# VERMONT STATE COLLEGES, INC.

PREFERRED PROVIDER MEDICAL BENEFITS
For Retiree Over 65 Plan

**EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2016** 

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This document printed in August, 2016 takes the place of any documents previously issued to you which described your benefits.

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## **Important Information**

THIS IS NOT AN INSURED BENEFIT PLAN. THE BENEFITS DESCRIBED IN THIS BOOKLET OR ANY RIDER ATTACHED HERETO ARE SELF-INSURED BY VERMONT STATE COLLEGES, INC. WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR PAYMENT. CIGNA HEALTH AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY (CIGNA) PROVIDES CLAIM ADMINISTRATION SERVICES TO THE PLAN, BUT CIGNA DOES NOT INSURE THE BENEFITS DESCRIBED.

THIS DOCUMENT MAY USE WORDS THAT DESCRIBE A PLAN INSURED BY CIGNA. BECAUSE THE PLAN IS NOT INSURED BY CIGNA, ALL REFERENCES TO INSURANCE SHALL BE READ TO INDICATE THAT THE PLAN IS SELF-INSURED. FOR EXAMPLE, REFERENCES TO "CIGNA," "INSURANCE COMPANY," AND "POLICYHOLDER" SHALL BE DEEMED TO MEAN YOUR "EMPLOYER" AND "POLICY" TO MEAN "PLAN" AND "INSURED" TO MEAN "COVERED" AND "INSURANCE" SHALL BE DEEMED TO MEAN "COVERAGE."

HC-NOT1

Explanation of Terms
You will find terms starting with capital letters throughout your certificate. To help you understand your benefits, most of these terms are defined in the Definitions section of your certificate.
The Schedule
The Schedule is a brief outline of your maximum benefits which may be payable under your insurance. For a full description of each benefit, refer to the appropriate section listed in the Table of Contents.



## **Special Plan Provisions**

When you select a Participating Provider, the cost for medical services provided will be less than when you select a non-Participating Provider. Participating Providers include Physicians, Hospitals and Other Health Care Professionals and Other Health Care Facilities. Consult your Physician Guide for a list of Participating Providers in your area. Participating Providers are committed to providing you and your Dependents appropriate care while lowering medical costs.

## Services Available in Conjunction With Your Medical Plan

The following pages describe helpful services available in conjunction with your medical plan. You can access these services by calling the toll-free number shown on the back of your ID card.

HC-SPP1 04-10 V1

#### Case Management

Case Management is a service provided through a Review Organization, which assists individuals with treatment needs that extend beyond the acute care setting. The goal of Case Management is to ensure that patients receive appropriate care in the most effective setting possible whether at home, as an outpatient, or an inpatient in a Hospital or specialized facility. Should the need for Case Management arise, a Case Management professional will work closely with the patient, his or her family and the attending Physician to determine appropriate treatment options which will best meet the patient's needs and keep costs manageable. The Case Manager will help coordinate the treatment program and arrange for necessary resources. Case Managers are also available to answer questions and provide ongoing support for the family in times of medical crisis.

Case Managers are Registered Nurses (RNs) and other credentialed health care professionals, each trained in a clinical specialty area such as trauma, high risk pregnancy and neonates, oncology, mental health, rehabilitation or general medicine and surgery. A Case Manager trained in the appropriate clinical specialty area will be assigned to you or your dependent. In addition, Case Managers are supported by a panel of Physician advisors who offer guidance on up-to-date treatment programs and medical technology. While the Case Manager recommends alternate treatment programs and helps coordinate needed resources, the patient's attending Physician remains responsible for the actual medical care.

- You, your dependent or an attending Physician can request
  Case Management services by calling the toll-free number
  shown on your ID card during normal business hours,
  Monday through Friday. In addition, your employer, a claim
  office or a utilization review program (see the PAC/CSR
  section of your certificate) may refer an individual for Case
  Management.
- The Review Organization assesses each case to determine whether Case Management is appropriate.
- You or your Dependent is contacted by an assigned Case Manager who explains in detail how the program works.
   Participation in the program is voluntary - no penalty or benefit reduction is imposed if you do not wish to participate in Case Management.
- Following an initial assessment, the Case Manager works
  with you, your family and Physician to determine the needs
  of the patient and to identify what alternate treatment
  programs are available (for example, in-home medical care
  in lieu of an extended Hospital convalescence). You are not
  penalized if the alternate treatment program is not followed.
- The Case Manager arranges for alternate treatment services and supplies, as needed (for example, nursing services or a Hospital bed and other Durable Medical Equipment for the home).
- The Case Manager also acts as a liaison between the insurer, the patient, his or her family and Physician as needed (for example, by helping you to understand a complex medical diagnosis or treatment plan).
- Once the alternate treatment program is in place, the Case Manager continues to manage the case to ensure the treatment program remains appropriate to the patient's needs

While participation in Case Management is strictly voluntary, Case Management professionals can offer quality, cost-effective treatment alternatives, as well as provide assistance in obtaining needed medical resources and ongoing family support in a time of need.

HC-SPP2 04-10

#### **Additional Programs**

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We may, from time to time, offer or arrange for various entities to offer discounts, benefits, or other consideration to our members for the purpose of promoting the general health and well being of our members. We may also arrange for the reimbursement of all or a portion of the cost of services



provided by other parties to the Policyholder. Contact us for details regarding any such arrangements.

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## **Care Management and Care Coordination Services**

Your plan may enter into specific collaborative arrangements with health care professionals committed to improving quality care, patient satisfaction and affordability. Through these collaborative arrangements, health care professionals commit to proactively providing participants with certain care management and care coordination services to facilitate achievement of these goals. Reimbursement is provided at 100% for these services when rendered by designated health care professionals in these collaborative arrangements.

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## **Important Notices**

## **Vermont Mandatory Civil Unions Endorsement for Health Insurance**

## **Purpose:**

Vermont law requires that health insurers offer coverage to parties to a civil union that is equivalent to coverage provided to married persons. This endorsement is part of and amends this policy, contract or certificate to comply with Vermont law.

#### **Definitions, Terms, Conditions and Provisions**

The definitions, terms, conditions and any other provisions of the policy, contract, certificate and/or riders and endorsements to which this mandatory endorsement is attached are hereby amended and superseded as follows:

Terms that mean or refer to a marital relationship, or that may be construed to mean or refer to a marital relationship, such as "marriage," "spouse," "husband," "wife," "dependent," "next of kin," "relative," "beneficiary," "survivor," "immediate family" and any other such terms include the relationship created by a civil union established according to Vermont law.

Terms that mean or refer to the inception or dissolution of a marriage, such as "date of marriage," "divorce decree," "termination of marriage" and any other such terms include the inception or dissolution of a civil union established according to Vermont law.

Terms that mean or refer to family relationships arising from a marriage, such as "family," "immediate family,"

"dependent," "children," "next of kin," "relative," "beneficiary," "survivor" and any other such terms include family relationships created by a civil union established according to Vermont law.

"Dependent" means a spouse, party to a civil union established according to Vermont law, and a child or children (natural, stepchild, legally adopted or a minor or disabled child who is dependent upon the insured for support and maintenance) who is born to or brought to a marriage or to a civil union established according to Vermont law.

"Child" or "covered child" means a child (natural, stepchild, legally adopted or a minor or disabled child who is dependent upon the insured for support and maintenance) who is born to or brought to a marriage or to a civil union established according to Vermont law.

## Caution: Federal Rights May or May Not Be Available

Vermont law grants parties to a civil union the same benefits, protections and responsibilities that flow from marriage under state law. However, some or all of the benefits, protections and responsibilities related to health insurance that are available to married persons under federal law may not be available to parties to a civil union. For example, federal law, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 known as "ERISA," controls the employer/employee relationship with regard to determining eligibility for enrollment in private employer health benefit plans. Because of ERISA, Act 91 does not state requirements pertaining to a private employer's enrollment of a party to a civil union in an ERISA employee welfare benefit plan. However, governmental employers (not federal government) are required to provide health benefits to the dependents of a party to a civil union if the public employer provides health benefits to the dependents of married persons. Federal law also controls group health insurance continuation rights under "COBRA" for employers with 20 or more employees as well as the Internal Revenue Code treatment of health insurance premiums. As a result, parties to a civil union and their families may or may not have access to certain benefits under this policy, contract, certificate, rider or endorsement that derive from federal law. You are advised to seek expert advice to determine your rights under this contract.

## **How To File Your Claim**

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There's no paperwork for In-Network care. Just show your identification card and pay your share of the cost, if any; your provider will submit a claim to Cigna for reimbursement. Out-of-Network claims can be submitted by the provider if the



provider is able and willing to file on your behalf. If the provider is not submitting on your behalf, you must send your completed claim form and itemized bills to the claims address listed on the claim form.

You may get the required claim forms from the website listed on your identification card or by using the toll-free number on your identification card.

#### **CLAIM REMINDERS**

 BE SURE TO USE YOUR MEMBER ID AND ACCOUNT/GROUP NUMBER WHEN YOU FILE CIGNA'S CLAIM FORMS, OR WHEN YOU CALL YOUR CIGNA CLAIM OFFICE.

YOUR MEMBER ID IS THE ID SHOWN ON YOUR BENEFIT IDENTIFICATION CARD.

YOUR ACCOUNT/GROUP NUMBER IS SHOWN ON YOUR BENEFIT IDENTIFICATION CARD.

 BE SURE TO FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS LISTED ON THE BACK OF THE CLAIM FORM CAREFULLY WHEN SUBMITTING A CLAIM TO CIGNA.

## **Timely Filing of Out-of-Network Claims**

Cigna will consider claims for coverage under our plans when proof of loss (a claim) is submitted within 180 days for Out-of-Network benefits after services are rendered. If services are rendered on consecutive days, such as for a Hospital Confinement, the limit will be counted from the last date of service. If claims are not submitted within 180 days for Out-of-Network benefits, the claim will not be considered valid and will be denied.

**WARNING:** Any person who knowingly and with intent to defraud any insurance company or other person files an application for insurance or statement of claim containing any materially false information; or conceals for the purpose of misleading, information concerning any material fact thereto, commits a fraudulent insurance act.

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## **Eligibility - Effective Date**

## **Employee Insurance**

This plan is offered to you as a retired Employee.

#### **Eligibility for Employee Insurance**

You will become eligible for insurance on the date you retire if you are in a Class of Eligible Employees.

#### **Eligibility for Dependent Insurance**

You will become eligible for Dependent insurance on the later of:

- the day you become eligible for yourself; or
- the day you acquire your first Dependent.

#### Classes of Eligible Employees

Each retired Employee as reported to the insurance company by your former Employer.

#### **Effective Date of Employee Insurance**

You will become insured on the date you elect the insurance by signing a written agreement with the Policyholder to make the required contribution, but no earlier than the date you become eligible.

To be insured for these benefits, you must elect the insurance for yourself no later than 30 days after your retirement.

## **Dependent Insurance**

For your Dependents to be insured, you will have to pay the required contribution, if any, toward the cost of Dependent Insurance.

#### **Effective Date of Dependent Insurance**

Insurance for your Dependents will become effective on the date you elect it by signing a written agreement with the Policyholder to make the required contribution, but no earlier than the day you become eligible for Dependent Insurance. All of your Dependents as defined will be included.

For your Dependents to be insured for these benefits, you must elect the Dependent insurance for yourself no later than 30 days after you become eligible.

Your Dependents will be insured only if you are insured.

#### **Exception for Newborns**

Any Dependent child born while you are insured will become insured on the date of his birth if you elect Dependent Insurance no later than 60 days after his birth. If you do not elect to insure your newborn child within such 60 days, coverage for that child will end on the 60th day. No benefits for expenses incurred beyond the 60th day will be payable.

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## **Preferred Provider Medical Benefits**

## The Schedule

#### For You and Your Dependents

Preferred Provider Medical Benefits provide coverage for care In-Network and Out-of-Network. To receive Preferred Provider Medical Benefits, you and your Dependents may be required to pay a portion of the Covered Expenses for services and supplies. That portion is the Deductible or Coinsurance.

When you receive services from an In-Network Provider, remind your provider to utilize In-Network Providers for x-rays, lab tests and other services to ensure the cost may be considered at the In-Network level.

If you are unable to locate an In-Network Provider in your area who can provide you with a service or supply that is covered under this plan, you must call the number on the back of your I.D. card to obtain authorization for Out-of-Network Provider coverage. If you obtain authorization for services provided by an Out-of-Network Provider, benefits for those services will be covered at the In-Network benefit level.

#### Coinsurance

The term Coinsurance means the percentage of charges for Covered Expenses that an insured person is required to pay under the plan.

#### **Deductibles**

Deductibles are expenses to be paid by you or your Dependent. Deductibles are in addition to any Coinsurance. Once the Deductible maximum in The Schedule has been reached, you and your family need not satisfy any further medical deductible for the rest of that year.

## **Out-of-Pocket Expenses**

Out-of-Pocket Expenses are Covered Expenses incurred for charges that are not paid by the benefit plan. The following Expenses contribute to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum, and when the Out-of-Pocket Maximum shown in The Schedule is reached, they are payable by the benefit plan at 100%:

· Coinsurance.

The following Out-of-Pocket Expenses and charges do not contribute to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum, and they are not payable by the benefit plan at 100% when the Out-of-Pocket Maximum shown in The Schedule is reached:

- Non-compliance penalties.
- Plan Deductible.
- Any benefit deductibles.
- Provider charges in excess of the Maximum Reimbursable Charge.

#### Accumulation of Plan Deductibles and Out-of-Pocket Maximums

Deductibles and Out-of-Pocket Maximums will cross-accumulate (that is, In-Network will accumulate to Out-of-Network and Out-of-Network will accumulate to In-Network). All other plan maximums and service-specific maximums (dollar and occurrence) also cross-accumulate between In- and Out-of-Network unless otherwise noted.

#### **Multiple Surgical Reduction**

Multiple surgeries performed during one operating session result in payment reduction of 50% to the surgery of lesser charge. The most expensive procedure is paid as any other surgery.

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## **Preferred Provider Medical Benefits**

## The Schedule

## **Assistant Surgeon and Co-Surgeon Charges**

#### **Assistant Surgeon**

The maximum amount payable will be limited to charges made by an assistant surgeon that do not exceed a percentage of the surgeon's allowable charge as specified in Cigna Reimbursement Policies. (For purposes of this limitation, allowable charge means the amount payable to the surgeon prior to any reductions due to coinsurance or deductible amounts.)

## Co-Surgeon

The maximum amount payable for charges made by co-surgeons will be limited to the amount specified in Cigna Reimbursement Policies.

BENEFIT HIGHLIGHTS	IN-NETWORK	OUT-OF-NETWORK
Lifetime Maximum	Unli	mited
The Percentage of Covered Expenses the Plan Pays	90%	90% of the Maximum Reimbursable Charge
Note: "No charge" means an insured person is not required to pay Coinsurance.		



BENEFIT HIGHLIGHTS	IN-NETWORK	OUT-OF-NETWORK
Maximum Reimbursable Charge		
Maximum Reimbursable Charge is determined based on the lesser of the provider's normal charge for a similar service or supply; or		
A percentage of a schedule that we have developed that is based upon a methodology similar to a methodology utilized by Medicare to determine the allowable fee for similar services within the geographic market. In some cases, a Medicare based schedule will not be used and the Maximum Reimbursable Charge for covered services is determined based on the lesser of:  • the provider's normal charge for a similar service or supply; or  • the 80th percentile of charges made by providers of such service or supply in the geographic area where it is received as compiled in a database selected by the Insurance Company.	Not Applicable	200%
Note: The provider may bill you for the difference between the provider's normal charge and the Maximum Reimbursable Charge, in addition to applicable deductibles and coinsurance.  Note: Some providers forgive or waive the cost share obligation (e.g. your deductible and/or coinsurance) that this plan requires you to pay. Waiver of your required cost share obligation can jeopardize your coverage under this plan. For more details, see the Exclusions Section.		



