booklet and your schedule of benefits.

If your coverage under any part of this plan replaces coverage under another plan, your coverage for benefits provided under the other coverage may reduce benefits paid by this plan. See the *Coordination of benefits - Effect of prior plan coverage* section.

If you need help or more information, see the *Contact us* section below.

## How we use words

When we use:

- "You" and "your", we mean you and any covered dependents (if your plan allows dependent coverage)
- "Us," "we," and "our", we mean Aetna Life Insurance Company (Aetna)
- Words that are in bold, these are defined in the *Glossary* section

## Contact us

For questions about your plan, you can contact us by:

- Calling the toll-free number on your ID card
- Writing us at 151 Farmington Ave, Hartford, CT, 06156
- Visiting <https://www.aetna.com> to access your member website

Your member website is available 24/7. With your member website, you can:

- See your coverage, benefits and costs
- Print an ID card and various forms
- Find a **provider**, research **providers**, care and treatment options
- View and manage claims
- Find information on health and wellness

## Your ID card

Show your ID card each time you get **covered services** from a **provider**. Only members on your plan can use your ID card. We will mail you your ID card. If you haven't received it before you need **covered services**, or if you lose it, you can print a temporary one using your member website.

## Wellness and other rewards

You may be eligible to earn rewards for completing certain activities that improve your health, coverage, and experience with us. We may encourage you to access certain health services or categories of healthcare **providers**, participate in programs, including but not limited to financial wellness programs; utilize tools, improve your health metrics or continue participation as an Aetna member through incentives. Talk with your **provider** about these and see if they are right for you. We may provide incentives based on your participation and outcomes such as:

- Modifications to **copayment, deductible** or **payment percentage** amounts
- Contributions to a health savings account
- Merchandise
- Coupons
- Gift cards or debit cards
- Any combination of the above

## **Discount arrangements**

We can offer you discounts on health care related goods or services. Sometimes, other companies provide these discounted goods and services. These companies are called “third-party service providers”. These third-party service providers may pay us so that they can offer you their services.

Third-party service providers are independent contractors. The third-party service provider is responsible for the goods or services they deliver. We are not responsible; but we have the right to change or end the arrangements at any time.

These discount arrangements are not insurance. We don’t pay the third-party service providers for the services they offer. You are responsible for paying for the discounted goods or services.

## Coverage and exclusions

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### Providing covered services

Your plan provides **covered services**. These are:

- Described in this section
- Not listed as an exclusion in this section or the *General plan exclusions* section
- Not beyond any limits in the schedule of benefits
- **Medically necessary**. See the *How your plan works – Medical necessity and precertification requirements* section and the *Glossary* for more information.
- Services that are not prohibited by law. See *Services not permitted by law* in the *General plan exclusions* section for more information.

For **covered services** under the outpatient **prescription** drug plan:

- You need a **prescription** from the prescribing **provider**
- You need to show your ID card to the network pharmacy when you get a **prescription** filled

This plan provides coverage for many kinds of **covered services**, such as a doctor's care and **hospital stays**, but some services aren't covered at all or are limited. For other services, the plan pays more of the expense. For example:

- **Physician** care generally is covered but **physician** care for cosmetic **surgery** is never covered. This is an exclusion.
- Home health care is generally covered but may only be covered up to a set number of visits per year. This is a limitation.
- Your **provider** may recommend services that are considered **experimental, investigational**, or unproven services. But an **experimental, investigational**, or unproven service is not covered and is also an exclusion, unless it is recognized as part of an approved clinical trial when you have cancer or a **terminal illness**. See *Clinical trials* in the list of services below.
- Preventive services. Usually the plan pays more, and you pay less. Preventive services are designed to help keep you healthy, supporting you in achieving your best health. To find out what these services are, see the *Preventive care* section in the list of services below. To find out how much you will pay for these services, see *Preventive care* in your schedule of benefits.

Some services require **precertification** from us. For more information see the *How your plan works – Medical necessity and precertification requirements* section.

The **covered services** and exclusions below appear alphabetically to make it easier to find what you're looking for. If a service isn't listed here as a **covered service** or is listed as not covered under a specific service, it still may be covered. If you have questions, ask your **provider** or contact us. You can find out about limitations for **covered services** in the schedule of benefits.

### Ambulance services

An ambulance is a vehicle staffed by medical personnel and equipped to transport an ill or injured person by ground, air, or water.

### Emergency

**Covered services** include emergency transportation when your condition is unstable and requires medical supervision and rapid transport. These emergency ambulance services are limited to transportation by a licensed ambulance:

- To the first facility to provide **emergency services**
- From one facility to another if the first can't provide the **emergency services** you need

## **Non-emergency**

**Covered services** also include non-emergency transportation when an ambulance is the only safe way to transport you. These non-emergency ambulance services are limited to transportation by a licensed ambulance:

- To the nearest facility able to treat your condition
- From a facility to your home by ground ambulance

The following are not **covered services**:

- Ambulance services for routine transportation to receive outpatient or inpatient services

## **Applied behavior analysis**

**Covered services** include applied behavior analysis for a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder. Applied behavior analysis is a process of applying interventions that:

- Systematically change behavior
- Are responsible for observable improvements in behavior

## **Autism spectrum disorder**

Autism spectrum disorder is defined in the most recent edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (DSM) of the American Psychiatric Association.

**Covered services** include services and supplies provided by a **physician** or **behavioral health provider** for:

- The diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorder
- Physical, occupational, and speech therapy associated with the diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder

## Behavioral health

### Mental health treatment

**Covered services** include the treatment of **mental health disorders** provided by a **hospital, psychiatric hospital, residential treatment facility, physician, or behavioral health provider** including:

- Inpatient **room and board** at the **semi-private room rate** (your plan will cover the extra expense of a private room when appropriate because of your medical condition), and other services and supplies related to your condition that are provided during your **stay** in a **hospital, psychiatric hospital, or residential treatment facility**
- Outpatient treatment received while not confined as an inpatient in a **hospital, psychiatric hospital, or residential treatment facility**, including:
  - Office visits to a **physician or behavioral health provider** such as a psychiatrist, psychologist, social worker, or licensed professional counselor (includes **telemedicine** consultation)
  - Individual, group, and family therapies for the treatment of **mental health disorders**
  - Other outpatient mental health treatment such as:
    - Partial hospitalization treatment provided in a facility or program for mental health treatment provided under the direction of a **physician**
    - Intensive outpatient program provided in a facility or program for mental health treatment provided under the direction of a **physician**
    - Skilled behavioral health services provided in the home, but only when all of the following criteria are met:
      - You are homebound
      - Your **physician** orders them
      - The services take the place of a **stay** in a **hospital** or a **residential treatment facility**, or you are unable to receive the same services outside your home
      - The skilled behavioral health care is appropriate for the active treatment of a condition, illness, or disease
    - Electro-convulsive therapy (ECT)
    - Transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS)
    - Psychological testing
    - Neuropsychological testing
    - Observation
    - Peer counseling support by a peer support specialist (including **telemedicine** consultation)

### Substance related disorders treatment

**Covered services** include the treatment of **substance related disorders** provided by a **hospital, psychiatric hospital, residential treatment facility, physician, or behavioral health provider** as follows:

- Inpatient **room and board**, at the **semi-private room rate** (your plan will cover the extra expense of a private room when appropriate because of your medical condition), and other services and supplies that are provided during your **stay** in a **hospital, psychiatric hospital, or residential treatment facility**.
- Outpatient treatment received while not confined as an inpatient in a **hospital, psychiatric hospital, or residential treatment facility**, including:
  - Office visits to a **physician or behavioral health provider** such as a psychologist, social worker, or licensed professional counselor (includes **telemedicine** consultation)
  - Individual, group, and family therapies for the treatment of **substance related disorders**
  - Other outpatient **substance related disorders** treatment such as:
    - Partial hospitalization treatment provided in a facility or program for treatment of **substance related disorders** provided under the direction of a **physician**
    - Intensive outpatient program provided in a facility or program for treatment of **substance related disorders** provided under the direction of a **physician**

- Skilled behavioral health services provided in the home, but only when all of the following criteria are met:
  - You are homebound
  - Your **physician** orders them
  - The services take the place of a **stay** in a **hospital** or a **residential treatment facility**, or you are unable to receive the same services outside your home
  - The skilled behavioral health care is appropriate for the active treatment of a condition, illness, or disease
- Ambulatory or outpatient **detoxification** which includes outpatient services that monitor withdrawal from alcohol or other substances, including administration of medications
- Observation
- Peer counseling support by a peer support specialist (including **telemedicine** consultation)

**Behavioral health important note:**

A peer support specialist serves as a role model, mentor, coach, and advocate. A peer support specialist must be supervised by a **behavioral health provider**.

## Clinical trials

### Routine patient costs

**Covered services** include routine patient costs you have from a **provider** in connection with participation in an approved clinical trial as defined in the federal Public Health Service Act, Section 2709. “Routine patient costs” are the items and services that are typically covered when you are not enrolled in an “approved clinical trial”.

The following are not **covered services**:

- Services and supplies related to data collection and record-keeping needed only for the clinical trial
- Services and supplies provided by the trial sponsor for free
- The experimental intervention itself (except Category B investigational devices and promising experimental or investigational interventions for **terminal illnesses** in certain clinical trials in accordance with our policies)

### Experimental or investigational therapies

**Covered services** include drugs, devices, treatments, or procedures from a **provider** under an “approved clinical trial” only when you have cancer or a **terminal illness**. All of the following conditions must be met:

- Standard therapies have not been effective or are not appropriate
- We determine you may benefit from the treatment

An approved clinical trial is one that meets all of these requirements:

- The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved the drug, device, treatment, or procedure to be investigated or has granted it investigational new drug (IND) or group c/treatment IND status, when this is required
- The clinical trial has been approved by an institutional review board that will oversee it
- The clinical trial is sponsored by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) or similar federal organization and:
  - It conforms to standards of the NCI or other applicable federal organization
  - It takes place at an NCI-designated cancer center or at more than one institution
- You are treated in accordance with the procedures of that study

## Diabetic services, supplies, equipment, and self-care programs

**Covered services** include:

- Services

- Foot care to minimize the risk of infection
- Supplies
  - Injection devices including syringes, needles and pens
  - Test strips - blood glucose, ketone and urine
  - Blood glucose calibration liquid
  - Lancet devices and kits
  - Alcohol swabs
- Equipment
  - External insulin pumps and pump supplies
  - Blood glucose monitors without special features, unless required due to blindness
  - Continuous glucose monitors
- Prescribed self-care programs with a health care **provider** certified in diabetes self-care training

## Durable medical equipment (DME)

**Covered services** are DME and the accessories needed to operate it when:

- Made to withstand prolonged use
- Mainly used in the treatment of illness or injury
- Suited for use in the home
- Not normally used by people who do not have an illness or injury
- Not for altering air quality or temperature
- Not for exercise or training

Your plan only covers the same type of DME that Medicare covers. But, there are some DME items Medicare covers that your plan does not.

**Covered services** include the expense of renting or buying DME and accessories you need to operate the item from a DME supplier. If you purchase DME, that purchase is only covered if you need it for long-term use.

**Covered services** also include:

- One item of DME for the same or similar purpose
- Repairing DME due to normal wear and tear
- A new DME item you need because your physical condition has changed
- Buying a new DME item to replace one that was damaged due to normal wear, if it would be cheaper than repairing it or renting a similar item

The following are not **covered services**:

- Communication aid
- Elevator
- Maintenance and repairs that result from misuse or abuse
- Massage table
- Message device (personal voice recorder)
- Over bed table
- Portable whirlpool pump
- Sauna bath
- Telephone alert system
- Vision aid
- Whirlpool

## Emergency services

When you experience an **emergency medical condition**, you should go to the nearest emergency room. You can also dial 911 or your local emergency response service for medical and ambulance help.

**Covered services** include only outpatient services to evaluate and stabilize an **emergency medical condition** in a **hospital** emergency room. You can get **emergency services** from **network** or **out-of-network providers**.

Your coverage for **emergency services** will continue until the following conditions are met:

- You are evaluated and your condition is stabilized and
- Your attending **physician** determines that you are medically able to travel or be transported, by non-medical or non-emergency transportation, to another **provider** if you need more care

If your **physician** decides you need to stay in the **hospital** (emergency admission) or receive follow-up care, these are not **emergency services**. Different benefits and requirements apply. See the *How your plan works – Medical necessity and precertification requirements* section and the *Coverage and exclusions* section that fits your situation (for example, *Hospital care* or *Physician services*). You can also contact us or your **network physician** or **primary care physician (PCP)**.

### **Non-emergency services**

If you go to an emergency room for what is not an **emergency medical condition**, the plan may not cover your expenses. See the schedule of benefits for more information.

## **Gender affirming treatment**

**Covered services** include certain services and supplies for gender affirming treatment.

### **Important note:**

Visit <https://www.aetna.com/health-care-professionals/clinical-policy-bulletins.html> for detailed information about this benefit, including eligibility and **medical necessity** requirements. You can also call the toll-free number on your ID card.

## **Habilitation therapy services**

Habilitation therapy services are services needed to keep, learn or improve your skills and functioning for daily living (e.g., therapy for a child who isn't walking or talking at the expected age). The services must follow a specific treatment plan, ordered by your **physician**. The services have to be performed by a:

- Licensed or certified physical, occupational or speech therapist
- **Hospital, skilled nursing facility** or hospice facility
- **Home health care agency**
- **Physician**

## **Outpatient physical, occupational, and speech therapies**

**Covered services** include:

- Physical therapy if it is expected to develop any impaired function
- Occupational therapy if it is expected to develop any impaired function
- Speech therapy if it is expected to develop speech function that resulted from delayed development (Speech function is the ability to express thoughts, speak words and form sentences.)

The following are not **covered services**:

- Services provided in an educational or training setting or to teach sign language
- Vocational rehabilitation or employment counseling

## **Hearing aids**

Hearing aid means:

- Any wearable, non-disposable instrument or device designed to aid or make up for impaired hearing

- Parts, attachments, or accessories

**Covered services** include prescribed hearing aids and the following hearing aid services:

- Audiometric hearing visit and evaluation for a hearing aid **prescription** performed by:
  - A **physician** certified as an otolaryngologist or otologist
  - An audiologist who:
    - Is legally qualified in audiology
    - Holds a certificate of Clinical Competence in Audiology from the American Speech and Hearing Association in the absence of any licensing requirements
    - Performs the exam at the written direction of a legally qualified otolaryngologist or otologist
- Electronic hearing aids, installed in accordance with a **prescription** written during a covered hearing exam
- Any other related services necessary to access, select, and adjust or fit a hearing aid

The following are not **covered services**:

- Replacement of a hearing aid that is lost, stolen or broken
- Batteries or cords
- A hearing aid that does not meet the specifications prescribed for correction of hearing loss

## Hearing exams

**Covered services** include hearing exams for evaluation and treatment of illness, injury or hearing loss when performed by a hearing **specialist**.

The following are not **covered services**:

- Hearing exams given during a **stay** in a **hospital** or other facility, except those provided to newborns as part of the overall **hospital stay**

## Home health care

**Covered services** include home health care provided by a **home health care agency** in the home, but only when all of the following criteria are met:

- You are homebound
- Your **physician** orders them
- The services take the place of a **stay** in a **hospital** or a **skilled nursing facility**, or you are unable to receive the same services outside your home
- The services are a part of a home health care plan
- The services are skilled nursing services, home health aide services or medical social services, or are short-term speech, physical or occupational therapy
- Home health aide services are provided under the supervision of a registered nurse
- Medical social services are provided by or supervised by a **physician** or social worker

Skilled nursing services are services provided by a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse within the scope of their license.

If you are discharged from a **hospital** or **skilled nursing facility** after a **stay**, the intermittent requirement may be waived to allow coverage for continuous skilled nursing services. See the schedule of benefits for more information on the intermittent requirement.

Short-term physical, speech, and occupational therapy provided in the home are subject to the same conditions and limitations imposed on therapy provided outside the home. See *Rehabilitation services* and *Habilitation therapy services* in this section and the schedule of benefits.

The following are not **covered services**:

- Custodial care
- Services provided outside of the home (such as in conjunction with school, vacation, work, or recreational activities)
- Transportation

## Hospice care

**Covered services** include inpatient and outpatient hospice care when given as part of a hospice care program.

The types of hospice care services that are eligible for coverage include:

- **Room and board**
- Services and supplies furnished to you on an inpatient or outpatient basis
- Services by a hospice care agency or hospice care provided in a **hospital**
- Psychological and dietary counseling
- Pain management and symptom control

Hospice care services provided by the **providers** below will be covered, even if the **providers** are not an employee of the hospice care agency responsible for your care:

- A **physician** for consultation or case management
- A physical or occupational therapist
- A **home health care agency** for:
  - Physical and occupational therapy
  - Medical supplies
  - Outpatient **prescription drugs**
  - Psychological counseling
  - Dietary counseling

The following are not **covered services**:

- Funeral arrangements
- Pastoral counseling
- Financial or legal counseling including estate planning and the drafting of a will
- Homemaker services, caretaker services, or any other services not solely related to your care, which may include:
  - Sitter or companion services for you or other family members
  - Transportation
  - Maintenance of the house

## Hospital care

**Covered services** include inpatient and outpatient **hospital** care. This includes:

- Semi-private **room and board** (your plan will cover the extra expense of a private room when appropriate because of your medical condition)
- Services and supplies provided by the outpatient department of a **hospital**, including the facility charge
- Services of **physicians** employed by the **hospital**
- Administration of blood and blood products

The following are not **covered services**:

- All services and supplies provided in:
  - Rest homes
  - Any place considered a person's main residence or providing mainly custodial or rest care
  - Health resorts
  - Spas
  - Schools or camps

## Infertility services

### Basic infertility

**Covered services** include seeing a **provider**:

- To diagnose and evaluate the underlying medical cause of infertility.
- To do **surgery** to treat the underlying medical cause of infertility. Examples are endometriosis **surgery** or, for men, varicocele **surgery**.

