

Choice POS II medical plan

Booklet

Prepared for:

Employer:	California's Valued Trust (CVT)
Contract number:	MSA-0141988
Control number:	0169563
Plan name:	Choice POS II High Deductible Health – Plan 1 Option
Booklet:	13
Plan effective date:	October 1, 2023
Plan issue date:	July 26, 2024

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

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Welcome

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. This document is a description of California's Valued Trust (CVT) Medical Plan.

Introduction

This is your booklet. It is combined with the schedule of benefits and together they describe 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. Choice POS II - Plan 1 Option for in-network coverage and out-of-network coverage.. 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

Your plan includes the Aetna concierge program. It provides immediate access to consultants trained in the specific details of your plan.

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. Your combination medical and pharmacy ID card will be mailed by CVS Caremark. If you haven't

received it before you need eligible health services, or if you've lost it, you can print a temporary ID card. Just log into your member website at mycv.t.cvttrust.org or call CVT Member Services at (800) 288-9870

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.

Schedule of benefits

Prepared for:

Employer:	California's Valued Trust (CVT)
Contract number:	MSA-0141988
Control number:	0169563
Plan name:	Choice POS II High Deductible Health – Plan 1 Option
Schedule of benefits:	13A
Plan effective date:	October 1, 2023
Plan issue date:	September 27, 2023

Third Party Administrative Services provided by Aetna Life Insurance Company

Schedule of benefits

This schedule of benefits (schedule) lists the **deductibles**, **copayments** or **payment percentage**, if any apply to the **covered services** you receive under the plan. You should review this schedule to become aware of these and any limits that apply to these services.

How your cost share works

- The **deductibles** and **copayments**, if any, listed in the schedule below are the amounts that you pay for **covered services**.
 - For the **covered services** under your medical plan, you will be responsible for the dollar amount
 - For pharmacy benefits where a percentage cost share acts like a **copayment**, you will be responsible for the percentage amount
- **Payment percentage** amounts, if any, listed in the schedule below are what the plan will pay for **covered services**.
- Sometimes your cost share shows a combination of your dollar amount **copayment** that you will be responsible for and the **payment percentage** that your plan will pay.
- You are responsible to pay any **deductibles**, **copayments** and remaining **payment percentage**, if they apply and before the plan will pay for any **covered services**.
- This plan doesn't cover every health care service. You pay the full amount of any health care service you get that is not a **covered service**.
- This plan has limits for some **covered services**. For example, these could be visit, day or dollar limits. They may be:
 - Combined limits between in-network and **out-of-network providers**
 - Separate limits for in-network and **out-of-network providers**
 - Based on a rolling, 12 month period starting with the date of your most recent visit under this planSee the schedule for more information about limits.
- Your cost share may vary if the **covered service** is preventive or not. Ask your **physician** or contact us if you have a question about what your cost share will be.

For examples of how cost share and **deductible** work, go to the *Using your Aetna benefits* section under Individuals & Families at <https://www.aetna.com/>

Important note:

Covered services are subject to the **deductible**, maximum out-of-pocket, limits, **copayment** or **payment percentage** unless otherwise stated in this schedule.

Under this plan, you will:

1. Pay your **copayment**
2. Then pay any remaining **deductible**
3. Then pay your **payment percentage**

Your **copayment** does not apply to any **deductible**.

How your deductible works

The **deductible** is the amount you pay for **covered services** each year before the plan starts to pay. This is in addition to any **copayment** or **payment percentage** you pay when you get **covered services** from an in-network, **out-of-network provider**. This schedule shows the **deductible** amounts that apply to your plan. Once you have met your **deductible**, we will start sharing the cost when you get **covered services**. You will continue to pay **copayments** or **payment percentage**, if any, for **covered services** after you meet your **deductible**.

How your PCP or physician office visit cost share works

You will pay the **PCP** cost share when you get **covered services** from any **PCP**.

How your maximum out-of-pocket works

This schedule shows the **maximum out-of-pocket limits** that apply to your plan. Once you reach your **maximum out-of-pocket limit**, your plan will pay for **covered services** for the remainder of that year.

Contact us

We are here to answer questions. See the *Contact us* section in your booklet.

This schedule replaces any schedule of benefits previously in use. Keep it with your booklet.

Plan features

Deductible

You have to meet your **deductible** before this plan pays for benefits.

Deductible type	In-network	Out-of-network
Individual	\$1,500 per year	\$1,500 per year
Family	\$3,000 per year	\$3,000 per year

Deductible waiver

There is no in-network **deductible** for the following **covered services**:

- Preventive care
- Family planning services – female contraceptives

Deductible and cost share waiver for contraceptives (birth control)

The **prescription drug deductible** and per **prescription** cost share will not apply to female contraceptive methods when obtained at a network pharmacy. This means they will be paid at 100%. This includes certain OTC and generic contraceptive **prescription** drugs and devices for each of the methods identified by the FDA. If a **generic prescription drug** is not available, the **brand-name prescription drug** for that method will be paid at 100%.

The **prescription drug deductible** and cost share will apply to **prescription** drugs that have a generic equivalent or alternative available within the same therapeutic drug class obtained at a network pharmacy unless we approve a medical exception. A therapeutic drug class is a group of drugs or medications that have a similar or identical mode of action or are used for the treatment of the same or similar disease or injury.

Maximum out-of-pocket limit

Includes the **deductible**.

Maximum out-of-pocket type	In-network	Out-of-network
Individual	\$6,900 per year	\$6,900 per year
Family	\$8,500 per year	\$8,500 per year

General coverage provisions

This section explains the **deductible**, **maximum out-of-pocket limit** and limitations listed in this schedule.

Deductible provisions

Covered services that are subject to the **deductible** include those provided under the medical plan and the **prescription drug plan**.

Covered services apply to the in-network and out-of-network **deductibles**.

The **deductible** may not apply to some **covered services**. You still pay the **copayment** or **payment percentage**, if any, for these **covered services**.

Individual deductible

You pay for **covered services** each year before the plan begins to pay. After the amount paid for **covered services** reaches this individual **deductible**, this plan starts to pay for **covered services** for the rest of the year. The individual **deductible** applies to a person who is enrolled for self-only coverage with no dependent coverage.

Family deductible

You and your covered dependents pay for **covered services** each year before the plan begins to pay. After the amount paid for **covered services** reaches this family **deductible**, this plan starts to pay for **covered services** for the rest of the year. The family **deductible** applies to a person enrolled with one or more dependents.

Deductible credit

If you paid part or all of your **deductible** under other coverage for the year that this plan went into effect, we will deduct the amount paid under the other coverage from the **deductible** on this plan for the same year. If we ask, you must submit a detailed explanation of benefits (EOB) showing the dates and amount of the **deductible** met from the other coverage in order to receive the credit.

Deductible carryover

Any amounts that you paid for **covered services** in the last 90 days of a year that apply toward that year's **deductible** will also count toward the following year's **deductible**.

Copayment

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

Payment Percentage

This is the percentage of the bill you pay after you meet your **deductible**.

Maximum out-of-pocket limit

The **maximum out-of-pocket limit** is the most you will pay per year in **copayments**, **payment percentage** and **deductible**, if any, for **covered services**. **Covered services** that are subject to the **maximum out-of-pocket limit** include those provided under the medical plan and CVT's separate outpatient **prescription drug plan**.

Covered services apply to the in-network and out-of-network **maximum out-of-pocket limit**.

Individual maximum out-of-pocket limit

- This plan may have an individual and family **maximum out-of-pocket limit**. As to the individual **maximum out-of-pocket limit**, each of you must meet your **maximum out-of-pocket limit** separately.

- After you or your covered dependents meet the individual **maximum out-of-pocket limit**, this plan will pay 100% of the eligible charge for **covered services** that would apply toward the limit for the rest of the year for that person.

Family maximum out-of-pocket limit

After you or your covered dependents meet the family **maximum out-of-pocket limit**, this plan will pay 100% of the eligible charge for **covered services** that would apply toward the limit for the remainder of the year for all covered family members. The family **maximum out-of-pocket limit** is a cumulative **maximum out-of-pocket limit** for all family members.

To satisfy this **maximum out-of-pocket limit** for the rest of the year, the following must happen:

- The family **maximum out-of-pocket limit** is met by a combination of family members
- No one person within a family will contribute more than the individual **maximum out-of-pocket limit** amount in a year

If the **maximum out-of-pocket limit** does not apply to a **covered service**, your cost share for that service will not count toward satisfying the **maximum out-of-pocket limit** amount.

Certain costs that you have do not apply toward the **maximum out-of-pocket limit**. These include:

- All costs for non-**covered services** which are identified in the booklet and the schedule
- Charges, expenses or costs in excess of the **recognized charge**

Limit provisions

Covered services will apply to the in-network and out-of-network limits.