BENEFIT HIGHLIGHTS	IN-NETWORK	OUT-OF-NETWORK	
Calendar Year Deductible			
Individual	\$250 per person	\$250 per person	
Family Maximum	\$250 per family	\$250 per family	
Family Maximum Calculation Individual Calculation: Family members meet only their individual deductible and then their claims will be covered under the plan coinsurance; if the family deductible has been met prior to their individual deductible being met, their claims will be paid at the plan coinsurance.			
Out-of-Pocket Maximum			
Individual	\$100 per person	\$100 per person	
Family Maximum	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	
Physician's Services			
Primary Care Physician's Office Visit	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible	
Specialty Care Physician's Office Visits	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible	
Consultant and Referral Physician's Services			
Note: OB/GYN provider is considered a Specialist.			
Surgery Performed in the Physician's Office	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible	
Second Opinion Consultations (provided on a voluntary basis)	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible	
Allergy Treatment/Injections	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible	
Allergy Serum (dispensed by the Physician in the office)	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible	
Preventive Care Routine Preventive Care			
Calendar Year Maximum through age 2 (including immunizations): Unlimited			
Calendar Year Maximum for ages 3 and above (including immunizations): Unlimited			
Note: Well-woman OB/GYN visits will be co	onsidered a Specialist visit.		
Physician's Office Visit	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible	
Immunizations	No charge	No charge	



BENEFIT HIGHLIGHTS	IN-NETWORK	OUT-OF-NETWORK
Mammograms, PSA, PAP Smear		
Preventive Care Related Services (i.e. "routine" services)	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Diagnostic Related Services (i.e. "non-routine" services)	Subject to the plan's x-ray & lab benefit; based on place of service	Subject to the plan's x-ray & lab benefit; based on place of service
Inpatient Hospital - Facility Services	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Semi-Private Room and Board	Limited to the semi-private room negotiated rate	Limited to the semi-private room rate
Private Room	Limited to the semi-private room negotiated rate	Limited to the semi-private room rate
Special Care Units (ICU/CCU)	Limited to the negotiated rate	Limited to the ICU/CCU daily room rate
Outpatient Facility Services Operating Room, Recovery Room, Procedures Room, Treatment Room and Observation Room	No charge	No charge
Inpatient Hospital Physician's Visits/Consultations	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Inpatient Hospital Professional Services	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Surgeon		
Radiologist		
Pathologist		
Anesthesiologist		
Outpatient Professional Services		
Surgeon	No charge	No charge
Radiologist	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Pathologist	_	_
Anesthesiologist		



BENEFIT HIGHLIGHTS	IN-NETWORK	OUT-OF-NETWORK
Urgent Care Services	IIV IVET WORK	our or ther world
Physician's Office Visit	000/ offer plan deductible	000/ often plan deductible
	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Urgent Care Facility or Outpatient Facility	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Outpatient Professional Services (radiology, pathology, physician)	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
X-ray and/or Lab performed at the Urgent Care Facility (billed by the facility as part of the UC visit)	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Advanced Radiological Imaging (i.e. MRIs, MRAs, CAT Scans, PET Scans etc.)	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
<b>Emergency Services</b>		
Physician's Office Visit	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Hospital Emergency Room	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Outpatient Professional Services (radiology, pathology, ER physician)	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
X-ray and/or Lab performed at the Emergency Room Facility (billed by the facility as part of the ER visit)	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Independent X-ray and/or Lab Facility in conjunction with an ER visit	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Advanced Radiological Imaging (i.e. MRIs, MRAs, CAT Scans, PET Scans etc.)	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Ambulance	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Inpatient Services at Other Health Care Facilities Includes Skilled Nursing Facility, Rehabilitation Hospital and Sub- Acute Facilities Calendar Year Maximum: 60 days combined	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible



BENEFIT HIGHLIGHTS	IN-NETWORK	OUT-OF-NETWORK
Laboratory and Radiology Services		
Physician's Office Visit	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Outpatient Hospital Facility	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Independent X-ray and/or Lab Facility	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Pre-Admission Testing	No charge	No charge
Advanced Radiological Imaging (i.e. MRIs, MRAs, CAT Scans and PET Scans)		
Physician's Office Visit	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Inpatient Facility	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Outpatient Facility	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Outpatient Short-Term Rehabilitative Therapy	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Calendar Year Maximum: 60 days for all therapies combined		
Note: The Short-Term Rehabilitative Therapy maximum does not apply to mental health conditions.		
Includes: Cardiac Rehab Physical Therapy Speech Therapy Occupational Therapy Pulmonary Rehab Cognitive Therapy		
Chiropractic Care Calendar Year Maximum: Unlimited		
Physician's Office Visit	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible



BENEFIT HIGHLIGHTS	IN-NETWORK	OUT-OF-NETWORK
Home Health Care		
Calendar Year Maximum: 60 days Note: The Home Health Care maximum does not apply to mental health and substance use disorder conditions.	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Outpatient Private Duty Nursing	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Calendar Year Maximum: Unlimited		
Hospice		
Inpatient Services	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Outpatient Services	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
(same coinsurance level as Home Health Care)		
Bereavement Counseling		
Services provided as part of Hospice Care		
Inpatient	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Outpatient	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Services provided by Mental Health Professional	Covered under Mental Health Benefit	Covered under Mental Health Benefit
Maternity Care Services		
Initial Visit to Confirm Pregnancy	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Note: OB/GYN provider is considered a Specialist.		
All subsequent Prenatal Visits, Postnatal Visits and Physician's Delivery Charges (i.e. global maternity fee)	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Physician's Office Visits in addition to the global maternity fee when performed by an OB/GYN or Specialist	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Delivery - Facility (Inpatient Hospital, Birthing Center)	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible



BENEFIT HIGHLIGHTS	IN-NETWORK	OUT-OF-NETWORK
Abortion		
Includes elective and non-elective procedures		
Physician's Office Visit	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Inpatient Facility	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Outpatient Facility	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Physician's Services	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Family Planning Services		
Office Visits, Lab and Radiology Tests and Counseling	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Note: The standard benefit will include coverage for contraceptive devices (e.g. Depo-Provera and Intrauterine Devices (IUDs)). Diaphragms will also be covered when services are provided in the physician's office.		
Surgical Sterilization Procedures for Vasectomy/Tubal Ligation (excludes reversals)		
Physician's Office Visit	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Inpatient Facility	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Outpatient Facility	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Physician's Services	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible

## **Infertility Treatment**

Coverage will be provided for the following services:

- Testing and treatment services performed in connection with an underlying medical condition.
- Testing performed specifically to determine the cause of infertility.
- Treatment and/or procedures performed specifically to restore fertility (e.g. procedures to correct an infertility condition).
- Artificial Insemination.

Surgical Treatment: Limited to procedures for the correction of infertility (excludes In-vitro, GIFT, ZIFT, etc.)

Physician's Office Visit (Lab and Radiology Tests, Counseling)	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Inpatient Facility	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Outpatient Facility	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Physician's Services	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible



BENEFIT HIGHLIGHTS	IN-NETWORK	OUT-OF-NETWORK
Organ Transplants		
Includes all medically appropriate, non-experimental transplants		
Physician's Office Visit	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Inpatient Facility	100% at Lifesource center, otherwise 90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Physician's Services	100% at Lifesource center, otherwise 90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Travel Maximum: \$10,000 per transplant	No charge (only available when using Lifesource facility)	In-Network coverage only
Durable Medical Equipment	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Calendar Year Maximum: Unlimited		
<b>External Prosthetic Appliances</b>	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Calendar Year Maximum: Unlimited		
Nutritional Evaluation		
Calendar Year Maximum: 3 visits per person however, the 3 visit limit will not apply to treatment of mental health and substance use disorder conditions.		
Physician's Office Visit	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Inpatient Facility	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Outpatient Facility	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Physician's Services	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Dental Care		
Limited to charges made for a continuous course of dental treatment started within six months of an injury to teeth.		
Physician's Office Visit	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Inpatient Facility	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Outpatient Facility	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Physician's Services	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible



BENEFIT HIGHLIGHTS	IN-NETWORK	OUT-OF-NETWORK
Chemotherapy	No charge	No charge
Note: This benefit is for outpatient chemotherapy		
Naturopath Services	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Oral Surgical Procedures	No charge	No charge
Note: Coverage for Medically Necessary Oral Surgery procedures are covered. The following list is covered, but not inclusive of all Medical Necessary Oral Surgery Procedures - to correct gross deformity resulting from disease or surgery & oral surgeons fee for partial or full bony impacted teeth. Medical pays first. Dental plan pays secondary. No charge for the Outpatient facility & Physicians services. No referral required.		
Routine Foot Disorders	Not covered except for services associated with foot care for diabetes and peripheral vascular disease when Medically Necessary.	Not covered except for services associated with foot care for diabetes and peripheral vascular disease when Medically Necessary.

## **Treatment Resulting From Life Threatening Emergencies**

Medical treatment required as a result of an emergency, such as a suicide attempt, will be considered a medical expense until the medical condition is stabilized. Once the medical condition is stabilized, whether the treatment will be characterized as either a medical expense or a mental health/substance use disorder expense will be determined by the utilization review Physician in accordance with the applicable mixed services claim guidelines.



BENEFIT HIGHLIGHTS	IN-NETWORK	OUT-OF-NETWORK
Mental Health		
Inpatient	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Includes Acute Inpatient and Residential Treatment		
CalendarYear Maximum: Unlimited		
Outpatient		
Outpatient - Office Visits	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Includes individual, family and group psychotherapy; medication management, etc.		
Calendar Year Maximum: Unlimited		
Outpatient - All Other Services	100%	100%
Includes Partial Hospitalization, Intensive Outpatient Services, etc.		
Calendar Year Maximum: Unlimited		



BENEFIT HIGHLIGHTS	IN-NETWORK	OUT-OF-NETWORK
Substance Use Disorder Inpatient	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Includes Acute Inpatient Detoxification, Acute Inpatient Rehabilitation and Residential Treatment	70% after plan deduction	70/6 arter plan deduction
Calendar Year Maximum: Unlimited		
Outpatient		
Outpatient - Office Visits	90% after plan deductible	90% after plan deductible
Includes individual, family and group psychotherapy; medication management, etc.		
Calendar Year Maximum: Unlimited		
Outpatient - All Other Services	100%	100%
Includes Partial Hospitalization, Intensive Outpatient Services, etc.		
Calendar Year Maximum: Unlimited		



## **Preferred Provider Medical Benefits**

## Certification Requirements - Out-of-Network

## For You and Your Dependents

## Pre-Admission Certification/Continued Stay Review for Hospital Confinement

Pre-Admission Certification (PAC) and Continued Stay Review (CSR) refer to the process used to certify the Medical Necessity and length of a Hospital Confinement when you or your Dependent require treatment in a Hospital:

- as a registered bed patient, except for 48/96 hour maternity stays;
- for a Partial Hospitalization for the treatment of Mental Health or Substance Use Disorder;
- for Mental Health or Substance Use Disorder Residential Treatment Services.

You or your Dependent should request PAC prior to any nonemergency treatment in a Hospital described above. In the case of an emergency admission, you should contact the Review Organization within 48 hours after the admission. For an admission due to pregnancy, you should call the Review Organization by the end of the third month of pregnancy. CSR should be requested, prior to the end of the certified length of stay, for continued Hospital Confinement.

Covered Expenses incurred will be reduced by 50% for Hospital charges made for each separate admission to the Hospital unless PAC is received: prior to the date of admission; or in the case of an emergency admission, within 48 hours after the date of admission.

Covered Expenses incurred for which benefits would otherwise be payable under this plan for the charges listed below will not include:

- Hospital charges for Bed and Board, for treatment listed above for which PAC was performed, which are made for any day in excess of the number of days certified through PAC or CSR; and
- any Hospital charges for treatment listed above for which PAC was requested, but which was not certified as Medically Necessary.

PAC and CSR are performed through a utilization review program by a Review Organization with which Cigna has contracted.

In any case, those expenses incurred for which payment is excluded by the terms set forth above will not be considered as expenses incurred for the purpose of any other part of this plan, except for the "Coordination of Benefits" section.

HC-PAC44 12-15

#### Prior Authorization/Pre-Authorized

The term Prior Authorization means the approval that a Participating Provider must receive from the Review Organization, prior to services being rendered, in order for certain services and benefits to be covered under this policy.

Services that require Prior Authorization include, but are not limited to:

- inpatient Hospital services, except for 48/96 hour maternity stays;
- inpatient services at any participating Other Health Care Facility;
- residential treatment;
- non-emergency ambulance; or
- · transplant services.

HC-PRA19 12-15

## **Covered Expenses**

The term Covered Expenses means the expenses incurred by or on behalf of a person for the charges listed below if they are incurred after he becomes insured for these benefits. Expenses incurred for such charges are considered Covered Expenses to the extent that the services or supplies provided are recommended by a Physician, and are Medically Necessary for the care and treatment of an Injury or a Sickness, as determined by Cigna. Any applicable Copayments, Deductibles or limits are shown in The Schedule.

#### **Covered Expenses**

- charges made by a Hospital, on its own behalf, for Bed and Board and other Necessary Services and Supplies; except that for any day of Hospital Confinement, Covered Expenses will not include that portion of charges for Bed and Board which is more than the Bed and Board Limit shown in The Schedule.
- charges for licensed ambulance service to or from the nearest Hospital where the needed medical care and treatment can be provided.



- charges made by a Hospital, on its own behalf, for medical care and treatment received as an outpatient.
- charges made by a Free-Standing Surgical Facility, on its own behalf for medical care and treatment.
- charges made on its own behalf, by an Other Health Care Facility, including a Skilled Nursing Facility, a Rehabilitation Hospital or a subacute facility for medical care and treatment; except that for any day of Other Health Care Facility confinement, Covered Expenses will not include that portion of charges which are in excess of the Other Health Care Facility Daily Limit shown in The Schedule.
- charges made for Emergency Services and Urgent Care.
- charges made by a Physician or a Psychologist for professional services.
- charges made by a Nurse, other than a member of your family or your Dependent's family, for professional nursing service.
- charges made for anesthetics and their administration; diagnostic x-ray and laboratory examinations; x-ray, radium, and radioactive isotope treatment; chemotherapy; blood transfusions; oxygen and other gases and their administration.
- charges made for an annual prostate-specific antigen test (PSA).
- charges made for laboratory services, radiation therapy and other diagnostic and therapeutic radiological procedures.
- charges made for Family Planning, including medical history, physical exam, related laboratory tests, medical supervision in accordance with generally accepted medical practices, other medical services, information and counseling on contraception, implanted/injected contraceptives, after appropriate counseling, medical services connected with surgical therapies (tubal ligations, vasectomies).
- charges made for the following preventive care services (detailed information is available at www.healthcare.gov.):
  - (1) evidence-based items or services that have in effect a rating of "A" or "B" in the current recommendations of the United States Preventive Services Task Force;
  - (2) immunizations that have in effect a recommendation from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with respect to the Covered Person involved;
  - (3) for infants, children, and adolescents, evidenceinformed preventive care and screenings provided for in the comprehensive guidelines supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration;

- (4) for women, such additional preventive care and screenings not described in paragraph (1) as provided for in comprehensive guidelines supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration.
- charges made for surgical or nonsurgical treatment of Temporomandibular Joint Dysfunction.
- charges for the delivery of health-related services and information via telecommunications technologies, including telephones and "Skype Like" consultations via personal computers or smart phones, when delivered through a contracted telehealth provider.
- charges made for prescription contraceptive methods approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, including prescription devices. Voluntary sterilization is also covered. Refer to the Prescription Drug Benefits section for information regarding coverage on oral contraceptives.
- charges made for medical and surgical services for the treatment or control of clinically severe obesity. Clinically severe obesity is defined by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) as a Body Mass Index (BMI) of 40 or greater without comorbidities, or a BMI of 35-39 with comorbidities. The following items are specifically excluded:
  - Medical and surgical services to alter appearances or physical changes that are the result of any medical or surgical services performed for the treatment or control of obesity or clinically severe obesity that are cosmetic and not otherwise Medically Necessary; and
  - •Weight loss programs, other than Physician-supervised weight loss programs required by CG in order to clinically qualify for potential bariatric surgery.
- charges made for off-label use of prescription drugs administered in the treatment of cancer, even when the drug is not approved by the FDA for the specific type of cancer treatment prescribed. The drug must be a medically accepted treatment for cancer in order to be covered. Coverage includes Medically Necessary services associated with administration of the drug.
- charges made for the Medically Necessary treatment of the bones and joints of the face, neck and head resulting from accident, trauma, congenital defect, developmental defect or pathology.

#### **Cancer Clinical Trials**

Routine patient care services directly associated with a patient's participation in a phase I, II, III or IV approved cancer clinical trial.

An "approved cancer clinical trial" is an organized, systematic, scientific study of therapies, tests, or other clinical



interventions for purposes of treatment, palliation, or prevention of cancer in human beings.

The approved trial must:

- seek to answer a credible and specific medical or scientific question for the purpose of advancing cancer care;
- enroll only those patients for whom there is no clearly superior, noninvestigational treatment alternative;
- have available clinical or preclinical data that provides a reasonable expectation that the treatment obtained in the approved trial will be at least as effective as the noninvestigational alternative;
- be conducted under the auspices of one of the following Vermont cancer care providers: Vermont Cancer Center at Fletcher Allen Health Care, the Norris Cotton Cancer Center at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, or approved clinical trials being administered by a Vermont hospital and its affiliated, qualified Vermont cancer care providers;
- be conducted by a facility and personnel capable of conducting such a trial by virtue of experience, training and volume of patients treated to maintain such expertise;
- be conducted under the auspices of a peer-reviewed protocol that has been approved by one of the following entities: (a) one of the National Institutes of Health (NIH); (b) an NIH-affiliated cooperative group that is a formal network of facilities that collaborate on research projects and have an established NIH-approved peer-review program operating within the group; (c) the FDA in the form of an investigational new drug application or exemption; or (d) the federal department of Veterans Affairs or Defense.

"Routine patient care services" are any Covered Expenses under this plan, including any Medically Necessary health care service that is incurred as a result of the treatment being provided to the patient for the purposes of the approved cancer clinical trial. Routine patient care services do not include the following:

- the cost of investigational new drugs that have not been approved for market for any indication by the FDA, or the costs of any drug being studied under an FDA-approved investigational new drug exemption for the purpose of expanding the drug's labeled indications.
- the costs of nonhealth care services that may be required as a result of the treatment being provided for the purposes of the approved cancer clinical trial.
- the costs of the services that are clearly inconsistent with widely accepted and established regional or national standards of care for a particular diagnosis and performed specifically to meet the requirements of the approved cancer clinical trial.

- the costs of any tests or services performed specifically to meet the needs of the approved cancer clinical trial protocol.
- the costs of running the approved cancer clinical trial and collecting and analyzing data.
- the costs associated with managing the research associated with the approved clinical trial.
- the costs for noninvestigational treatments or services that would not otherwise be covered under the patient's health benefit plan.
- any product or service paid for by the trial sponsor.