### Infertility services exclusions:

The following are not **covered services**:

- All infertility services associated with or in support of an ovulation induction cycle while on injectable medication to stimulate the ovaries. This includes, but is not limited to, imaging, laboratory services, and professional services.
- Intrauterine (IUI)/intracervical insemination (ICI) services.
- All infertility services associated with or in support of an Advanced Reproductive Technology (ART) cycle. These include, but are not limited to:
  - Imaging, laboratory services, and professional services
  - In vitro fertilization (IVF)
  - Zygote intrafallopian transfer (ZIFT)
  - Gamete intrafallopian transfer (GIFT)
  - Cryopreserved embryo transfers
  - Gestational carrier cycles
  - Any related services, products or procedures (such as intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI) or ovum microsurgery).
- Cryopreservation (freezing) and storage of eggs, embryos, sperm, or reproductive tissue.
- Thawing of cryopreserved (frozen) eggs, sperm, or reproductive tissue.
- All charges associated with or in support of surrogacy arrangements for you or the surrogate. A surrogate is a female carrying her own genetically related child with the intention of the child being raised by someone else, including the biological father.
- Home ovulation prediction kits or home pregnancy tests.
- The purchase of donor embryos, donor eggs or donor sperm.
- Obtaining sperm from a person not covered under this plan.
- Infertility treatment when a successful pregnancy could have been obtained through less costly treatment.
- Infertility treatment when either partner has had voluntary sterilization **surgery**, with or without surgical reversal, regardless of post reversal results. This includes tubal ligation, hysterectomy and vasectomy only if obtained as a form of voluntary sterilization.
- Infertility treatment when infertility is due to a natural physiologic process such as age related ovarian insufficiency (e.g., perimenopause, menopause) as measured by an unmedicated FSH level at or above 19 on cycle day two or three of your menstrual period or other abnormal testing results as outlined in Aetna's infertility clinical policy.
- Injectable infertility medication, including but not limited to menotropins, hCG, and GnRH agonists.

## Jaw joint disorder treatment

**Covered services** include the diagnosis and surgical treatment of **jaw joint disorder** by a **provider**, including:

- The jaw joint itself, such as temporomandibular joint dysfunction (TMJ) syndrome
- The relationship between the jaw joint and related muscle and nerves, such as myofascial pain dysfunction (MPD)

The following are not **covered services**:

- Non-surgical medical and dental services, and therapeutic services related to **jaw joint disorder**

## Maternity and related newborn care

**Covered services** include pregnancy (prenatal) care, care after delivery and obstetrical services. After your child is born, **covered services** include:

- No less than 48 hours of inpatient care in a **hospital** after a vaginal delivery
- No less than 96 hours of inpatient care in a **hospital** after a cesarean delivery
- A shorter **stay**, if the attending **physician**, with the consent of the mother, discharges the mother or newborn earlier

If the mother is discharged earlier, the plan will pay for 1 home visit after delivery by a health care **provider**.

**Covered services** also include services and supplies needed for circumcision by a **provider**.

The following are not **covered services**:

- Any services and supplies related to births that take place in the home or in any other place not licensed to perform deliveries

## Oral and maxillofacial treatment (mouth, jaws and teeth)

**Covered services** include the following when provided by a **physician**, a dentist and **hospital**:

- Cutting out:
  - Teeth partly or completely impacted in the bone of the jaw
  - Teeth that will not erupt through the gum
  - Other teeth that cannot be removed without cutting into bone
  - The roots of a tooth without removing the entire tooth
  - Cysts, tumors, or other diseased tissues.
- Cutting into gums and tissues of the mouth
  - Only when not associated with the removal, replacement or repair of teeth

## Outpatient surgery

**Covered services** include services provided and supplies used in connection with outpatient **surgery** performed in a **surgery** center or a **hospital's** outpatient department.

### Important note:

Some **surgeries** can be done safely in a **physician's** office. For those **surgeries**, your plan will pay only for **physician** services and not for a separate fee for facilities.

The following are not **covered services**:

- A **stay** in a **hospital** (see *Hospital care* in this section)
- Services of another **physician** for the administration of a local anesthetic

## Physician services

**Covered services** include services by your **physician** to treat an illness or injury. You can get services:

- At the **physician's** office
- In your home
- In a **hospital**
- From any other inpatient or outpatient facility
- By way of **telemedicine**

**Important note:**

For behavioral health services, all in-person, **covered services** with a **behavioral health provider** are also **covered services** if you use **telemedicine** instead.

**Telemedicine** may have a different cost share from other **physician** services. See your schedule of benefits.

Other services and supplies that your **physician** may provide:

- Allergy testing and allergy injections
- Radiological supplies, services, and tests
- Immunizations that are not covered as preventive care

## Prescription drugs - outpatient

Read this section carefully. This plan does not cover all **prescription** drugs and some coverage may be limited. This doesn't mean you can't get **prescription** drugs that aren't covered; you can, but you have to pay for them yourself. For more information about **prescription** drug benefits, including limits, see the schedule of benefits.

**Important note:**

A pharmacy may refuse to fill or refill a **prescription** when, in the professional judgement of the pharmacist, it should not be filled or refilled.

Your plan provides standard safety checks to encourage safe and appropriate use of medications. These checks are intended to avoid adverse events and align with the medication's U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved prescribing information and current published clinical guidelines and treatment standards. These checks are routinely updated as new medications come to market and as guidelines and standards are updated.

**Covered services** are based on the drugs in the **drug guide**. We exclude **prescription** drugs listed on the formulary exclusions list unless we approve a medical exception. The formulary exclusions list is a list of **prescription** drugs not covered under the plan. This list is subject to change. If it is **medically necessary** for you to use a **prescription** drug that is not on this **drug guide**, you or your **provider** must request a medical exception. See the *Requesting a medical exception* section or just contact us.

Your **provider** can give you a **prescription** in different ways including:

- A written **prescription** that you take to a network pharmacy
- Calling or e-mailing a **prescription** to a network pharmacy
- Submitting the **prescription** to a network pharmacy electronically

The pharmacy may substitute a **generic prescription drug** for a **brand-name prescription drug**. Your cost share may be less if you use a **generic drug** when it is available.

Any **prescription** drug made to work beyond one month shall require the **copayment** amount that equals the expected duration of the medication.

## Prescription drug synchronization

If you are prescribed multiple maintenance medications and would like to have them each dispensed on the same fill date for your convenience, your network pharmacy may be able to coordinate that for you. This is called synchronization. We will apply a prorated daily cost share rate, to a partial fill of a maintenance drug, if needed, to synchronize your **prescription** drugs.

## How to access network pharmacies

A network pharmacy will submit your claim. You will pay your cost share to the pharmacy. You can find a network pharmacy either online or by phone. See the *Contact us* section for how. You may go to any of our network pharmacies.

If you don't get your **prescriptions** at a network pharmacy, it will not be a **covered service** under the plan.

## Pharmacy types

### Retail pharmacy

A **retail pharmacy** may be used for up to a 30 day supply of a **prescription** drug.

### Mail order pharmacy

The drugs available through mail order are maintenance drugs that you take on a regular basis for a chronic or long-term medical condition. A **mail order pharmacy** may be used for up to a 365 day supply of a **prescription** drug.

### Specialty pharmacy

A **specialty pharmacy** may be used for up to a 365 day supply of a **specialty prescription drug**. You can view the list of **specialty prescription drugs**. See the *Contact us* section for how.

All **specialty prescription drug** fills including the first fill must be filled at a network **specialty pharmacy** unless it is an urgent situation.

**Prescription** drugs covered by this plan are subject to misuse, waste, or abuse utilization review by us, your **provider**, and/or your network pharmacy. The outcome of this review may include:

- Limiting coverage of a drug to one prescribing **provider** or one network pharmacy
- Quantity, dosage or day supply limits
- Requiring a partial fill or denial of coverage

## When the pharmacy you use leaves the network

Sometimes a pharmacy might leave the network. If this happens, you will have to get your **prescriptions** filled at another network pharmacy. You can use your **provider** directory or call us to find another network pharmacy in your area.

## How to get an emergency prescription filled

You may not have access to a network pharmacy in an emergency or urgent situation or you may be traveling outside of your plan's service area. If you must fill a **prescription** in any of these situations, we will reimburse you as shown in the table below:

| Type of pharmacy           | Your cost share is                       |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| A network pharmacy         | The plan cost share                      |
| An out-of-network pharmacy | The full cost of the <b>prescription</b> |

When you pay the full cost of the **prescription** at an out-of-network pharmacy:

- You will fill out and send a **prescription** drug refund form to us, including all itemized pharmacy receipts
- Coverage will be limited to items obtained in connection with the out-of-area emergency or urgent situation
- Submission of the refund form doesn't guarantee a refund. If approved, you will be reimbursed the cost of the **prescription** less your network cost share

## Other covered services

### Abortion drugs

**Covered services** include **prescription** drugs used for elective termination of pregnancy.

### Contraceptives (birth control)

For females who are able to become pregnant, **covered services** include certain drugs and devices that the FDA has approved to prevent pregnancy. You will need a **prescription** from your **provider** and must fill it at a network pharmacy. At least one form of each FDA-approved contraception method is a **covered service**. You can access a list of covered drugs and devices. See the *Contact us* section for how.

We also cover over-the-counter (OTC) and **generic prescription drugs** and devices for each method of birth control approved by the FDA at no cost to you. If a generic drug or device is not available for a certain method, we will cover the **brand-name prescription drug** or device at no cost share.

#### Preventive contraceptives important note:

You may qualify for a medical exception if your **provider** determines that the contraceptives covered as preventive **covered services** under the plan are not medically appropriate for you. Your **provider** may request a medical exception and submit it to us for review. If the exception is approved, the **brand-name prescription drug** contraceptive will be covered at 100%.

### Diabetic supplies

**Covered services** include but are not limited to the following:

- Alcohol swabs
- Blood glucose calibration liquid
- Diabetic syringes, needles and pens
- Continuous glucose monitors
- Insulin infusion disposable pumps
- Lancet devices and kits
- Test strips for blood glucose, ketones, urine
- Blood glucose meters and insulin pumps

See the *Diabetic services, supplies, equipment, and self-care programs* section for medical **covered services**.

### Immunizations

**Covered services** include preventive immunizations as required by the ACA when given by a network pharmacy. You can find a participating network pharmacy by contacting us. Check with the pharmacy before you go to make sure the vaccine you need is in stock. Not all pharmacies carry all vaccines.

### Preventive care drugs and supplements

**Covered services** include preventive care drugs and supplements, including OTC ones, as required by the ACA.

### Risk reducing breast cancer prescription drugs

**Covered services** include **prescription** drugs used to treat people who are at:

- Increased risk for breast cancer
- Low risk for medication side effects

### Tobacco cessation prescription and OTC drugs

**Covered services** include FDA approved **prescription** and OTC drugs to help stop the use of tobacco products. You must receive a **prescription** from your **provider** and submit the **prescription** to the pharmacy for processing.

## Weight loss drugs

**Covered services** include **prescription** drugs used only for the purpose of weight loss. You must be diagnosed with morbid obesity by your **provider**, including a physical exam.

### Prescription drug exclusions:

The following are not **covered services**:

- Abortion drugs used for elective termination of pregnancy except when the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest or if it places the woman's life in serious danger
- Allergy sera and extracts given by injection
- Any services related to providing, injecting or application of a drug
- Compounded **prescriptions** containing bulk chemicals not approved by the FDA including compounded bioidentical hormones
- Cosmetic drugs including medication and preparations used for cosmetic purposes
- Devices, products and appliances unless listed as a **covered service**
- Dietary supplements including medical foods
- Drugs or medications
  - Administered or entirely consumed at the time and place they are prescribed or provided
  - Which do not require a **prescription** by law, even if a **prescription** is written, unless we have approved a medical exception
  - That are therapeutically the same or an alternative to a covered **prescription** drug, unless we approve a medical exception
  - Not approved by the FDA or not proven safe or effective
  - Provided under your medical plan while inpatient at a healthcare facility
  - Recently approved by the FDA but not reviewed by our Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, unless we have approved a medical exception
  - That includes vitamins and minerals unless recommended by the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF)
  - That are used to treat sexual dysfunction, enhance sexual performance or increase sexual desire, including drugs, implants, devices or preparations to correct or enhance erectile function, enhance sensitivity or alter the shape or appearance of a sex organ unless listed as a **covered service**
  - That are indicated or used for the purpose of weight gain or loss including but not limited to stimulants, preparations, foods or diet supplements, dietary regimens and supplements, food or food supplements, non-**prescription** appetite suppressants or other medications except as described in the booklet
  - That are drugs or growth hormones used to stimulate growth and treat idiopathic short stature unless there is evidence that the member meets one or more clinical criteria detailed in our **precertification** and clinical policies
- Duplicative drug therapy; for example, two antihistamines for the same condition
- Genetic care including:
  - Any treatment, device, drug, service or supply to alter the body's genes, genetic makeup or the expression of the body's genes unless listed as a **covered service**
- Immunizations related to travel or work
- Immunization or immunological agents except as specifically stated in the schedule of benefits or the booklet
- Implantable drugs and associated devices except as specifically stated in the schedule of benefits or the booklet
- **Infertility**:
  - **Prescription** drugs used primarily for the treatment of **infertility**
- Injectables including:
  - Any charges for the administration or injection of **prescription** drugs
  - Needles and syringes except for those used for insulin administration

- Any drug which, due to its characteristics as determined by us, must typically be administered or supervised by a qualified **provider** or licensed certified **health professional** in an outpatient setting with the exception of Depo Provera and other injectable drugs for contraception
- Off-label drug use except for indications recognized through peer-reviewed medical literature
- **Prescription** drugs:
  - That are considered oral dental preparations and fluoride rinses except pediatric fluoride tablets or drops as specified on the plan's **drug guide**
  - That are being used or abused in a manner that is determined to be furthering an addiction to a habit-forming substance, the use of or intended use of which is illegal, unethical, imprudent, abusive, not **medically necessary** or otherwise improper and drugs obtained for use by anyone other than the member as identified on the ID card
- Replacement of lost or stolen **prescriptions**
- Test agents except diabetic test agents
- Tobacco cessation drugs, unless recommended by the USPSTF
- We reserve the right to exclude:
  - A manufacturer's product when the same or similar drug (one with the same active ingredient or same therapeutic effect), supply or equipment is on the plan's **drug guide**
  - Any dosage or form of a drug when the same drug is available in a different dosage or form on the plan's **drug guide**

## Preventive care

Preventive **covered services** are designed to help keep you healthy, supporting you in achieving your best health through early detection. If you need further services or testing such as diagnostic testing, you may pay more as these services aren't preventive. If a **covered service** isn't listed here under preventive care, it still may be covered under other **covered services** in this section. For more information, see your schedule of benefits.

The following agencies set forth the preventive care guidelines in this section:

- Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF)
- Health Resources and Services Administration
- American Academy of Pediatrics/Bright Futures/Health Resources and Services Administration guidelines for children and adolescents

These recommendations and guidelines may be updated periodically. When updated, they will apply to this plan. The updates are effective on the first day of the year, one year after the updated recommendation or guideline is issued.

For frequencies and limits, contact your **physician** or us. This information is also available at <https://www.healthcare.gov/>

### Important note:

Gender-specific preventive care benefits include **covered services** described regardless of the sex you were assigned at birth, your gender identity, or your recorded gender.

## Breast-feeding support and counseling services

**Covered services** include assistance and training in breast-feeding and counseling services during pregnancy or after delivery. Your plan will cover this counseling only when you get it from a certified breast-feeding support **provider**.

## Breast pump, accessories and supplies

**Covered services** include renting or buying equipment you need to pump and store breast milk.

Coverage for the purchase of breast pump equipment is limited to one item of equipment, for the same or similar purpose, and the accessories and supplies needed to operate the item. You are responsible for the entire cost of any additional pieces of the same or similar equipment you purchase or rent for personal convenience or mobility.

### **Counseling services**

**Covered services** include preventive screening and counseling by your **health professional** for:

- Alcohol or drug misuse
  - Preventive counseling and risk factor reduction intervention
  - Structured assessment
- Genetic risk for breast and ovarian cancer
- Obesity and healthy diet
  - Preventive counseling and risk factor reduction intervention
  - Nutritional counseling
  - Healthy diet counseling provided in connection with hyperlipidemia (high cholesterol) and other known risk factors for cardiovascular and diet-related chronic disease
- Sexually transmitted infection
- Tobacco cessation
  - Preventive counseling to help stop using tobacco products
  - Treatment visits
  - Class visits

### **Family planning services – female contraceptives**

**Covered services** include family planning services as follows:

- Counseling services provided by a **physician** or other **provider** on contraceptive methods. These will be covered when you get them in either a group or individual setting.
- Contraceptive devices (including any related services or supplies) when they are prescribed, provided, administered, or removed by a **health professional**.
- Voluntary sterilization including charges billed separately by the **provider** for female voluntary sterilization procedures and related services and supplies. This also could include tubal ligation and sterilization implants.