Your financial responsibility and decisions regarding benefits

We base your financial responsibility for the cost of **covered services** on when the service or supply is provided, not when payment is made. Benefits will be pro-rated to account for treatment or portions of **stays** that occur in more than one year. Decisions regarding when benefits are covered are subject to the terms and conditions of the booklet.

Covered services

Abortion

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Abortion	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Covered based on type of service and where it is received

Acupuncture

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Acupuncture	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible

Visit limit per year	12	12
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Ambulance services

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Emergency services	90% per trip after deductible	Paid same as in-network
Non-emergency services	Not covered	Not covered

Applied behavior analysis

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Applied behavior analysis	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Covered based on type of service and where it is received

Autism spectrum disorder

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Diagnosis and testing	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Covered based on type of service and where it is received
Treatment	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Covered based on type of service and where it is received
Occupational (OT), physical (PT) and speech (ST) therapy for autism spectrum disorder	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Covered based on type of service and where it is received

Behavioral health

Mental health treatment

Coverage provided is the same as for any other illness

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Inpatient services-room and board including residential treatment facility	90% per admission after deductible	90% per admission after deductible
Other inpatient services and supplies Other residential treatment facility services and supplies	90% per admission after deductible	90% per admission after deductible

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Outpatient office visit to a physician or behavioral health provider	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible
Physician or behavioral health provider telemedicine consultation	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible
Outpatient mental health disorders telemedicine cognitive therapy consultations by a physician or behavioral health provider	Covered based on type of service and provider from which it is received	Covered based on type of service and provider from which it is received

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Other outpatient services including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Behavioral health services in the home Partial hospitalization treatment Intensive outpatient program <p>The cost share doesn't apply to in-network peer counseling support services after you meet your deductible</p>	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible

Substance related disorders treatment

Includes **detoxification**, rehabilitation and **residential treatment facility**

Coverage provided is the same as for any other illness

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Inpatient services-room and board during a hospital stay	90% per admission after deductible	90% per admission after deductible
Other inpatient services and supplies during a hospital stay	90% per admission after deductible	90% per admission after deductible
Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Outpatient office visit to a physician or behavioral health provider	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible
Physician or behavioral health provider telemedicine consultation	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible
Outpatient telemedicine cognitive therapy consultations by a physician or behavioral health provider	Covered based on type of service and provider from which it is received	Covered based on type of service and provider from which it is received

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Other outpatient services including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Behavioral health services in the home Partial hospitalization treatment Intensive outpatient program The cost share doesn't apply to in-network peer counseling support services after you meet your deductible	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible

Clinical trials

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Experimental or investigational therapies	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Covered based on type of service and where it is received
Routine patient costs	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Covered based on type of service and where it is received

Durable medical equipment (DME)

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
DME	90% per item after deductible	90% per item after deductible

Emergency services

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Emergency room	90% per visit after deductible	Paid same as in-network

Non-emergency care in a hospital emergency room	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible
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Emergency services important note: Out-of-network providers do not have a contract with us. However, for out of network emergencies the federal No Surprises Act applies. If the **provider** bills you for an amount above your cost share, you are not responsible for payment of that amount. You should send the bill to the address on your ID card and we will resolve any payment issue with the **provider**. Make sure the member ID is on the bill. If you are admitted to the **hospital** for an inpatient **stay** right after you visit the emergency room, you will not pay your emergency room cost share if you have one. You will pay the inpatient **hospital** cost share, if any. However, if you are admitted from an out-of-network emergency room into the out-of-network hospital, the stay will only be covered until your condition is stabilized and you are able to be transferred to an in-network facility, if needed. If you continue to stay in an out-of-network hospital after you are medically able to travel or to be transferred to an in-network facility, the hospital stay will be covered at the out-of-network level.

Habilitation therapy services

Outpatient physical (PT), occupational (OT) therapies

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
PT, OT therapies	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Covered based on type of service and where it is received

Outpatient speech therapy (ST)

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
ST therapy	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Covered based on type of service and where it is received

Hearing exams

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Hearing exams	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Covered based on type of service and where it is received
Visit limit	1 visit every 24 months	1 visit every 24 months

Home health care

A visit is a period of 4 hours or less

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Home health care	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible

Visit limit per year	100	100
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Home health care important note:

Intermittent visits are periodic and recurring visits that skilled nurses make to ensure your proper care. The intermittent requirement may be waived to allow for coverage for up to 12 hours with a daily maximum of 3 visits.

Hospice care

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Inpatient services - room and board	90% after deductible	90% after deductible

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Other inpatient services and supplies	90% per admission after deductible	90% after deductible

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Outpatient services	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible

Limit per lifetime	unlimited	unlimited
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Hospice important note:

This includes part-time or infrequent nursing care by an R.N. or L.P.N. to care for you up to 8 hours a day. It also includes part-time or infrequent home health aide services to care for you up to 8 hours a day.

Hospital care

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Inpatient services – room and board	90% after deductible	90% after deductible

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Other inpatient services and supplies	90% per admission after deductible	90% after deductible

Infertility services

Basic infertility

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Treatment of basic infertility	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Covered based on type of service and where it is received

Institutes of Quality – Bariatric Surgery

Description	In network (IOQ Facility)	In network (Non-IOQ Facility)	Out-of-network
Inpatient	90% per admission after deductible	Not Covered	Not Covered
Outpatient	90% per visit after deductible	Not Covered	Not Covered
<i>Precertification may be required</i>			
Physician services including office visits	Covered according to the type of benefit and the place where the service is received.	Not covered	Not covered

Maternity and related newborn care

Includes complications

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Inpatient services – room and board	90% per admission after deductible	90% per admission after deductible
Other inpatient services and supplies	90% per admission after deductible	90% per admission after deductible
Services performed in physician or specialist office or a facility	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible
Other services and supplies	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible

Maternity and related newborn care important note:

Any cost share collected applies only to the delivery and postpartum care services provided by an OB, GYN or OB/GYN. Review the *Maternity* section of the booklet. It will give you more information about coverage for maternity care under this plan.

Oral and maxillofacial treatment (mouth, jaws and teeth)

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Treatment of mouth, jaws and teeth	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Covered based on type of service and where it is received

Outpatient surgery

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
At hospital outpatient department	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible
At facility that is not a hospital	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible
At the physician office	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Covered based on type of service and where it is received

Physician and specialist services

Physician services-general or family practitioner

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Physician office hours (not-surgical, not preventive)	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible
Physician surgical services	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Physician visit during inpatient stay	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Physician telemedicine consultation	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible

Specialist

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Specialist office hours (not-surgical, not preventive)	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible
Specialist surgical services	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Specialist telemedicine consultation	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible

All other services not shown above

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
All other services	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible

Preventive care

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Preventive care services	100% per visit, no deductible applies	100% per visit, no deductible applies
Breast feeding counseling and support	100% per visit, no deductible applies	100% per visit, no deductible applies
Breast feeding counseling and support limit	6 visits in a group or individual setting Visits that exceed the limit are covered under the physician services office visit	6 visits in a group or individual setting Visits that exceed the limit are covered under the physician services office visit
Breast pump, accessories and supplies limit	Electric pump: 1 every 12 months Manual pump: 1 per pregnancy Pump supplies and accessories: 1 purchase per pregnancy if not eligible to purchase a new pump	Electric pump: 1 every 12 months Manual pump: 1 per pregnancy Pump supplies and accessories: 1 purchase per pregnancy if not eligible to purchase a new pump
Breast pump waiting period	Electric pump: 12 months to replace an existing electric pump	Electric pump: 12 months to replace an existing electric pump
Counseling for alcohol or drug misuse	100% per visit, no deductible applies	100% per visit, no deductible applies
Counseling for alcohol or drug misuse visit limit	5 visits/12 months	5 visits/12 months
Counseling for obesity, healthy diet	100% per visit, no deductible applies	100% per visit, no deductible applies
Counseling for obesity, healthy diet visit limit	Age 22 and older: 26 visits per 12 months, of which up to 10 visits may be used for healthy diet counseling.	Age 22 and older: 26 visits per 12 months, of which up to 10 visits may be used for healthy diet counseling.
Counseling for sexually transmitted infection	100% per visit, no deductible applies	100% per visit, no deductible applies
Counseling for sexually transmitted infection visit limit	2 visits/12 months	2 visits/12 months
Counseling for tobacco cessation	100% per visit, no deductible applies	100% per visit, no deductible applies
Counseling for tobacco cessation visit limit	8 visits/12 months	8 visits/12 months
Family planning services (female contraception counseling)	100% per visit, no deductible applies	100% per visit, no deductible applies
Family planning services (female contraception counseling) limit	Contraceptive counseling limited to 2 visits/12 months in a group or individual setting	Contraceptive counseling limited to 2 visits/12 months in a group or individual setting