## **Genetic Testing**

Charges made for genetic testing that uses a proven testing method for the identification of genetically-linked inheritable disease. Genetic testing is covered only if:

- a person has symptoms or signs of a genetically-linked inheritable disease;
- it has been determined that a person is at risk for carrier status as supported by existing peer-reviewed, evidencebased, scientific literature for the development of a genetically-linked inheritable disease when the results will impact clinical outcome; or
- the therapeutic purpose is to identify specific genetic mutation that has been demonstrated in the existing peerreviewed, evidence-based, scientific literature to directly impact treatment options.

Pre-implantation genetic testing, genetic diagnosis prior to embryo transfer, is covered when either parent has an inherited disease or is a documented carrier of a geneticallylinked inheritable disease.

Genetic counseling is covered if a person is undergoing approved genetic testing, or if a person has an inherited disease and is a potential candidate for genetic testing. Genetic counseling is limited to 3 visits per calendar year for both preand post-genetic testing.

#### **Nutritional Evaluation**

Charges made for nutritional evaluation and counseling when diet is a part of the medical management of a documented organic disease.

#### **Internal Prosthetic/Medical Appliances**

Charges made for internal prosthetic/medical appliances that provide permanent or temporary internal functional supports for nonfunctional body parts are covered. Medically Necessary repair, maintenance or replacement of a covered appliance is also covered.

HC-COV1 06-14

V13 M



#### **Orthognathic Surgery**

- orthognathic surgery to repair or correct a severe facial deformity or disfigurement that orthodontics alone can not correct, provided:
  - the deformity or disfigurement is accompanied by a documented clinically significant functional impairment, and there is a reasonable expectation that the procedure will result in meaningful functional improvement; or
  - the orthognathic surgery is Medically Necessary as a result of tumor, trauma, disease; or
  - the orthognathic surgery is performed prior to age 19 and is required as a result of severe congenital facial deformity or congenital condition.

Repeat or subsequent orthognathic surgeries for the same condition are covered only when the previous orthognathic surgery met the above requirements, and there is a high probability of significant additional improvement as determined by the utilization review Physician.

HC-COV3 04-10 V1

#### **Home Health Services**

• charges made for Home Health Services when you: require skilled care; are unable to obtain the required care as an ambulatory outpatient; and do not require confinement in a Hospital or Other Health Care Facility.

Home Health Services are provided only if Cigna has determined that the home is a medically appropriate setting. If you are a minor or an adult who is dependent upon others for nonskilled care and/or custodial services (e.g., bathing, eating, toileting), Home Health Services will be provided for you only during times when there is a family member or care giver present in the home to meet your nonskilled care and/or custodial services needs.

Home Health Services are those skilled health care services that can be provided during visits by Other Health Care Professionals. The services of a home health aide are covered when rendered in direct support of skilled health care services provided by Other Health Care Professionals. A visit is defined as a period of 2 hours or less. Home Health Services are subject to a maximum of 16 hours in total per day. Necessary consumable medical supplies and home infusion therapy administered or used by Other Health Care Professionals in providing Home Health Services are covered. Home Health Services do not include services by a person who is a member of your family or your Dependent's family or who normally resides in your house or your Dependent's house even if that person is an Other Health Care Professional. Skilled nursing services

provided in the home are subject to the Home Health Services benefit terms, conditions and benefit limitations. Physical, occupational, and other Short-Term Rehabilitative Therapy services provided in the home are not subject to the Home Health Services benefit limitations in the Schedule, but are subject to the benefit limitations described under Short-term Rehabilitative Therapy Maximum shown in The Schedule.

HC-COV5 04-10 V1 M

#### **Hospice Care Services**

- charges made for a person who has been diagnosed as having six months or fewer to live, due to Terminal Illness, for the following Hospice Care Services provided under a Hospice Care Program:
  - by a Hospice Facility for Bed and Board and Services and Supplies;
  - by a Hospice Facility for services provided on an outpatient basis;
  - by a Physician for professional services;
  - by a Psychologist, social worker, family counselor or ordained minister for individual and family counseling;
  - for pain relief treatment, including drugs, medicines and medical supplies;
  - by an Other Health Care Facility for:
    - part-time or intermittent nursing care by or under the supervision of a Nurse;
    - part-time or intermittent services of an Other Health Care Professional;
  - physical, occupational and speech therapy;
  - medical supplies; drugs and medicines lawfully dispensed only on the written prescription of a Physician; and laboratory services; but only to the extent such charges would have been payable under the policy if the person had remained or been Confined in a Hospital or Hospice Facility.

The following charges for Hospice Care Services are not included as Covered Expenses:

- for the services of a person who is a member of your family or your Dependent's family or who normally resides in your house or your Dependent's house;
- for any period when you or your Dependent is not under the care of a Physician;
- for services or supplies not listed in the Hospice Care Program;



- for any curative or life-prolonging procedures;
- to the extent that any other benefits are payable for those expenses under the policy;
- for services or supplies that are primarily to aid you or your Dependent in daily living.

HC-COV6 04-10

#### **Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services**

Mental Health Services are services that are required to treat a disorder that impairs the behavior, emotional reaction or thought processes. In determining benefits payable, charges made for the treatment of any physiological conditions related to Mental Health will not be considered to be charges made for treatment of Mental Health.

**Substance Abuse** is defined as the psychological or physical dependence on alcohol or other mind-altering drugs that requires diagnosis, care, and treatment. In determining benefits payable, charges made for the treatment of any physiological conditions related to rehabilitation services for alcohol or drug abuse or addiction will not be considered to be charges made for treatment of Substance Abuse.

#### **Inpatient Mental Health Services**

Services that are provided by a Hospital while you or your Dependent is Confined in a Hospital for the treatment and evaluation of Mental Health. Inpatient Mental Health Services include Partial Hospitalization and Mental Health Residential Treatment Services.

Mental Health Residential Treatment Services are services provided by a Hospital for the evaluation and treatment of the psychological and social functional disturbances that are a result of subacute Mental Health conditions.

Mental Health Residential Treatment Center means an institution which specializes in the treatment of psychological and social disturbances that are the result of Mental Health conditions; provides a subacute, structured, psychotherapeutic treatment program, under the supervision of Physicians; provides 24-hour care, in which a person lives in an open setting; and is licensed in accordance with the laws of the appropriate legally authorized agency as a residential treatment center.

A person is considered confined in a Mental Health Residential Treatment Center when she/he is a registered bed patient in a Mental Health Residential Treatment Center upon the recommendation of a Physician.

#### **Outpatient Mental Health Services**

Services of Providers who are qualified to treat Mental Health when treatment is provided on an outpatient basis, while you or your Dependent is not Confined in a Hospital, and is provided in an individual, group or Mental Health Intensive Outpatient Therapy Program. Covered services include, but are not limited to, outpatient treatment of conditions such as: anxiety or depression which interfere with daily functioning; emotional adjustment or concerns related to chronic conditions, such as psychosis or depression; emotional reactions associated with marital problems or divorce; child/adolescent problems of conduct or poor impulse control; affective disorders; suicidal or homicidal threats or acts; eating disorders; or acute exacerbation of chronic Mental Health conditions (crisis intervention and relapse prevention) and outpatient testing and assessment.

A Mental Health Intensive Outpatient Therapy Program consists of distinct levels or phases of treatment that are provided by a certified/licensed Mental Health program. Intensive Outpatient Therapy Programs provide a combination of individual, family and/or group therapy in a day, totaling nine or more hours in a week.

#### **Inpatient Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Services**

Services provided for rehabilitation, while you or your Dependent is Confined in a Hospital, when required for the diagnosis and treatment of abuse or addiction to alcohol and/or drugs. Inpatient Substance Abuse Services include Partial Hospitalization sessions and Residential Treatment services.

**Substance Abuse Residential Treatment Services** are services provided by a Hospital for the evaluation and treatment of the psychological and social functional disturbances that are a result of subacute Substance Abuse conditions.

Substance Abuse Residential Treatment Center means an institution which specializes in the treatment of psychological and social disturbances that are the result of Substance Abuse; provides a subacute, structured, psychotherapeutic treatment program, under the supervision of Physicians; provides 24-hour care, in which a person lives in an open setting; and is licensed in accordance with the laws of the appropriate legally authorized agency as a residential treatment center.

A person is considered confined in a Substance Abuse Residential Treatment Center when she/he is a registered bed patient in a Substance Abuse Residential Treatment Center upon the recommendation of a Physician.



#### **Outpatient Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Services**

Services provided for the diagnosis and treatment of abuse or addiction to alcohol and/or drugs, while you or your Dependent is not Confined in a Hospital, including outpatient rehabilitation in an individual, or a Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Therapy Program.

A Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Therapy Program consists of distinct levels or phases of treatment that are provided by a certified/licensed Substance Abuse program. Intensive Outpatient Therapy Programs provide a combination of individual, family and/or group therapy in a day, totaling nine, or more hours in a week.

#### **Substance Abuse Detoxification Services**

Detoxification and related medical ancillary services are provided when required for the diagnosis and treatment of addiction to alcohol and/or drugs. Cigna will decide, based on the Medical Necessity of each situation, whether such services will be provided in an inpatient or outpatient setting.

#### **Exclusions**

The following are specifically excluded from Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services:

- any court ordered treatment or therapy, or any treatment or therapy ordered as a condition of parole, probation or custody or visitation evaluations unless Medically Necessary and otherwise covered under this policy or agreement.
- treatment of disorders which have been diagnosed as organic mental disorders associated with permanent dysfunction of the brain.
- developmental disorders, including but not limited to, developmental reading disorders, developmental arithmetic disorders, developmental language disorders or developmental articulation disorders.
- counseling for activities of an educational nature.
- counseling for borderline intellectual functioning.
- counseling for occupational problems.
- counseling related to consciousness raising.
- · vocational or religious counseling.
- I.Q. testing.
- custodial care, including but not limited to geriatric day care
- psychological testing on children requested by or for a school system.

 occupational/recreational therapy programs even if combined with supportive therapy for age-related cognitive decline

HC-COV73

04-10 V1

## **Durable Medical Equipment**

 charges made for purchase or rental of Durable Medical Equipment that is ordered or prescribed by a Physician and provided by a vendor approved by Cigna for use outside a Hospital or Other Health Care Facility. Coverage for repair, replacement or duplicate equipment is provided only when required due to anatomical change and/or reasonable wear and tear. All maintenance and repairs that result from a person's misuse are the person's responsibility. Coverage for Durable Medical Equipment is limited to the lowest-cost alternative as determined by the utilization review Physician.

Durable Medical Equipment is defined as items which are designed for and able to withstand repeated use by more than one person; customarily serve a medical purpose; generally are not useful in the absence of Injury or Sickness; are appropriate for use in the home; and are not disposable. Such equipment includes, but is not limited to, crutches, hospital beds, respirators, wheel chairs, and dialysis machines.

Durable Medical Equipment items that are not covered include but are not limited to those that are listed below:

- Bed Related Items: bed trays, over the bed tables, bed wedges, pillows, custom bedroom equipment, mattresses, including nonpower mattresses, custom mattresses and posturepedic mattresses.
- Bath Related Items: bath lifts, nonportable whirlpools, bathtub rails, toilet rails, raised toilet seats, bath benches, bath stools, hand held showers, paraffin baths, bath mats, and spas.
- Chairs, Lifts and Standing Devices: computerized or gyroscopic mobility systems, roll about chairs, geriatric chairs, hip chairs, seat lifts (mechanical or motorized), patient lifts (mechanical or motorized manual hydraulic lifts are covered if patient is two-person transfer), and auto tilt chairs
- Fixtures to Real Property: ceiling lifts and wheelchair ramps.
- Car/Van Modifications.
- Air Quality Items: room humidifiers, vaporizers, air purifiers and electrostatic machines.
- **Blood/Injection Related Items:** blood pressure cuffs, centrifuges, nova pens and needleless injectors.



 Other Equipment: heat lamps, heating pads, cryounits, cryotherapy machines, electronic-controlled therapy units, ultraviolet cabinets, sheepskin pads and boots, postural drainage board, AC/DC adaptors, enuresis alarms, magnetic equipment, scales (baby and adult), stair gliders, elevators, saunas, any exercise equipment and diathermy machines.

HC-COV8 04-10 V2

## **External Prosthetic Appliances and Devices**

charges made or ordered by a Physician for: the initial
purchase and fitting of external prosthetic appliances and
devices available only by prescription which are necessary
for the alleviation or correction of Injury, Sickness or
congenital defect. Coverage for External Prosthetic
Appliances is limited to the most appropriate and cost
effective alternative as determined by the utilization review
Physician.

External prosthetic appliances and devices shall include prostheses/prosthetic appliances and devices, orthoses and orthotic devices; braces; and splints.

## Prostheses/Prosthetic Appliances and Devices

Prostheses/prosthetic appliances and devices are defined as fabricated replacements for missing body parts.

Prostheses/prosthetic appliances and devices include, but are not limited to:

- basic limb prostheses;
- · terminal devices such as hands or hooks; and
- speech prostheses.

#### **Orthoses and Orthotic Devices**

Orthoses and orthotic devices are defined as orthopedic appliances or apparatuses used to support, align, prevent or correct deformities. Coverage is provided for custom foot orthoses and other orthoses as follows:

- Nonfoot orthoses only the following nonfoot orthoses are covered:
  - rigid and semirigid custom fabricated orthoses;
  - · semirigid prefabricated and flexible orthoses; and
  - rigid prefabricated orthoses including preparation, fitting and basic additions, such as bars and joints.
- Custom foot orthoses custom foot orthoses are only covered as follows:
  - for persons with impaired peripheral sensation and/or altered peripheral circulation (e.g. diabetic neuropathy and peripheral vascular disease);

- when the foot orthosis is an integral part of a leg brace and is necessary for the proper functioning of the brace;
- when the foot orthosis is for use as a replacement or substitute for missing parts of the foot (e.g. amputated toes) and is necessary for the alleviation or correction of Injury, Sickness or congenital defect; and
- for persons with neurologic or neuromuscular condition (e.g. cerebral palsy, hemiplegia, spina bifida) producing spasticity, malalignment, or pathological positioning of the foot and there is reasonable expectation of improvement.

The following are specifically excluded orthoses and orthotic devices:

- prefabricated foot orthoses;
- cranial banding and/or cranial orthoses. Other similar devices are excluded except when used postoperatively for synostotic plagiocephaly. When used for this indication, the cranial orthosis will be subject to the limitations and maximums of the External Prosthetic Appliances and Devices benefit:
- orthosis shoes, shoe additions, procedures for foot orthopedic shoes, shoe modifications and transfers;
- orthoses primarily used for cosmetic rather than functional reasons; and
- orthoses primarily for improved athletic performance or sports participation.

#### Braces

A Brace is defined as an orthosis or orthopedic appliance that supports or holds in correct position any movable part of the body and that allows for motion of that part.

The following braces are specifically excluded: Copes scoliosis braces.

#### **Splints**

A Splint is defined as an appliance for preventing movement of a joint or for the fixation of displaced or movable parts.

Coverage for replacement of external prosthetic appliances and devices is limited to the following:

- replacement due to regular wear. Replacement for damage due to abuse or misuse by the person will not be covered.
- replacement will be provided when anatomic change has rendered the external prosthetic appliance or device ineffective. Anatomic change includes significant weight gain or loss, atrophy and/or growth.
- Coverage for replacement is limited as follows:
  - no more than once every 24 months for persons 19 years of age and older;



- no more than once every 12 months for persons 18 years of age and under; and
- replacement due to a surgical alteration or revision of the site.

The following are specifically excluded external prosthetic appliances and devices:

- external and internal power enhancements or power controls for prosthetic limbs and terminal devices; and
- myoelectric prostheses peripheral nerve stimulators.

HC-COV9 04-10 V2

#### **Infertility Services**

 charges made for services related to diagnosis of infertility and treatment of infertility once a condition of infertility has been diagnosed. Services include, but are not limited to: approved surgeries and other therapeutic procedures that have been demonstrated in existing peer-reviewed, evidence-based, scientific literature to have a reasonable likelihood of resulting in pregnancy; laboratory tests; sperm washing or preparation; and diagnostic evaluations.

Infertility is defined as the inability of opposite sex partners to achieve conception after one year of unprotected intercourse; or the inability of a woman to achieve conception after six trials of artificial insemination over a one-year period. This benefit includes diagnosis and treatment of both male and female infertility. The following are specifically excluded infertility services:

- Infertility drugs;
- In vitro fertilization (IVF); gamete intrafallopian transfer (GIFT); zygote intrafallopian transfer (ZIFT) and variations of these procedures;
- Reversal of male and female voluntary sterilization;
- Infertility services when the infertility is caused by or related to voluntary sterilization;
- Donor charges and services;
- Cryopreservation of donor sperm and eggs; and
- Any experimental, investigational or unproven infertility procedures or therapies.

HC-COV10 04-10 V2

#### **Short-Term Rehabilitative Therapy**

Short-term Rehabilitative Therapy that is part of a rehabilitation program, including physical, speech,

occupational, cognitive, osteopathic manipulative, cardiac rehabilitation and pulmonary rehabilitation therapy, when provided in the most medically appropriate setting.

The following limitation applies to Short-term Rehabilitative Therapy:

 occupational therapy is provided only for purposes of enabling persons to perform the activities of daily living after an Illness or Injury or Sickness.