The following are not preventive **covered services**:

- Services provided as a result of complications resulting from a voluntary sterilization procedure and related follow-up care
- Any contraceptive methods that are only “reviewed” by the FDA and not “approved” by the FDA
- Male contraceptive methods, sterilization procedures or devices

### **Immunizations**

**Covered services** include preventive immunizations for infectious diseases.

The following are not preventive **covered services**:

- Immunizations that are not considered preventive care, such as those required due to your employment or travel

### **Prenatal care**

**Covered services** include your routine pregnancy physical exams at the **physician, PCP, OB, GYN or OB/GYN** office. The exams include initial and subsequent visits for:

- Anemia screening
- Blood pressure

- Chlamydia infection screening
- Fetal heart rate check
- Fundal height
- Gestational diabetes screening
- Gonorrhea screening
- Hepatitis B screening
- Maternal weight
- Rh incompatibility screening

### **Routine cancer screenings**

**Covered services** include the following routine cancer screenings:

- Colonoscopies including pre-procedure **specialist** consultation, removal of polyps during a screening procedure, and a pathology exam on any removed polyp
- Digital rectal exams (DRE)
- Double contrast barium enemas (DCBE)
- Fecal occult blood tests (FOBT)
- Lung cancer screenings
- Mammograms
- Prostate specific antigen (PSA) tests
- Sigmoidoscopies

### **Routine physical exams**

A routine preventive exam is a medical exam given for a reason other than to diagnose or treat a suspected or identified illness or injury and also includes:

- Evidence-based items that have in effect a rating of A or B in the current recommendations of the United States Preventive Services Task Force.
- Services as recommended in the American Academy of Pediatrics/Bright Futures/Health Resources and Services Administration guidelines for children and adolescents.
- Screenings and counseling services as provided for in the comprehensive guidelines recommended by the Health Resources and Services Administration. These services may include but are not limited to:
  - Screening and counseling services on topics such as:
    - Interpersonal and domestic violence
    - Sexually transmitted diseases
    - Human immune deficiency virus (HIV) infections
  - High risk human papillomavirus (HPV) DNA testing for women

**Covered services** include:

- Office visit to a **physician**
- Hearing screening
- Vision screening
- Radiological services, lab and other tests
- For covered newborns, an initial **hospital** checkup

### **Well woman preventive visits**

A routine well woman preventive exam is a medical exam given for a reason other than to diagnose or treat a suspected or identified illness or injury and also includes:

- Office visit to a **physician, PCP, OB, GYN or OB/GYN** for services including Pap smears
- Preventive care breast cancer (BRCA) gene blood testing
- Screening for diabetes after pregnancy for women with a history of diabetes during pregnancy
- Screening for urinary incontinence

## Prosthetic device

A prosthetic device is a device that temporarily or permanently replaces all or part of an external body part lost or impaired as a result of illness, injury or congenital defects.

**Covered services** include the initial provision and subsequent replacement of a prosthetic device that your **physician** orders and administers.

Coverage includes:

- Instruction and other services (such as attachment or insertion) so you can properly use the device
- Repairing or replacing the original device you outgrow or that is no longer appropriate because your physical condition changed
- Replacements required by ordinary wear and tear or damage

If you receive a prosthetic device as part of another **covered service**, it will not be covered under this benefit.

The following are not **covered services**:

- Orthopedic shoes and therapeutic shoes, unless the orthopedic shoe is an integral part of a covered leg brace
- Trusses, corsets, and other support items
- Repair and replacement due to loss, misuse, abuse or theft

## Reconstructive breast surgery and supplies

**Covered services** include all stages of reconstructive **surgery** by your **provider** and related supplies provided in an inpatient or outpatient setting only in the following circumstances:

- Your **surgery** reconstructs the breast where a necessary mastectomy was performed, such as an implant and areolar reconstruction. It also includes:
  - **Surgery** on a healthy breast to make it symmetrical with the reconstructed breast
  - Treatment of physical complications of all stages of the mastectomy, including lymphedema
  - Prostheses

## Reconstructive surgery and supplies

**Covered services** include all stages of reconstructive **surgery** by your **provider** and related supplies provided in an inpatient or outpatient setting only in the following circumstances:

- Your **surgery** is to implant or attach a covered prosthetic device.
- Your **surgery** corrects a gross anatomical defect present at birth. The **surgery** will be covered if:
  - The defect results in severe facial disfigurement or major functional impairment of a body part, and
  - The purpose of the **surgery** is to improve function
- Your **surgery** is needed because treatment of your illness resulted in severe facial disfigurement or major functional impairment of a body part, and your **surgery** will improve function.

## Accidental injury to natural teeth

**Covered services** also include the procedures or **surgery** to sound natural teeth, injured due to an accident and performed as soon as medically possible, when:

- The teeth were stable, functional and free from decay or disease at the time of the injury
- The **surgery** or procedure returns the injured teeth to how they functioned before the accident

These accident-related dental services are limited to:

- The first placement of a permanent crown or cap to repair a broken tooth
- The first placement of dentures or bridgework to replace lost teeth
- Orthodontic therapy to pre-position teeth

## Short-term cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation services

### Cardiac rehabilitation

**Covered services** include cardiac rehabilitation services you receive at a **hospital, skilled nursing facility** or **physician's office**, but only if those services are part of a treatment plan determined by your risk level and ordered by your **physician**.

### Pulmonary rehabilitation

**Covered services** include pulmonary rehabilitation services as part of your inpatient **hospital stay** if they are part of a treatment plan ordered by your **physician**. A course of outpatient pulmonary rehabilitation may also be covered if it is performed at a **hospital, skilled nursing facility**, or **physician's office**, is used to treat reversible pulmonary disease states, and is part of a treatment plan ordered by your **physician**.

## Short-term rehabilitation services

Short-term rehabilitation services are services needed to restore or develop your skills and functioning for daily living. The services must follow a specific treatment plan, ordered by your **physician**. The services have to be performed by a:

- Licensed or certified physical, occupational, or speech therapist
- **Hospital, skilled nursing facility**, or hospice facility
- **Home health care agency**
- **Physician**

**Covered services** include:

- Spinal manipulation to correct a muscular or skeletal problem. Your **provider** must establish or approve a treatment plan that details the treatment and specifies frequency and duration.

## Cognitive rehabilitation, physical, occupational, and speech therapy

**Covered services** include:

- Physical therapy, but only if it is expected to significantly improve or restore physical functions lost as a result of an acute illness, injury, or **surgical procedure**
- Occupational therapy, but only if it is expected to do one of the following:
  - Significantly improve, develop, or restore physical functions you lost as a result of an acute illness, injury, or **surgical procedure**
  - Help you relearn skills so you can significantly improve your ability to perform the activities of daily living on your own
- Speech therapy, but only if it is expected to do one of the following:
  - Significantly improve or restore lost speech function or correct a speech impairment resulting from an acute illness, injury, or **surgical procedure**
  - Improve delays in speech function development caused by a gross anatomical defect present at birth (Speech function is the ability to express thoughts, speak words and form sentences. Speech impairment is difficulty with expressing one's thoughts with spoken words.)
- Cognitive rehabilitation associated with physical rehabilitation, but only when:
  - Your cognitive deficits are caused by neurologic impairment due to trauma, stroke, or encephalopathy
  - The therapy is coordinated with us as part of a treatment plan intended to restore previous cognitive function

Short-term physical, speech and occupational therapy services provided in an outpatient setting are subject to the same conditions and limitations for outpatient short-term rehabilitation services. See the *Short-term rehabilitation services* section in the schedule of benefits.

The following are not **covered services**:

- Services provided in an educational or training setting or to teach sign language
- Vocational rehabilitation or employment counseling

## Skilled nursing facility

**Covered services** include inpatient **skilled nursing facility** care. This includes:

- **Room and board**, up to the **semi-private room rate**
- Services and supplies provided during a **stay** in a **skilled nursing facility**

## Specialty prescription drugs

**Covered services** include **specialty prescription drugs** when they are:

- Purchased by your **provider**
- Injected or infused by your **provider** in an outpatient setting such as:
  - A freestanding outpatient facility
  - The outpatient department of a **hospital**
  - A **physician** in the office
  - A home care **provider** in your home

Certain injected and infused medications may be covered under the outpatient **prescription drug** benefit. Contact us to determine if coverage is under this **specialty prescription drug** or the outpatient **prescription drug** benefit.

## Telemedicine

**Covered services** include **telemedicine** consultations when provided by a **physician, specialist, behavioral health provider** or other **telemedicine provider** acting within the scope of their license.

**Covered services** for **telemedicine** consultations are available from a number of different kinds of **providers** under your plan. Log in to your member website at <https://www.aetna.com/> to review our **telemedicine provider** listing and contact us to get more information about your options, including specific cost sharing amounts.

The following are not **covered services**:

- Telephone calls
- **Telemedicine** kiosks
- Electronic vital signs monitoring or exchanges (e.g. Tele-ICU, Tele-stroke)

## Tests, images and labs - outpatient

### Diagnostic complex imaging services

**Covered services** include:

- Computed tomography (CT) scans, including for preoperative testing
- Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) including magnetic resonance spectroscopy (MRS), magnetic resonance venography (MRV) and magnetic resonance angiogram (MRA)
- Nuclear medicine imaging including positron emission tomography (PET) scans
- Other imaging service where the billed charge exceeds \$500

Complex imaging for preoperative testing is covered under this benefit.

### Diagnostic lab work

**Covered services** include:

- Lab

- Pathology
- Other tests

These are covered only when you get them from a licensed radiology **provider** or lab.

### **Diagnostic x-ray and other radiological services**

**Covered services** include x-rays, scans and other services (but not complex imaging) only when you get them from a licensed radiology **provider**. See *Diagnostic complex imaging services* above for more information.

## **Therapies – chemotherapy, GCIT, infusion, radiation**

### **Chemotherapy**

**Covered services** for chemotherapy depend on where treatment is received. In most cases, chemotherapy is covered as outpatient care. However, your **hospital** benefit covers the initial dose of chemotherapy after a cancer diagnosis during a **hospital stay**.

### **Gene-based, cellular and other innovative therapies (GCIT)**

**Covered services** include GCIT provided by a **physician, hospital** or other **provider**.

GCIT **covered services** include:

- Cellular immunotherapies.
- Genetically modified oncolytic viral therapy.
- Other types of cells and tissues from and for use by the same person (autologous) and cells and tissues from one person for use by another person (allogenic) for certain therapeutic conditions.
- Human gene-based therapy that seeks to change the usual function of a gene or alter the biologic properties of living cells for therapeutic use. Examples include therapies using:
  - Luxturna® (Voretigene neparvovec)
  - Zolgensma® (Onasemnogene abeparvovec-xioi)
  - Spinraza® (Nusinersen)
- Products derived from gene editing technologies, including CRISPR-Cas9.
- Oligonucleotide-based therapies. Examples include:
  - Antisense. An example is Spinraza.
  - siRNA.
  - mRNA.
  - microRNA therapies.

### **Facilities/provider for gene-based, cellular and other innovative therapies**

We designate facilities to provide GCIT services or procedures. GCIT **physicians, hospitals** and other **providers** are GCIT-designated facilities/**providers** for Aetna and CVS Health.

#### **Important note:**

You must get GCIT **covered services** from the GCIT-designated facility/**provider**. If there are no GCIT-designated facilities/**providers** assigned in your network, it's important that you contact us so we can help you determine if there are other facilities that may meet your needs. If you do not get your GCIT services at the facility/**provider** we designate, they will not be **covered services**.

The following are not **covered services** unless you receive prior written approval from us:

- GCIT services received at a facility or with a **provider** that is not a GCIT-designated facility/**provider**
- All associated services when GCIT services are not covered. Examples include infusion, laboratory, radiology, anesthesia, and nursing services.

Please refer to the *How your plan works – Medical necessity and precertification requirements* section.

## **Key Terms**

To help you understand this section, here are some key terms we use.

### **Cellular**

Relating to or consisting of living cells.

### **GCIT**

Any Services that are:

- Gene-based
- Cellular and innovative therapeutics

We call these “GCIT services”.

They have a basis in genetic/molecular medicine and are not covered under the Institutes of Excellence™ (IOE) programs.

### **Gene**

A unit of heredity which is transferred from a parent to child and is thought to determine some feature of the child.

### **Molecular**

Relating to or consisting of molecules. A molecule is a group of atoms bonded together, making the smallest vital unit of a chemical compound that can take part in a chemical reaction.

### **Therapeutic**

A treatment, therapy, or drug meant to have a good effect on the body or mind; adding to a sense of well-being.

### **Infusion therapy**

Infusion therapy is the intravenous (IV) administration of prescribed medications or solutions.

**Covered services** include infusion therapy you receive in an outpatient setting including but not limited to:

- A freestanding outpatient facility
- The outpatient department of a **hospital**
- A **physician’s** office
- Your home from a home care **provider**

You can access the list of preferred infusion locations by contacting us.

When Infusion therapy services and supplies are provided in your home, they will not count toward any applicable home health care maximums.

Certain infused medications may be covered under the outpatient **prescription** drug benefit. You can access the list of **specialty prescription drugs** by contacting us.

### **Radiation therapy**

**Covered services** include the following radiology services provided by a **health professional**:

- Accelerated particles
- Gamma ray
- Mesons
- Neutrons

- Radioactive isotopes
- Radiological services
- Radium

## Transplant services

**Covered services** include transplant services provided by a **physician** and **hospital**.

This includes the following transplant types:

- Solid organ
- Hematopoietic stem cell
- Bone marrow
- CAR-T and T Cell receptor therapy for FDA-approved treatments
- Thymus tissue for FDA-approved treatments

## Network of transplant facilities

We designate facilities to provide specific services or procedures. They are listed as IOE facilities in your **provider** directory.

You must get transplant services from the IOE facility we designate to perform the transplant you need.

Transplant services received from an IOE facility are subject to the network **copayment**, **payment percentage**, **deductible**, **maximum out-of-pocket** and limits, unless stated differently in this booklet and schedule of benefits.

### Important note:

If there are no IOE facilities assigned to perform your transplant type in your network, it's important that you contact us so we can help you determine if there are other facilities that may meet your needs. If you don't get your transplant services at the facility we designate, they will not be **covered services**.

Many pre and post transplant medical services, even routine ones, are related to and may affect the success of your transplant. If your transplant care is being coordinated by the National Medical Excellence® (NME) program, all medical services must be managed through NME so that you receive the highest level of benefits at the appropriate facility. This is true even if the **covered service** is not directly related to your transplant.

The following are not **covered services**:

- Services and supplies furnished to a donor when the recipient is not a covered person
- Harvesting and storage of organs, without intending to use them for immediate transplantation for your existing illness
- Harvesting and/or storage of bone marrow, hematopoietic stem cells, or other blood cells without intending to use them for transplantation within 12 months from harvesting, for an existing illness

## Urgent care services

**Covered services** include services and supplies to treat an urgent condition at an urgent care center. An urgent condition is an illness or injury that requires prompt medical attention but is not a life-threatening **emergency medical condition**. An urgent care center is a facility licensed as a freestanding medical facility to treat urgent conditions.

If you need care for an urgent condition, you should first seek care through your **physician**. If your **physician** is not reasonably available, you may access urgent care from an urgent care center.

## **Walk-in clinic**

**Covered services** include, but are not limited to, health care services provided through a **walk-in clinic** for:

- Scheduled and unscheduled visits for illnesses and injuries that are not **emergency medical conditions**
- Preventive care immunizations administered within the scope of the clinic's license
- Individual screening and counseling services that will help you:
  - With obesity or healthy diet
  - To stop using tobacco products

## General plan exclusions

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The following are not **covered services** under your plan:

### Acupuncture

- Acupuncture
- Acupressure

### Behavioral health treatment

Services for the following based on categories, conditions, diagnoses or equivalent terms as listed in the most recent version of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (DSM) of the American Psychiatric Association:

- School and/or education service, including special education, remedial education, wilderness treatment programs, or any such related or similar programs
- Services provided in conjunction with school, vocation, work or recreational activities
- Transportation

### Blood, blood plasma, synthetic blood, blood derivatives or substitutes

Blood, blood products, and related services which are supplied to your **provider** free of charge

### Cosmetic services and plastic surgery

Any treatment, **surgery** (cosmetic or plastic), service or supply to alter, improve or enhance the shape or appearance of the body, except where described in the *Coverage and exclusions* section

### Cost share waived

Any cost for a service when any **out-of-network provider** waives all or part of your **copayment**, **payment percentage**, **deductible**, or any other amount

### Court-ordered services and supplies

This includes court-ordered services and supplies, or those required as a condition of parole, probation, release or because of any legal proceeding, unless they are a **covered service** under your plan

### Custodial care

Services and supplies meant to help you with activities of daily living or other personal needs.