Immunizations	100%, no deductible applies	100%, no deductible applies
Immunizations limit	<p>Subject to any age limits provided for in the comprehensive guidelines supported by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</p> <p>For details, contact your physician</p>	<p>Subject to any age limits provided for in the comprehensive guidelines supported by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</p> <p>For details, contact your physician</p>
Routine cancer screenings	100% per visit, no deductible applies	100% per visit, no deductible applies
Routine cancer screening limits	<p>Subject to any age, family history and frequency guidelines as set forth in the most current:</p> <p>Evidence-based items that have a rating of A or B in the current recommendations of the USPSTF</p> <p>The comprehensive guidelines supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration</p> <p>For more information contact your physician or see the <i>Contact us</i> section</p>	<p>Subject to any age, family history and frequency guidelines as set forth in the most current:</p> <p>Evidence-based items that have a rating of A or B in the current recommendations of the USPSTF</p> <p>The comprehensive guidelines supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration</p> <p>For more information contact your physician or see the <i>Contact us</i> section</p>
Generic preventive care contraceptives (birth control)	100%	100%
Preventive care drugs and supplements	100%	100%
Preventive care drugs and supplements limit	<p>Subject to any sex, age, medical condition, family history and frequency guidelines as recommended by the USPSTF</p> <p>For a current list of covered preventive care drugs and supplements or more information, see the <i>Contact us</i> section</p>	<p>Subject to any sex, age, medical condition, family history and frequency guidelines as recommended by the USPSTF</p> <p>For a current list of covered preventive care drugs and supplements or more information, see the <i>Contact us</i> section</p>
Preventive care risk reducing breast cancer prescription drugs	100%	100%

Preventive care risk reducing breast cancer prescription drugs limit	Subject to any sex, age, medical condition, family history and frequency guidelines as recommended by the USPSTF For a current list of covered preventive care drugs and supplements or more information, see the <i>Contact us</i> section	Subject to any sex, age, medical condition, family history and frequency guidelines as recommended by the USPSTF For a current list of covered preventive care drugs and supplements or more information, see the <i>Contact us</i> section
Preventive care tobacco cessation prescription and OTC drugs	100%	100%
Limit	Two 90 day treatments only	Two 90 day treatments only
Routine lung cancer screening	100% per visit, no deductible applies	100% per visit, no deductible applies
Routine lung cancer screening limit	1 screening every 12 months Screenings that exceed this limit covered as outpatient diagnostic testing	1 screening every 12 months Screenings that exceed this limit covered as outpatient diagnostic testing
Routine physical exam	100% per visit, no deductible applies	100% per visit, no deductible applies
Routine physical exam limits	Subject to any age and visit limits provided for in the comprehensive guidelines supported by the American Academy of Pediatrics/Bright Futures/Health Resources and Services Administration for children and adolescents Limited to 7 exams from age 0-1 year; 3 exams every 12 months age 1-2; 3 exams every 12 months age 2-3; and 1 exam every 12 months after that age, up to age 22; 1 exam every 12 months after age 22 High risk Human Papillomavirus (HPV) DNA testing for woman age 30 and older limited to 1 every 36 months	Subject to any age and visit limits provided for in the comprehensive guidelines supported by the American Academy of Pediatrics/Bright Futures/Health Resources and Services Administration for children and adolescents Limited to 7 exams from age 0-1 year; 3 exams every 12 months age 1-2; 3 exams every 12 months age 2-3; and 1 exam every 12 months after that age, up to age 22; 1 exam every 12 months after age 22 High risk Human Papillomavirus (HPV) DNA testing for woman age 30 and older limited to 1 every 36 months
Well woman GYN exam	100% per visit, no deductible applies	100% per visit, no deductible applies
Well woman GYN exam limit	Subject to any age and visit limits provided for in the comprehensive guidelines supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration	Subject to any age and visit limits provided for in the comprehensive guidelines supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration
Limit	1 per year	1 per year

Private duty nursing

Up to 8 hours equals one shift

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Outpatient services	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible

Prosthetic devices

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Prosthetic devices	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Covered based on type of service and where it is received

Reconstructive surgery and supplies

Including breast **surgery**

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Surgery and supplies	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Covered based on type of service and where it is received

Short-term rehabilitation services

A visit is equal to no more than 1 hour of therapy.

Cardiac rehabilitation

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Cardiac rehabilitation	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Covered based on type of service and where it is received

Pulmonary rehabilitation

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Pulmonary rehabilitation	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Covered based on type of service and where it is received

Cognitive rehabilitation

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Cognitive rehabilitation	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Covered based on type of service and where it is received

Physical therapy (PT)

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible

Occupational therapy (OT)

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Covered only when performed by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a physical therapist; or an occupational therapist provided through home health care, hospice care, or infusion therapy 	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible

Speech therapy (ST)

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible

Physical therapy and Spinal manipulation

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Visit limit per year	Not applicable	13

Speech Therapy (ST)

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Visit limit per year	Not applicable	Not applicable

Spinal manipulation

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible

Skilled nursing facility

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Inpatient services - room and board	90% per admission after deductible	90% per admission after deductible
Other inpatient services and supplies	90% per admission after deductible	90% per admission after deductible

Day limit per year	100	100
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Tests, images and labs – outpatient**Diagnostic complex imaging services**

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible

Diagnostic lab work

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible

Diagnostic x-ray and other radiological services

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible

Therapies**Chemotherapy**

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Chemotherapy services	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Covered based on type of service and where it is received

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

Description	In-network (GCIT-designated facility/provider)	Out-of-network (Including providers who are otherwise part of Aetna's network but are not GCIT-designated facilities/ providers)
Services and supplies	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Not covered
Gene therapy products, prescription drugs	90% per visit after deductible	Not covered

Infusion therapy

Outpatient services

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible

Radiation therapy

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Radiation therapy	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Covered based on type of service and where it is received

Respiratory therapy

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Respiratory therapy	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Covered based on type of service and where it is received

Transplant services

Description	In-network (IOE facility)	Out-of-network (Includes providers who are otherwise part of Aetna's network but are non-IOE providers)
Inpatient services and supplies	90% per transplant after deductible	90% per transplant after deductible
Physician services	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Covered based on type of service and where it is received

Urgent care services

At a freestanding facility or **provider** that is not a **hospital**

A separate urgent care cost share will apply for each visit to an urgent care facility or **provider**

Description	In-network	Out-of-network
Urgent care facility	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible

Walk-in clinic

Not all preventive care services are available at a **walk-in clinic**. All services are available from a network **physician**.

Description	Designated network	Non-designated network	Out-of-network
Non-emergency services	100% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible	90% per visit after deductible
Preventive care immunizations	100% per visit, no deductible applies	100% per visit, no deductible applies	100% per visit, no deductible applies
Preventive care immunization limits	Subject to any age and frequency limits provided for in the comprehensive guidelines supported by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention For details, contact your physician	Subject to any age and frequency limits provided for in the comprehensive guidelines supported by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention For details, contact your physician	Subject to any age and frequency limits provided for in the comprehensive guidelines supported by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention For details, contact your physician
Preventive screening and counseling services	100% per visit, no deductible applies	100% per visit, no deductible applies	100% per visit, no deductible applies
Preventive screening and counseling limits	See the <i>Preventive care services</i> section of the schedule	See the <i>Preventive care services</i> section of the schedule	See the <i>Preventive care services</i> section of the schedule

Description	Designated network	Non-designated network	Out-of-network
Telemedicine consultation for non-emergency services through a walk-in clinic	100% per visit after deductible	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Not covered
Telemedicine consultation for preventive screening and counseling services through a walk-in clinic	100% per visit after deductible	Covered based on type of service and where it is received	Not covered

Important note:

Key terms

Designated network provider

A **network provider** listed in the directory under *Best results for your plan* as a **provider** for your plan.

Non-designated network provider

A **provider** listed in the directory under the *All other results* tab as a **provider** for your plan.

See the *Contact us* section if you have questions.

You will pay less cost share when you use a designated network **walk-in clinic provider**. Non-designated network **walk-in clinic providers** are available to you, but the cost share will be at a higher level when these **providers** are used.

MDLIVE

Medical and Dermatology Consultations

Your plan includes MDLIVE, a 24/7/365 service where you have access to doctors, dermatologists and pediatricians to help you anytime, anywhere about your medical care.

Services are provided either via secure, private video or telephonically through your computer or mobile device. You will be required to pay a \$0 copayment for each visit. The doctor will ask you some questions to help determine your health care needs. Based on the information you provide, the advice will include general health care and pediatric care of you or your dependent's condition.