Short-term Rehabilitative Therapy services that are not covered include but are not limited to:

- sensory integration therapy, group therapy; treatment of dyslexia; behavior modification or myofunctional therapy for dysfluency, such as stuttering or other involuntarily acted conditions without evidence of an underlying medical condition or neurological disorder;
- treatment for functional articulation disorder such as correction of tongue thrust, lisp, verbal apraxia or swallowing dysfunction that is not based on an underlying diagnosed medical condition or Injury; and
- maintenance or preventive treatment consisting of routine, long term or non-Medically Necessary care provided to prevent recurrence or to maintain the patient's current status.

Multiple outpatient services provided on the same day constitute one day.

Services that are provided by a chiropractic Physician are not covered. These services include the conservative management of acute neuromusculoskeletal conditions through manipulation and ancillary physiological treatment rendered to restore motion, reduce pain and improve function.

#### **Chiropractic Care Services**

Charges made for diagnostic and treatment services utilized in an office setting by chiropractic Physicians. Chiropractic treatment includes the conservative management of acute neuromusculoskeletal conditions through manipulation and ancillary physiological treatment rendered to specific joints to restore motion, reduce pain, and improve function. For these services you have direct access to qualified chiropractic Physicians.

The following limitation applies to Chiropractic Care Services:

 occupational therapy is provided only for purposes of enabling persons to perform the activities of daily living after an Injury or Sickness.

Chiropractic Care services that are not covered include but are not limited to:

- services of a chiropractor which are not within his scope of practice, as defined by state law;
- charges for care not provided in an office setting;



- maintenance or preventive treatment consisting of routine, long term or non-Medically Necessary care provided to prevent recurrence or to maintain the patient's current status;
- vitamin therapy.

HC-COV13 04-10 V2

#### **Breast Reconstruction and Breast Prostheses**

charges made for reconstructive surgery following a
mastectomy; benefits include: surgical services for
reconstruction of the breast on which surgery was
performed; surgical services for reconstruction of the
nondiseased breast to produce symmetrical appearance;
postoperative breast prostheses; and mastectomy bras and
external prosthetics, limited to the lowest cost alternative
available that meets external prosthetic placement needs.
During all stages of mastectomy, treatment of physical
complications, including lymphedema therapy, are covered.

## **Reconstructive Surgery**

charges made for reconstructive surgery or therapy to repair
or correct a severe physical deformity or disfigurement
which is accompanied by functional deficit; (other than
abnormalities of the jaw or conditions related to TMJ
disorder) provided that: the surgery or therapy restores or
improves function; reconstruction is required as a result of
Medically Necessary, noncosmetic surgery; or the surgery
or therapy is performed prior to age 19 and is required as a
result of the congenital absence or agenesis (lack of
formation or development) of a body part. Repeat or
subsequent surgeries for the same condition are covered
only when there is the probability of significant additional
improvement as determined by the utilization review
Physician.

HC-COV14 04-10

#### **Transplant Services**

 charges made for human organ and tissue Transplant services which include solid organ and bone marrow/stem cell procedures at designated facilities throughout the United States or its territories. This coverage is subject to the following conditions and limitations.

Transplant services include the recipient's medical, surgical and Hospital services; inpatient immunosuppressive medications; and costs for organ or bone marrow/stem cell procurement. Transplant services are covered only if they are required to perform any of the following human to human

organ or tissue transplants: allogeneic bone marrow/stem cell, autologous bone marrow/stem cell, cornea, heart, heart/lung, kidney, kidney/pancreas, liver, lung, pancreas or intestine which includes small bowel-liver or multi-visceral.

All Transplant services, other than cornea, are covered at 100% when received at Cigna LIFESOURCE Transplant Network® facilities. Cornea transplants are not covered at Cigna LIFESOURCE Transplant Network® facilities. Transplant services, including cornea, received at participating facilities specifically contracted with Cigna for those Transplant services, other than Cigna LIFESOURCE Transplant Network® facilities, are payable at the In-Network level. Transplant services received at any other facilities, including Non-Participating Providers and Participating Providers not specifically contracted with Cigna for Transplant services, are covered at the Out-of-Network level.

Coverage for organ procurement costs are limited to costs directly related to the procurement of an organ, from a cadaver or a live donor. Organ procurement costs shall consist of surgery necessary for organ removal, organ transportation and the transportation (refer to Transplant Travel Services), hospitalization and surgery of a live donor. Compatibility testing undertaken prior to procurement is covered if Medically Necessary. Costs related to the search for, and identification of a bone marrow or stem cell donor for an allogeneic transplant are also covered.

## **Transplant Travel Services**

Charges made for non-taxable travel expenses incurred by you in connection with a preapproved organ/tissue transplant are covered subject to the following conditions and limitations. Transplant travel benefits are not available for cornea transplants. Benefits for transportation and lodging are available to you only if you are the recipient of a preapproved organ/tissue transplant from a designated Cigna LIFESOURCE Transplant Network® facility. The term recipient is defined to include a person receiving authorized transplant related services during any of the following: evaluation, candidacy, transplant event, or post-transplant care. Travel expenses for the person receiving the transplant will include charges for: transportation to and from the transplant site (including charges for a rental car used during a period of care at the transplant facility); and lodging while at, or traveling to and from the transplant site.

In addition to your coverage for the charges associated with the items above, such charges will also be considered covered travel expenses for one companion to accompany you. The term companion includes your spouse, a member of your family, your legal guardian, or any person not related to you, but actively involved as your caregiver who is at least 18 years of age. The following are specifically excluded travel expenses: any expenses that if reimbursed would be taxable income, travel costs incurred due to travel within 60 miles of



your home; food and meals; laundry bills; telephone bills; alcohol or tobacco products; and charges for transportation that exceed coach class rates.

These benefits are only available when the covered person is the recipient of an organ/tissue transplant. Travel expenses for the designated live donor for a covered recipient are covered subject to the same conditions and limitations noted above. Charges for the expenses of a donor companion are not covered. No benefits are available when the covered person is a donor.

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# **Exclusions, Expenses Not Covered and General Limitations**

## **Exclusions and Expenses Not Covered**

Additional coverage limitations determined by plan or provider type are shown in the Schedule. Payment for the following is specifically excluded from this plan:

- care for health conditions that are required by state or local law to be treated in a public facility.
- care required by state or federal law to be supplied by a public school system or school district.
- care for military service disabilities treatable through governmental services if you are legally entitled to such treatment and facilities are reasonably available.
- treatment of an Injury or Sickness which is due to war, declared, or undeclared, riot or insurrection.
- charges which you are not obligated to pay or for which you are not billed or for which you would not have been billed except that they were covered under this plan. For example, if Cigna determines that a provider is or has waived, reduced, or forgiven any portion of its charges and/or any portion of copayment, deductible, and/or coinsurance amount(s) you are required to pay for a Covered Service (as shown on the Schedule) without Cigna's express consent, then Cigna in its sole discretion shall have the right to deny the payment of benefits in connection with the Covered Service, or reduce the benefits in proportion to the amount of the copayment, deductible, and/or coinsurance amounts waived, forgiven or reduced, regardless of whether the provider represents that you remain responsible for any amounts that your plan does not cover. In the exercise of that discretion, Cigna shall have the right to require you to provide proof sufficient to Cigna that you have made your required cost share payment(s) prior to the payment of any benefits by Cigna. This exclusion includes, but is not limited to, charges of a Non-Participating Provider who has

- agreed to charge you or charged you at an in-network benefits level or some other benefits level not otherwise applicable to the services received.
- charges arising out of or relating to any violation of a healthcare-related state or federal law or which themselves are a violation of a healthcare-related state or federal law.
- assistance in the activities of daily living, including but not limited to eating, bathing, dressing or other Custodial Services or self-care activities, homemaker services and services primarily for rest, domiciliary or convalescent care
- for or in connection with experimental, investigational or unproven services.
  - Experimental, investigational and unproven services are medical, surgical, diagnostic, psychiatric, Substance Use Disorder or other health care technologies, supplies, treatments, procedures, drug therapies or devices that are determined by the utilization review Physician to be:
  - not demonstrated, through existing peer-reviewed, evidence-based, scientific literature to be safe and effective for treating or diagnosing the condition or sickness for which its use is proposed;
  - not approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or other appropriate regulatory agency to be lawfully marketed for the proposed use;
  - the subject of review or approval by an Institutional Review Board for the proposed use except as provided in the "Clinical Trials" section(s) of this plan; or
  - the subject of an ongoing phase I, II or III clinical trial, except for routine patient care costs related to qualified clinical trials as provided in the "Clinical Trials" section(s) of this plan.
- cosmetic surgery and therapies. Cosmetic surgery or therapy is defined as surgery or therapy performed to improve or alter appearance.
- The following services are excluded from coverage regardless of clinical indications: Macromastia or Gynecomastia Surgeries; Surgical treatment of varicose veins; Abdominoplasty; Panniculectomy; Rhinoplasty; Blepharoplasty; Redundant skin surgery; Removal of skin tags; Acupressure; Craniosacral/cranial therapy; Dance therapy, Movement therapy; Applied kinesiology; Rolfing; Prolotherapy; and Extracorporeal shock wave lithotripsy (ESWL) for musculoskeletal and orthopedic conditions.
- dental treatment of the teeth, gums or structures directly supporting the teeth, including dental X-rays, examinations, repairs, orthodontics, periodontics, casts, splints and services for dental malocclusion, for any condition. Charges made for services or supplies provided for or in connection with an accidental injury to sound natural teeth are covered



provided a continuous course of dental treatment is started within six months of an accident. Sound natural teeth are defined as natural teeth that are free of active clinical decay, have at least 50% bony support and are functional in the arch. Additionally, charges made by a Physician for any of the following Surgical Procedures are covered: excision of unerupted impacted tooth, including removal of alveolar bone and sectioning of tooth; removal of residual root (when performed by a Dentist other than the one who extracted the tooth).

- for medical and surgical services, initial and repeat, intended for the treatment or control of obesity other than clinically severe obesity, including: medical and surgical services to alter appearance or physical changes that are the result of any surgery performed for the management of obesity or clinically severe obesity; and weight loss programs or treatments, whether prescribed or recommended by a Physician or under medical supervision.
- unless otherwise covered in this plan, for reports, evaluations, physical examinations, or hospitalization not required for health reasons including, but not limited to, employment, insurance or government licenses, and courtordered, forensic or custodial evaluations.
- court-ordered treatment or hospitalization, unless such treatment is prescribed by a Physician and listed as covered in this plan.
- transsexual surgery including medical or psychological counseling and hormonal therapy in preparation for, or subsequent to, any such surgery.
- any medications, drugs, services or supplies for the treatment of male or female sexual dysfunction such as, but not limited to, treatment of erectile dysfunction (including penile implants), anorgasmy, and premature ejaculation.
- medical and Hospital care and costs for the infant child of a Dependent, unless this infant child is otherwise eligible under this plan.
- nonmedical counseling or ancillary services, including but not limited to Custodial Services, education, training, vocational rehabilitation, behavioral training, biofeedback, neurofeedback, hypnosis, sleep therapy, employment counseling, back school, return to work services, work hardening programs, driving safety, and services, training, educational therapy or other nonmedical ancillary services for learning disabilities, developmental delays, autism or intellectual disabilities.
- therapy or treatment intended primarily to improve or maintain general physical condition or for the purpose of enhancing job, school, athletic or recreational performance, including but not limited to routine, long term, or maintenance care which is provided after the resolution of

- the acute medical problem and when significant therapeutic improvement is not expected.
- consumable medical supplies other than ostomy supplies and urinary catheters. Excluded supplies include, but are not limited to bandages and other disposable medical supplies, skin preparations and test strips, except as specified in the "Home Health Services" or "Breast Reconstruction and Breast Prostheses" sections of this plan.
- private Hospital rooms and/or inpatient private duty nursing.
- personal or comfort items such as personal care kits
  provided on admission to a Hospital, television, telephone,
  newborn infant photographs, complimentary meals, birth
  announcements, and other articles which are not for the
  specific treatment of an Injury or Sickness.
- artificial aids including, but not limited to, corrective orthopedic shoes, arch supports, elastic stockings, garter belts, corsets, dentures and wigs.
- hearing aids, including but not limited to semi-implantable hearing devices, audiant bone conductors and Bone Anchored Hearing Aids (BAHAs). A hearing aid is any device that amplifies sound.
- aids or devices that assist with nonverbal communications, including but not limited to communication boards, prerecorded speech devices, laptop computers, desktop computers, Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs), Braille typewriters, visual alert systems for the deaf and memory books.
- eyeglass lenses and frames and contact lenses (except for the first pair of contact lenses for treatment of keratoconus or post-cataract surgery).
- routine refractions, eye exercises and surgical treatment for the correction of a refractive error, including radial keratotomy.
- treatment by acupuncture.
- all noninjectable prescription drugs, injectable prescription drugs that do not require Physician supervision and are typically considered self-administered drugs, nonprescription drugs, and investigational and experimental drugs, except as provided in this plan.
- routine foot care, including the paring and removing of corns and calluses or trimming of nails. However, services associated with foot care for diabetes and peripheral vascular disease are covered when Medically Necessary.
- membership costs or fees associated with health clubs, weight loss programs and smoking cessation programs.
- genetic screening or pre-implantations genetic screening.
   General population-based genetic screening is a testing method performed in the absence of any symptoms or any



significant, proven risk factors for genetically linked inheritable disease.

- dental implants for any condition.
- fees associated with the collection or donation of blood or blood products, except for autologous donation in anticipation of scheduled services where in the utilization review Physician's opinion the likelihood of excess blood loss is such that transfusion is an expected adjunct to surgery.
- blood administration for the purpose of general improvement in physical condition.
- cost of biologicals that are immunizations or medications for the purpose of travel, or to protect against occupational hazards and risks.
- cosmetics, dietary supplements and health and beauty aids.
- all nutritional supplements and formulae except for infant formula needed for the treatment of inborn errors of metabolism.
- medical treatment for a person age 65 or older, who is covered under this plan as a retiree, or their Dependent, when payment is denied by the Medicare plan because treatment was received from a nonparticipating provider.
- medical treatment when payment is denied by a Primary Plan because treatment was received from a nonparticipating provider.
- for or in connection with an Injury or Sickness arising out of, or in the course of, any employment for wage or profit.
- email consultations.
- charges for the delivery of health-related services and information via telecommunications technologies, including telephones and "Skype Like" consultations via personal computers or smart phones, unless provided as specifically described under Covered Services.
- · massage therapy.

## **General Limitations**

No payment will be made for expenses incurred for you or any one of your Dependents:

- for charges made by a Hospital owned or operated by or which provides care or performs services for, the United States Government, if such charges are directly related to a military-service-connected Injury or Sickness.
- to the extent that you or any one of your Dependents is in any way paid or entitled to payment for those expenses by or through a public program, other than Medicaid.
- to the extent that payment is unlawful where the person resides when the expenses are incurred.
- for charges which would not have been made if the person had no insurance.

- to the extent that they are more than Maximum Reimbursable Charges.
- to the extent of the exclusions imposed by any certification requirement shown in this plan.
- expenses for supplies, care, treatment, or surgery that are not Medically Necessary.
- charges made by any covered provider who is a member of your or your Dependent's family.
- expenses incurred outside the United States other than expenses for medically necessary urgent or emergent care while temporarily traveling abroad.

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## Coordination of Benefits

This section applies if you or any one of your Dependents is covered under more than one Plan and determines how benefits payable from all such Plans will be coordinated. You should file all claims with each Plan.

## **Definitions**

For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings set forth below:

#### Plan

Any of the following that provides benefits or services for medical care or treatment:

- Group insurance and/or group-type coverage, whether insured or self-insured which neither can be purchased by the general public, nor is individually underwritten, including closed panel coverage.
- Coverage under Medicare and other governmental benefits as permitted by law, excepting Medicaid and Medicare supplement policies.
- Medical benefits coverage of group, group-type, and individual automobile contracts.

Each Plan or part of a Plan which has the right to coordinate benefits will be considered a separate Plan.

## **Closed Panel Plan**

A Plan that provides medical or dental benefits primarily in the form of services through a panel of employed or contracted providers, and that limits or excludes benefits provided by providers outside of the panel, except in the case of emergency or if referred by a provider within the panel.

#### **Primary Plan**

The Plan that determines and provides or pays benefits without taking into consideration the existence of any other Plan.



#### Secondary Plan

A Plan that determines, and may reduce its benefits after taking into consideration, the benefits provided or paid by the Primary Plan. A Secondary Plan may also recover from the Primary Plan the Reasonable Cash Value of any services it provided to you.

#### Allowable Expense

A necessary, reasonable and customary service or expense, including deductibles, coinsurance or copayments, that is covered in full or in part by any Plan covering you. When a Plan provides benefits in the form of services, the Reasonable Cash Value of each service is the Allowable Expense and is a paid benefit.

Examples of expenses or services that are not Allowable Expenses include, but are not limited to the following:

- An expense or service or a portion of an expense or service that is not covered by any of the Plans is not an Allowable Expense.
- If you are confined to a private Hospital room and no Plan provides coverage for more than a semiprivate room, the difference in cost between a private and semiprivate room is not an Allowable Expense.
- If you are covered by two or more Plans that provide services or supplies on the basis of reasonable and customary fees, any amount in excess of the highest reasonable and customary fee is not an Allowable Expense.
- If you are covered by one Plan that provides services or supplies on the basis of reasonable and customary fees and one Plan that provides services and supplies on the basis of negotiated fees, the Primary Plan's fee arrangement shall be the Allowable Expense.
- If your benefits are reduced under the Primary Plan (through the imposition of a higher copayment amount, higher coinsurance percentage, a deductible and/or a penalty) because you did not comply with Plan provisions or because you did not use a preferred provider, the amount of the reduction is not an Allowable Expense. Such Plan provisions include second surgical opinions and precertification of admissions or services.