Examples of these are:

- Routine patient care such as changing dressings, periodic turning and positioning in bed
- Administering oral medications
- Care of stable tracheostomy (including intermittent suctioning)
- Care of a stable colostomy/ileostomy
- Care of stable gastrostomy/jejunostomy/nasogastric tube (intermittent or continuous) feedings
- Care of a bladder catheter, including emptying or changing containers and clamping tubing
- Watching or protecting you
- Respite care, adult or child day care, or convalescent care
- Institutional care, including **room and board** for rest cures, adult day care and convalescent care
- Help with walking, grooming, bathing, dressing, getting in or out of bed, going to the bathroom, eating, or preparing foods
- Any other services that a person without medical or paramedical training could be trained to perform
- For behavioral health (mental health treatment and **substance related disorder** treatment):

- Services provided when you have reached the greatest level of function expected with the current level of care, for a specific diagnosis
- Services given mainly to:
  - Maintain, not improve, a level of function
  - Provide a place free from conditions that could make your physical or mental state worse

## Dental services

The following are not **covered services**:

- Services normally covered under a dental plan
- Dental implants except when part of an approved treatment plan for a **covered service** described in the *Coverage and exclusions - Reconstructive surgery and supplies* section

## Durable medical equipment (DME)

## Educational services

Examples of these are:

- Any service or supply for education, training or retraining services or testing. This includes:
  - Special education
  - Remedial education
  - Wilderness treatment programs (whether or not the program is part of a **residential treatment facility** or otherwise licensed institution)
  - Job training
  - Job hardening programs
- Educational services, schooling or any such related or similar program, including therapeutic programs within a school setting.

## Examinations

Any health or dental examinations needed:

- Because a third party requires the exam. Examples include examinations to get or keep a job, and examinations required under a labor agreement or other contract.
- To buy coverage or to get or keep a license.
- To travel.
- To go to a school, camp, sporting event, or to join in a sport or other recreational activity.

## Experimental, investigational, or unproven

**Experimental, investigational, or unproven** drugs, devices, treatments or procedures unless otherwise covered under clinical trials

## Foot care

Routine services and supplies for the following:

- Routine pedicure services, such as routine cutting of nails, when there is no illness or injury in the nails
- Supplies (including orthopedic shoes), ankle braces, guards, protectors, creams, ointments and other equipment, devices and supplies
- Treatment of calluses, bunions, toenails, hammertoes or fallen arches
- Treatment of weak feet, chronic foot pain or conditions caused by routine activities, such as walking, running, working, or wearing shoes

## Foot orthotic devices

Foot orthotics or other devices to support the feet, such as arch supports and shoe inserts, unless required for

the treatment of or to prevent complications of diabetes

## Gender Affirming Treatment

- Any treatment, drug, or service related to changing sex or sexual characteristics. Examples of these are:
  - **Surgical procedures** to alter the appearance or function of the body
  - Hormones and hormone therapy

## Gene-based, cellular and other innovative therapies (GCIT)

The following are not **covered services** unless you receive prior written approval from us:

- GCIT services received at a facility or with a **provider** that is not a GCIT-designated facility/**provider**.
- All associated services when GCIT services are not covered. Examples include:
  - Infusion
  - Lab
  - Radiology
  - Anesthesia
  - Nursing services

See the *How your plan works – Medical necessity and precertification requirements* section.

## Growth/height care

- A treatment, device, drug, service or supply to increase or decrease height or alter the rate of growth
- **Surgical procedures**, devices and growth hormones to stimulate growth

## Maintenance care

Care made up of services and supplies that maintain, rather than improve, a level of physical or mental function, except for habilitation therapy services

## Medical supplies – outpatient disposable

Any outpatient disposable supply or device. Examples of these include:

- Sheaths
- Bags
- Elastic garments
- Support hose
- Bandages
- Bedpans
- Home test kits not related to diabetic testing
- Splints
- Neck braces
- Compresses
- Other devices not intended for reuse by another patient

## Missed appointments

Any cost resulting from a canceled or missed appointment

## Nutritional support

Any food item, including:

- Infant formulas
- Nutritional supplements

- Vitamins
- **Prescription** vitamins
- Medical foods
- Other nutritional items

## **Obesity surgery and services**

Weight management treatment or drugs intended to decrease or increase body weight, control weight or treat obesity, including morbid obesity except as described in the *Coverage and exclusions* section, including preventive services for obesity screening and weight management interventions. This is regardless of the existence of other medical conditions. Examples of these are:

- Liposuction, banding, gastric stapling, gastric by-pass and other forms of bariatric **surgery**
- **Surgical procedures**, medical treatments and weight control/loss programs primarily intended to treat, or are related to the treatment of obesity, including morbid obesity
- Drugs, stimulants, preparations, foods or diet supplements, dietary regimens and supplements, food supplements, appetite suppressants and other medications
- Hypnosis, or other forms of therapy
- Exercise programs, exercise equipment, membership to health or fitness clubs, recreational therapy or other forms of activity or activity enhancement

## **Other non-covered services**

- Services you have no legal obligation to pay
- Services that would not otherwise be charged if you did not have the coverage under the plan

## **Other primary payer**

Payment for a portion of the charges that Medicare or another party is responsible for as the primary payer

## **Personal care, comfort or convenience items**

Any service or supply primarily for your convenience and personal comfort or that of a third party

## **Prescription or non-prescription drugs and medicines - outpatient**

- Outpatient **prescription** or non-**prescription** drugs and medicines provided by your employer or through a third party vendor contract with your employer

## **Routine exams and preventive services and supplies**

Routine physical exams, routine eye exams, routine dental exams, routine hearing exams and other preventive services and supplies, except as specifically provided in the *Coverage and exclusions* section

## **Services not permitted by law**

Some laws restrict the range of health care services a **provider** may perform under certain circumstances or in a particular state. When this happens, the services are not covered by the plan.

## **Services provided by a family member**

Services provided by a spouse, civil union partner, domestic partner, parent, child, stepchild, brother, sister, in-law, or any household member

## **Sexual dysfunction and enhancement**

Any treatment, **prescription** drug, or supply to treat sexual dysfunction, enhance sexual performance or increase sexual desire, including:

- **Surgery, prescription** drugs, implants, devices or preparations to correct or enhance erectile function, enhance sensitivity or alter the shape of a sex organ
- Sex therapy, sex counseling, marriage counseling, or other counseling or advisory services

## Strength and performance

Services, devices and supplies such as drugs or preparations designed primarily to enhance your strength, physical condition, endurance or physical performance

## Therapies and tests

- Full body CT scans
- Hair analysis
- Hypnosis and hypnotherapy
- Massage therapy, except when used for physical therapy treatment
- Sensory or hearing and sound integration therapy

## Tobacco cessation

Any treatment, drug, service or supply to stop or reduce smoking or the use of other tobacco products or to treat or reduce nicotine addiction, dependence or cravings, including, medications, nicotine patches and gum unless recommended by the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF). This also includes:

- Counseling, except as specifically provided in the *Coverage and exclusions* section
- Hypnosis and other therapies
- Medications, except as specifically provided in the *Coverage and exclusions* section
- Nicotine patches
- Gum

## Treatment in a federal, state, or governmental entity

Any care in a **hospital** or other facility owned or operated by any federal, state or other governmental entity unless coverage is required by applicable laws

## Voluntary sterilization

- Reversal of voluntary sterilization procedures, including related follow-up care

## Wilderness treatment programs

See *Educational services* in this section

## Work related illness or injuries

Coverage available to you under workers' compensation or a similar program under local, state or federal law for any illness or injury related to employment or self-employment

### Important note:

A source of coverage or reimbursement is considered available to you even if you waived your right to payment from that source. You may also be covered under a workers' compensation law or similar law. If you submit proof that you are not covered for a particular illness or injury under such law, then that illness or injury will be considered "non-occupational" regardless of cause.

## How your plan works

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### How your medical plan works while you are covered in-network

Your in-network coverage helps you get and pay for a lot of, but not all, health care services

Your cost share is lower when you use a **network provider**.

#### Providers

Our **provider network** is there to give you the care you need. You can find **network providers** and see important information about them by logging in to your member website. There you'll find our online provider directory. You may also contact us to ask for a copy of the directory. We update the online directory regularly, but the listings can change. Before you get care, we suggest that you call us for current information or to make sure that your provider, their office location or their provider group is in the network. See the Contact us section for more information.

You may choose a **PCP** to oversee your care. Your **PCP** will provide routine care and send you to other **providers** when you need specialized care. You don't have to get care through your **PCP**. You may go directly to **network providers**.

Your plan may pay a bigger share for **covered services** you get through your **PCP**, so choose a **PCP** as soon as you can.

For more information about the network and the role of your **PCP**, see the *Who provides the care* section.

### How your medical plan works while you are covered out-of-network

With your out-of-network coverage:

- You can get care from **providers** who are not part of the Aetna network
- You may have to pay the full cost for your care, and then submit a claim to be reimbursed
- You are responsible to get any required **precertification**
- Your cost share will be higher

### How your medical plan works while you are covered outside the U.S.

With your outside the U.S. coverage:

- You can get **covered services** outside of the U.S. including preventative care and treatment for illness and injury.
- You may have to pay the full cost for your care, and then submit a claim to be reimbursed
- You are not required to get **precertification** for services obtained outside the U.S.
- Your cost share may be higher

For questions about your plan, you can contact us by:

- Calling the toll-free number on your ID card
- Logging in to the Aetna website at <https://www.aetnainternational.com/>
- Writing us at 151 Farmington Ave, Hartford, CT 06156

## Who provides the care

### Network providers

We have contracted with **providers** to provide **covered services** to you. These **providers** make up the network for your plan.

To get network benefits, you must use **network providers**. There are some exceptions:

- **Emergency services** – see the description of **emergency services** in the *Coverage and exclusions* section.
- Transplants – see the description of transplant services in the *Coverage and exclusions* section.

You may select a **network provider** from the online directory through your member website.

You will not have to submit claims for services received from **network providers**. Your **network provider** will take care of that for you. And we will pay the **network provider** directly for what the plan owes.

## Your PCP

We encourage you to get **covered services** through a **PCP**. They will provide you with primary care.

## How you choose your PCP

You can choose a **PCP** from the list of **PCPs** in our directory. Each covered family member is encouraged to select a **PCP**. You may each choose a different **PCP**. You should select a **PCP** for your covered dependent if they are a minor or cannot choose a **PCP** on their own.

## What your PCP will do for you

Your **PCP** will coordinate your medical care or may provide treatment. They may send you to other **network providers**.

## Changing your PCP

You may change your **PCP** at any time by contacting us.

## Out-of-network providers

You can also get care from **out-of-network providers**. When you use an **out-of-network provider**, your cost share is higher. You are responsible for:

- Your out-of-network **deductible**
- Your out-of-network **payment percentage**
- Any charges over the **recognized charge**
- Submitting your own claims and getting **precertification**

## Keeping a provider or facility you go to now (continuity of care)

You may have to find a new **provider** when:

- You join the plan and the **provider** or facility you have now is not in the network
- You are already an Aetna member and your **provider** or facility stops being in our network

However, in some cases, you may be able to keep going to your current **provider** or facility to complete a treatment or to have treatment that was already scheduled at the in-network cost sharing levels for up to 90 days of the **provider** or facility ceasing to be in our network. This is called continuity of care. If we know you are under an active treatment plan, we will notify you of the **provider's** or facility's contract termination and how you can submit a request to keep going to your current **provider** or facility. Contact us for additional information.

## Medical necessity and precertification requirements

Your plan pays for its share of the expense for **covered services** only if the general requirements are met. They are:

- The service is **medically necessary**
- For in-network benefits, you get the service from a **network provider**
- You or your **provider** **precertifies** the service when required

## Medically necessary, medical necessity

The **medical necessity** requirements are in the *Glossary* section, where we define “**medically necessary, medical necessity**.” That is where we also explain what our medical directors or a **physician** they assign consider when determining if a service is **medically necessary**.

### Important note:

We cover **medically necessary**, sex-specific **covered services** regardless of identified gender.

Certain **prescription** drugs are covered under the medical plan when they are given to you by your doctor or health care facility. The following **precertification** information applies to these **prescription** drugs:

- For certain drugs, covered under your medical or prescription drug plan, your **provider** needs to get approval from us before we will cover the drug. The requirement for getting approval in advance guides appropriate use of certain drugs and makes sure they are **medically necessary**.

Step therapy is a type of **precertification** where you must try one or more prerequisite drugs before a step therapy drug is covered. A ‘prerequisite’ is something that is required before something else. Prerequisite drugs are FDA-approved, may cost less and treat the same condition. If you don’t try the prerequisite drugs first, the step therapy drug may not be covered.

Contact us or go online to get the most up-to-date **precertification** requirements and list of step therapy drugs.

## Requesting a medical exception

Sometimes you or your **provider** may ask for a medical exception for drugs that are not covered or for which coverage was denied. You, someone who represents you or your **provider** can contact us. You will need to provide us with clinical documentation. Any exception granted is based upon an individual and is a case-by-case decision that will not apply to other members. For directions on how you can submit a request for a review:

- Call the toll-free number on your ID card
- Log in to your member website at <https://www.aetna.com/>
- Submit the request in writing to CVS Health ATTN: Aetna PA, 1300 E Campbell Road, Richardson, TX 75081

You, someone who represents you or your **provider** may seek a quicker medical exception when the situation is urgent. It’s an urgent situation when you have a health condition that may seriously affect your life, health or ability to get back maximum function. It can also be when you are going through a current course of treatment using a non-covered drug.

## What the plan pays and what you pay

Who pays for your **covered services** – this plan, both of us, or just you? That depends.

### The general rule

The schedule of benefits lists what you pay for each type of **covered service**. In general, this is how your benefit works:

- You pay the **deductible**, when it applies.
- Then the plan and you share the expense. Your share is called a **copayment** or **payment percentage**.
- Then the plan pays the entire expense after you reach your **maximum out-of-pocket limit**.

When we say “expense” in this general rule, we mean the **negotiated charge** for a **network provider**, and **recognized charge** for an **out-of-network provider**.

### Negotiated charge

*For health coverage:*

This is the amount a **network provider** has agreed to accept or that we have agreed to pay them or a third party vendor (including any administrative fee in the amount paid).

For surprise bills, calculations will be made based on the median contracted rate.

We may enter into arrangements with **network providers** or others related to:

- The coordination of care for members
- Improving clinical outcomes and efficiencies

Some of these arrangements are called:

- Value-based contracting
- Risk sharing
- Accountable care arrangements

These arrangements will not change the **negotiated charge** under this plan.

For **prescription** drug services:

When you get a **prescription** drug, we have agreed to this amount for the **prescription** or paid this amount to the network pharmacy or third party vendor that provided it. The **negotiated charge** may include a rebate, additional service or risk charges and administrative fees. It may include additional amounts paid to or received from third parties under price guarantees.

## Recognized charge

The amount of an **out-of-network provider's** charge that is eligible for coverage. You may be responsible for all amounts above what is eligible for coverage. However, there are some types of claims for which a provider may not bill you for amounts above what is eligible for coverage (see *Surprise Bill* for more information).

If your ID card displays the National Advantage Program (NAP) logo your cost may be lower when you get care from a NAP **provider** for whom we access NAP rates. Claims for services received from a NAP **provider** and paid at the NAP contracted rate are not subject to the federal surprise bill law. Through NAP, the **recognized charge** is determined as follows:

- If your service was received from a NAP **provider**, a pre-negotiated charge **may** be paid. NAP **providers** are **out-of-network providers** that have contracts with Aetna, directly or through third-party vendors, that include a pre-**negotiated charge** for services. NAP **providers** are not **network providers**. (At times Aetna may choose to terminate specific providers from NAP and will notify the provider of such a decision).
- If your service was not received from a NAP **provider**, a claim specific rate or discount may be negotiated by Aetna or a third-party vendor.

If your claim is not paid as outlined above, the **recognized charge** for specific services or supplies will be the **out-of-network plan rate**, calculated in accordance with the following:

| Service or Supply:                                                       | Out-of-Network Plan Rate                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Professional services and other services or supplies not mentioned below | Reasonable amount rate                    |
| Services of <b>hospitals</b> and other facilities                        | Reasonable amount rate                    |
| <b>Prescription drugs</b>                                                | 110% of the average wholesale price (AWP) |

**Important note:**

See *Special terms used* below, for a description of what the **recognized charge** is based on.

If the **provider** bills less than the amount calculated using a method above, the **recognized charge** is what the **provider** bills.

In the event you receive a balance bill from a **provider** for your out-of-network service, Patient Advocacy Services may be available to assist you in certain circumstances. If Patient Advocacy Services are available for your claim, additional information will be provided to you.

If NAP does not apply to you, the **recognized charge** for specific services or supplies will be the out-of-network plan rate set forth in the above chart.

The out-of-network plan rate does not apply to involuntary services. See *Surprise Bill* for more information.