When to use MDLIVE medical services

- If you are considering the ER or urgent care center, or retail clinic for non-emergency medical use.
- Your primary care doctor is not available.
- Traveling and in need of medical care.
- During or after normal business hours, nights, weekends and holidays.
- To request prescriptions or get refills.

When to use MDLIVE dermatology services:

Waiting to see a dermatologist could take days, weeks or even months. MDLIVE gives you fast access to a network of leading, board certified dermatologists who can diagnose and treat more than 3,000 skin, hair and nail conditions virtually.

Common conditions MDLIVE dermatology can address

• Acne	• Rashes
• Eczema	• Warts and other abnormal bumps
• Suspicious spots and moles	• Inflamed or enlarged hair follicles
• Rosacea	• Psoriasis
• Alopecia	• Insect bites
• Cold sores	

Behavioral Health Consultations

Your plan includes MDLIVE behavioral health consultations, a service where non-Medicare members have access to board certified psychiatrists and licensed therapists and counselors.

Services are provided through secure, private video sessions with an experienced counselor or psychiatrist who is licensed in your state. You will be required to pay a \$0 copayment for each visit.

Common conditions MDLIVE behavioral health can address

- Depression
- Anxiety
- Life Transitions
- Trauma and Loss
- Substance Use
- Relationships
- And more

You can register by calling MDLIVE toll free at 888-632-2738 or going on the internet at mdlive.com/cvt. Be prepared to provide your name, the patient's name (if you are calling for one of your dependents under the age of 18), your medical ID number found on your ID card, your date of birth, and the patient's phone number.

Note: CVT has made arrangements to make MDLIVE available to you as a special service. It may be discontinued without notice. MDLIVE is an optional service. Remember, register to get started. MDLIVE does not guarantee patients will receive a prescription. Healthcare professionals using the platform have the right to deny care, if based on professional judgment, a case is inappropriate for telehealth or for misuse of services. MDLIVE operates subject to state regulation and may not be available in certain states. MDLIVE does not guarantee that a prescription will be written. MDLIVE does not prescribe DEA controlled substances, nontherapeutic drugs and certain other drugs which may be harmful because of their potential for abuse. MDLIVE phone consultations are available 24/7/365, while video consultations are available during the hours of 7 am to 9 pm ET 7 days a week or by scheduled availability.

Coverage and exclusions

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.

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 or investigational** services. But an **experimental or investigational** 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.

Abortion

Covered services include services provided and supplies used in connection with an abortion.

Acupuncture

Covered services include manual or electro acupuncture.

The following are not **covered services**:

- Acupressure

Ambulance services

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

Emergency

Covered services include emergency transport to a **hospital** by a licensed ambulance:

- To the first **hospital** to provide **emergency services**
- From one **hospital** to another if the first **hospital** can't provide the **emergency services** you need
- When your condition is unstable and requires medical supervision and rapid transport

Non-emergency

Covered services also include precertified transportation to a **hospital** by a licensed ambulance:

- From a **hospital** to your home or to another facility if an ambulance is the only safe way to transport you
- From your home to a **hospital** if an ambulance is the only safe way to transport you; limited to 100 miles
- When during a covered inpatient **stay** at a **hospital, skilled nursing facility** or acute rehabilitation **hospital**, an ambulance is required to safely and adequately transport you to or from inpatient or outpatient treatment

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. Peer support 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.

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

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 both of the above conditions are met and you continue to stay in the **hospital** (emergency admission) or receive follow-up care, these are not **emergency services**. Different benefits and requirements apply. Please refer to 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 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
- Bereavement counseling
- Respite care

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 derivatives, but not the expense of the donated blood or blood product

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**.

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 (ICI) insemination services.

Institutes of Quality

Aetna Institutes of Quality (IOQ) program is a network of facilities/clinics of publicly recognized, high-quality, high-value health care providers. These providers offer access to a quality and efficient network for specific procedures. The Institutes have met extensive quality, as well as cost-effectiveness criteria. The Institutes of Quality program applies to adult members (age 18 and over) only.

The IOQs are Aetna facilities participating under standard Aetna contracts and are *designated* through a targeted Request For Information (RFI) process. Designation is valid for two years provided that the facility maintains compliance with the IOQ program requirements.

Institutes of Quality Bariatric

Bariatric surgery, also known as weight loss surgery, refers to the various surgical procedures performed to treat people living with morbid or extreme obesity. It is an effective treatment for weight loss for those who have not experienced long-term weight loss success through other means.

Bariatric IOQ facilities provide the following services:

- Lap bands - device wrapped around upper part of stomach to make it smaller for less food intake
- Bypass - creation of a small pouch in stomach that is connected pouch directly to middle part of small intestine, bypassing the remainder of stomach and upper small intestine
- Sleeve gastrectomy - removal of majority of stomach creating narrow tube to decrease amount of food eaten and decrease amount of food absorbed

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 visits 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, PCP** 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)
- A separate facility charge for **surgery** performed in a **physician's** office
- 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

Pregnancy Termination

Covered services include the following services provided by your **physician**:

- Abortion, including abortion drugs dispensed by a provider (including a telemedicine provider), where permitted by state and local laws.

Language approved by legal, do not change

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, except for male condoms prescribed by a **health professional**

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

Preventive care drugs

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 you **provider** and must fill it at a network pharmacy. At least one form of each FDA-approved contraception methods 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 of the methods identified by the FDA at no cost to you. If a **generic prescription drug** or device is not available for a certain method, you may obtain certain **brand-name prescription drugs** or devices for that method at no cost.

The following is not a **covered service**:

Brand-name prescription drug forms of contraception in each of the methods identified by the FDA

Important note:

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

Preventive care drugs and supplements

Covered services include preventive care drugs and supplements, including OTC ones, as required by the ACA, when you have a **prescription** and it is filled at a network pharmacy.

Risk reducing breast cancer prescription drugs

Covered services include **prescription** drugs used to treat people who are at an increased risk for breast cancer and a low risk for adverse medication side effects. You will need a **prescription** from your **provider** and have it filled at a network pharmacy.

Tobacco cessation prescription drugs

Covered services include FDA-approved drugs and OTC aids and drugs to help stop the use of tobacco products, including nicotine replacement therapy. All OTC aids must be prescribed by a **provider**.

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

Private duty nursing - outpatient

Covered services include private duty nursing care provided by an R.N. or L.P.N. when:

- You are homebound
- Your **physician** orders services as part of a written treatment plan
- Services take the place of a **hospital** or **skilled nursing facility stay**
- Your condition is serious, unstable, and requires continuous skilled 1-on-1 nursing care
- Periodic skilled nursing visits are not adequate

The following are not **covered services**:

- Inpatient private duty nursing care
- Care provided outside the home
- Maintenance or custodial care
- Care for your convenience or the convenience of the family caregiver

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
- 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.

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 dental related 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 **precertified** 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

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.

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

Covered services also include:

- Travel and lodging expenses
 - If you are working with an IOE facility that is 100 or more miles away from where you live, travel and lodging expenses are **covered services** for you and a companion, to travel between home and the IOE facility
 - Coach class air fare, train or bus travel are examples of **covered services**

Network of transplant facilities

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

The amount you will pay for covered transplant services depends on where you get the care. Your cost share will be lower when you get transplant services from the 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. You may also get transplant services at a non-IOE facility, but your cost share will be higher. Transplant services received from a non-IOE facility are subject to the out-of-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, your cost share will be higher.

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, PCP**. 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
- **Telemedicine** consultation
- Individual screening and counseling services that will help you:
 - With obesity or healthy diet
 - To stop using tobacco products

General plan exclusions

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

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:

- **Stay** in a facility for treatment for dementia and amnesia without a behavioral disturbance that necessitates mental health treatment
- 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
- Sexual deviations and disorders except as described in the *Coverage and exclusions* section
- Tobacco use disorders and nicotine dependence except as described in the *Coverage and exclusions- Preventive care* section

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

Examples of these are:

- The provision of donated blood to the **hospital**, other than blood derived clotting factors
- Any related services for donated blood including processing, storage or replacement expenses
- The service of blood donors, including yourself, apheresis or plasmapheresis
- The blood you donate for your own use, excluding administration and processing expenses and except where described in the *Coverage and exclusions, Transplant services* section

Commercial weight loss programs

- Weight loss programs, whether or not they are pursued under medical or **physician** supervision, unless specifically listed as covered in this plan.
- This exclusion includes, but is not limited to, commercial weight loss programs (Weight Watchers, Jenny Craig, LA Weight Loss) and fasting programs.