#### **Claim Determination Period**

A calendar year, but does not include any part of a year during which you are not covered under this policy or any date before this section or any similar provision takes effect.

#### Reasonable Cash Value

An amount which a duly licensed provider of health care services usually charges patients and which is within the range of fees usually charged for the same service by other health care providers located within the immediate geographic area where the health care service is rendered under similar or comparable circumstances.

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

A Plan that does not have a coordination of benefits rule consistent with this section shall always be the Primary Plan. If the Plan does have a coordination of benefits rule consistent with this section, the first of the following rules that applies to the situation is the one to use:

- The Plan that covers you as an enrollee or an employee shall be the Primary Plan and the Plan that covers you as a Dependent shall be the Secondary Plan;
- If you are a Dependent child whose parents are not divorced or legally separated, the Primary Plan shall be the Plan which covers the parent whose birthday falls first in the calendar year as an enrollee or employee;
- If you are the Dependent of divorced or separated parents, benefits for the Dependent shall be determined in the following order:
  - first, if a court decree states that one parent is responsible for the child's healthcare expenses or health coverage and the Plan for that parent has actual knowledge of the terms of the order, but only from the time of actual knowledge;
  - then, the Plan of the parent with custody of the child;
  - then, the Plan of the spouse of the parent with custody of the child;
  - then, the Plan of the parent not having custody of the child, and
  - finally, the Plan of the spouse of the parent not having custody of the child.
- The Plan that covers you as an active employee (or as that employee's Dependent) shall be the Primary Plan and the Plan that covers you as laid-off or retired employee (or as that employee's Dependent) shall be the secondary Plan. If the other Plan does not have a similar provision and, as a result, the Plans cannot agree on the order of benefit determination, this paragraph shall not apply.
- The Plan that covers you under a right of continuation which is provided by federal or state law shall be the Secondary Plan and the Plan that covers you as an active employee or retiree (or as that employee's Dependent) shall be the Primary Plan. If the other Plan does not have a similar provision and, as a result, the Plans cannot agree on the order of benefit determination, this paragraph shall not apply.
- If one of the Plans that covers you is issued out of the state whose laws govern this Policy, and determines the order of benefits based upon the gender of a parent, and as a result, the Plans do not agree on the order of benefit determination,



the Plan with the gender rules shall determine the order of benefits.

If none of the above rules determines the order of benefits, the Plan that has covered you for the longer period of time shall be primary.

When coordinating benefits with Medicare, this Plan will be the Secondary Plan and determine benefits after Medicare, where permitted by the Social Security Act of 1965, as amended. However, when more than one Plan is secondary to Medicare, the benefit determination rules identified above, will be used to determine how benefits will be coordinated.

#### Effect on the Benefits of This Plan

If this Plan is the Secondary Plan, this Plan may reduce benefits so that the total benefits paid by all Plans during a Claim Determination Period are not more than 100% of the total of all Allowable Expenses.

The difference between the amount that this Plan would have paid if this Plan had been the Primary Plan, and the benefit payments that this Plan had actually paid as the Secondary Plan, will be recorded as a benefit reserve for you. Cigna will use this benefit reserve to pay any Allowable Expense not otherwise paid during the Claim Determination Period.

As each claim is submitted, Cigna will determine the following:

- Cigna's obligation to provide services and supplies under this policy;
- whether a benefit reserve has been recorded for you; and
- whether there are any unpaid Allowable Expenses during the Claims Determination Period.

If there is a benefit reserve, Cigna will use the benefit reserve recorded for you to pay up to 100% of the total of all Allowable Expenses. At the end of the Claim Determination Period, your benefit reserve will return to zero and a new benefit reserve will be calculated for each new Claim Determination Period.

#### **Recovery of Excess Benefits**

If Cigna pays charges for benefits that should have been paid by the Primary Plan, or if Cigna pays charges in excess of those for which we are obligated to provide under the Policy, Cigna will have the right to recover the actual payment made or the Reasonable Cash Value of any services.

Cigna will have sole discretion to seek such recovery from any person to, or for whom, or with respect to whom, such services were provided or such payments made by any insurance company, healthcare plan or other organization. If we request, you must execute and deliver to us such instruments and documents as we determine are necessary to secure the right of recovery.

## Right to Receive and Release Information

Cigna, without consent or notice to you, may obtain information from and release information to any other Plan with respect to you in order to coordinate your benefits pursuant to this section. You must provide us with any information we request in order to coordinate your benefits pursuant to this section. This request may occur in connection with a submitted claim; if so, you will be advised that the "other coverage" information, (including an Explanation of Benefits paid under the Primary Plan) is required before the claim will be processed for payment. If no response is received within 90 days of the request, the claim will be denied. If the requested information is subsequently received, the claim will be processed.

## Medicare Eligibles

Cigna will pay as the Secondary Plan as permitted by the Social Security Act of 1965 as amended for the following:

- (a) a former Employee who is eligible for Medicare and whose insurance is continued for any reason as provided in this plan;
- (b) a former Employee's Dependent, or a former Dependent Spouse, who is eligible for Medicare and whose insurance is continued for any reason as provided in this plan;
- (c) a retired Employee or retired Employee's Dependent who is eligible for Medicare due to End Stage Renal Disease after that person has been eligible for Medicare for 30 months;

Cigna will assume the amount payable under:

- Part A of Medicare for a person who is eligible for that Part without premium payment, but has not applied, to be the amount he would receive if he had applied.
- Part B of Medicare for a person who is entitled to be enrolled in that Part, but is not, to be the amount he would receive if he were enrolled.
- Part B of Medicare for a person who has entered into a private contract with a provider, to be the amount he would receive in the absence of such private contract.

A person is considered eligible for Medicare on the earliest date any coverage under Medicare could become effective for him

This reduction will not apply to any former Employee and his Dependent unless he is listed under (a) through (c) above.

### **Domestic Partners**

Under federal law, the Medicare Secondary Payer Rules do not apply to Domestic Partners covered under a group health plan when Medicare coverage is due to age. Therefore, when Medicare coverage is due to age, Medicare is always the Primary Plan for a person covered as a Domestic Partner, and



Cigna is the Secondary Plan. However, when Medicare coverage is due to disability, the Medicare Secondary Payer rules explained above will apply.

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# **Expenses For Which A Third Party May Be Responsible**

This plan does not cover:

- Expenses incurred by you or your Dependent (hereinafter individually and collectively referred to as a "Participant,") for which another party may be responsible as a result of having caused or contributed to an Injury or Sickness.
- Expenses incurred by a Participant to the extent any payment is received for them either directly or indirectly from a third party tortfeasor or as a result of a settlement, judgment or arbitration award in connection with any automobile medical, automobile no-fault, uninsured or underinsured motorist, homeowners, workers' compensation, government insurance (other than Medicaid), or similar type of insurance or coverage.

#### Subrogation/Right of Reimbursement

If a Participant incurs a Covered Expense for which, in the opinion of the plan or its claim administrator, another party may be responsible or for which the Participant may receive payment as described above:

- Subrogation: The plan shall, to the extent permitted by law, be subrogated to all rights, claims or interests that a Participant may have against such party and shall automatically have a lien upon the proceeds of any recovery by a Participant from such party to the extent of any benefits paid under the plan. A Participant or his/her representative shall execute such documents as may be required to secure the plan's subrogation rights.
- Right of Reimbursement: The plan is also granted a right of reimbursement from the proceeds of any recovery whether by settlement, judgment, or otherwise. This right of reimbursement is cumulative with and not exclusive of the subrogation right granted in paragraph 1, but only to the extent of the benefits provided by the plan.

#### Lien of the Plan

By accepting benefits under this plan, a Participant:

 grants a lien and assigns to the plan an amount equal to the benefits paid under the plan against any recovery made by or on behalf of the Participant which is binding on any attorney or other party who represents the Participant whether or not an agent of the Participant or of any

- insurance company or other financially responsible party against whom a Participant may have a claim provided said attorney, insurance carrier or other party has been notified by the plan or its agents;
- agrees that this lien shall constitute a charge against the proceeds of any recovery and the plan shall be entitled to assert a security interest thereon;
- agrees to hold the proceeds of any recovery in trust for the benefit of the plan to the extent of any payment made by the plan.

#### **Additional Terms**

- No adult Participant hereunder may assign any rights that it
  may have to recover medical expenses from any third party
  or other person or entity to any minor Dependent of said
  adult Participant without the prior express written consent
  of the plan. The plan's right to recover shall apply to
  decedents', minors', and incompetent or disabled persons'
  settlements or recoveries.
- No Participant shall make any settlement, which specifically reduces or excludes, or attempts to reduce or exclude, the benefits provided by the plan.
- The plan's right of recovery shall be a prior lien against any proceeds recovered by the Participant. This right of recovery shall not be defeated nor reduced by the application of any so-called "Made-Whole Doctrine", "Rimes Doctrine", or any other such doctrine purporting to defeat the plan's recovery rights by allocating the proceeds exclusively to non-medical expense damages.
- No Participant hereunder shall incur any expenses on behalf of the plan in pursuit of the plan's rights hereunder, specifically; no court costs, attorneys' fees or other representatives' fees may be deducted from the plan's recovery without the prior express written consent of the plan. This right shall not be defeated by any so-called "Fund Doctrine", "Common Fund Doctrine", or "Attorney's Fund Doctrine".
- The plan shall recover the full amount of benefits provided hereunder without regard to any claim of fault on the part of any Participant, whether under comparative negligence or otherwise.
- The plan hereby disavows all equitable defenses in pursuit of its right of recovery. The plan's subrogation or recovery rights are neither affected nor diminished by equitable defenses.
- In the event that a Participant shall fail or refuse to honor its
  obligations hereunder, then the plan shall be entitled to
  recover any costs incurred in enforcing the terms hereof
  including, but not limited to, attorney's fees, litigation, court
  costs, and other expenses. The plan shall also be entitled to
  offset the reimbursement obligation against any entitlement



to future medical benefits hereunder until the Participant has fully complied with his reimbursement obligations hereunder, regardless of how those future medical benefits are incurred.

- Any reference to state law in any other provision of this plan shall not be applicable to this provision, if the plan is governed by ERISA. By acceptance of benefits under the plan, the Participant agrees that a breach hereof would cause irreparable and substantial harm and that no adequate remedy at law would exist. Further, the Plan shall be entitled to invoke such equitable remedies as may be necessary to enforce the terms of the plan, including, but not limited to, specific performance, restitution, the imposition of an equitable lien and/or constructive trust, as well as injunctive relief.
- Participants must assist the plan in pursuing any subrogation or recovery rights by providing requested information.

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# **Payment of Benefits**

# To Whom Payable

Medical Benefits are assignable to the provider. When you assign benefits to a provider, you have assigned the entire amount of the benefits due on that claim. If the provider is overpaid because of accepting a patient's payment on the charge, it is the provider's responsibility to reimburse the patient. Because of Cigna's contracts with providers, all claims from contracted providers should be assigned.

Cigna may, at its option, make payment to you for the cost of any Covered Expenses from a Non-Participating Provider even if benefits have been assigned. When benefits are paid to you or your Dependents, you or your Dependents are responsible for reimbursing the provider.

If any person to whom benefits are payable is a minor or, in the opinion of Cigna is not able to give a valid receipt for any payment due him, such payment will be made to his legal guardian. If no request for payment has been made by his legal guardian, Cigna may, at its option, make payment to the person or institution appearing to have assumed his custody and support.

When one of our participants passes away, Cigna may receive notice that an executor of the estate has been established. The executor has the same rights as our insured and benefit payments for unassigned claims should be made payable to the executor.

Payment as described above will release Cigna from all liability to the extent of any payment made.

#### **Recovery of Overpayment**

When an overpayment has been made by Cigna, Cigna will have the right at any time to: recover that overpayment from the person to whom or on whose behalf it was made; or offset the amount of that overpayment from a future claim payment. In addition, your acceptance of benefits under this plan and/or assignment of Medical Benefits separately creates an equitable lien by agreement pursuant to which Cigna may seek recovery of any overpayment. You agree that Cigna, in seeking recovery of any overpayment as a contractual right or as an equitable lien by agreement, may pursue the general assets of the person or entity to whom or on whose behalf the overpayment was made.

# **Calculation of Covered Expenses**

Cigna, in its discretion, will calculate Covered Expenses following evaluation and validation of all provider billings in accordance with:

- the methodologies in the most recent edition of the Current Procedural terminology,
- the methodologies as reported by generally recognized professionals or publications.

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# **Termination of Insurance**

# **Employees**

Your insurance will cease on the earliest date below:

- the date you cease to be in a Class of Eligible Employees or cease to qualify for the insurance.
- the last day for which you have made any required contribution for the insurance.
- the date the policy is canceled.

Any continuation of insurance must be based on a plan which precludes individual selection.

# **Dependents**

Your insurance for all of your Dependents will cease on the earliest date below:

- the date your insurance ceases.
- the date you cease to be eligible for Dependent Insurance.
- the last day for which you have made any required contribution for the insurance.
- the date Dependent Insurance is canceled.



The insurance for any one of your Dependents will cease on the date that Dependent no longer qualifies as a Dependent.

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# **Continuation – Employees**

# **Notice of Right of Continuation of Medical Insurance**

If your insurance ends due to one of the following qualifying events, you are entitled to continue coverage under this plan:

- Loss of employment, including a reduction in hours that makes you ineligible for coverage.
- Divorce, dissolution or legal separation of the covered employee from the covered employee's spouse or civil union partner.

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• Death of the covered employee.

You are not entitled to continue coverage if:

- the deceased employee was not insured under this plan on the date insurance ended due to one of the qualifying events described above;
- you are covered by Medicare;
- you are covered by any other group medical plan for the same type of coverage you received under this plan and no preexisting condition under the other group plan applies;
- · your employment ended due to misconduct.

You should elect continuation coverage in writing within 60 days after receiving notice of your right to continue coverage due to one of the qualifying events described above. Payment of the required contribution necessary to continue coverage should be made to the Policyholder. The contribution amount will not exceed 102% of the group rate for the insurance being continued under this plan.

Continuation of insurance will end on:

- The date 18 months after the date the insurance under this plan would otherwise have ended due to one of the qualifying events described above.
- The last day of the period for which you have paid the required contribution.
- The date you become covered by Medicare.
- The date you become covered by another group medical plan for the same type of coverage you received under this plan and no preexisting condition under the other group plan applies.
- The date this group policy is canceled.

The provisions of this certificate entitled **Medical Conversion Privilege** will apply following the termination of insurance.

The terms of this Continuation of Insurance provision will not reduce any continuation of insurance otherwise provided.

If, on the date before the Effective Date of this policy, medical coverage was being continued for a person under a group medical plan offered by the Policyholder and replaced by this policy, that person's coverage will be continued for the remaining portion of the period of continuation under this policy, subject to the terms of this section. However, the benefits payable under this policy will be the benefits of the prior group medical plan reduced by any benefits still payable under that prior plan.

HC-TRM15 04-10

# Medical Benefits Extension During Hospital Confinement

If the Medical Benefits under this plan cease for you or your Dependent, and you or your Dependent is Confined in a Hospital on that date, Medical Benefits will be paid for Covered Expenses incurred in connection with that Hospital Confinement. However, no benefits will be paid after the earliest of:

- the date you exceed the Maximum Benefit, if any, shown in the Schedule;
- the date you are covered for medical benefits under another group plan;
- the date you or your Dependent is no longer Hospital Confined; or
- 3 months from the date your Medical Benefits cease.

The terms of this Medical Benefits Extension will not apply to a child born as a result of a pregnancy which exists when your Medical Benefits cease or your Dependent's Medical Benefits cease.

HC-BEX44 01-13



# **Federal Requirements**

The following pages explain your rights and responsibilities under federal laws and regulations. Some states may have similar requirements. If a similar provision appears elsewhere in this booklet, the provision which provides the better benefit will apply.

HC-FED1 10-10

# **Notice of Provider Directory/Networks**

# **Notice Regarding Provider Directories and Provider Networks**

If your Plan utilizes a network of Providers, a separate listing of Participating Providers who participate in the network is available to you without charge by visiting www.cigna.com; mycigna.com or by calling the toll-free telephone number on your ID card.

Your Participating Provider network consists of a group of local medical practitioners, including Hospitals, of varied specialties as well as general practice, who are employed by or contracted with Cigna HealthCare.

HC-FED2 10-10

# **Qualified Medical Child Support Order** (QMCSO)

# Eligibility for Coverage Under a QMCSO

If a Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO) is issued for your child, that child will be eligible for coverage as required by the order and you will not be considered a Late Entrant for Dependent Insurance.

You must notify your Employer and elect coverage for that child, and yourself if you are not already enrolled, within 31 days of the QMCSO being issued.