**Special terms used:**

- Average wholesale price (AWP) is the current average wholesale price of a **prescription drug** listed in the Facts and Comparisons, Medi-span weekly price updates (or any other similar publication chosen by **Aetna**).
- Facility charge review (FCR) rate is an amount that we determine is enough to cover the facility **provider's** estimated costs for the service and leave the **provider** with a reasonable profit. This means for:
  - **Hospitals** and other facilities that report costs or cost to charge ratios to The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), the FCR rate is based on what the facilities report to CMS
  - Facilities that don't report costs or cost to charge ratios to CMS, the FCR rate is based on a statewide average of these facilitiesWe may adjust the formula as needed to maintain the reasonableness of the **recognized charge**. For example, we may make an adjustment if we determine that in a state the charges of a specific type of facility are much higher than charges of facilities that report to CMS.
- Geographic area is normally based on the first three digits of the U.S. Postal Service zip codes. If we determine we need more data for a particular service or supply, we may base rates on a wider geographic area such as an entire state.
- Medicare allowed rates are the rates CMS establishes for services and supplies provided to Medicare enrollees without taking into account adjustments for specific **provider** performance. We update our system with these when revised within 180 days of receiving them from CMS. If Medicare doesn't have a rate, we use one or more of the items below to determine the rate for a service or supply:
  - The method CMS uses to set Medicare rates
  - How much other providers charge or accept as payment
  - How much work it takes to perform a service
  - Other things as needed to decide what rate is reasonable

We may make the following exceptions:

- For inpatient services, our rate may exclude amounts CMS allows for operating Indirect Medical Education (IME) and Direct Graduate Medical Education (DGME) programs
- Our rate may exclude other payments that CMS may make directly to **hospitals** or other **providers** and backdated adjustments
- For anesthesia, our rate may be at least 100% of the rate CMS establishes
- For lab, our rate may be 75% of the rate CMS establishes
- For DME, our rate may be 75% of the rate CMS establishes
- For medications that are paid as a medical benefit instead of a pharmacy benefit, our rate may be 100% of the rates CMS establishes.

- “Reasonable amount rate” means your plan has established a reasonable rate amount as follows:

| Service or supply                                                    | Reasonable amount rate                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Professional services                                                | <p>The percentile value reported in a database prepared by FAIR Health, a nonprofit company. FAIR Health changes these rates periodically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We update our systems with these changes within 180 days after receiving them from FAIR Health</li> <li>• If the FAIR Health database becomes unavailable, we have the right to substitute a different database that we believe is comparable</li> </ul> <p>If the alternative data source does not contain a value for a particular service or supply, we will base the <b>recognized charge</b> on the Medicare allowed rate.</p> |
| Inpatient and outpatient <b>hospital</b> charges                     | 100% of Medicare allowed rate                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Inpatient and outpatient charges that are not from a <b>hospital</b> | 100% of Medicare allowed rate                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

### Our reimbursement policies

We have the right to apply our reimbursement policies to all out-of-network services including involuntary services. This may affect the **recognized charge**. When we do this, we consider:

- The length and difficulty of a service
- Whether additional expenses are needed, when multiple procedures are billed at the same time
- Whether an assistant surgeon is needed
- If follow up care is included
- Whether other conditions change or make a service unique
- Whether any of the services described by a claim line are part of or related to the primary service provided, when a charge includes more than one claim line
- The educational level, licensure or length of training of the **provider**

We base our reimbursement policies on our review of:

- CMS National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) and other external materials that say what billing and coding practices are and aren’t appropriate
- Generally accepted standards of medical and dental practice
- The views of **physicians** and dentists practicing in relevant clinical areas

We use commercial software to administer some of these policies. Policies may differ for professional services and facility services.

### Get the most from your benefits:

We have online tools to help you decide whether to get care and if so, where. Log in to your member website. The website contains additional information that can help you determine the cost of a service or supply.

## Surprise bill

There may be times when you unknowingly receive services or don't consent to receive services from an **out-of-network provider**, even where you try to stay in the network for your **covered services**. You may get a bill at the out-of-network rate that you didn't expect. This is called a surprise bill.

An **out-of-network provider** can't balance bill or attempt to collect costs from you that exceed your in-network cost-sharing requirement, such as **deductibles**, **copayments** and **payment percentage** for the following services:

- **Emergency services** provided by an **out-of-network provider** and ancillary services initiated from your **emergency services**
- Non-emergency services provided by an **out-of-network provider** at an in-network facility, except when the **out-of-network provider** has given you the following:
  - The out-of-network notice for your signature
  - The estimated charges for the items and services
  - Notice that the **provider** is an **out-of-network provider**
- Out-of-network air ambulance services

The **out-of-network provider** must get your consent to be treated and balance billed by them.

Ancillary services mean any professional services including:

- Items and services related to emergency medicine
- Anesthesiology
- Hospitalist services
- Laboratory services
- Neonatology
- Pathology
- Radiology
- Services provided by an **out-of-network provider** because there was no **network provider** available to perform the service

A facility in this instance means an institution providing health care related services, or a health care setting. This includes the following:

- **Hospitals** and other licensed inpatient centers
- Ambulatory surgical or treatment centers
- **Skilled nursing facilities**
- **Residential treatment facilities**
- Diagnostic, laboratory, and imaging centers
- Rehabilitation facilities
- Other therapeutic health settings

A surprise bill claim is paid based on the median contracted rate for all plans offered by us in the same insurance market for the same or similar item or service that is all of the following:

- Provided by a **provider** in the same or similar specialty or facility of the same or similar facility type
- Provided in the geographic region in which the item or service is furnished

The median contracted rate is subject to additional adjustments as specified in federal regulations.

Any cost share paid with respect to the items and services will apply toward your in-network **deductible** and **maximum out-of-pocket limit** if you have one.

It is not a surprise bill when you knowingly choose to go out-of-network and have signed a consent notice for these services. In this case, you are responsible for all charges.

You may request external review if you want to know if the federal surprise bill law applies to your situation.

If you receive a surprise bill or have any questions about what a surprise bill is, contact us.

### **Paying for covered services – the general requirements**

There are several general requirements for the plan to pay any part of the expense for a **covered service**. For in-network coverage, they are:

- The service is **medically necessary**
- You get your care from a **network provider**
- You or your **provider precertifies** the service when required

For **out-of-network** coverage:

- The service is **medically necessary**
- You get your care from an **out-of-network provider**
- You or your **provider precertifies** the service when required

For outpatient **prescription** drugs, your costs are based on:

- The type of **prescription** you're prescribed
- Where you fill the **prescription**

The plan may make some **brand-name prescription drugs** available to you at the **generic prescription drug** cost share.

Generally, your plan and you share the cost for **covered services** when you meet the general requirements. But sometimes your plan will pay the entire expense, and sometimes you will. For details, see your schedule of benefits and the information below.

You pay the entire expense when:

- You get services or supplies that are not **medically necessary**.
- Your plan requires **precertification**, your **physician** requests it, we deny it and you get the services without **precertification**.
- You get care and the **provider** waives all or part of your cost share.

In all these cases, the **provider** may require you to pay the entire charge. Any amount you pay will not count towards your **deductible** or your **maximum out-of-pocket limit**.

### **Where your schedule of benefits fits in**

The schedule of benefits shows any out-of-pocket costs you are responsible for when you receive **covered services** and any benefit limitations that apply to your plan. It also shows any **maximum out-of-pocket limits** that apply.

Limitations include things like maximum age, visits, days, hours, and admissions. Out-of-pocket costs include things like **deductibles**, **copayments** and **payment percentage**.

Keep in mind that you are responsible for paying your part of the cost sharing. You are also responsible for costs not covered under this plan.

## Coordination of benefits

Some people have health coverage under more than one health plan. If you do, we will work with your other plan to decide how much each plan pays. This is called coordination of benefits (COB).

### Key Terms

Here are some key terms we use in this section. These will help you understand this COB section.

Allowable expense means a health care expense that any of your health plans cover.

In this section when we talk about “plan” through which you may have other coverage for health care expenses we mean:

- Group or non-group, blanket, or franchise health insurance policies issued by insurers, HMOs, or health care service contractors
- Labor-management trustee plans, labor organization plans, employer organization plans, or employee benefit organization plans
- An automobile insurance policy
- Medicare or other government benefits
- Any contract that you can obtain or maintain only because of membership in or connection with a particular organization or group

### How COB works

- When this is your primary plan, we pay your medical claims first as if there is no other coverage.
- When this is your secondary plan:
  - We pay benefits after the primary plan and reduce our payment based on any amount the primary plan paid.
  - Total payments from this plan and your other coverage will never add up to more than 100% of the allowable expenses.
  - Each family member has a separate benefit reserve for each year. The benefit reserve balance is:
    - The amount that the secondary plan saved due to COB
    - Used to cover any unpaid allowable expenses
    - Erased at the end of the year

### Determining who pays

The basic rules are listed below. Reading from top to bottom the first rule that applies will determine which plan is primary and which is secondary. Contact us if you have questions or want more information.

A plan that does not contain a COB provision is always the primary plan.

| COB rule                                   | Primary plan                                                                          | Secondary plan                                     |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Non-dependent or dependent                 | Plan covering you as an employee, retired employee or subscriber (not as a dependent) | Plan covering you as a dependent                   |
| Child – parents married or living together | Plan of parent whose birthday (month and day) is earlier in the year (Birthday rule)  | Plan of parent whose birthday is later in the year |

| <b>COB rule</b>                                                                     | <b>Primary plan</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>Secondary plan</b>                                                                                                                                                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Child – parents separated, divorced, or not living together                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan of parent responsible for health coverage in court order</li> <li>• Birthday rule applies if both parents are responsible or have joint custody in court order</li> <li>• Custodial parent's plan if there is no court order</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan of other parent</li> <li>• Birthday rule applies (later in the year)</li> <li>• Non-custodial parent's plan</li> </ul> |
| Child – covered by individuals who are not parents (i.e. stepparent or grandparent) | Same rule as parent                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Same rule as parent                                                                                                                                                  |
| Active or inactive employee                                                         | Plan covering you as an active employee (or dependent of an active employee)                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Plan covering you as a laid off or retired employee (or dependent of a former employee)                                                                              |
| Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) or state continuation        | Plan covering you as an employee or retiree (or dependent of an employee or retiree)                                                                                                                                                                                                  | COBRA or state continuation coverage                                                                                                                                 |
| Longer or shorter length of coverage                                                | Plan that has covered you longer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Plan that has covered you for a shorter period of time                                                                                                               |
| Other rules do not apply                                                            | Plans share expenses equally                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Plans share expenses equally                                                                                                                                         |

### **How COB works with Medicare**

If your other coverage is under Medicare, federal laws explain whether Medicare will pay first or second. COB with Medicare will always follow federal requirements. Contact us if you have any questions about this.

When you are eligible for Medicare, we coordinate the benefits we pay with the benefits that Medicare pays. Sometimes, this plan pays benefits before Medicare pays. Sometimes, this plan pays benefits after Medicare or after an amount that Medicare would have paid if you had been covered.

You are eligible for Medicare if you are covered under it.

### **Effect of prior plan coverage**

If you are in a continuation period from a prior plan at the time you join this plan you may not receive the full benefit paid under this plan. Your current and prior plan must be offered through the same employer.

### **Other health coverage updates – contact information**

You should contact us if you have any changes to your other coverage. We want to be sure our records are accurate so your claims are processed correctly.

### **Our rights**

We have the right to:

- Release or obtain any information we need for COB purposes, including information we need to recover any payments from your other health plans
- Reimburse another health plan that paid a benefit we should have paid
- Recover any excess payment from a person or another health plan, if we paid more than we should have paid

## Benefit payments and claims

A claim is a request for payment that you or your health care **provider** submits to us when you want or get **covered services**. There are different types of claims. You or your **provider** may contact us at various times, to make a claim, to request approval, or payment, for your benefits. This can be before you receive your benefit, while you are receiving benefits and after you have received the benefit.

It is important that you carefully read the previous sections within *How your plan works*. When a claim comes in, we review it, make a decision and tell you how you and we will split the expense. The amount of time we have to tell you about our decision on a claim depends on the type of claim.

### Claim type and timeframes

#### Urgent care claim

An urgent claim is one for which the doctor treating you decides a delay in getting medical care could put your life or health at risk. Or a delay might put your ability to regain maximum function at risk. It could also be a situation in which you need care to avoid severe pain. We will make a decision within 72 hours.

If you are pregnant, an urgent claim also includes a situation that can cause serious risk to the health of your unborn baby.

#### Pre-service claim

A pre-service claim is a claim that involves services you have not yet received and which we will pay for only if we **precertify** them. We will make a decision within 15 days.

#### Post-service claim

A post-service claim is a claim that involves health care services you have already received. We will make a decision within 30 days.

#### Concurrent care claim extension

A concurrent care claim extension occurs when you need us to approve more services than we already have approved. Examples are extending a **hospital stay** or adding a number of visits to a **provider**. You must let us know you need this extension 24 hours before the original approval ends. We will have a decision within 24 hours for an urgent request. You may receive the decision for a non-urgent request within 15 days.

#### Concurrent care claim reduction or termination

A concurrent care claim reduction or termination occur when we decide to reduce or stop payment for an already approved course of treatment. We will notify you of such a determination. You will have enough time to file an appeal. Your coverage for the service or supply will continue until you receive a final appeal decision from us or an external review organization if the situation is eligible for external review.

During this continuation period, you are still responsible for your share of the costs, such as **copayments**, **payment percentage** and **deductibles** that apply to the service or supply. If we uphold our decision at the final internal appeal, you will be responsible for all of the expenses for the service or supply received during the continuation period.

#### Filing a claim

When you see a **network provider**, that office will usually send us a detailed bill for your services. If you see an **out-of-network provider**, you may receive the bill (proof of loss) directly. This bill forms the basis of your post-service claim. If you receive the bill directly, you or your **provider** must send us the bill within 12 months of the date you received services, unless you are legally unable to notify us. You must send it to us with a claim form that you can either get online or contact us to provide. You should always keep your own record of the date, **providers** and cost of your services.

The benefit payment determination is made based on many things, such as your **deductible** or **payment percentage**, the necessity of the service you received, when or where you receive the services, or even what other insurance you may have. We may need to ask you or your **provider** for some more information to make a final decision. You can always contact us directly to see how much you can expect to pay for any service.

We will pay the claim within 30 days from when we receive all the information necessary. Sometimes we may pay only some of the claim. Sometimes we may deny payment entirely. We may even rescind your coverage entirely. Rescission means you lose coverage going forward and going backward. If we paid claims for your past coverage, we will want the money back.

We will give you our decision in writing. You may not agree with our decision. There are several ways to have us review the decisions. Please see the *Complaints, claim decisions and appeal procedures* section for that information.

## Complaints, claim decisions and appeals procedures

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### The difference between a complaint and an appeal

#### A Complaint

You may not be happy about a **provider** or an operational issue, and you may want to complain. You can call or write Member Services. Your complaint should include a description of the issue. You should include copies of any records or documents that you think are important. We will review the information and provide you with a written response within 30 calendar days of receiving the complaint. We will let you know if we need more information to make a decision.

#### An Appeal

You can ask us to re-review an adverse benefit determination. This is called an appeal. You can appeal to us verbally or in writing.

### Claim decisions and appeal procedures

Your **provider** may contact us at various times to make a claim, or to request approval for payment based on your benefits. This can be before you receive your benefit, while you are receiving benefits and after you have received the benefit. You may not agree with our decision. As we said in *Benefit payments and claims* in the *How your plan works* section, we pay many claims at the full rate, except for your share of the costs. But sometimes we pay only some of the claim. Sometimes we deny payment entirely.

Any time we deny even part of the claim, it is an “adverse benefit determination” or “adverse decision.” For any adverse decision, you will receive an explanation of benefits in writing. You can ask us to review an adverse benefit determination. This is the internal appeal process. If you still don’t agree, you can also appeal that decision. There are times you may skip the two levels of internal appeal. But in most situations, you must complete both levels before you can take any other actions, such as an external review.

### Appeals of adverse benefit determinations

You can appeal our adverse benefit determination. We will assign your appeal to someone who was not involved in making the original decision. You must file an appeal within 180 calendar days from the time you receive the notice of an adverse benefit determination.

You can appeal by sending a written appeal to Member Services at the address on the notice of adverse benefit determination. Or you can call Member Services at the number on your ID card. You need to include:

- Your name
- The employer’s name
- A copy of the adverse benefit determination
- Your reasons for making the appeal
- Any other information you would like us to consider

Another person may submit an appeal for you, including a **provider**. That person is called an authorized representative. You need to tell us if you choose to have someone else appeal for you (even if it is your **provider**). You should fill out an authorized representative form telling us that you are allowing someone to appeal for you. You can get this form by contacting us. You can use an authorized representative at any level of appeal.

You can appeal two times under this plan. If you appeal a second time you must present your appeal within 60 calendar days from the date you receive the notice of the first appeal decision.

## Urgent care or pre-service claim appeals

If your claim is an urgent claim or a pre-service claim, your **provider** may appeal for you without having you fill out an authorized representative form telling us that you are allowing the provider to appeal for you.

We will provide you with any new or additional information that we used or that was developed by us to review your claim. We will provide this information at no cost to you before we give you a decision at your last available level of appeal. This decision is called the final adverse benefit determination. You can respond to this information before we tell you what our final decision is.