This exclusion does not include **medically necessary** treatments for morbid obesity or dietary evaluations and counseling, such as described in the *Coverage and exclusions - Preventive care – Counseling services* section, and behavioral modification programs for the treatment of anorexia nervosa or bulimia nervosa. Surgical treatment for morbid obesity is covered as stated in the *Coverage and exclusion – Obesity surgery* and services section.

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

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 or investigational

Experimental or investigational 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

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

Hearing aids

Any tests, appliances and devices to:

- Improve your hearing
- Enhance other forms of communication to make up for hearing loss or devices that simulate speech

Illegal acts

- Charges for services received as a result of injury or illness occurring directly or indirectly, as a result of a member's commission of or attempt to commit a Serious Illegal Act, or a riot or public disturbance. For purposes of this exclusion, the term "Serious Illegal Act" shall mean any act or series of acts that, if prosecuted as a criminal offense, a sentence to a term of imprisonment in excess of one year could be imposed. It is not necessary that criminal charges be filed, or, if filed, that a conviction result, or that a sentence of imprisonment for a term in excess of one year be imposed for this exclusion to apply. Proof beyond a reasonable doubt is not required. This exclusion does not apply if the injury or illness resulted from an act of domestic violence or a medical (including both physical and mental health) condition.

Illegal drugs or medications

- Services, supplies, care, or treatment to a member for injury or illness resulting from that member's voluntary taking of or being under the influence of any controlled substance, drug, hallucinogen, or narcotic not administered on the advice of a physician. Expenses will be covered for injured members other than the person using controlled substances and expenses will be covered for substance abuse treatment as specified in this Plan. This exclusion does not apply if the injury resulted from an act of domestic violence or a medical (including both physical and mental health) condition.

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

Non-compliance

- All charges in connection with treatments or medications where the member is either in non-compliance with or is discharged from a hospital or skilled nursing facility against medical advice.

Non-emergency hospital admissions

- Care and treatment billed by a hospital for non-medical emergency admissions on a Friday or a Saturday. This does not apply if surgery is performed within 24 hours of admission.

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
- **Specialty prescription drugs** except as stated in the *Coverage and exclusions* section

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

Self-inflicted Injury

- Any loss due to an intentionally self-inflicted injury. This exclusion does not apply if the injury resulted from an act of domestic violence or a medical (including both physical and mental health) condition

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

Services, supplies and drugs received outside of the United States

Non-emergency medical services, outpatient **prescription** drugs or supplies received outside of the United States. They are not covered even if they are covered in the United States under this booklet.

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

Telemedicine

Consultations or services provided by a **physician, specialist, behavioral health provider** or **telemedicine provider** by means of electronic communication

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

War

- Any loss that is due to a declared or undeclared act of war.

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

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 and from **network providers** without a **PCP referral**
- 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

– [Language approved by legal, do not change](#)

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.
- Urgent care – see the description of urgent care 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 **coinsurance**
- 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.

Precertification

You need pre-approval from us for some **covered services**. Pre-approval is also called **precertification**.

In-network

Your network **physician** is responsible for obtaining any necessary **precertification** before you get the care. **Network providers** cannot bill you if they fail to ask us for **precertification**. But if your **physician** requests **precertification** and we deny it, and you still choose to get the care, you will have to pay for it yourself.

Out-of-network

When you go to an **out-of-network provider**, you are responsible to get any required **precertification** from us. If you don't **precertify**:

- Your benefits may be reduced, or the plan may not pay. See your schedule of benefits for details.
- You will be responsible for the unpaid bills.
- Your additional out-of-pocket expenses will not count toward your **deductible** or **maximum out-of-pocket limit**, if you have any.

Timeframes for **precertification** are listed below. For **emergency services**, **precertification** is not required, but you should notify us as shown.

To obtain **precertification**, contact us. You, your **physician** or the facility must call us within these timelines:

Type of care	Timeframe
Non-emergency admission	Call at least 14 days before the date you are scheduled to be admitted
Emergency admission	Call within 48 hours or as soon as reasonably possible after you have been admitted
Urgent admission	Call before you are scheduled to be admitted
Outpatient non-emergency medical services	Call at least 14 days before the care is provided, or the treatment or procedure is scheduled

An urgent admission is a **hospital** admission by a **physician** due to the onset of or change in an illness, the diagnosis of an illness, or injury.

We will tell you and your **physician** in writing of the **precertification** decision, where required by state law. An approval is valid for 180 days as long as you remain enrolled in the plan.

For an inpatient **stay** in a facility, we will tell you, your **physician** and the facility about your **precertified** length of **stay**. If your **physician** recommends that you stay longer, the extra days will need to be **precertified**. You, your **physician**, or the facility will need to call us as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than the final authorized day. We will tell you and your **physician** in writing of an approval or denial of the extra days.

If you or your **provider** request **precertification** and we don't approve coverage, we will tell you why and explain how you or your **provider** may request review of our decision. See the *Complaints, claim decisions and appeal procedures* section.

Types of services that require precertification

Precertification is required for inpatient **stays** and certain outpatient services and supplies.

Precertification is required for the following types of services and supplies:

Inpatient –

- Gender affirming treatment
- Gene-based, cellular and other innovative therapies (GCIT)
- Obesity (bariatric) **surgery**
- **Stays** in a **hospice** facility

- **Stays in a hospital**
- **Stays in a rehabilitation facility**
- **Stays in a residential treatment facility** for treatment of **mental health disorders** and **substance related disorders**
- **Stays in a skilled nursing facility**

Outpatient –

- Applied behavior analysis
- ART services
- Complex imaging
- Comprehensive **infertility** services
- Cosmetic and reconstructive **surgery**
- Gender affirming treatment
- Gene-based, cellular and other innovative therapies (GCIT)
- Home health care
- Hospice care
- Injectables, (immunoglobulins, growth hormones, multiple sclerosis medications, osteoporosis medications, Botox, hepatitis C medications)
- Kidney dialysis
- Knee **surgery**
- Non-emergency transportation by airplane
- Obesity (bariatric) **surgery**
- Outpatient back **surgery** not performed in a **physician's** office
- Partial hospitalization treatment – **mental health disorders** and **substance related disorders** treatment
- Private duty nursing services
- Sleep studies
- Transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS)
- Wrist **surgery**

Contact us to get a complete list of the services that require **precertification**. The list may change from time to time.

Sometimes you or your **provider** may want us to review a service that doesn't require **precertification** before you get care. This is called a predetermination, and it is different from **precertification**. Predetermination means that you or your **provider** requests the pre-service clinical review of a service that does not require **precertification**.

Our clinical policy bulletins explain our policy for specific services and supplies. We use these bulletins and other resources to help guide individualized coverage decisions under our plans. You can find the bulletins and other information at <https://www.aetna.com/health-care-professionals/clinical-policy-bulletins.html>.

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.

Recognized charge

Voluntary Services

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 *Involuntary Services and Surprise Bills* 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. 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*	100% of the Medicare allowed rate
Inpatient and outpatient charges of hospitals*	100% of the Medicare allowed rate
Inpatient and outpatient charges of facilities other than hospitals*	

Involuntary services are not paid as outlined above. See **Involuntary Services and Surprise Bills for information on how these claims are paid under the plan.*

Important note: If the **provider** bills less than the amount calculated using the **out-of-network plan rate** described 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 *Involuntary Services and Surprise Bills* for more information.

Special terms used

- 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. We update our systems with these revised rates within 180 days of receiving them from CMS. If Medicare does not have a rate, we use one or more of the items below to determine the rate:
 - The method CMS uses to set Medicare rates
 - What 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 for a particular service or supply

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).
- Our rate may also exclude other payments that CMS may make directly to **hospitals** or other **providers**. It also may exclude any backdated adjustments made by CMS.
- For anesthesia, our rate is 105% of the rates CMS establishes for those services or supplies.
- For laboratory, our rate is 75% of the rates CMS establishes for those services or supplies.
- For **DME**, our rate is 75% of the rates CMS establishes for those services or supplies.
- For medications payable/covered as medical benefits rather than **prescription drug** benefits, our rate is 100% of the rates CMS establishes for those medications.

When the **recognized charge** is based on a percentage of the Medicare allowed rate, it is not affected by adjustments or incentives given to **providers** under Medicare programs.

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. Use the 'Estimate the Cost of Care' tool or 'Payment Estimator' tool on the Aetna website. The website may contain additional information that can help you determine the cost of a service or supply.

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

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.

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 **coinsurance** 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.

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
Child – parents separated, divorced, or not living together	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan of parent responsible for health coverage in court order • Birthday rule applies if both parents are responsible or have joint custody in court order • Custodial parent's plan if there is no court order 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan of other parent • Birthday rule applies (later in the year) • Non-custodial parent's plan
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. If you are eligible but not covered, and Medicare would be your primary payer, we may still pay as if you are covered by Medicare and coordinate with the benefits Medicare would have paid. 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.