# **Qualified Medical Child Support Order Defined**

A Qualified Medical Child Support Order is a judgment, decree or order (including approval of a settlement agreement) or administrative notice, which is issued pursuant to a state domestic relations law (including a community property law), or to an administrative process, which provides for child support or provides for health benefit coverage to such child and relates to benefits under the group health plan, and satisfies all of the following:

- the order recognizes or creates a child's right to receive group health benefits for which a participant or beneficiary is eligible;
- the order specifies your name and last known address, and the child's name and last known address, except that the name and address of an official of a state or political subdivision may be substituted for the child's mailing address;
- the order provides a description of the coverage to be provided, or the manner in which the type of coverage is to be determined;
- the order states the period to which it applies; and
- if the order is a National Medical Support Notice completed in accordance with the Child Support Performance and Incentive Act of 1998, such Notice meets the requirements above.

The QMCSO may not require the health insurance policy to provide coverage for any type or form of benefit or option not otherwise provided under the policy, except that an order may require a plan to comply with State laws regarding health care coverage.

#### **Payment of Benefits**

Any payment of benefits in reimbursement for Covered Expenses paid by the child, or the child's custodial parent or legal guardian, shall be made to the child, the child's custodial parent or legal guardian, or a state official whose name and address have been substituted for the name and address of the child.

HC-FED4 10-10

# Special Enrollment Rights Under the Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act (HIPAA)

If you or your eligible Dependent(s) experience a special enrollment event as described below, you or your eligible Dependent(s) may be entitled to enroll in the Plan outside of a designated enrollment period upon the occurrence of one of the special enrollment events listed below. If you are already



enrolled in the Plan, you may request enrollment for you and your eligible Dependent(s) under a different option offered by the Employer for which you are currently eligible. If you are not already enrolled in the Plan, you must request special enrollment for yourself in addition to your eligible Dependent(s). You and all of your eligible Dependent(s) must be covered under the same option. The special enrollment events include:

- Acquiring a new Dependent. If you acquire a new Dependent(s) through marriage, birth, adoption or placement for adoption, you may request special enrollment for any of the following combinations of individuals if not already enrolled in the Plan: Employee only; spouse only; Employee and spouse; Dependent child(ren) only; Employee and Dependent child(ren); Employee, spouse and Dependent child(ren). Enrollment of Dependent children is limited to the newborn or adopted children or children who became Dependent children of the Employee due to marriage.
- Loss of eligibility for State Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). If you and/or your Dependent(s) were covered under a state Medicaid or CHIP plan and the coverage is terminated due to a loss of eligibility, you may request special enrollment for yourself and any affected Dependent(s) who are not already enrolled in the Plan. You must request enrollment within 60 days after termination of Medicaid or CHIP coverage.
- Loss of eligibility for other coverage (excluding continuation coverage). If coverage was declined under this Plan due to coverage under another plan, and eligibility for the other coverage is lost, you and all of your eligible Dependent(s) may request special enrollment in this Plan. If required by the Plan, when enrollment in this Plan was previously declined, it must have been declined in writing with a statement that the reason for declining enrollment was due to other health coverage. This provision applies to loss of eligibility as a result of any of the following:
  - divorce or legal separation;
  - cessation of Dependent status (such as reaching the limiting age);
  - death of the Employee;
  - termination of employment;
  - reduction in work hours to below the minimum required for eligibility;
  - you or your Dependent(s) no longer reside, live or work in the other plan's network service area and no other coverage is available under the other plan;
  - you or your Dependent(s) incur a claim which meets or exceeds the lifetime maximum limit that is applicable to all benefits offered under the other plan; or

- the other plan no longer offers any benefits to a class of similarly situated individuals.
- Termination of employer contributions (excluding continuation coverage). If a current or former employer ceases all contributions toward the Employee's or Dependent's other coverage, special enrollment may be requested in this Plan for you and all of your eligible Dependent(s).
- Exhaustion of COBRA or other continuation coverage. Special enrollment may be requested in this Plan for you and all of your eligible Dependent(s) upon exhaustion of COBRA or other continuation coverage. If you or your Dependent(s) elect COBRA or other continuation coverage following loss of coverage under another plan, the COBRA or other continuation coverage must be exhausted before any special enrollment rights exist under this Plan. An individual is considered to have exhausted COBRA or other continuation coverage only if such coverage ceases: due to failure of the employer or other responsible entity to remit premiums on a timely basis; when the person no longer resides or works in the other plan's service area and there is no other COBRA or continuation coverage available under the plan; or when the individual incurs a claim that would meet or exceed a lifetime maximum limit on all benefits and there is no other COBRA or other continuation coverage available to the individual. This does not include termination of an employer's limited period of contributions toward COBRA or other continuation coverage as provided under any severance or other agreement.
- Eligibility for employment assistance under State Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). If you and/or your Dependent(s) become eligible for assistance with group health plan premium payments under a state Medicaid or CHIP plan, you may request special enrollment for yourself and any affected Dependent(s) who are not already enrolled in the Plan. You must request enrollment within 60 days after the date you are determined to be eligible for assistance.

Except as stated above, special enrollment must be requested within 30 days after the occurrence of the special enrollment event. If the special enrollment event is the birth or adoption of a Dependent child, coverage will be effective immediately on the date of birth, adoption or placement for adoption. Coverage with regard to any other special enrollment event will be effective on the first day of the calendar month following receipt of the request for special enrollment.

Domestic Partners and their children (if not legal children of the Employee) are not eligible for special enrollment.

HC-FED71 12-14



# **Eligibility for Coverage for Adopted Children**

Any child who is adopted by you, including a child who is placed with you for adoption, will be eligible for Dependent Insurance, if otherwise eligible as a Dependent, upon the date of placement with you. A child will be considered placed for adoption when you become legally obligated to support that child, totally or partially, prior to that child's adoption.

If a child placed for adoption is not adopted, all health coverage ceases when the placement ends, and will not be continued.

The provisions in the "Exception for Newborns" section of this document that describe requirements for enrollment and effective date of insurance will also apply to an adopted child or a child placed with you for adoption.

HC-FED67 09-14

# **Coverage for Maternity Hospital Stay**

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 a physician or other health care provider obtain authorization for prescribing a length of stay of up to 48 hours (or 96 hours). However, to use certain providers or facilities, or to reduce your out-of-pocket costs, you may be required to obtain precertification. For information on precertification, contact your plan administrator.

HC-FED10 10-10

# Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act (WHCRA)

Do you know that your plan, as required by the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998, provides benefits for mastectomy-related services including all stages of reconstruction and surgery to achieve symmetry between the breasts, prostheses, and complications resulting from a mastectomy, including lymphedema? Call Member Services at the toll free number listed on your ID card for more information.

HC-FED12 10-10

# **Group Plan Coverage Instead of Medicaid**

If your income and liquid resources do not exceed certain limits established by law, the state may decide to pay premiums for this coverage instead of for Medicaid, if it is cost effective. This includes premiums for continuation coverage required by federal law.

HC-FED13 10-10

# **Claim Determination Procedures**

The following complies with federal law. Provisions of the laws of your state may supersede.

### **Procedures Regarding Medical Necessity Determinations**

In general, health services and benefits must be Medically Necessary to be covered under the plan. The procedures for determining Medical Necessity vary, according to the type of service or benefit requested, and the type of health plan. Medical Necessity determinations are made on either a preservice, concurrent, or postservice basis, as described below:

Certain services require prior authorization in order to be covered. This prior authorization is called a "preservice Medical Necessity determination." The Certificate describes who is responsible for obtaining this review. You or your authorized representative (typically, your health care provider) must request Medical Necessity determinations according to the procedures described below, in the Certificate, and in your provider's network participation documents as applicable.

When services or benefits are determined to be not Medically Necessary, you or your representative will receive a written description of the adverse determination, and may appeal the determination. Appeal procedures are described in the Certificate, in your provider's network participation documents, and in the determination notices.



#### **Preservice Medical Necessity Determinations**

When you or your representative request a required Medical Necessity determination prior to care, Cigna will notify you or vour representative of the determination within 15 days after receiving the request. However, if more time is needed due to matters beyond Cigna's control, Cigna will notify you or your representative within 15 days after receiving your request. This notice will include the date a determination can be expected, which will be no more than 30 days after receipt of the request. If more time is needed because necessary information is missing from the request, the notice will also specify what information is needed, and you or your representative must provide the specified information to Cigna within 45 days after receiving the notice. The determination period will be suspended on the date Cigna sends such a notice of missing information, and the determination period will resume on the date you or your representative responds to the notice.

If the determination periods above would seriously jeopardize your life or health, your ability to regain maximum function, or in the opinion of a Physician with knowledge of your health condition, cause you severe pain which cannot be managed without the requested services, Cigna will make the preservice determination on an expedited basis. Cigna's Physician reviewer, in consultation with the treating Physician, will decide if an expedited determination is necessary. Cigna will notify you or your representative of an expedited determination within 72 hours after receiving the request.

However, if necessary information is missing from the request, Cigna will notify you or your representative within 24 hours after receiving the request to specify what information is needed. You or your representative must provide the specified information to Cigna within 48 hours after receiving the notice. Cigna will notify you or your representative of the expedited benefit determination within 48 hours after you or your representative responds to the notice. Expedited determinations may be provided orally, followed within 3 days by written or electronic notification.

If you or your representative fails to follow Cigna's procedures for requesting a required preservice Medical Necessity determination, Cigna will notify you or your representative of the failure and describe the proper procedures for filing within 5 days (or 24 hours, if an expedited determination is required, as described above) after receiving the request. This notice may be provided orally, unless you or your representative requests written notification.

### **Concurrent Medical Necessity Determinations**

When an ongoing course of treatment has been approved for you and you wish to extend the approval, you or your representative must request a required concurrent Medical Necessity determination at least 24 hours prior to the expiration of the approved period of time or number of

treatments. When you or your representative requests such a determination, Cigna will notify you or your representative of the determination within 24 hours after receiving the request.

#### **Postservice Medical Necessity Determinations**

When you or your representative requests a Medical Necessity determination after services have been rendered, Cigna will notify you or your representative of the determination within 30 days after receiving the request. However, if more time is needed to make a determination due to matters beyond Cigna's control Cigna will notify you or your representative within 30 days after receiving the request. This notice will include the date a determination can be expected, which will be no more than 45 days after receipt of the request.

If more time is needed because necessary information is missing from the request, the notice will also specify what information is needed, and you or your representative must provide the specified information to Cigna within 45 days after receiving the notice. The determination period will be suspended on the date Cigna sends such a notice of missing information, and the determination period will resume on the date you or your representative responds to the notice.

### **Postservice Claim Determinations**

When you or your representative requests payment for services which have been rendered, Cigna will notify you of the claim payment determination within 30 days after receiving the request. However, if more time is needed to make a determination due to matters beyond Cigna's control, Cigna will notify you or your representative within 30 days after receiving the request. This notice will include the date a determination can be expected, which will be no more than 45 days after receipt of the request. If more time is needed because necessary information is missing from the request, the notice will also specify what information is needed, and you or your representative must provide the specified information within 45 days after receiving the notice. The determination period will be suspended on the date Cigna sends such a notice of missing information, and resume on the date you or your representative responds to the notice.

# **Notice of Adverse Determination**

Every notice of an adverse benefit determination will be provided in writing or electronically, and will include all of the following that pertain to the determination: the specific reason or reasons for the adverse determination; reference to the specific plan provisions on which the determination is based; a description of any additional material or information necessary to perfect the claim and an explanation of why such material or information is necessary; a description of the plan's review procedures and the time limits applicable, including a statement of a claimant's rights to bring a civil action under section 502(a) of ERISA following an adverse benefit determination on appeal; upon request and free of



charge, a copy of any internal rule, guideline, protocol or other similar criterion that was relied upon in making the adverse determination regarding your claim; and an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for a determination that is based on a Medical Necessity, experimental treatment or other similar exclusion or limit; in the case of a claim involving urgent care, a description of the expedited review process applicable to such claim.

HC-FED40 04-12

# COBRA Continuation Rights Under Federal Law

# For You and Your Dependents What is COBRA Continuation Coverage?

Under federal law, your Dependents must be given the opportunity to continue health insurance when there is a "qualifying event" that would result in loss of coverage under the Plan. Your Dependents will be permitted to continue the same coverage under which you or your Dependents were covered on the day before the qualifying event occurred, unless you move out of that plan's coverage area or the plan is no longer available. Your Dependents cannot change coverage options until the next open enrollment period.

# When is COBRA Continuation Available?

For your Dependents, COBRA continuation coverage is available for up to 36 months from the date of the following qualifying events if the event would result in a loss of coverage under the Plan:

- · your death;
- your divorce or legal separation; or
- for a Dependent child, failure to continue to qualify as a Dependent under the Plan.

# Who is Entitled to COBRA Continuation?

Only a "qualified beneficiary" (as defined by federal law) may elect to continue health insurance coverage. A qualified beneficiary may include the following individuals who were covered by the Plan on the day the qualifying event occurred: your spouse and your Dependent children. Each qualified beneficiary has their own right to elect or decline COBRA continuation coverage even if you decline or are not eligible for COBRA continuation.

The following individuals are not qualified beneficiaries for purposes of COBRA continuation: domestic partners, grandchildren (unless adopted by you), stepchildren (unless adopted by you).

#### **Medicare Extension for Your Dependents**

If you retire and you became enrolled in Medicare (Part A, Part B or both) within the 18 months retirement, COBRA continuation coverage for your Dependents will last for up to 36 months after the date you became enrolled in Medicare.

#### **Termination of COBRA Continuation**

COBRA continuation coverage will be terminated upon the occurrence of any of the following:

- the end of the COBRA continuation period of 18, 29 or 36 months, as applicable;
- failure to pay the required premium within 30 calendar days after the due date;
- cancellation of the Employer's policy with Cigna;
- after electing COBRA continuation coverage, a qualified beneficiary enrolls in Medicare (Part A, Part B, or both);
- after electing COBRA continuation coverage, a qualified beneficiary becomes covered under another group health plan, unless the qualified beneficiary has a condition for which the new plan limits or excludes coverage under a preexisting condition provision. In such case coverage will continue until the earliest of: the end of the applicable maximum period; the date the pre-existing condition provision is no longer applicable; or the occurrence of an event described in one of the first three bullets above;
- any reason the Plan would terminate coverage of a participant or beneficiary who is not receiving continuation coverage (e.g., fraud).

# Moving Out of Employer's Service Area or Elimination of a Service Area

If your Dependents move out of the Employer's service area or the Employer eliminates a service area in their location, their COBRA continuation coverage under the plan will be limited to out-of-network coverage only. In-network coverage is not available outside of the Employer's service area. If the Employer offers another benefit option through Cigna or another carrier which can provide coverage in your Dependent's location, they may elect COBRA continuation coverage under that option.

# **Employer's Notification Requirements**

Your former Employer is required to provide you and/or your Dependents with the following notices:

 An initial notification of COBRA continuation rights must be provided within 90 days after your (or your spouse's) coverage under the Plan begins (or the Plan first becomes subject to COBRA continuation requirements, if later). If you and/or your Dependents experience a qualifying event before the end of that 90-day period, the initial notice must be provided within the time frame required for the COBRA continuation coverage election notice as explained below.



- A COBRA continuation coverage election notice must be provided to you and/or your Dependents within the following timeframes:
  - if the Plan provides that COBRA continuation coverage and the period within which an Employer must notify the Plan Administrator of a qualifying event starts upon the loss of coverage, 44 days after loss of coverage under the Plan:
  - if the Plan provides that COBRA continuation coverage and the period within which an Employer must notify the Plan Administrator of a qualifying event starts upon the occurrence of a qualifying event, 44 days after the qualifying event occurs; or
  - in the case of a multi-employer plan, no later than 14 days after the end of the period in which Employers must provide notice of a qualifying event to the Plan Administrator.

#### **How to Elect COBRA Continuation Coverage**

The COBRA coverage election notice will list the individuals who are eligible for COBRA continuation coverage and inform you of the applicable premium. The notice will also include instructions for electing COBRA continuation coverage. You or your Dependents must notify the Plan Administrator of the election no later than the due date stated on the COBRA election notice. If a written election notice is required, it must be post-marked no later than the due date stated on the COBRA election notice. If proper notification is not made by the due date shown on the notice, your Dependents will lose the right to elect COBRA continuation coverage. If COBRA continuation coverage is rejected before the due date, your Dependents may change their mind as long as they furnish a completed election form before the due date.

Each qualified beneficiary has an independent right to elect COBRA continuation coverage. Continuation coverage may be elected for only one, several, or for all Dependents who are qualified beneficiaries. Parents may elect to continue coverage on behalf of their Dependent children. You or your spouse may elect continuation coverage on behalf of all the qualified beneficiaries.

# **How Much Does COBRA Continuation Coverage Cost?**

Each qualified beneficiary may be required to pay the entire cost of continuation coverage. The amount may not exceed 102% of the cost to the group health plan (including both Employer and Employee contributions) for coverage of a similarly situated active Employee or family member.

For example: If the spouse or one Dependent child alone elects COBRA continuation coverage, they will be charged 102% of the active Employee premium. If more than one qualified beneficiary elects COBRA continuation coverage, they will be charged 102% of the applicable family premium.

# When and How to Pay COBRA Premiums

First payment for COBRA continuation

If you elect COBRA continuation coverage, you do not have to send any payment with the election form. However, you must make your first payment no later than 45 calendar days after the date of your election. (This is the date the Election Notice is postmarked, if mailed.) If you do not make your first payment within that 45 days, you will lose all COBRA continuation rights under the Plan.

# Subsequent payments

After you make your first payment for COBRA continuation coverage, you will be required to make subsequent payments of the required premium for each additional month of coverage. Payment is due on the first day of each month. If you make a payment on or before its due date, your coverage under the Plan will continue for that coverage period without any break.