## Timeframes for deciding appeals

The amount of time that we have to tell you about our decision on an appeal claim depends on the type of claim. The chart below shows a timetable view of the different types of claims and how much time we have to tell you about our decision.

| Type of notice                           | Urgent care claim | Pre-service claim | Post-service claim | Concurrent care claim           |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Appeal determinations at each level (us) | 36 hours          | 15 days           | 30 days            | As appropriate to type of claim |
| Extensions                               | None              | None              | None               |                                 |

## Exhaustion of appeals process

In most situations you must complete the two levels of appeal with us before you can take these other actions:

- Appeal through an external review process.
- Pursue arbitration, litigation or other type of administrative proceeding.

But sometimes you do not have to complete the two levels of appeals process before you may take other actions. These situations are:

- You have an urgent claim or a claim that involves ongoing treatment. You can have your claim reviewed internally and at the same time through the external review process.
- We did not follow all of the claim determination and appeal requirements of the Federal Department of Health and Human Services. But, you will not be able to proceed directly to external review if:
  - The rule violation was minor and not likely to influence a decision or harm you.
  - The violation was for a good cause or beyond our control.
  - The violation was part of an ongoing, good faith exchange between you and us.

## External review

External review is a review done by people in an organization outside of **Aetna**. This is called an external review organization (ERO).

You have a right to external review only if:

- Our claim decision involved medical judgment.
- We decided the service or supply is not **medically necessary** or not appropriate.
- We decided the service or supply is **experimental, investigational, or unproven**.
- You have received an adverse determination.

You may also request external review if you want to know if the federal surprise bill law applies to your situation.

If our claim decision is one for which you can seek external review, we will say that in the notice of adverse benefit determination or final adverse benefit determination we send you. That notice also will describe the external review process. It will include a copy of the Request for External Review form at the final adverse determination level.

You must submit the Request for External Review Form:

- To **Aetna**
- Within 123 calendar days (four months) of the date you received the decision from us
- And you must include a copy of the notice from us and all other important information that supports your request

You will pay for any information that you send and want reviewed by the ERO. We will pay for information we send to the ERO plus the cost of the review.

**Aetna will:**

- Contact the ERO that will conduct the review of your claim.
- Assign the appeal to one or more independent clinical reviewers that have the proper expertise to do the review.
- Consider appropriate credible information that you sent.
- Follow our contractual documents and your plan of benefits.
- Send notification of the decision within 45 calendar days of the date we receive your request form and all the necessary information.

We will stand by the decision that the ERO makes, unless we can show conflict of interest, bias or fraud.

### **How long will it take to get an ERO decision?**

We will tell you of the ERO decision not more than 45 calendar days after we receive your Notice of External Review Form with all the information you need to send in.

But sometimes you can get a faster external review decision. Your **provider** must call us or send us a Request for External Review Form.

There are two scenarios when you may be able to get a faster external review:

#### **For initial adverse determinations**

Your **provider** tells us that a delay in your receiving health care services would:

- Jeopardize your life, health or ability to regain maximum function, or
- Be much less effective if not started right away (in the case of **experimental, investigational, or unproven** treatment)

#### **For final adverse determinations**

Your **provider** tells us that a delay in your receiving health care services would:

- Jeopardize your life, health or ability to regain maximum function
- Be much less effective if not started right away (in the case of **experimental, investigational, or unproven** treatment), or
- The final adverse determination concerns an admission, availability of care, continued stay or health care service for which you received **emergency services**, but have not been discharged from a facility

If your situation qualifies for this faster review, you will receive a decision within 72 hours of us getting your request.

**Recordkeeping**

We will keep the records of all complaints and appeals for at least 10 years.

**Fees and expenses**

We do not pay any fees or expenses incurred by you in pursuing a complaint or appeal.

# Eligibility, starting and stopping coverage

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## Eligibility

### Who is eligible

Your employer decides and tells us who is eligible for health coverage.

### When you can join the plan

You must live or work in the service area to enroll in this plan.

You can enroll:

- Once each year during the annual enrollment period
- At other special times during the year (see the *Special times you can join the plan* section below)

You can enroll eligible family members (these are your “dependents”) at this time too.

If you don’t enroll when you first qualify for benefits, you may have to wait until the next annual enrollment period to join.

### Who can be a dependent on this plan

You can enroll the following family members:

- Your legal spouse
- Dependent children – yours or your spouse’s
  - Dependent children must be:
    - Under 26 years of age
  - Dependent children include:
    - Natural children
    - Stepchildren
    - Adopted children including those placed with you for adoption
    - Foster children
    - Children you are responsible for under a qualified medical support order or court order
    - Grandchildren in your legal custody

### Adding new dependents

You can add new dependents during the year. These include any dependents described in the *Who can be a dependent on this plan* section above.

Coverage begins on the date of the event for new dependents that join your plan for the following reasons:

- Birth
- Adoption or placement for adoption
- Marriage
- Legal guardianship
- Court or administrative order

We must receive a completed enrollment form not more than 31 days after the event date.

### Special times you can join the plan

You can enroll in these situations:

- You didn't enroll before because you had other coverage and that coverage has ended
- Your COBRA coverage has ended
- A court orders that you cover a dependent on your health plan
- When your dependent moves outside the service area for your employee plan

We must receive the completed enrollment information within 31 days of the date when coverage ends.

You can also enroll in these situations:

- You or your dependent lose your eligibility for enrollment in Medicaid or an S-CHIP plan
- You are now eligible for state premium assistance under Medicaid or S-CHIP which will pay your premium contribution under this plan

We must receive the completed enrollment information within 60 days of the date when coverage ends.

### **Notification of change in status**

Tell us of any changes that may affect your benefits. Please contact us as soon as possible when you have a:

- Change of address
- Dependent status change
- Dependent who enrolls in Medicare or any other health plan

### **Starting coverage**

Your coverage under this plan has a start and an end. You must start coverage after you complete the eligibility and enrollment process. You can ask your employer to confirm your effective date.

### **Stopping coverage**

Your coverage typically ends when you leave your job; but it can happen for other reasons. Ending coverage doesn't always mean you lose coverage with us. There will be circumstances that will still allow you to continue coverage. See the *Special coverage options after your coverage ends* section.

We will send you notice if your coverage is ending. This notice will tell you the date that your coverage ends.

### **When will your coverage end**

Your coverage under this plan will end if:

- This plan is no longer available
- You ask to end coverage
- Your employer asks to end coverage
- You are no longer eligible for coverage, including when you move out of the service area
- Your work ends
- You stop making required contributions, if any apply
- We end your coverage
- You start coverage under another medical plan offered by your employer

### **When dependent coverage ends**

Dependent coverage will end if:

- A dependent is no longer eligible for coverage.
- You stop making contributions, if any apply.
- Your coverage ends for any of the reasons listed above except:
  - You enroll under a group Medicare plan we offer. However, dependent coverage will end if your coverage ends under the Medicare plan.

### **What happens to your dependents if you die?**

Coverage for dependents may continue for some time after your death. See the *Special coverage options after your coverage ends* section for more information.

### **Why would we end your coverage?**

We may immediately end your coverage if you commit fraud or you intentionally misrepresented yourself when you applied for or obtained coverage. You can refer to the *General provisions – other things you should know* section for more information on rescissions.

On the date your coverage ends, we will refund to your employer any prepayment for periods after the date your coverage ended.

### **Special coverage options after your coverage ends**

#### **When coverage may continue under the plan**

This section explains options you may have after your coverage ends under this plan. Your individual situation will determine what options you will have. Contact your employer to see what options apply to you.

In some cases, fee payment is required for coverage to continue. Your coverage will continue under the plan as long as your employer and we have agreed to do so. It is your employer's responsibility to let us know when your work ends. If your employer and we agree in writing, we will extend the limits.

#### **Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA)**

The federal COBRA law usually applies to employers of group sizes of 20 or more and gives employees and most of their covered dependents the right to keep their health coverage for 18, 29 or 36 months after a qualifying event. The qualifying event is something that happens that results in you losing your coverage.

The qualifying events are:

- Your active employment ends for reasons other than gross misconduct
- Your working hours are reduced
- You divorce or legally separate and are no longer responsible for dependent coverage
- You become entitled to benefits under Medicare
- Your covered dependent children no longer qualify as dependents under the plan
- You die
- You are a retiree eligible for retiree health coverage and your former employer files for bankruptcy

Talk with your employer if you have questions about COBRA or to enroll.

### **Continuation of coverage for other reasons**

#### **How you can extend coverage if you are totally disabled when coverage ends**

Your coverage may be extended if you are totally disabled when coverage ends. Only the medical condition which caused the total disability is covered during your extension. You are "totally disabled" if you cannot work at your occupation or any other occupation for pay or profit.

Your covered dependent is "totally disabled" if they can't engage in most normal activities like a healthy person of the same age and gender.

You may extend coverage only for services and supplies related to the disabling condition until the earliest of:

- When you or your dependent are no longer totally disabled
- When you become covered by another health benefits plan
- 12 months of coverage

**How you can extend coverage for your disabled child beyond the plan age limits**

You have the right to extend coverage for your dependent child beyond plan age limits, if the child is not able to be self-supporting because of mental or physical disability and depends mainly (more than 50% of their income) on you for support.

The right to coverage will continue only as long as a **physician** certifies that your child still is disabled.

We may ask you to send us proof of the disability within 90 days of the date coverage would have ended. Before we extend coverage, we may ask that your child get a physical exam. We will pay for that exam.

We may ask you to send proof that your child is disabled after coverage is extended. We won't ask for this proof more than once a year. You must send it to us within 31 days of our request. If you don't, we can terminate coverage for your dependent child.

**How you can extend coverage when getting inpatient care when coverage ends**

Your coverage may be extended if you are getting inpatient care in a **hospital** or **skilled nursing facility** when coverage ends.

Benefits are extended for the condition that caused the **hospital** or **skilled nursing facility stay** or for complications from the condition. Benefits aren't extended for other medical conditions.

You can continue to get care for this condition until the earliest of:

- When you are discharged
- When you no longer need inpatient care
- When you become covered by another health benefits plan
- 12 months of coverage

**How you can extend coverage for hearing services and supplies when coverage ends**

If you are not totally disabled when your coverage ends, coverage for hearing services and supplies may be extended for 30 days after your coverage ends:

- If the **prescription** for the hearing aid is written during the 30 days before your coverage ends
- If the hearing aid is ordered during the 30 days before your coverage ends

## General provisions – other things you should know

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### Administrative provisions

#### How you and we will interpret this booklet

We prepared this booklet according to federal and state laws that apply. You and we will interpret it according to these laws. Also, you are bound by our interpretation of this booklet when we administer your coverage.

#### How Aetna administers this plan

Aetna will administer the Plan in accordance with this booklet and apply policies and procedures which Aetna has developed to administer this plan.

#### Who's responsible to you

We are responsible to you for what our employees and other agents do.

We are not responsible for what is done by your **providers**. Even **network providers** are not our employees or agents.

### Claim administrator

#### Aetna's authority as claim administrator

Aetna has been delegated the authority to make claim and appeal determinations under the Plan. In exercising this responsibility, Aetna has full discretionary authority to make factual determinations, to determine eligibility for benefits, to determine the amount of benefits for each claim received, and to construe terms of the Plan with respect to benefits. Aetna's decisions are final and binding upon you and any person making a claim on your behalf. Your employer retains sole and complete authority to determine eligibility of persons to participate in the Plan.

### Coverage and services

#### Your coverage can change

Your coverage is defined by the group contract. This document may have amendments too. Under certain circumstances, we, the Customer/Employer or the law may change your plan. When an emergency or epidemic is declared, we may modify or waive **precertification**, **prescription** quantity limits or your cost share if you are affected. Only we may waive a requirement of your plan. No other person, including the Customer/Employer or **provider**, can do this.

### Physical examination and evaluations

At our expense, we have the right to have a **physician** of our choice examine you. This will be done at reasonable times while certification or a claim for benefits is pending or under review.

### Records of expenses

You should keep complete records of your expenses. They may be needed for a claim. Important things to keep are:

- Names of **physicians** and others who furnish services
- Dates expenses are incurred
- Copies of all bills and receipts

## Honest mistakes and intentional deception

### Honest mistakes

You or the Customer/Employer may make an honest mistake when you share facts with us. When we learn of the mistake, we may make a fair change in contributions or in your coverage. If we do, we will tell you what the mistake was. We won't make a change if the mistake happened more than 2 years before we learned of it.

### Intentional deception

If we learn that you defrauded us or you intentionally misrepresented material facts, we can take actions that can have serious consequences for your coverage. These serious consequences include, but are not limited to:

- Rescission of coverage
- Denial of benefits
- Recovery of amounts we already paid

We also may report fraud to criminal authorities. See the *Benefit payments and claims, Filing a claim* section for information about rescission.

You have special rights if we rescind your coverage:

- We will give you 30 days advance written notice of any rescission of coverage
- You have the right to an appeal
- You have the right to a third party review conducted by an independent ERO

## Some other money issues

### Legal action

You must complete the internal appeal process, if your plan has one, before you take any legal action against us for any expense or bill. See the *Complaints, claim decisions, and, appeal procedures* section.

You cannot take any action until 60 days after we receive written submission of a claim.

No legal action can be brought to recover payment under any benefit after 3 years from the deadline for filing claims.

### Assignment of benefits

When you see a **network provider**, they will usually bill us directly. When you see an **out-of-network provider**, we may choose to pay you or to pay the **provider** directly. To the extent allowed by law, we will not accept an assignment to an **out-of-network provider**.

### Financial sanctions exclusions

If coverage provided under this booklet violates or will violate any economic or trade sanctions, the coverage will be invalid immediately. For example, we cannot pay for **covered services** if it violates a financial sanction regulation. This includes sanctions related to a person or a country under sanction by the United States, unless it is allowed under a written license from the Office of Foreign Asset Control (OFAC). You can find out more by visiting <https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/Pages/default.aspx>

### Recovery of overpayments

If a benefit payment is made by the Plan, to or on your behalf, which exceeds the benefit amount that you are entitled to receive, the Plan has the right to require the return of the overpayment. One of the ways Aetna recovers overpayments is by reducing future payments to the provider by the amount of the overpayment. These future payments may involve this Plan or other health plans that are administered by Aetna. Aetna would then credit the recovered amount to the plan that overpaid the provider. Payments to providers under this Plan may be subject to this same process when Aetna recovers overpayments for other plans administered by Aetna.

This right does not affect any other right of recovery the Plan may have with respect to overpayments.

## **Your health information**

We will protect your health information. We will only use or share it with others as needed for your care and treatment. We will also use and share it to help us process your claims and manage your plan.

You can get a free copy of our Notice of Privacy Practices. Just contact us.

When you accept coverage under this plan, you agree to let your **providers** share information with us. We need information about your physical and mental condition and care.

## **Outside the U.S. benefits**

### **Reimbursement for providers outside of the United States**

If, acting reasonably, we determine that any central bank or relevant government or governmental authority imposes an artificial exchange rate (including without limitation an exchange rate which is inconsistent with the free market exchange rate) in relation to a relevant currency for any reason, we may, in our sole discretion, reimburse you for your valid claims pursuant to this agreement for treatment in such country in any manner we may reasonably decide.

In making such determination, we shall seek to ensure that, in keeping with the fundamental basis of any contract of coverage, we indemnify you for your loss (subject to the terms and conditions of your contract) but do not unjustly enrich you as may have been the case had we applied such artificial exchange rate to pay you in another currency.

### **Aetna In-network providers**

Payment will be issued in either:

- The applicable local currency (if feasible, at the sole discretion of **Aetna**)
- The currency in which the contract contribution was paid, if you do not have a bank account in local currency. The amount will equal what we would have paid our network provider in the currency in which contribution was paid.

### **Out-of-network providers in the U.S.**

Payment will be issued in either:

- The applicable local currency (if feasible, at the sole discretion of **Aetna**)
- The currency in which the contract contribution was paid, if you do not have a bank account in local currency. The amount will equal the applicable **recognized charge**.

## **Sutter Health and Affiliates Services**

Sutter Health and Affiliates, the dominant health system in much of northern California, uses its bargaining power to insist on unique requirements to participate in the Aetna network. Aetna's contract with Sutter requires payment of claims that would otherwise be denied, such as those not medically necessary or experimental, investigational or unproven (but does not require payment for services the Plan expressly excludes from coverage, such as for cosmetic surgery). Aetna will charge the Plan for these claims in order to be able to continue providing Plan Participants with access to Sutter's services on an in-network basis.

## Glossary

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### Behavioral health provider

A **health professional** who is licensed or certified to provide **covered services** for mental health and **substance related disorders** in the state where the person practices.

### Brand-name prescription drug

An FDA-approved drug marketed with a specific name or trademark name by the company that manufactures it; often the same company that developed and patents it.

### Copay, copayment

This is the dollar amount you pay for **covered services**. In most plans, you pay this after you meet your **deductible** limit. In **prescription** drug plans, it is the amount you pay for covered drugs.

### Covered service

The benefits, subject to varying cost shares, covered under the plan. These are:

- Described in the *Providing covered services* section
- Not listed as an exclusion in the *Coverage and exclusions – Providing covered services* section or the *General plan exclusions* section
- Not beyond any limits in the schedule of benefits
- **Medically necessary**. See the *How your plan works – Medical necessity and precertification requirements* section and the *Glossary* for more information

### Deductible

A **deductible** is the amount you pay out-of-pocket for **covered services** per year before we start to pay.