If you are receiving treatment for end-stage renal disease following the first 30 months that you are entitled to end-stage renal disease benefits under Medicare, the plan will determine payment and then subtract the amount of the benefits available from Medicare. The plan pays the amount that remains after subtracting Medicare's payment.

You are eligible for Medicare if you are covered under it. You are also eligible for Medicare, even if you are not covered, if you refused it, dropped it, or didn't make a request for 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. See the schedule of benefits for more information.

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

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 or investigational**.
- 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 or investigational** 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 or investigational** 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.

Binding Arbitration

Any dispute or claim, of whatever nature, arising out of, in connection with, or in relation to this plan or breach or rescission thereof, or in relation to care or delivery of care, including any claim based on contract, tort, or statute, must be resolved by arbitration if the amount sought exceeds the jurisdictional limit of the small claims court. Any dispute or claim within the jurisdictional limits of the small claims court will be resolved in such court.

The Federal Arbitration Act will govern the interpretation and enforcement of all proceedings under this Binding Arbitration provision. To the extent that the Federal Arbitration Act is inapplicable, or is held not to require arbitration of a particular claim, state law governing agreements to arbitrate will apply.

The Member and CVT agree to be bound by this Binding Arbitration provision and acknowledge that they are each giving up their right to a trial by court or jury.

The Member and CVT agree to give up the right to participate in class arbitration against each other. Even if applicable law permits class arbitration, the Member waives any right to pursue, on a class basis, any such controversy or claim against CVT and CVT waives any right to pursue on a class basis any such controversy or claim against the Member.

The arbitration findings will be final and binding except to the extent that state or Federal law provides for the judicial review of arbitration proceedings.

The arbitration is begun by the Member making written demand on CVT. The arbitration will be conducted by Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services ("JAMS") according to its applicable Rules and Procedures. If, for any reason, JAMS is unavailable to conduct the arbitration, the arbitration will be conducted by another neutral arbitration entity, by mutual agreement of the Member and CVT, or by order of the court, if the Member and CVT cannot agree. The arbitration will be held at a time and location mutually agreeable to the Member and CVT.

Eligibility, starting and stopping coverage

Eligibility

Who is eligible

CVT 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:

- At the end of any waiting period your employer requires
- 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:

Spouse of Employee: A spouse of an enrolled employee is eligible for coverage. **(Marriage Certificate is required for enrollment.)**

State Registered Domestic Partner: A state registered (same sex or over age 62 opposite sex) domestic partner is eligible for coverage. **(State Registration Certificate is required for enrollment.)**

Child:

Child of an enrolled employee, spouse or domestic partner under 26 years of age:

- Natural child – **(Birth Certificate is required for enrollment.)**
- Adopted child – **(Final Adoption Papers are required for enrollment.)**
- Stepchild – **(Birth Certificate is required for enrollment.)**
- Child of an eligible, covered domestic partner – **(Birth Certificate is required for enrollment.)**
- Unmarried child under legal guardianship - A dependent child under a court ordered legal guardianship of the employee is eligible for coverage, provided they meet all other eligibility requirements. Please note: eligibility ends on the date of expiration of the court awarded guardianship or upon the 18th birthday of the child, whichever comes first. **(Legal Guardianship Papers are required for enrollment.)**

Permanently Disabled Child: A permanently disabled child who is presently covered with CVT as a dependent may continue as a dependent regardless of age provided the disabling condition existed before the child attained the age of 26 and the disability renders the child incapable of self-sustaining employment.

Permanently disabled dependents over the age of 26 are eligible for coverage when a new group enrolls or an existing group enrolls a new employee with a permanently disabled child, if the employee provides proof that the dependent was an accepted and covered disabled dependent on a medical plan immediately prior to requesting enrollment in CVT.

A permanently disabled dependent who is married will lose their coverage at age 26; a permanently disabled dependent who is single will continue to be covered past age 26 until he or she marries or is no longer certified as permanently disabled. **(Disabled Dependent Certification required for enrollment.)**

Adding new dependents

A dependent of an enrolled employee is eligible to enroll for coverage within 31 days of first becoming eligible for dependent coverage. If an eligible dependent is not enrolled within 31 days of first becoming eligible, he or she will not be allowed to enroll for coverage until the annual open enrollment period or until the employee experiences a qualifying event.

- **New Spouse and Eligible Dependent(s):** A new spouse and an eligible dependent(s) of the new spouse are eligible to enroll for coverage within 31 days of the date of the marriage to the employee. An enrollment form for the new spouse and eligible dependent(s) must be submitted to request coverage within 31 days of the date of the marriage. Coverage will commence on the first day of the month following the date of the marriage and receipt of a timely request for enrollment. **(Copies of Marriage Certificate and Birth Certificates for children under age 26 are required.)**
- **New Domestic Partner and Eligible Dependent(s) of Domestic Partner:** A domestic partner and his or her eligible dependent(s) are eligible to be enrolled by an employee when the requirements for eligible domestic partners (see “Who is Eligible For Coverage – Domestic Partner”) have been met. An employee has 31 days from the date of first meeting the requirements of domestic partnership to enroll his or her domestic partner and eligible dependent(s). Coverage will commence on the first day of the month following the date of first meeting the requirements and receipt of a timely request for enrollment. **(Copies of the State Registration Certificate and Birth Certificates for children under age 26 are required.)**
- **Newborn Child:** A newborn child of an employee, an employee’s spouse, or an employee’s covered domestic partner is eligible to be enrolled for coverage at the moment of birth. An enrollment request and copy of the birth certificate must be submitted within 90 days of the date of birth. Coverage will commence on the date of birth and receipt of a timely request for enrollment. **If a request for enrollment is not received within 90 days of the date of birth, the newborn child is not eligible to be enrolled for coverage until the annual open enrollment period or until the employee experiences a qualifying event.**
- **Adopted Child:** Adopted children are eligible to be enrolled for coverage on the date of placement in physical custody “for the purpose of adoption.” A copy of the adoption agency placement agreement, or in the case of a private placement, a copy of the court “Petition for Adoption” or “Decree of Adoption” is required to be provided to the Trust before the child will be added to the coverage as a dependent of the employee. An employee must submit an enrollment request within 90 days of the child being placed in the employee’s physical custody for the “purpose of adoption”. Coverage will commence on the date of placement in physical custody “for the purpose of adoption” and receipt of a timely request for enrollment. **If a request for enrollment is not received within 90 days of the date of placement, the child is not eligible to be enrolled for coverage until the annual open enrollment period or until the employee experiences a qualifying event.**

- **Guardianship:** Children under the legal guardianship of the employee are eligible to be enrolled for coverage on the date the guardianship is awarded by the court. A copy of the “court ordered custody documents” is required before the child will be added to the coverage as a dependent of the employee. An employee must submit an enrollment request within 90 days of the date the guardianship is awarded to the employee by the court. Coverage will commence on the first day of the month following the court awarded guardianship and receipt of a timely request for enrollment. **If a request for enrollment is not received within 90 days of the date the guardianship is awarded by the court the child is not eligible to be enrolled for coverage until the annual open enrollment period or until the employee experiences a qualifying event.**

Special times you can join the plan

Plan selection changes by a full time or part time employee, or adding or terminating coverage of a part time employee or the eligible dependent(s) of a full time or part time employee, **will not be allowed at any other time than the annual open enrollment period unless:** 1) an open enrollment period is requested by the district due to the completion of negotiations, or 2) an employee experiences a qualifying event listed below:

- A marriage
- A divorce
- The birth of a child
- The adoption of a child
- Court ordered guardianship of a minor child
- The requirements of domestic partnership are met
- Dissolution of domestic partnership
- 25% increase in the employer/employee contribution to the benefit package
- Involuntary termination of a plan covering the employee or employee’s dependent
- A change in the employee’s employment status
- A change in an employee’s dependent’s employment status when the employee’s dependent is covered
- The cessation of an employer’s contribution toward an employee’s or employee’s dependent’s coverage
- Acquiring coverage
- Gaining Medicare
- Death of subscriber or covered spouse

Written application for additions, terminations, and coverage changes must be made within 31 days of the qualifying event. If application is not made within 31 days, an employee will have to wait until the next annual open enrollment period or another qualifying event is experienced to make any changes. Additions, terminations, or coverage changes will be effective on the first day of the month following the qualifying event date. **Documentation is required for any of the above.**

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 CVT 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

Eligibility in CVT will be terminated for any of the following reasons or circumstances:

A. GROUPS

The eligibility of an employee and his or her dependent(s) will terminate on the last day of the month in which the group to which they belong withdraws from CVT. Coverage for all District-Paid or Self-Paid Retirees and their dependents, and all COBRA participants and their dependents will also terminate on the last day of the month in which the active group with which they are associated withdraws from CVT.

B. INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYEES

The eligibility of an employee will terminate on the last day of the month in which the employee ceases to meet the definition of an employee. **Notification in a timely manner of all terminations of employment is the responsibility of the district.**

Benefits for a terminated employee may not be continued beyond the period provided in a collective bargaining agreement. A district cannot make any settlement with an employee that extends eligibility beyond that provided for under COBRA.

The eligibility and coverage of all employees, District-Paid Retirees, Self-Paid Retirees, COBRA participants and all dependents will terminate as of the date CVT is dissolved by its Board of Trustees.

When dependent coverage ends The eligibility and/or coverage of a dependent of an employee terminates on the last day of the month in which one of the following events occurs:

- The group to which the dependent belongs withdraws from CVT.
- The employee under whom the dependent is eligible terminates coverage.
- The employee's eligibility under which the dependent is eligible terminates.
- The employee dies, unless extended coverage for dependents is provided for in the collective bargaining agreement or district board policy and the district pays all or part of the contribution. **Documentation is required.**
- A spouse's eligibility terminates as of the end of the month of the final divorce decree. **Documentation is required.**
- A domestic partner's eligibility terminates as of the end of the month of the termination of the domestic partnership. **Documentation is required.**
- The date of expiration of a court awarded guardianship or upon the 18th birthday of the minor child, whichever comes first.

- The 26th birthday of an eligible coverage dependent who does not qualify as a permanently disabled child.

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.

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 your dependent can extend coverage after you die

Your dependents can continue coverage after your death if:

- You were covered at the time of your death
- The request is made within 31 days after your death, and
- Payment is made for coverage

Your dependent's coverage will end on the earliest date:

- They no longer meet the definition of dependent
- Dependent coverage stops under the plan
- The dependent becomes covered by another health benefits plan
- The date your spouse remarries

To request extension of coverage, the dependent, or their representative, can contact us.

General provisions – other things you should know

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.

SUBROGATION AND RIGHT OF RECOVERY

The provisions of this section apply to all current or former plan participants and also to the parents, guardian, or other representative of a dependent child who incurs claims and is or has been covered by the plan. The plan's right to recover (whether by subrogation or reimbursement) shall apply to the personal representative of your estate, your decedents, minors, and incompetent or disabled persons. "You" or "your" includes anyone on whose behalf the plan pays benefits. No adult Covered Person hereunder may assign any rights that it may have to recover medical expenses from any tortfeasor or other person or entity to any minor child or children of said adult covered person without the prior express written consent of the Plan.

The plan's right of subrogation or reimbursement, as set forth below, extend to all insurance coverage available to you due to an injury, illness or condition for which the plan has paid medical claims (including, but not limited to, liability coverage, uninsured motorist coverage, underinsured motorist coverage, personal umbrella coverage, medical payments coverage, workers compensation coverage, no fault automobile coverage or any first party insurance coverage).

Your health plan is always secondary to automobile no-fault coverage, personal injury protection coverage, or medical payments coverage.

No disbursement of any settlement proceeds or other recovery funds from any insurance coverage or other source will be made until the health plan's subrogation and reimbursement interest are fully satisfied.

Subrogation

The right of subrogation means the plan is entitled to pursue any claims that you may have in order to recover the benefits paid by the plan. Immediately upon paying or providing any benefit under the plan, the plan shall be subrogated to (stand in the place of) all of your rights of recovery with respect to any claim or potential claim against any party, due to an injury, illness or condition to the full extent of benefits provided or to be provided by the Plan. The Plan may assert a claim or file suit in your name and take appropriate action to assert its subrogation claim, with or without your consent. The plan is not required to pay you part of any recovery it may obtain, even if it files suit in your name.

Reimbursement

If you receive any payment as a result of an injury, illness or condition, you agree to reimburse the plan first from such payment for all amounts the plan has paid and will pay as a result of that injury, illness or condition, up to and including the full amount of your recovery.

Constructive Trust

By accepting benefits (whether the payment of such benefits is made to you or made on your behalf to any provider) you agree that if you receive any payment as a result of an injury, illness or condition, you will serve as a constructive trustee over those funds. Failure to hold such funds in trust will be deemed a breach of your fiduciary duty to the plan. No disbursement of any settlement proceeds or other recovery funds from any insurance coverage or other source will be made until the health plan's subrogation and reimbursement interest are fully satisfied.

Lien Rights

Further, the plan will automatically have a lien to the extent of benefits paid by the plan for the treatment of the illness, injury or condition upon any recovery whether by settlement, judgment or otherwise, related to treatment for any illness, injury or condition for which the plan paid benefits. The lien may be enforced against any party who possesses funds or proceeds representing the amount of benefits paid by the plan including, but

not limited to, you, your representative or agent, and/or any other source that possessed or will possess funds representing the amount of benefits paid by the plan.

Assignment

In order to secure the plan's recovery rights, you agree to assign to the plan any benefits or claims or rights of recovery you have under any automobile policy or other coverage, to the full extent of the plan's subrogation and reimbursement claims. This assignment allows the plan to pursue any claim you may have, whether or not you choose to pursue the claim.

First-Priority Claim

By accepting benefits from the plan, you acknowledge that the plan's recovery rights are a first priority claim and are to be repaid to the plan before you receive any recovery for your damages. The plan shall be entitled to full reimbursement on a first-dollar basis from any payments, even if such payment to the plan will result in a recovery which is insufficient to make you whole or to compensate you in part or in whole for the damages sustained. The plan is not required to participate in or pay your court costs or attorney fees to any attorney you hire to pursue your damage claim.

Applicability to All Settlements and Judgments

The terms of this entire subrogation and right of recovery provision shall apply and the plan is entitled to full recovery regardless of whether any liability for payment is admitted and regardless of whether the settlement or judgment identifies the medical benefits the plan provided or purports to allocate any portion of such settlement or judgment to payment of expenses other than medical expenses. The plan is entitled to recover from *any and all* settlements or judgments, even those designated as pain and suffering, non-economic damages and/or general damages only. The plan's claim will not be reduced due to your own negligence.

Cooperation

You agree to cooperate fully with the plan's efforts to recover benefits paid. It is your duty to notify the plan within 30 days of the date when any notice is given to any party, including an insurance company or attorney, of your intention to pursue or investigate a claim to recover damages or obtain compensation due to your injury, illness or condition. You and your agents agree to provide the plan or its representatives notice of any recovery you or your agents obtain prior to receipt of such recovery funds or within 5 days if no notice was given prior to receipt. Further, you and your agents agree to provide notice prior to any disbursement of settlement or any other recovery funds obtained. You and your agents shall provide all information requested by the plan, the Claims Administrator or its representative including, but not limited to, completing and submitting any applications or other forms or statements as the plan may reasonably request and all documents related to or filed in personal injury litigation. Failure to provide this information, failure to assist the plan in pursuit of its subrogation rights or failure to reimburse the plan from any settlement or recovery you receive may result in the denial of any future benefit payments or claim until the plan is reimbursed in full, termination of your health benefits or the institution of court proceedings against you.

You shall do nothing to prejudice the plan's subrogation or recovery interest or prejudice the plan's ability to enforce the terms of this plan provision. This includes, but is not limited to, refraining from making any settlement or recovery that attempts to reduce or exclude the full cost of all benefits provided by the plan or disbursement of any settlement proceeds or other recovery prior to fully satisfying the health plan's subrogation and reimbursement interest.

You acknowledge that the plan has the right to conduct an investigation regarding the injury, illness or condition to identify potential sources of recovery. The plan reserves the right to notify all parties and his/her agents of its lien. Agents include, but are not limited to, insurance companies and attorneys.

You acknowledge that the plan has notified you that it has the right pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act (“HIPAA”), 42 U.S.C. Section 1301 *et seq*, to share your personal health information in exercising its subrogation and reimbursement rights.

Interpretation

In the event that any claim is made that any part of this subrogation and right of recovery provision is ambiguous or questions arise concerning the meaning or intent of any of its terms, the Claims Administrator for the plan shall have the sole authority and discretion to resolve all disputes regarding the interpretation of this provision.

Jurisdiction

By accepting benefits from the Plan, you agree that any court proceeding with respect to this provision may be brought in any court of competent jurisdiction as the plan may elect. By accepting such benefits, you hereby submit to each such jurisdiction, waiving whatever rights may correspond by reason of your present or future domicile. By accepting such benefits, you also agree to pay all attorneys’ fees the plan incurs in successful attempts to recover amounts the plan is entitled to under this section.

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.

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 or investigational (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

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 services

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.

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 or investigational

Drugs, treatments or tests not yet accepted by **physicians** or by insurance plans as standard treatment. They may not be proven as effective or safe for most people.