# Grace periods for subsequent payments

Although subsequent payments are due by the first day of the month, you will be given a grace period of 30 days after the first day of the coverage period to make each monthly payment. Your COBRA continuation coverage will be provided for each coverage period as long as payment for that coverage period is made before the end of the grace period for that payment. However, if your payment is received after the due date, your coverage under the Plan may be suspended during this time. Any providers who contact the Plan to confirm coverage during this time may be informed that coverage has been suspended. If payment is received before the end of the grace period, your coverage will be reinstated back to the beginning of the coverage period. This means that any claim you submit for benefits while your coverage is suspended may be denied and may have to be resubmitted once your coverage is reinstated. If you fail to make a payment before the end of the grace period for that coverage period, you will lose all rights to COBRA continuation coverage under the Plan.

### You Must Give Notice of Certain Qualifying Events

If your Dependent(s) experience one of the following qualifying events, you or your Dependents must notify the Plan Administrator within 60 calendar days after the later of the date the qualifying event occurs or the date coverage would cease as a result of the qualifying event:

- Your divorce or legal separation; or
- Your child ceases to qualify as a Dependent under the Plan.

Notice must be made in writing and must include: the name of the Plan, name and address of the Employee covered under the Plan, name and address(es) of the qualified beneficiaries affected by the qualifying event; the qualifying event; the date



the qualifying event occurred; and supporting documentation (e.g., divorce decree, birth certificate, etc.).

#### **Newly Acquired Dependents**

If you acquire a new Dependent through marriage, birth, adoption or placement for adoption while your coverage is being continued, you may cover such Dependent under your COBRA continuation coverage.

# COBRA Continuation for Retirees Following Employer's Bankruptcy

If you are covered as a retiree, and a proceeding in bankruptcy is filed with respect to the Employer under Title 11 of the United States Code, you may be entitled to COBRA continuation coverage. If the bankruptcy results in a loss of coverage for you, your Dependents or your surviving spouse within one year before or after such proceeding, you and your covered Dependents will become COBRA qualified beneficiaries with respect to the bankruptcy. You will be entitled to COBRA continuation coverage until your death. Your surviving spouse and covered Dependent children will be entitled to COBRA continuation coverage for up to 36 months following your death. However, COBRA continuation coverage will cease upon the occurrence of any of the events listed under "Termination of COBRA Continuation" above.

#### **Interaction With Other Continuation Benefits**

You may be eligible for other continuation benefits under state law. Refer to the Termination section for any other continuation benefits.

HC-FED66 07-14 M

# When You Have A Complaint Or An Appeal (Grievance)

For the purposes of this section, any reference to "you," "your" or "Member" also refers to a representative or provider designated by you to act on your behalf, unless otherwise noted.

We want you to be completely satisfied with the care you receive. That is why we have established a process for addressing your concerns and solving your problems.

#### **Customer Service**

We are here to listen and help. If you have a concern regarding a person, a service, the quality of care, or contractual benefits, you are welcome to call our toll-free number and explain your concern to one of our Customer Service representatives. You can also express that concern in writing. Please call or write to us at the following:

Customer Services Toll-Free Number or address that appears on your Benefit Identification card, explanation of benefits or claim form.

We will do our best to resolve the matter on your initial contact. If we need more time to review or investigate your concern, we will get back to you as soon as possible, but in any case within 30 days.

You must pay for services given by a Participating Provider or non-Participating Provider if your claim is denied.

If you are not satisfied with the results of a coverage decision, you can start the appeals procedure.

# Prescription Drug Benefit Management Disclosure

Cigna will allow an exception to a benefit management requirement described in this certificate that applies to coverage for Prescription Drugs and Related Supplies, and will provide coverage on the same basis as Cigna would have for the benefit management requirement, if your Physician certifies, based on relevant clinical information about you and sound medical or scientific evidence or the known characteristics of the drug, that the benefit management requirement:

- has been ineffective, or is reasonably expected to be ineffective or significantly less effective in treating your condition, such that an exception is Medically Necessary; or
- has caused you, or is reasonably expected to cause you, adverse or harmful reactions.

To request an exception, your Physician should contact:

Cigna Pharmacy Management Attn: Pharmacy Services Center P.O. Box 29030 Phoenix, AZ 85038-9030 Tel. (800) 244-6224

Cigna will accept the Physician's advance certification telephonically, when the Physician designates the situation to be an emergency. Cigna has the right to require the certification to be later confirmed in writing.

A denial of a request for an exception to a benefit management requirement is a determination subject to independent external review under Vermont law. In this situation, the terms of the "External Review Procedure For Non-Mental Health/Substance Abuse Issues" provision, and the "Notice of



Benefit Determination on Appeal" provision, both contained in this section of your certificate, apply.

If you or your Dependent have a grievance relating to Cigna's pharmaceutical benefit management program, you should refer to the following "Appeals Procedure" provisions. These provisions also apply to initiating this type of grievance.

# **Appeals Procedure**

Cigna has a two-step appeals procedure for coverage decisions.

While a level one appeal is a required part of the process, a level two appeal is completely voluntary. For example, if a level one appeal is not resolved to your satisfaction, you may choose to make an external appeal to an Independent Panel of Mental Health Care Providers or to an Independent Review Organization, as described later in this provision, rather than pursuing Cigna's voluntary level two appeal process.

The voluntary level two appeal review will be done without deference to the initial adverse benefit determination or to the adverse determination of a level one appeal.

The appeal review takes into account all comments, documents, records, and other information relating to the appeal that you submit, regardless of whether that information was submitted or considered: in the initial benefit determination (for a level one or a voluntary level two appeal); or during the level one appeal (for a voluntary level two appeal). Additional assistance is also available from the Vermont Department of Financial Regulation (DFR), as described later in this provision.

To initiate an appeal, you must submit a request for an appeal in writing within 365 days of receipt of a denial notice. You should state the reason why you feel your appeal should be approved and include any information supporting your appeal, including any written comments, documents, records and other information relating to your appeal. If you are unable or choose not to write, you may ask to register your appeal by telephone. Reasonable accommodations will be made to help a person with a disability participate in the appeal process. Additionally, if English is not your primary language, we will provide you with information about how to file an appeal and how to participate in the appeal process, in your primary language, upon your request. Call or write to us at the toll-free number or address on your Benefit Identification card, explanation of benefits or claim form. We will document the appeal for you and provide copies of that documentation to you, or to your representative.

For any appeal related to an adverse benefit determination, should a reversal of that decision be made during any step of the appeal process, Cigna will promptly authorize or otherwise arrange for coverage of a covered service that was denied or restricted. Neither you nor your treating provider will be liable for any services provided

before notification to you of the adverse benefit determination and the final outcome of any appeal or independent external review. However, if your treating provider or his or her designee refuse or repeatedly fail to communicate with us, when the opportunity to communicate with us has been offered in a time and manner convenient to them, your treating provider will be liable for any services provided to you. You will not be liable in either case.

You must pay for services given by a Participating Provider or a non-Participating Provider in the event of a final denial of your claim.

# **Level One Appeal**

Your appeal will be reviewed and the decision made by someone not involved in the initial decision. This person will also not be the subordinate of any individual who was involved with the initial decision or other issue that is the subject of the appeal. Appeals involving an adverse benefit determination that is based in whole or in part on a medical judgment will be considered by a health care professional who is a clinical peer of your treating provider.

You may request that we identify to you any clinical expert whose advice we obtained in connection with your adverse benefit determination, regardless of whether or not that expert's advice was relied on when the determination was made. Any clinical expert we ask to consult with us regarding your level one appeal will not be the same clinical expert (if any) we consulted with regarding the adverse benefit determination that is the subject of your appeal, or the subordinate of that clinical expert (if any).

A Cigna medical director or his or her designee will offer to directly communicate with your treating provider, or your treating provider's designee, before the appeal is decided.

You will have reasonable access to, and may obtain copies of, all documents, records and other information relevant to your appeal upon request and free of charge, within two business days. In the case of a concurrent or urgent preservice review, you will have access to or may obtain the materials immediately upon request.

# Level One Urgent, Preservice Appeal

For an urgent preservice level one appeal, we will orally notify you and your treating provider (if known) of our determination as soon as is possible based on your medical condition, but in no case later than 72 hours after we receive the appeal. We will send written confirmation of the determination to you and your treating provider (if known), within 24 hours of our oral notification to you.

Mental health/substance abuse and pharmacy benefit requests are generally considered urgent under Vermont regulatory requirements.



# Level One Non-Urgent, Preservice Appeal

For a non-urgent preservice level one appeal, we will send written confirmation to you and your treating provider (if known) of our determination as soon as is possible based on your medical condition, but in no case later than 30 calendar days after we receive the appeal.

# **Level One Concurrent Review Appeal**

For a level one appeal related to a request to continue or extend a course of treatment (i.e. a concurrent review), we will orally notify you and your treating provider (if known) of our determination as soon as is possible based on your medical condition, but in no case later than 24 hours after we receive the appeal. We will send written confirmation of the determination to you and your treating provider (if known), within 24 hours of our oral notification to you.

# **Level One Post-Service Appeal**

For a level one post-service appeal, we will send written confirmation to you and your treating provider (if known) of our determination within a reasonable time period, but in no case later than 60 calendar days after we receive the appeal.

# <u>Level One Appeal Not Related to an Adverse Benefit</u> <u>Determination</u>

For a level one appeal not related to an adverse benefit determination, we will send written confirmation to you within 60 calendar days after we receive the appeal.

# Voluntary Level Two Appeal

If you are dissatisfied with our level one appeal decision, you may request a voluntary second review. To start a voluntary level two appeal, follow the same process required for a level one appeal. If you decide to pursue a voluntary second level appeal review, that decision has no effect on your right to any other benefits under this plan.

The voluntary level two appeal review will be done without deference to the initial adverse benefit determination or to the adverse determination of a level one appeal.

Neither you nor your provider acting on your behalf are responsible for any fees or costs associated with a voluntary level two appeal, should you choose to pursue one.

You will have reasonable access to, and may obtain copies of, all documents, records and other information relevant to your appeal upon request and free of charge, within two business days. In the case of a concurrent or urgent preservice review, you will have access to or may obtain the materials immediately upon request.

Most requests for a second review will be conducted by the Appeals Committee, which consists of at least three people. Anyone who is a member of the Committee may not: have been involved in the initial adverse benefit determination or other issue that is the subject of the appeal; have been

involved in the adverse determination of the level one appeal; or be the subordinate of any person involved with the initial determination or other issue that is the subject of the appeal. For appeals involving Medical Necessity or clinical appropriateness, the Committee will consult with at least one Physician reviewer in the same or similar specialty as the care under consideration, as determined by Cigna's Physician reviewer.

You may request that we identify to you any clinical expert whose advice we obtained in connection with your adverse benefit determination, regardless of whether or not that expert's advice was relied on when the determination was made. Any clinical expert we ask to consult with us regarding your voluntary level two appeal will not be the same clinical expert (if any) we consulted with regarding the adverse benefit determination that is the subject of your appeal, or the subordinate of that clinical expert (if any).

For a voluntary level two appeal we will acknowledge in writing that we have received your request and schedule a Committee review. You will be consulted regarding setting the meeting date for a voluntary second level appeal review. You may present your situation to the Committee in person or by conference call; however, participating in person or via telephone is not a requirement for the voluntary second level appeal meeting to proceed.

# Voluntary Level Two Urgent, Preservice Appeal

For an urgent preservice voluntary level two appeal, we will orally notify you and your treating provider (if known) of our determination as soon as is possible based on your medical condition, but in no case later than 72 hours after we receive the appeal. We will send written confirmation of the determination to you and your treating provider (if known), within 24 hours of our oral notification to you.

Mental health/substance abuse and pharmacy benefit requests are generally considered urgent under Vermont regulatory requirements.

### Voluntary Level Two Non-Urgent, Preservice Appeal

For a non-urgent preservice voluntary level two appeal, we will send written confirmation to you and your treating provider (if known) of our determination as soon as is possible based on your medical condition, but in no case later than 30 calendar days after we receive the appeal.

# Voluntary Level Two Concurrent Review Appeal

For a voluntary level two appeal related to a request to continue or extend a course of treatment (i.e. a concurrent review), we will orally notify you and your treating provider (if known) of our determination as soon as is possible based on your medical condition, but in no case later than 24 hours after we receive the appeal. We will send written confirmation of the determination to you and your treating provider (if known), within 24 hours of our oral notification to you.



#### **Voluntary Level Two Post-Service Appeal**

For a voluntary level two post-service appeal, we will send written confirmation to you and your treating provider (if known) of our determination within a reasonable time period, but in no case later than 60 calendar days after we receive the appeal.

# **Voluntary Level Two Appeal Not Related to an Adverse Benefit Determination**

For a voluntary level two appeal not related to an adverse benefit determination, we will send written notification to you within 60 calendar days after we receive the appeal.

# **External Review Procedure For Mental Health/Substance Abuse Issues**

If you are dissatisfied with either a Level One Appeal decision or a voluntary Level Two Appeal decision, you may request an External Review of your issue by an Independent Panel of Mental Health Care Providers (IP). To start the External Review by an IP, you, your mental health care provider or your representative on your behalf, must file a written request with Cigna and the IP. You must include your consent for Cigna to release confidential patient files to the IP. The IP address is:

Independent Panel of Mental Health Care Providers Vermont Department of Financial Regulation (DFR) 89 Main Street Montpelier, VT 05620-3601 800-631-7788(toll-free) or 802-282-2900

When Cigna receives your request for an External Review, Cigna will send the file supporting the initial decision and the appeal decision(s) to the IP within: 24 hours of receiving the request in emergency situations; and within five working days of receiving the request in all other situations.

The IP may address inquiries to any of the parties (you, your mental health care provider or your authorized representative. or Cigna) and may set a reasonable time period for a response. If Cigna does not provide all necessary information in the required time periods, the delay will result in a presumption in your favor and will not delay the IP's review of the issue. The IP also has the authority to request any or all of the parties to meet with the IP. The IP will make its review decision within 24 hours of receiving all necessary information in emergency situations; and within 15 working days in all other situations. The IP will send its decision by mail or facsimile to Cigna and to the person who filed the request for External Review. Emergency decisions will be communicated by telephone. facsimile or delivered by express mail as appropriate. Cigna is required to abide by the IP's decision. If you have a complaint about a matter that is not related to Medical Necessity or clinical appropriateness, you may file a consumer complaint with the Insurance Consumer Services Division at the following address:

Insurance Consumer Services Division Vermont Department of Financial Regulation (DFR) 89 Main Street, Drawer 20 Montpelier, VT 05620-3101 802.828.3302

# External Review Procedure For Non-Mental Health/Substance Abuse Issues

If you are dissatisfied with a level one appeal or a voluntary level two appeal decision, you may request an External Review of your issue by an Independent Review Organization (IRO).

You (or your authorized representative or your provider on your behalf) may file a written request for External Review within 90 days from the date you receive Cigna's final, written appeal decision. External Appeals for non-Mental Health/Substance Abuse issues may be requested for the following reasons:

- The health care service is a covered benefit that Cigna has determined to be not Medically Necessary.
- A limitation is placed on the selection of a health care provider that you claimed to be inconsistent with limits imposed by this plan and any applicable laws and regulations.
- The health care treatment has been determined to be experimental or investigational or an off-label use of a drug.
- The health care service involves a medically-based decision that a condition is preexisting.



The written request for External Review must be filed with the DFR at the following address:

External Appeals Program
Vermont Department of Financial Regulation (DFR)
89 Main Street, Montpelier, VT 05620-3601
Telephone: 800-631-7788 (toll-free) or 802-828-2900

The insured must file on a form provided by the DFR and include the \$25 fee or a request for a waiver or reduction of the fee, for the general release of medical records relevant to the appeal, identification of insurer and a copy of the denial level from the relevant level of appeal. An oral request will also be accepted if made within the 90-day period provided that the request is confirmed in writing on the state request form within 10 calendar days. The External Appeal program is a voluntary program.

Once notified by the DFR that the External Appeal has been accepted for review by an IRO, Cigna must submit all information relevant to the appeal, including: the review criteria used in making the decision; copies of any applicable policies or procedures; and copies of all medical records considered in making the decision in the appeal process. Cigna may request an extension of up to 10 days to submit information and documentation, granted by the DFR for good cause.

Cigna must pay the costs of the External Appeal to the DFR within 30 days of notification of the reasonable and necessary costs of the review by the IRO.

The DFR will provide the request form for an External Appeal. An oral request will also be accepted if made within the 90-day period provided that the request is confirmed in writing on the state request form within 10 calendar days. Within five working days of receiving the External Appeal request the DFR will process the form and materials, and accept the appeal for review by an IRO after determining: that you are or were insured; the service is a covered service under the plan; the External Appeal involves an appealable decision; you have exhausted the internal process; and all information has been provided.

The DFR will notify you when the External Appeal submission is complete, and whether the External Appeal has been accepted for review by an IRO. Cigna must submit any required documentation within 10 calendar days from the date Cigna receives the request notice. Cigna may request a 10-calendar day extension for good cause. You may have an extension for any reason.

The DFR shall provide copies of documentation (and followup information) to you and to Cigna; each will have three working days to file responsive documentation with the DFR.

The DFR will assign the External Appeal on a rotating basis to an IRO for clinical review.

The DFR will review the determination of the IRO and then issue the determination to you and to Cigna, which will be binding on Cigna but not on you.