### Detoxification

The process of getting alcohol or other drugs out of an addicted person's system and getting them physically stable.

### Drug guide

A list of **prescription** and OTC drugs and devices established by us or an affiliate. It does not include all **prescription** and OTC drugs and devices. This list can be reviewed and changed by us or an affiliate. A copy is available at your request. Go to <https://www.aetna.com/individuals-families/find-a-medication.html>

### Emergency medical condition

An acute, severe medical condition that:

- Needs immediate medical care
- Leads a person with average knowledge of health and medicine to believe that, without immediate medical care, it could result in:
  - Danger to life or health
  - Loss of a bodily function
  - Loss of function to a body part or organ
  - Danger to the health of an unborn baby

### Emergency services

Treatment given in a **hospital's** emergency room or an independent freestanding emergency department. This includes evaluation of and treatment to stabilize the **emergency medical condition**. An independent

freestanding emergency department means a health care facility that is geographically separate, distinct, and licensed separately from a **hospital** and provides **emergency services**.

## Experimental, investigational, or unproven

A drug, device, procedure, supply, treatment, test, or technology is considered by us to be **experimental, investigational, or unproven** if any of the following apply:

- It hasn't been shown through well-conducted clinical trials or cohort studies published in peer-reviewed, evidence-based scientific literature to be safe and effective for treating or diagnosing the condition or illness for which it's meant.
  - A well-conducted clinical trial means a randomized, controlled trial where the experimental intervention is compared to a control group receiving care according to best practice and study participants are randomly assigned to the experimental or control group.
  - A well-conducted cohort study means a prospective cohort study from more than one institution where the experimental intervention is compared to a group of subjects receiving care according to best practice and where the comparison group is well matched to the experimental intervention group.
- There isn't FDA approval or clearance to market it for the proposed use.
- A national medical society, dental society, or regulatory agency has written that it's **experimental, investigational, or unproven**, or mainly for research purposes.
- It's the subject of a Phase I, Phase II, or the experimental or research arm of a Phase III clinical trial. The FDA and Department of Health and Human Services define these.
- Written procedures or consent form used by a facility **provider** says it's **experimental, investigational, or unproven**.

## Generic prescription drug

An FDA-approved drug with the same intended use as the brand-name product, that is considered to be as effective as the brand-name product. It offers the same:

- Dosage
- Safety
- Strength
- Quality
- Performance

## Health professional

A person who is authorized by law to provide health care services to the public; for example, **physicians**, nurses and physical therapists.

## Home health care agency

An agency authorized by law to provide home health services, such as skilled nursing and other therapeutic services.

## Hospital

An institution licensed as a **hospital** by applicable law and accredited by The Joint Commission (TJC). This is a place that offers medical care. Patients can stay overnight for care. Or they can be treated and leave the same day. All **hospitals** must meet set standards of care. They can offer general or acute care. They can also offer service in one area, like rehabilitation.

## Jaw joint disorder

This is:

- A temporomandibular joint (TMJ) dysfunction or any similar disorder of the jaw joint

- A myofascial pain dysfunction (MPD) of the jaw
- Any similar disorder in the relationship between the jaw joint and the related muscles and nerves

## Mail order pharmacy

A pharmacy where **prescription** drugs are legally dispensed by mail or other carrier.

## Maximum out-of-pocket limit

The **maximum out-of-pocket limit** is the most a covered person will pay per year in **copayments**, **payment percentage** and **deductible**, if any, for **covered services**.

## Medically necessary, medical necessity

Health care services or supplies that prevent, evaluate, diagnose or treat an illness, injury, disease or its symptoms, and that are all of the following, as determined by us within our discretion:

- In accordance with “generally accepted standards of medical practice”
- Clinically appropriate, in terms of type, frequency, extent, site, place of service, duration, and considered effective for your illness, injury or disease
- Not primarily for your convenience, the convenience of your **physician**, or other health care **provider**
- Not more costly than an alternative service or sequence of services at least as likely to produce equivalent therapeutic or diagnostic results as to the diagnosis or treatment of your illness, injury or disease

Generally accepted standards of medical practice mean:

- Standards that are based on credible scientific evidence published in peer-reviewed medical literature generally recognized by the relevant medical community and
- Following the standards set forth in our clinical policies and applying clinical judgment

### Important note:

We develop and maintain clinical policy bulletins that describe the generally accepted standards of medical practice, credible scientific evidence, and prevailing clinical guidelines that support our decisions regarding specific services. We use these bulletins and other resources to help guide individualized coverage decisions under our plans and to determine whether an intervention is **medically necessary**, **experimental**, **investigational**, or **unproven**. They are subject to change. You can find these bulletins and other information at <https://www.aetna.com/health-care-professionals/clinical-policy-bulletins.html>. You can also contact us. See the *Contact us* section for how.

## Mental health disorder

A **mental health disorder** is in general, a set of symptoms or behavior associated with distress and interference with personal function. A complete definition of **mental health disorder** is in the most recent edition of *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM)* of the American Psychiatric Association.

## Negotiated charge

See *How your plan works – What the plan pays and what you pay*.

## Network provider

A **provider** listed in the directory for your plan. A NAP **provider** listed in the NAP directory is not a **network provider**.

## Other health care

**Other health care** coverage is care you get from an **out-of-network provider** when you could not reasonably get services and supplies from an in-network **provider**.

## Out-of-network provider

A **provider** who is not a **network provider**.

## Payment Percentage

The specific percentage the plan pays for a health care service listed in the schedule of benefits.

## Physician

A **health professional** trained and licensed to practice and prescribe medicine under the laws of the state where they practice; specifically, doctors of medicine or osteopathy. Under some plans, a **physician** can also be a **primary care provider (PCP)**.

## Prescription

This is an instruction written by a **physician** that authorizes a patient to receive a service, supply, medicine or treatment.

## Primary care provider (PCP)

A **provider** who:

- The directory lists as a **PCP**
- Is selected by you from the list of **PCPs** in the directory
- Supervises, coordinates and provides initial care and basic medical services to you
- Shows in our records as your **PCP**

A **PCP** can be any of the following **providers**:

- General practitioner
- Family **physician**
- Internist
- Nurse Practitioner
- Physician Assistant
- Pediatrician
- OB, GYN, and OB/GYN
- Medical group (primary care office)

## Provider

A **physician**, pharmacist, **health professional**, person, or facility, licensed or certified by law to provide health care services to you. If state law does not specifically provide for licensure or certification, they must meet all Medicare approval standards even if they don't participate in Medicare.

## Psychiatric hospital

An institution licensed or certified as a **psychiatric hospital** by applicable laws to provide a program for the diagnosis, evaluation, and treatment of alcoholism, drug abuse or **mental health disorders** (including **substance related disorders**).

## Recognized charge

See *How your plan works – What the plan pays and what you pay*.

## Residential treatment facility

A facility that provides **mental health disorder** services or **substance related disorder** services and meets the following requirements:

- Is licensed and operated in accordance with applicable state and federal law
- Provides treatment under the direction of an appropriately licensed **physician** for the level of care provided
- Maintains a written treatment plan prepared by a licensed **behavioral health provider** (RN or master's level) requiring full-time residence and participation
- Has a licensed **behavioral health provider**, (RN or master's level) on-site 24 hours per day 7 days per week, and is:
  - Credentialed by us, or
  - Certified by Medicare, or
  - Accredited by The Joint Commission (TJC); The Committee on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF); The American Osteopathic Association's Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program (HFAP); or The Council on Accreditation (COA)

## Retail pharmacy

A community pharmacy that dispenses outpatient **prescription** drugs.

## Room and board

A facility's charge for your overnight **stay** and other services and supplies expressed as a daily or weekly rate.

## Semi-private room rate

An institution's **room and board** charge for most beds in rooms with 2 or more beds. If there are no such rooms, we will calculate the rate based on the rate most commonly charged by similar institutions in the same geographic area.

## Skilled nursing facility

A facility that provides skilled nursing care and meets the following requirements:

- Is licensed and operated in accordance with applicable state and federal law
- Provides treatment under the direction of an appropriately licensed **physician** for the level of care provided
- Maintains a written treatment plan prepared by a licensed **provider** (RN or master's level) requiring full-time residence and participation
- Has a licensed **provider** (RN or master's level) on-site 24 hours per day 7 days per week, and is:
  - Credentialed by us, or
  - Certified by Medicare, or
  - Accredited by The Joint Commission (TJC) or The Committee on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF)

**Skilled nursing facilities** also include rehabilitation **hospitals**, and portions of a rehabilitation **hospital** and a **hospital** designated for skilled or rehabilitation services.

**Skilled nursing facility** does not include institutions that provide only:

- Minimal care
- Custodial care services
- Ambulatory care
- Part-time care services

It does not include institutions that primarily provide for the care and treatment of **mental health disorders** or **substance related disorders**.

## Specialist

A **physician** who practices in any generally accepted medical or surgical sub-specialty.

## Specialty prescription drug

An FDA-approved **prescription** drug that typically has a higher cost and requires special handling, special storage or monitoring. These drugs may be administered:

- Orally (mouth)
- Topically (skin)
- By inhalation (mouth or nose)
- By injection (needle)

## Specialty pharmacy

A pharmacy that fills **prescriptions** for specialty drugs.

## Stay

A full-time inpatient confinement for which a **room and board** charge is made.

## Substance related disorder

The use of drugs, as defined in the most recent edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (DSM) published by the American Psychiatric Association, that directly affect the brain's reward system in an amount or frequency that causes problems with normal activities.

## Surgery, surgical procedure

The diagnosis and treatment of injury, deformity and disease by manual and instrumental means, such as:

- Cutting
- Abrading
- Suturing
- Destruction
- Ablation
- Removal
- Lasering
- Introduction of a catheter (e.g., heart or bladder catheterization) or scope (e.g., colonoscopy or other types of endoscopy)
- Correction of fracture
- Reduction of dislocation
- Application of plaster casts
- Injection into a joint
- Injection of sclerosing solution
- Otherwise physically changing body tissues and organs

## Telemedicine

A consultation between you and a **physician, specialist, behavioral health provider, or telemedicine provider** who is performing a clinical medical or behavioral health service by means of electronic communication.

## Terminal illness

A medical prognosis that you are not likely to live more than 12 months.

## **Walk-in clinic**

A health care facility that provides limited medical care on a scheduled and unscheduled basis. A **walk-in clinic** may be located in, near or within a:

- Drug store
- Pharmacy
- Retail store
- Supermarket

The following are not considered a **walk-in clinic**:

- Ambulatory surgical center
- Emergency room
- **Hospital**
- Outpatient department of a **hospital**
- **Physician's** office
- Urgent care facility

### **Statement of Rights under the Newborns' and Mothers' Health Protection Act**

Under federal law, group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group health insurance coverage generally may not restrict benefits for any hospital length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child to less than 48 hours following a vaginal delivery, or less than 96 hours following a delivery by cesarean section. However, the plan or issuer may pay for a shorter stay if the attending provider (e.g., your physician, nurse midwife, or physician assistant), after consultation with the mother, discharges the mother or newborn earlier.

Also, under federal law, plans and issuers may not set the level of benefits or out-of-pocket costs so that any later portion of the 48-hour (or 96-hour) stay is treated in a manner less favorable to the mother or newborn than any earlier portion of the stay.

In addition, a plan or issuer may not, under federal law, require that you, your physician, or other health care provider obtain authorization for prescribing a length of stay of up to 48 hours (or 96 hours). However, you may be required to obtain precertification for any days of confinement that exceed 48 hours (or 96 hours). For information on precertification, contact your plan administrator.

### **Notice Regarding Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act**

Under this health plan, as required by the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998, coverage will be provided to a person who is receiving benefits in connection with a mastectomy and who elects breast reconstruction in connection with the mastectomy for:

- (1) all stages of reconstruction of the breast on which a mastectomy has been performed;
- (2) surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance;
- (3) prostheses; and
- (4) treatment of physical complications of all stages of mastectomy, including lymphedemas.

This coverage will be provided in consultation with the attending physician and the patient, and will be provided in accordance with the plan design, limitations, copays, deductibles, and referral requirements, if any, as outlined in your plan documents.

If you have any questions about our coverage of mastectomies and reconstructive surgery, please contact the Member Services number on your ID card.

For more information, you can visit this U.S. Department of Health and Human Services website, <http://www.cms.gov/home/regsguidance.asp>, and this U.S. Department of Labor website, <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa/employers-and-advisers/plan-administration-and-compliance/health-plans>.

# IMPORTANT HEALTH CARE REFORM NOTICES

## CHOICE OF PROVIDER

If your Aetna plan generally requires or allows the designation of a primary care provider, you have the right to designate any primary care provider who participates in our network and who is available to accept you or your family members. If the plan or health insurance coverage designates a primary care provider automatically, then until you make this designation, Aetna designates one for you. For information on how to select a primary care provider, and for a list of the participating primary care providers, contact your Employer or, if you are a current member, your Aetna contact number on the back of your ID card.

If your Aetna plan allows for the designation of a primary care provider for a child, you may designate a pediatrician as the primary care provider.

If your Aetna plan provides coverage for obstetric or gynecological care and requires the designation of a primary care provider then you do not need prior authorization from Aetna or from any other person (including a primary care provider) in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a health care professional in our network who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology. The health care professional, however, may be required to comply with certain procedures, including obtaining prior authorization for certain services, following a pre-approved treatment plan, or procedures for making referrals. For a list of participating health care professionals who specialize in obstetrics or gynecology, contact your Employer or, if you are a current member, your Aetna contact number on the back of your ID card.



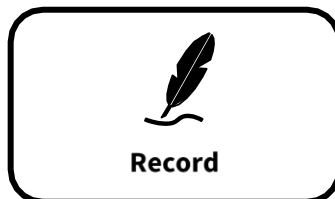
Randolph S. Sergent, Esq., Chairman  
Ben Steffen, Executive Director

# Your Life, Your Decisions



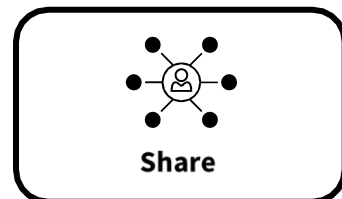
### Discuss

Have conversations with someone you trust about what is important to you



### Record

Document your preferences for medical care in an advance directive



### Share

Make your advance directive available in electronic form

## *Advance Directives Information Sheet*

Regardless of age or health status, a medical crisis could leave you too ill or injured to communicate decisions about your health care. Thinking about the types of treatment you would or wouldn't like and potential outcomes is important before a medical crisis occurs. Start the conversation with family, friends, health care providers, an attorney, or religious advisor.

### ADVANCE CARE PLANNING – DISCUSS

Advance care planning is an ongoing conversation with people you trust to discuss your personal preferences and decisions that might need to be made in a medical crisis, not just end-of-life care.

Advance care planning requires careful consideration of your values, religious beliefs, preferences for treatment, and acceptable outcomes, which are documented in an advance directive or a Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (MOLST) form. An advance directive is not the same as a MOLST form; to learn more about the Maryland MOLST form, visit [marylandmolst.org](http://marylandmolst.org). These conversations make your wishes known so they can be honored in the event you have limited or no capacity to make decisions for yourself. This eases burden on family and loved ones and helps prevent conflicts about your care. Identifying who can speak on your behalf is important – in Maryland, this individual is called a health care agent. If you don't appoint a health care agent, your next of kin will be designated under law to make decisions for you if you can't speak for yourself.

#### **ADVANCE DIRECTIVE – RECORD**

You have the option to create an advance directive, a useful and legal way to direct your medical care when you can't speak for yourself. You can appoint a health care agent to make decisions on your behalf and specify your treatment preferences in future situations, such as when to use life-sustaining treatments. Pick someone you trust to make these serious decisions and talk to that person to make sure they accept the responsibility. Include their name and contact information and any back-up health care agents in your advance directive. Various advance directive forms are available from health care providers, religious organizations, estate planners, lawyers, and others. There is no one form that must be used; you can personalize your advance directive to fit your wishes. Make sure to provide a copy of your advance directive to your family, health care providers, lawyer, or anyone else who should be aware of your decisions. *Remember – you are not required to have an advance directive, and you can revoke your advance directive and complete a new one at any time.*

#### **ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTATION – SHARE**

An advance directive can be most effective if you make it available in electronic form that is easily accessible by a health care provider. Talk to your health care provider about storing a copy of your advance directive and health care agent information in their secure electronic health record system. You may be able to add and update this information outside of clinical visits using the health care provider's patient portal, a secure online website where you can view your health record and communicate with your care team. You can also use a State Recognized electronic advance directives service to create, upload, share, and update your advance directive and health care agent information; learn more about how health care providers involved in your care can access your information at [crisphealth.org/for-patients/#advance-directives](http://crisphealth.org/for-patients/#advance-directives).

*More information about how to get started with your advance directive, including sample forms, is available on the Maryland Attorney General's website: [www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/Pages/HealthPolicy/AdvanceDirectives.aspx](http://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/Pages/HealthPolicy/AdvanceDirectives.aspx)*

**mhcc.maryland.gov**

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# Your Rights and Protections Against Surprise Medical Bills

When you get emergency care or are treated by an out-of-network provider at an in-network facility, you are protected from balance billing. In these cases, you shouldn't be charged more than your plan's copayments, coinsurance and/or deductible.