A drug, device, procedure, or treatment is **experimental or investigational** if:

- There is not enough outcome data available from controlled clinical trials published in the peer-reviewed literature to validate its safety and effectiveness for the illness or injury involved.
- The needed approval by the FDA has not been given for marketing.
- A national medical or dental society or regulatory agency has stated in writing that it is **experimental or investigational** or suitable mainly for research purposes.
- It is the subject of a Phase I, Phase II or the experimental or research arm of a Phase III clinical trial. These terms have the meanings given by regulations and other official actions and publications of the FDA and Department of Health and Human Services.
- Written protocols or a written consent form used by a facility **provider** state that it is **experimental or investigational**.

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.

Infertility

A disease defined by the failure to become pregnant:

- For a female with a male partner, after:
 - 1 year of frequent, unprotected heterosexual sexual intercourse if under the age of 35
 - 6 months of frequent, unprotected heterosexual sexual intercourse if age 35 or older
- For a female without a male partner, after:
 - At least 12 cycles of donor insemination if under the age of 35
 - 6 cycles of donor insemination if age 35 or older
- For a male without a female partner, after:
 - At least 2 abnormal semen analyses obtained at least 2 weeks apart

- For an individual or their partner who has been clinically diagnosed with gender dysphoria

Institutes of Quality® (IOQ) (Bariatric, Orthopedic and Cardiac)

A national network of facilities publicly recognized, high-quality, high-value health care providers. These providers offer access to a quality and efficient network for specific procedures. The Institutes have met extensive quality, as well as efficiency criteria.

Bariatric surgery, also known as weight loss surgery, refers to various surgical procedures to treat people living with morbid, or extreme, obesity. IOQ Bariatric Surgery procedures include: gastric bypass, adjustable gastric band and sleeve method

IOQ Cardiac Care services include Cardiac Medical Intervention, Heart Surgery and Heart Rhythm Disorders.

IOQ Orthopedic Care services include Spine Surgeries and Total Joint Replacement.

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 **experimental or investigational**. 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**.

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 physician (PCP)**.

Precertification, precertify

Pre-approval that you or your **provider** receives from us before you receive certain **covered services**. This may include a determination by us as to whether the service is **medically necessary** and eligible for coverage.

Prescription

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

Primary care physician (PCP)

A **physician** who:

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

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

- General practitioner
- Family **physician**
- Internist
- 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

An institution specifically licensed by applicable laws to provide residential treatment programs for **mental health disorders**, **substance related disorders**, or both. It is credentialed by us or is accredited by one of the following agencies, commissions or committees for the services being provided:

- The Joint Commission (TJC)
- The Committee on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF)
- The American Osteopathic Association's Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program (HFAP)
- The Council on Accreditation (COA)

In addition to the above requirements, an institution must meet the following:

For residential treatment programs treating **mental health disorders**:

- A **behavioral health provider** must be actively on duty 24 hours/day for 7 days/week
- The patient must be treated by a psychiatrist at least once per week
- The medical director must be a psychiatrist
- It is not a wilderness treatment program (whether or not the program is part of a licensed **residential treatment facility** or otherwise licensed institution)

For residential treatment programs treating **substance related disorders**:

- A **behavioral health provider** or an appropriately state certified professional (CADC, CAC, etc.) must be actively on duty during the day and evening therapeutic programming
- The medical director must be a **physician**
- It is not a wilderness treatment program (whether or not the program is part of a licensed **residential treatment facility** or otherwise licensed institution)

For **detoxification** programs within a residential setting:

- An R.N. must be onsite 24 hours/day for 7 days/week within a residential setting
- Residential care must be provided under the direct supervision of a **physician**

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 specifically licensed as a **skilled nursing facility** by applicable laws to provide skilled nursing care.

Skilled nursing facilities also include:

- Rehabilitation **hospitals**
- Portions of a rehabilitation **hospital**
- A **hospital** designated for skilled or rehabilitation services

Skilled nursing facility does not include institutions that provide only:

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

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.

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.

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.

Assistive Technology

Persons using assistive technology may not be able to fully access the following information. For assistance, please call 1- 800-370-4526.

Smartphone or Tablet

To view documents from your smartphone or tablet, the free WinZip app is required. It may be available from your App Store.

Non-Discrimination

Aetna complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not unlawfully discriminate, exclude or treat people differently based on their race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

We provide free aids/services to people with disabilities and to people who need language assistance.

If you need a qualified interpreter, written information in other formats, translation or other services, call 1-800-370-4526.

If you believe we have failed to provide these services or otherwise discriminated based on a protected class noted above, you can also file a grievance with the Civil Rights Coordinator by contacting:

Civil Rights Coordinator,
P.O. Box 14462, Lexington, KY 40512 (CA HMO customers: PO Box 24030 Fresno, CA 93779),
1-800-648-7817, TTY: 711,
Fax: 859-425-3379 (CA HMO customers: 860-262-7705), CRCoordinator@aetna.com.

You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf>, or at: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Avenue SW., Room 509F, HHH Building, Washington, DC 20201, or at 1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD).

Aetna is the brand name used for products and services provided by one or more of the Aetna group of subsidiary companies, including Aetna Life Insurance Company, Coventry Health Care plans and their affiliates (Aetna).

Language Assistance

TTY: 711

To access language services at no cost to you, call 1- 800-370-4526.

Para acceder a los servicios de idiomas sin costo, llame al 1- 800-370-4526. (Spanish)

如欲使用免費語言服務，請致電 1- 800-370-4526。 (Chinese)

Afin d'accéder aux services langagiers sans frais, composez le 1- 800-370-4526. (French)

Para ma-access ang mga serbisyo sa wika nang wala kayong babayaran, tumawag sa 1- 800-370-4526. (Tagalog)

T'áá ni nizaad k'ehjí bee níká a'doowoł doo bąąh ílínígóó kojí' hóline'| 1- 800-370-4526. (Navajo)

Um auf für Sie kostenlose Sprachdienstleistungen zuzugreifen, rufen Sie 1- 800-370-4526 an. (German)

Për shërbime përkthimi falas për ju, telefononi 1- 800-370-4526. (Albanian)

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للحصول على الخدمات اللغوية دون أي تكلفة، الرجاء الاتصال على الرقم 1- 800-370-4526. (Arabic)

Անվճար լեզվական ծառայություններից օգտվելու համար զանգահարեք 1- 800-370-4526
հեռախոսահամարով: (Armenian)

Kugira uronke serivisi z'indimi atakiguzi, hamagara 1- 800-370-4526 (Bantu)

আপনাকে বিনামূল্যে ভাষা পরামর্শ দেবে এই নম্বরে টেলিফোন করুন: 1- 800-370-4526। (Bengali)

Ngadto maakses ang mga serbisyo sa pinulongan alang libre, tawagan sa 1- 800-370-4526. (Bisayan-Visayan)

သင့်အနေဖြင့် အခမဲ့ဘာသာစကားဝန်ဆောင်မှုများ ရရှိနိုင်ရန် 1- 800-370-4526

သို့ ဖုန်းခေါ်ဆိုပါ။ (Burmese)

Per accedir a serveis lingüístics sense cap cost per vostè, telefoni al 1- 800-370-4526. (Catalan)

Para un hago' i setbision lengguåhi ni dibåtde para hågu, ågang 1- 800-370-4526. (Chamorro)

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Anumpa tohsholi I toksvli ya peh pilla ho ish I paya hinla, I paya 1- 800-370-4526. (Choctaw)

Tajaajiloota afaanii garuu bilisaa ati argaachuuf,bilbili 1- 800-370-4526. (Cushite-Oromo)

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No ka wala'au 'ana me ka lawelawe 'ōlelo e kahea aku i kēia helu kelepona 1- 800-370-4526. Kāki 'ole 'ia kēia kōkua nei. (Hawaiian)

आपके लिए बनिा किसी कीमत के भाषा सेवाओं का उपयोग करने के लिए, 1- 800-370-4526 पर कॉल करें। (Hindi)

Xav tau kev pab txhais lus tsis muaj nqi them rau koj, hu 1- 800-370-4526. (Hmong)

Iji nwetaòhèrè na ọrụ gasị asụsụ n'efu, kpọọ 1- 800-370-4526. (Ibo)

Tapno maaksesyo dagiti serbisio maipapan iti pagsasao nga awan ti bayadanyo, tawagan ti 1- 800-370-4526. (Ilocano)

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တကုန်. (Karen)

무료 언어 서비스를 이용하려면 1- 800-370-4526 번으로 전화해 주십시오. (Korean)

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ເພື່ອຂໍໃຊ້ການບໍລິການພາສາໂດຍບໍ່ສະຄຳຕົກປໍ້ທ່ານ, ໃຫ້ໂທຫາໂປ 1- 800-370-4526. (Laotian)

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