The IRO will conduct a full review, and may request any additional information from you, Cigna, or the DFR. The IRO will complete the review, and forward its written determination to the DFR within five calendar days from receipt if the External Appeal involves emergency or urgently needed care; and 30 calendar days from receipt for all other External Appeal requests. The IRO's written determination will include the clinical rationale for the determination. The IRO may request an extension from the Commissioner.

### **Additional Assistance**

You have the right to contact the Health Insurance Consumer Services unit within the DFR for assistance at any time. This unit can help you if you need general information about health insurance, have concerns about our activities, or are not satisfied with how we resolved your complaint. The DFR may be contacted at the following address and telephone number:

Health Insurance Consumer Services Division Vermont Department of Financial Regulation (DFR) 89 Main Street, Montpelier, VT 05620-3101 800-631-7788 (toll-free) or 802-828-2900

The Office of Health Care Ombudsman's telephone hotline service can also provide help to Vermonters who have problems or questions about health care and health insurance. Contact them at:

Office of Health Care Ombudsman 264 North Winooski Avenue Burlington, VT 05402 Telephone: 888-917-7787 or 802-863-7

Telephone: 888-917-7787 or 802-863-2316 TTY: 888-884-1955 or 802-863-2473

# **Applies to All Issues**

# Notice of Benefit Determination on Appeal

Every notice of a determination on appeal will be provided in writing or electronically and, if an adverse determination, will include: the specific reason or reasons for the adverse determination; reference to the specific plan provisions on which the determination is based; a statement that the claimant is entitled to receive, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to and copies of all documents, records, and other Relevant Information as defined; a statement describing any voluntary appeal procedures offered by the plan and the claimant's right to bring an action under ERISA section 502(a); and upon request and free of charge, a copy of any internal rule, guideline, protocol or other similar criterion that was relied upon in making the adverse determination regarding your appeal, and an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for a determination that is based on a Medical Necessity, experimental treatment or other similar exclusion or limit.



You also have the right to bring a civil action under Section 502(a) of ERISA if you are not satisfied with the decision on review. You or your plan may have other voluntary alternative dispute resolution options such as Mediation. One way to find out what may be available is to contact your local U.S. Department of Labor office and your state insurance regulatory agency. You may also contact the Plan Administrator.

#### **Relevant Information**

Relevant Information is any document, record, or other information which was relied upon in making the benefit determination; was submitted, considered, or generated in the course of making the benefit determination, without regard to whether such document, record, or other information was relied upon in making the benefit determination; or constitutes a statement of policy or guidance with respect to the plan concerning the denied treatment option or benefit or the claimant's diagnosis, without regard to whether such advice or statement was relied upon in making the benefit determination.

# **Legal Action**

If your plan is governed by ERISA, you have the right to bring a civil action under Section 502(a) of ERISA if you are not satisfied with the outcome of the Appeals Procedure. In most instances, you may not initiate a legal action against Cigna until you have completed the Level One and Level Two Appeal processes. If your Appeal is expedited, there is no need to complete the Level Two process prior to bringing legal action.

HC-APL38 04-10 V2

# **Definitions**

# **Bed and Board**

The term Bed and Board includes all charges made by a Hospital on its own behalf for room and meals and for all general services and activities needed for the care of registered bed patients.

HC-DFS2 04-10 V2

#### Charges

The term "charges" means the actual billed charges; except when the provider has contracted directly or indirectly with Cigna for a different amount.

HC-DFS3 04-10

# Chiropractic Care

The term Chiropractic Care means the conservative management of neuromusculoskeletal conditions through manipulation and ancillary physiological treatment rendered to specific joints to restore motion, reduce pain and improve function.

HC-DFS55 04-10 VI

#### **Custodial Services**

Any services that are of a sheltering, protective, or safeguarding nature. Such services may include a stay in an institutional setting, at-home care, or nursing services to care for someone because of age or mental or physical condition. This service primarily helps the person in daily living. Custodial care also can provide medical services, given mainly to maintain the person's current state of health. These services cannot be intended to greatly improve a medical condition; they are intended to provide care while the patient cannot care for himself or herself. Custodial Services include but are not limited to:

- Services related to watching or protecting a person;
- Services related to performing or assisting a person in performing any activities of daily living, such as: walking, grooming, bathing, dressing, getting in or out of bed, toileting, eating, preparing foods, or taking medications that can be self administered, and
- Services not required to be performed by trained or skilled medical or paramedical personnel.

HC-DFS4 04-10 V1

#### **Dependent**

Dependents are:

- · your lawful spouse; or
- your Domestic Partner; and



- any child of yours who is:
  - less than 26 years old.
  - 26 or more years old, unmarried, and primarily supported by you and incapable of self-sustaining employment by reason of mental or physical disability which arose while the child was covered as a Dependent under this Plan, or while covered as a dependent under a prior plan with no break in coverage.

Proof of the child's condition and dependence must be submitted to Cigna within 31 days after the date the child ceases to qualify above. From time to time, but not more frequently than once a year, Cigna may require proof of the continuation of such condition and dependence.

The term child means a child born to you or a child legally adopted by you or a grandchild who is considered your Dependent for federal income tax purposes. It also includes a stepchild or a child for whom you are the legal guardian. If your Domestic Partner has a child, that child will also be included as a Dependent.

Benefits for a Dependent child will continue until the last day of the calendar month in which the limiting age is reached.

Anyone who is eligible as an Employee will not be considered as a Dependent.

No one may be considered as a Dependent of more than one Employee.

HC-DFS673 07-14 V1

#### **Domestic Partner**

A Domestic Partner is defined as a person of the same sex who:

- shares your permanent residence;
- has resided with you for no less than one year;
- is no less than 18 years of age;
- is financially interdependent with you and has proven such interdependence by providing documentation of at least two of the following arrangements: common ownership of real property or a common leasehold interest in such property; community ownership of a motor vehicle; a joint bank account or a joint credit account; designation as a beneficiary for life insurance or retirement benefits or under your partner's will; assignment of a durable power of attorney or health care power of attorney; or such other proof as is considered by Cigna to be sufficient to establish financial interdependency under the circumstances of your particular case;

- is not a blood relative any closer than would prohibit legal marriage; and
- has signed jointly with you, a notarized affidavit attesting to the above which can be made available to Cigna upon request.

In addition, you and your Domestic Partner will be considered to have met the terms of this definition as long as neither you nor your Domestic Partner:

- has signed a Domestic Partner affidavit or declaration with any other person within twelve months prior to designating each other as Domestic Partners hereunder;
- is currently legally married to another person; or
- has any other Domestic Partner, spouse or spouse equivalent of the same or opposite sex.

You and your Domestic Partner must have registered as Domestic Partners, if you reside in a state that provides for such registration.

The section of this certificate entitled "COBRA Continuation Rights Under Federal Law" will not apply to your Domestic Partner and his or her Dependents.

HC-DFS47 04-10

V1

# **Emergency Services**

Emergency services are medical, psychiatric, surgical, Hospital and related health care services and testing, including ambulance service, which are required to treat a sudden, unexpected onset of a bodily Injury or serious Sickness which could reasonably be expected by a prudent layperson to result in serious medical complications, loss of life or permanent impairment to bodily functions in the absence of immediate medical attention. Examples of emergency situations include uncontrolled bleeding, seizures or loss of consciousness, shortness of breath, chest pains or severe squeezing sensations in the chest, suspected overdose of medication or poisoning. sudden paralysis or slurred speech, burns, cuts and broken bones. The symptoms that led you to believe you needed emergency care, as coded by the provider and recorded by the Hospital on the UB92 claim form, or its successor, or the final diagnosis, whichever reasonably indicated an emergency medical condition, will be the basis for the determination of coverage, provided such symptoms reasonably indicate an emergency.

HC-DFS6 04-10

V1



#### **Employee**

The term Employee means a retired employee.

HC-DFS7 04-10 V3 M

### **Employer**

The term Employer means the plan sponsor self-insuring the benefits described in this booklet, on whose behalf Cigna is providing claim administration services.

HC-DFS8 04-10 V1

# **Expense Incurred**

An expense is incurred when the service or the supply for which it is incurred is provided.

HC-DFS10 04-10 V1

# Free-Standing Surgical Facility

The term Free-standing Surgical Facility means an institution which meets all of the following requirements:

- it has a medical staff of Physicians, Nurses and licensed anesthesiologists;
- it maintains at least two operating rooms and one recovery room;
- it maintains diagnostic laboratory and x-ray facilities;
- it has equipment for emergency care;
- it has a blood supply;
- it maintains medical records;
- it has agreements with Hospitals for immediate acceptance of patients who need Hospital Confinement on an inpatient basis; and
- it is licensed in accordance with the laws of the appropriate legally authorized agency.

HC-DFS11 04-10 V1

#### **Hospice Care Program**

The term Hospice Care Program means:

- a coordinated, interdisciplinary program to meet the physical, psychological, spiritual and social needs of dying persons and their families;
- a program that provides palliative and supportive medical, nursing and other health services through home or inpatient care during the illness;
- a program for persons who have a Terminal Illness and for the families of those persons.

HC-DFS51 04-10

# **Hospice Care Services**

The term Hospice Care Services means any services provided by: a Hospital, a Skilled Nursing Facility or a similar institution, a Home Health Care Agency, a Hospice Facility, or any other licensed facility or agency under a Hospice Care Program.

HC-DFS52 04-10

# **Hospice Facility**

The term Hospice Facility means an institution or part of it which:

- primarily provides care for Terminally III patients;
- is accredited by the National Hospice Organization;
- · meets standards established by Cigna; and
- fulfills any licensing requirements of the state or locality in which it operates.

HC-DFS53 04-10

#### Hospital

The term Hospital means:

- an institution licensed as a hospital, which: maintains, on the premises, all facilities necessary for medical and surgical treatment; provides such treatment on an inpatient basis, for compensation, under the supervision of Physicians; and provides 24-hour service by Registered Graduate Nurses:
- an institution which qualifies as a hospital, a psychiatric hospital or a tuberculosis hospital, and a provider of



services under Medicare, if such institution is accredited as a hospital by the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations; or

 an institution which: specializes in treatment of Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder or other related illness; provides residential treatment programs; and is licensed in accordance with the laws of the appropriate legally authorized agency.

The term Hospital will not include an institution which is primarily a place for rest, a place for the aged, or a nursing home.

HC-DFS806 12-15

# Hospital Confinement or Confined in a Hospital

A person will be considered Confined in a Hospital if he is:

- a registered bed patient in a Hospital upon the recommendation of a Physician;
- receiving treatment for Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services in a Mental Health or Substance Use Disorder Residential Treatment Center.

HC-DFS807 12-15

# Injury

The term Injury means an accidental bodily injury.

HC-DFS12 04-10 V1

# **Maintenance Treatment**

The term Maintenance Treatment means:

 treatment rendered to keep or maintain the patient's current status.

HC-DFS56 04-10 V1

#### Maximum Reimbursable Charge - Medical

The Maximum Reimbursable Charge for covered services is determined based on the lesser of:

- the provider's normal charge for a similar service or supply;
   or
- a policyholder-selected percentage of a schedule developed by Cigna that is based upon a methodology similar to a

methodology utilized by Medicare to determine the allowable fee for the same or similar service within the geographic market.

The percentage used to determine the Maximum Reimbursable Charge is listed in The Schedule.

In some cases, a Medicare based schedule will not be used and the Maximum Reimbursable Charge for covered services is determined based on the lesser of:

- the provider's normal charge for a similar service or supply;
   or
- the 80th percentile of charges made by providers of such service or supply in the geographic area where it is received as compiled in a database selected by Cigna.

The Maximum Reimbursable Charge is subject to all other benefit limitations and applicable coding and payment methodologies determined by Cigna. Additional information about how Cigna determines the Maximum Reimbursable Charge is available upon request.

HC-DFS792 05-15

#### Medicaid

The term Medicaid means a state program of medical aid for needy persons established under Title XIX of the Social Security Act of 1965 as amended.

HC-DFS16 04-10

V1

# Medically Necessary/Medical Necessity

Medically Necessary care means health care services, including diagnostic testing, preventive services and aftercare, that are appropriate in terms of type, amount, frequency, level, setting, and duration to the person's diagnosis or condition. Medically Necessary care must be informed by generally accepted medical or scientific evidence and consistent with generally accepted practice parameters as recognized by health care professions in the same specialties as typically provide the procedure or treatment, or diagnose or manage the medical condition; must be informed by the unique needs of each individual patient and each presenting situation; and:

- help restore or maintain the person's health; or
- prevent deterioration of, or palliate, the person's condition;
   or



 prevent the reasonably likely onset of a health problem or detect an incipient problem.

HC-DFS155 04-10 V1

#### Medicare

The term Medicare means the program of medical care benefits provided under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act of 1965 as amended.

HC-DFS17 04-10 V1

# **Necessary Services and Supplies**

The term Necessary Services and Supplies includes any charges, except charges for Bed and Board, made by a Hospital on its own behalf for medical services and supplies actually used during Hospital Confinement, any charges, by whomever made, for licensed ambulance service to or from the nearest Hospital where the needed medical care and treatment can be provided; and any charges, by whomever made, for the administration of anesthetics during Hospital Confinement.

The term Necessary Services and Supplies will not include any charges for special nursing fees, dental fees or medical fees.

HC-DFS21 04-10 V1

#### Nurse

The term Nurse means a Registered Graduate Nurse, a Licensed Practical Nurse or a Licensed Vocational Nurse who has the right to use the abbreviation "R.N.," "L.P.N." or "L.V.N."

HC-DFS22 04-10 V1

#### Other Health Care Facility/Other Health Professional

The term Other Health Care Facility means a facility other than a Hospital or hospice facility. Examples of Other Health Care Facilities include, but are not limited to, licensed skilled nursing facilities, rehabilitation Hospitals and subacute facilities. The term Other Health Professional means an individual other than a Physician who is licensed or otherwise

authorized under the applicable state law to deliver medical services and supplies. Other Health Professionals include, but are not limited to physical therapists, registered nurses and licensed practical nurses. Other Health Professionals do not include providers such as Certified First Assistants, Certified Operating Room Technicians, Certified Surgical Assistants/Technicians, Licensed Certified Surgical Assistants/Technicians, Licensed Surgical Assistants, Orthopedic Physician Assistants and Surgical First Assistants.

HC-DFS23 04-10

# **Participating Provider**

The term Participating Provider means a hospital, a Physician or any other health care practitioner or entity that has a direct or indirect contractual arrangement with Cigna to provide covered services with regard to a particular plan under which the participant is covered.

HC-DFS45 04-10

# Physician

The term Physician means a licensed medical practitioner who is practicing within the scope of his license and who is licensed to prescribe and administer drugs or to perform surgery. It will also include any other licensed medical practitioner whose services are required to be covered by law in the locality where the policy is issued if he is:

- operating within the scope of his license; and
- performing a service for which benefits are provided under this plan when performed by a Physician.

HC-DFS25 04-10

#### **Preventive Treatment**

The term Preventive Treatment means treatment rendered to prevent disease or its recurrence.

HC-DFS57 04-10

# **Psychologist**

The term Psychologist means a person who is licensed or certified as a clinical psychologist. Where no licensure or



certification exists, the term Psychologist means a person who is considered qualified as a clinical psychologist by a recognized psychological association. It will also include any other licensed counseling practitioner whose services are required to be covered by law in the locality where the policy is issued if he is operating within the scope of his license and performing a service for which benefits are provided under this plan when performed by a Psychologist.

HC-DFS26 04-10 V1

# **Review Organization**

The term Review Organization refers to an affiliate of Cigna or another entity to which Cigna has delegated responsibility for performing utilization review services. The Review Organization is an organization with a staff of clinicians which may include Physicians, Registered Graduate Nurses, licensed mental health and substance use disorder professionals, and other trained staff members who perform utilization review services.

HC-DFS808 12-15

#### Sickness - For Medical Insurance

The term Sickness means a physical or mental illness. It also includes pregnancy. Expenses incurred for routine Hospital and pediatric care of a newborn child prior to discharge from the Hospital nursery will be considered to be incurred as a result of Sickness.

HC-DFS50 04-10 V1

# **Skilled Nursing Facility**

The term Skilled Nursing Facility means a licensed institution (other than a Hospital, as defined) which specializes in:

- physical rehabilitation on an inpatient basis; or
- skilled nursing and medical care on an inpatient basis;

but only if that institution: maintains on the premises all facilities necessary for medical treatment; provides such treatment, for compensation, under the supervision of Physicians; and provides Nurses' services.

HC-DFS31 04-10

V1

#### **Specialist**

The term Specialist means a Physician who provides specialized services, and is not engaged in general practice, family practice, internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology or pediatrics.

HC-DFS33 04-10 VI

#### **Terminal Illness**

A Terminal Illness will be considered to exist if a person becomes terminally ill with a prognosis of six months or less to live, as diagnosed by a Physician.

HC-DFS54 04-10

# **Urgent Care**

Urgent Care is medical, surgical, Hospital or related health care services and testing which are not Emergency Services, but which are determined by Cigna, in accordance with generally accepted medical standards, to have been necessary to treat a condition requiring prompt medical attention. This does not include care that could have been foreseen before leaving the immediate area where you ordinarily receive and/or were scheduled to receive services. Such care includes, but is not limited to, dialysis, scheduled medical treatments or therapy, or care received after a Physician's recommendation that the insured should not travel due to any medical condition.

HC-DFS34 04-10