## What is "balance billing" (sometimes called "surprise billing")?

When you see a doctor or other health care provider, you may owe certain out-of-pocket costs, like a copayment, coinsurance, or a deductible. You may have additional costs or have to pay the entire bill if you see a provider or visit a health care facility that isn't in your health plan's network.

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

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

Insurers are required to tell you which providers and facilities are in their networks. Providers and facilities must tell you with which provider networks they participate. This information is on the insurer's, provider's or facility's website or on request.

## You're protected from balance billing for:

### **Emergency services**

If you have an emergency medical condition and get emergency services from an out-of-network provider or facility, the most they can bill you is your plan's in-network cost-sharing amount (such as deductibles, copayments and coinsurance). You **can't** be balance billed for these emergency services. This includes services at the same facility that you may get after you're in stable condition, unless you give written consent and give up your protections not to be balance billed for these post-stabilization services.

### **Certain services at an in-network facility**

When you get services from an in-network facility, certain providers there may be out-of-network. In these cases, the most those providers can bill you is your plan's in-network cost-sharing amount. This applies to emergency medicine, laboratory, surgeon and assistant surgeon services, and professional ancillary services such as anesthesia, pathology, radiology, neonatology, hospitalist, or intensivist services. These providers **can't** balance bill you and **can't** ask you to give up your protections not to be balance billed.

If you receive other types of services at these in-network facilities, out-of-network providers **can't** balance bill you unless you give written consent and give up your protections.

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

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

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

**If you think you've been wrongly billed**, call the federal agencies responsible for enforcing the federal balance billing protection law at: **1-800-985-3059** and/or file a complaint with the Virginia State Corporation Commission Bureau of Insurance at: [scc.virginia.gov/pages/File-Complaint-Consumers](https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/File-Complaint-Consumers) or call **1-877-310-6560**.

Visit [cms.gov/nosurprises/consumers](https://cms.gov/nosurprises/consumers) for more information about your rights under federal law. Consumers covered under (i) a fully-insured policy issued in Virginia, (ii) the Virginia state employee health benefit plan; or (iii) a self-funded group that opted-in to the Virginia protections are also protected from balance billing under Virginia law. Visit [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Balance-Billing-Protection](https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Balance-Billing-Protection) for more information about your rights under Virginia law.

## **Continuation of Coverage During an Approved Leave of Absence Granted to Comply with Federal Law**

This continuation of coverage section applies only for the period of any approved family or medical leave (approved FMLA leave) required by Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA). If your Employer grants you an approved FMLA leave for a period in excess of the period required by FMLA, any continuation of coverage during that excess period will be subject to prior written agreement between Aetna and your Employer.

If your Employer grants you an approved FMLA leave in accordance with FMLA, you may, during the continuance of such approved FMLA leave, continue Health Expense Benefits for you and your eligible dependents.

At the time you request the leave, you must agree to make any contributions required by your Employer to continue coverage. Your Employer must continue to make premium payments.

If Health Expense Benefits has reduction rules applicable by reason of age or retirement, Health Expense Benefits will be subject to such rules while you are on FMLA leave.

Coverage will not be continued beyond the first to occur of:

- The date you are required to make any contribution and you fail to do so.
- The date your Employer determines your approved FMLA leave is terminated.
- The date the coverage involved discontinues as to your eligible class. However, coverage for health expenses may be available to you under another plan sponsored by your Employer.

Any coverage being continued for a dependent will not be continued beyond the date it would otherwise terminate.

If Health Expense Benefits terminate because your approved FMLA leave is deemed terminated by your Employer, you may, on the date of such termination, be eligible for Continuation Under Federal Law on the same terms as though your employment terminated, other than for gross misconduct, on such date. If the group contract provides any other continuation of coverage (for example, upon termination of employment, death, divorce or ceasing to be a defined dependent), you (or your eligible dependents) may be eligible for such continuation on the date your Employer determines your approved FMLA leave is terminated or the date of the event for which the continuation is available.

If you acquire a new dependent while your coverage is continued during an approved FMLA leave, the dependent will be eligible for the continued coverage on the same terms as would be applicable if you were actively at work, not on an approved FMLA leave.

If you return to work for your Employer following the date your Employer determines the approved FMLA leave is terminated, your coverage under the group contract will be in force as though you had continued in active employment rather than going on an approved FMLA leave provided you make request for such coverage within 31 days of the date your Employer determines the approved FMLA leave to be terminated. If you do not make such request within 31 days, coverage will again be effective under the group contract only if and when Aetna gives its written consent.

If any coverage being continued terminates because your Employer determines the approved FMLA leave is terminated, any Conversion Privilege will be available on the same terms as though your employment had terminated on the date your Employer determines the approved FMLA leave is terminated.

## **Your Aetna International health and wellness programs**

Being away from home often means being away from your friends and family support network. As your 24/7 partner in health, we help make sure you have the support you need to thrive. Whether it's our In Touch Care program to manage chronic conditions or our Employee Assistance Program to help balance your work and personal needs, we're here for you with all the tools, resources and programs you need – no matter where you are in the world.

## 24-Hour Nurse Line

Our 24-Hour Nurse Line gives members ready access to registered nurses who can answer their questions on a variety of health topics. The nurses give members the information they need and help them make smarter health care decisions. They can also help improve members' relationships with their doctors, and:

- Empower members with health information to help them use health care services appropriately
- Encourage members to give a clear medical history and ask relevant questions
- Promote healthy lifestyle habits
- Provide members with health information to help them improve and better manage chronic conditions

### Nurse Access

Nurses are available through a toll-free telephone number 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We offer foreign language translation for our non-English speaking members.

Our nurses also have access to the Healthwise® Knowledgebase video library and can relay video links to callers upon request or to provide further education/support of the health topic they discussed. It is a user-friendly decision-support tool that promotes informed health decision-making and helps members learn about their treatment options.

NOTE: Neither Aetna International® nor **24-Hour Nurse Line** is a healthcare provider and neither shall be responsible for the availability, quantity, quality, or result of any medical treatment a member may receive, or for a member's failure to pursue or obtain medical treatment.

## Emergency Assistance Services

Medical emergencies are unpredictable — but if they do happen, Aetna International is there for members and their families no matter where they are in the world. With our in-house Aetna Assistance team, we make sure you have access to necessary resources during a medical emergency 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The following benefits, exclusions and requirements apply to you as the covered member along with any eligible dependents.

### Aetna covered services and expenses – emergency services

- **Emergency or urgent medical evacuation:** Evacuation services may be necessary if you or your eligible dependent develops an emergency or urgent medical situation requiring immediate attention, and adequate medical facilities are not locally available. The plan will cover the cost of medically supervised evacuations with no benefit maximum to the closest facility capable of providing appropriate care.
- **Medical repatriation coordination:** Following an evacuation or a catastrophic medical event, depending on the circumstances, the plan will cover with no benefit maximum the one-way cost of transportation to your point of origin, your permanent residence, your original work location or the location from which you were evacuated. This may include any medically supervised transportation or medical treatment administered en route.
- **Return of mortal remains:** If you die outside your home country, we'll cover with no benefit maximum up to the reasonable costs associated with the transportation of mortal remains from the place of death to the Home Country, or approved destination. In addition, assistance will be provided by Aetna, or its designee, for organizing or obtaining the necessary clearances for the repatriation of mortal remains:
  - 1) to transport your body or mortal remains to your home country or your country of residence as directed by your next of kin or estate, **or**
  - 2) for your burial or cremation at the place of your death as directed by your next of kin or estate
    - a. In the event of your burial, we'll cover:
      - i. The cost of opening or reopening a grave;
      - ii. Any exclusion right of burial fee; and
      - iii. Burial costs
    - b. In the event of your cremation, we'll cover:
      - i. The cost of any doctor's certificates; and
      - ii. Cremation costs, including the removal of any medical device before the cremation
  - 3) Services such as funeral home and mortuary care are arranged and coordinated by our designated evacuation and repatriation partner. Only their participating providers will be reimbursed through your plan benefits if applicable.
- **Return of dependent children:** If dependent child(ren) are left unattended by virtue of the evacuee's absence following a covered evacuation, a one-way economy airfare with no benefit maximum will be provided to their place of residence or that of an individual chosen by you.
- **Companion travel coordination:** Following an evacuation, if Aetna determines that you or your Dependent is expected to require hospitalization in excess of seven (7) days, we'll cover the cost with no benefit maximum of a round-trip economy airfare for one person chosen by you to travel to and from the place of hospitalization.

All evacuations, returns to residence after stabilization and/or repatriations of mortal remains are coordinated by and subject to prior approval of Aetna International.

### Aetna covered services and expenses – travel expenses

We will cover travel expenses incurred after your evacuation and/or release from the hospital due to illness or injury until you are fit to fly and return to your point of origin. Hotel covered up to \$125/night for member and covered members under age 18. Stays over 10 days require clinical review. Taxi covered as well.

For the duration of your evacuation and period of admission, we'll cover:

- **Overnight accommodation costs** up to \$125 a night, if deemed necessary
- **The fare for a taxi** to take you from your accommodations to the hospital and back once a day

For any covered members or dependents under the age of 18, we'll pay the following costs for a parent or legal guardian:

- **Hospital accommodations** to stay with the child if receiving inpatient treatment
- **Reasonable accommodation costs at a hotel** (up to \$125 a night) for them to stay with the child if they can't return to their country of residence and the child's accommodation costs are covered in this section

### Aetna covered services and expenses – medical assistance services

Our Care and Response Excellence (CARE) team of clinicians can provide assistance by email, fax or phone with:

- **Pre-trip planning** — Updated information on required vaccinations, health risks, travel restrictions and weather conditions for worldwide destinations
- **Medical, dental and pharmacy referrals** — Referrals to the most appropriate, nearby medical care resources, including preferred access to our network of medical providers
- **Prescription medicine and vaccines** — Assistance with obtaining prescription medicine and/or vaccines, when not locally available and when legally permissible, upon written authorization of your primary physician

The benefits listed above are subject to overall evacuation dollar maximum limitations.

## **Definitions, requirements and exclusions**

### Definitions

- **Accident** — A sudden, violent, external, unforeseen and identifiable event
- **Emergency** — A situation that, in the professional opinion of your physician, poses a clear and significant risk of death or imminent serious injury or harm to you or your eligible dependents

- **Home country** — The country where you primarily reside and will return to when repatriated, or a country where you hold a valid passport
- **Host country** — The country you are visiting
- **Member** — Any eligible person who has enrolled in Aetna Assistance through a participating plan sponsor
- **Personal belongings** — Any items you take on, or acquire during, an insured journey that are your personal property or are property you're personally responsible for
- **Qualified medical practitioner** — A doctor or specialist who is registered or licensed to practice medicine under the laws of the country they practice in; excludes you, your partner, any members of your immediate family or any of your employees

## Requirements

### **Contact and claims requirements**

- You or someone on your behalf must contact us as soon as possible to confirm eligibility for covered expenses. Failure to do so may invalidate your eligibility for payment of transportation and other expenses.
- The evacuation method and destination chosen must meet Aetna Assistance requirements. Failure to do so may invalidate payment of subsequent transportation expenses.
- All assistance service-related bills incurred by you or your eligible dependents must be submitted to us for payment consideration.

## Exclusions

### **General exclusions**

Some of the costs you may incur during your period of convalescence from a medical emergency are not covered by this plan. These include:

- Meals
- Personal care items (e.g., shampoo, deodorant, etc.)
- Telephone calls
- Ground transportation beyond the specific covered benefits outlined in this document

- The Return of mortal remains benefit does not extend to the purchase of a burial plot, or funeral costs, including but not limited to, flowers and the funeral director's fee.
- If you die within your home country, we'll cover reasonable costs to transport your body to the place of your burial or cremation as directed by your next of kin or estate. This benefit does not extend to any costs related to your burial or cremation.

### **Travel assistance services exclusions**

We may be able to help with travel issues and coordination when appropriate. You are responsible to pay any costs associated with the following services if they are incurred:

- 24/7 emergency travel assistance
- Translation and interpreter services
- Emergency cash advance assistance
- Replacement of lost travel documents assistance
- Lost luggage assistance
- Legal referrals

### **Claims exclusions**

We will not be responsible for the cost of services or expenses arising from the following situations involving you or your eligible dependents:

- Abuse of drugs or alcohol
- Military or police service operations
- Successful or attempted commission of an unlawful act
- Aviation, except where you or your eligible dependents fly as a passenger in an aircraft properly licensed to carry passengers (except the Military Aircraft Command of the United States or similar air transport service of other countries)
- Travelling against a physician's advice
- Travelling for the purpose of obtaining medical treatment
- Non-emergency expenses for routine or minor medical problems, tests and exams where there is no clear or significant risk of death or imminent serious injury or harm to you or your eligible dependents
- Loss due to Customs or any other authority legally taking or destroying your property
- A condition not requiring emergency evacuation that would allow for treatment at a future date convenient to you or your eligible dependents

- Mountaineering or rock climbing necessitating the use of guide ropes; potholing; ballooning; motor racing; speed contests; skydiving; hang gliding; parachuting; spelunking; heli-skiing; extreme skiing; bungee cord jumping; deep sea diving utilising a hard helmet with air hose attachments; racing of any kind (other than on foot); and all professional sports

## **Accessing your emergency benefits**

At Aetna International, we are here for you 24/7 — for medical emergencies, non-emergency needs and everything in between. Our member service representatives work closely with Aetna Assistance representatives whenever urgent or emergency situations arise.

### **In cases of immediate emergency**

1. Go immediately to the closest physician or hospital.
2. Once it's possible, call us (or have someone on your behalf call us) using the emergency number shown on the back of your Aetna International Member ID card.

While we will do everything reasonably possible to direct you or your eligible dependents to the most appropriate care available once we receive a call, we are not responsible for the availability, quantity, quality or result of any medical treatment you may receive or your failure to obtain medical treatment.

### **In cases where you are able to call**

Call us using the emergency number on the back of your Member ID card if you or your eligible dependents:

- Have an urgent medical concern or question
- Are hospitalized or are about to be hospitalized
- Are involved in an accident requiring medical treatment
- Are having difficulty locating urgent medical care
- Require a referral for translation services in order to receive urgent medical care

### **Information to provide when you call**

When you or your eligible dependents call us in emergency situations, you will need to provide:

- Your policy name
- Your Member ID number (found on your Member ID card)
- Your name or the name of your eligible dependent in need of emergency assistance
- Your identification number affiliated with the group providing this coverage
- The name of the person calling on your behalf if applicable

- The nature of the illness, injury, medical problem or emergency and the type of help needed

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Plans and programs are underwritten or administered by Aetna Life & Casualty (Bermuda) Ltd. or Aetna Life Insurance Company (Aetna).

Aetna does not provide care or guarantee access to health services. Not all health services are covered. Health information programs provide general health information and are not a substitute for diagnosis or treatment by a health care professional. See plan documents for a complete description of benefits, exclusions, limitations and conditions of coverage. Information is believed to be accurate as of the production date; however, it is subject to change. For more information, refer to [www.AetnaInternational.com](http://www.AetnaInternational.com). Whenever coverage provided by any insurance policy is in violation of any U.S, U.N or EU economic or trade sanctions, such coverage shall be null and void. For example, Aetna companies cannot pay for health care services provided in a country under sanction by the United States unless permitted under a written Office of Foreign Asset Control (OFAC) license. Learn more on the US Treasury's website at: [www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions](http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions).

Aetna does not provide care or guarantee access to health services. Not all health services are covered, and coverage is subject to applicable laws and regulations, including economic and trade sanctions. See plan documents for a complete description of benefits, exclusions, limitations and conditions of coverage. Information is believed to be accurate as of the production date; however, it is subject to change. For more information, refer to [aetnainternational.com](http://aetnainternational.com)

## **Aetna Security Assistance powered by Crisis24**

We're more than just health insurance. We help protect our members by providing security advice and assistance to keep them safe from political unrest and natural disasters. To do this, we partner with global crisis management experts Crisis24 (previously called WorldAware) to make sure members have help — should their safety ever be threatened.

Aetna Security Assistance powered by Crisis24 offers valuable resources and support such as:

- 24/7 access to personalized safety advice from multilingual representatives
- Reliable information on more than 160 countries and more than 285 cities
- Travel safety briefings and security alerts tailored to your trip or assignment
- Email and text alerts providing up-to-the minute information on civil unrest, natural hazards and travel disruptions
- On-the-ground support for emergency travel and situations affecting personal safety, loss of belongings or theft of documents
- Specialized evacuation services to get away from threatening situations

To register, go to [Crisis24Horizon.com/Aetna](https://Crisis24Horizon.com/Aetna) and register with your information and use member ID: **AETNAINTL**. Or if you prefer, you can call Crisis24's security management experts at +1-646-513-4232 to sign up.

*Program is underwritten by Aetna Life & Casualty (Bermuda) Ltd*

TTY: **711**

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|            |                                                                                                           |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ukrainian  | Щоб безкоштовні отримати мовні послуги, задзвоніть за номером, вказаним на вашій ідентифікаційній картці. |
| Vietnamese | Để sử dụng các dịch vụ ngôn ngữ miễn phí, vui lòng gọi số điện thoại ghi trên thẻ ID của quý              |