

PPO BLUE

PPO PROGRAM

REX PREMIUM PPO BLUE \$20

Discrimination is Against the Law

The Claims Administrator/Insurer complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, including sex stereotypes and gender identity. The Claims Administrator/Insurer does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex assigned at birth, gender identity or recorded gender. Furthermore, the Claims Administrator/Insurer will not deny or limit coverage to any health service based on the fact that an individual's sex assigned at birth, gender identity, or recorded gender is different from the one to which such health service is ordinarily available. The Claims Administrator/Insurer will not deny or limit coverage for a specific health service related to gender transition if such denial or limitation results in discriminating against a transgender individual. The Claims Administrator/Insurer:

- Provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as:
 - Qualified sign language interpreters
 - Written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats)
- Provides free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as:
 - Qualified interpreters
 - Information written in other languages

If you need these services, contact the Civil Rights Coordinator.

If you believe that the Claims Administrator/Insurer has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, including sex stereotypes and gender identity, you can file a grievance with: Civil Rights Coordinator, P.O. Box 22492, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, Phone: 1-866-286-8295, TTY: 711, Fax: 412-544-2475, email: CivilRightsCoordinator@highmarkhealth.org. You can file a grievance in person or by mail, fax, or email. If you need help filing a grievance, the Civil Rights Coordinator is available to help you. You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf>, or by mail or phone at:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, SW

Room 509F, HHH Building

Washington, D.C. 20201

1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD)

Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>

ATTENTION: If you speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call the number on the back of your ID card (TTY: 711).

ATENCIÓN: Si usted habla español, servicios de asistencia lingüística, de forma gratuita, están disponibles para usted. Llame al número en la parte posterior de su tarjeta de identificación (TTY: 711).

请注意：如果您说中文，可向您提供免费语言协助服务。

请拨打您的身份证背面的号码（TTY：711）。

CHÚ Ý: Nếu quý vị nói tiếng Việt, chúng tôi cung cấp dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí cho quý vị. Xin gọi số điện thoại ở mặt sau thẻ ID của quý vị (TTY: 711).

알림: 한국어를 사용하시는 분들을 위해 무료 통역이 제공됩니다. ID 카드 뒷면에 있는 번호로 전화하십시오 (TTY: 711).

ATENSYON: Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, may makukuha kang mga lib्रेng serbisyong tulong sa wika. Tawagan ang numero sa likod ng iyong ID card (TTY: 711).

ВНИМАНИЕ: Если вы говорите по-русски, вы можете воспользоваться бесплатными услугами языковой поддержки. Позвоните по номеру, указанному на обороте вашей идентификационной карты (номер для текст-телефонных устройств (TTY): 711).

تنبيه: إذا كنت تتحدث اللغة العربية، فهناك خدمات المساعدة في اللغة المجانية متاحة لك. اتصل بالرقم الموجود خلف بطاقة هويتك (جهاز الاتصال لذوي صعوبات السمع والنطق: 711).

ATTENTION: Si c'est créole que vous connaissez, il y a un certain service de langues qui est gratis et disponible pour vous-même. Composez le numéro qui est au dos de votre carte d'identité. (TTY: 711).

ATTENTION: Si vous parlez français, les services d'assistance linguistique, gratuitement, sont à votre disposition. Appelez le numéro au dos de votre carte d'identité (TTY: 711).

UWAGA: Dla osób mówiących po polsku dostępna jest bezpłatna pomoc językowa. Zadzwoń pod numer podany na odwrocie karty ubezpieczenia zdrowotnego (TTY: 711).

ATENÇÃO: Se a sua língua é o português, temos atendimento gratuito para você no seu idioma. Ligue para o número no verso da sua identidade (TTY: 711).

ATTENZIONE: se parla italiano, per lei sono disponibili servizi di assistenza linguistica a titolo gratuito. Contatti il numero riportato sul retro della sua carta d'identità (TTY: 711).

ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, steht Ihnen unsere fremdsprachliche Unterstützung kostenlos zur Verfügung. Rufen Sie dazu die auf der Rückseite Ihres Versicherungsausweises (TTY: 711) aufgeführte Nummer an.

注: 日本語が母国語の方は言語アシスタンス・サービスを無料でご利用いただけます。ID カードの裏に明記されている番号に電話をおかけください (TTY: 711)。

توجه: اگر شما به زبان فارسی صحبت می کنید، خدمات کمک زبان، به صورت رایگان، در دسترس شماست. با شماره واقع در پشت کارت شناسایی خود (TTY: 711) تماس بگیرید.

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This Booklet is not a Contract

This booklet does not constitute a contract of benefits and provisions. The complete set of terms of coverage is set forth in the Group Contract issued by HM Health Insurance Company, an Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association. This booklet is merely a description of the principal features of your health care program.

Non-Assignment

Highmark is authorized by the member to make payments directly to providers furnishing Covered Services provided under the program described in this benefit booklet; however, Highmark reserves the right to make these payments directly to the member. The right of a member to receive payment for a Covered Service described in this benefits booklet is not assignable, except to the extent required by law, nor may benefits described in this benefit booklet be transferred either before or after Covered Services are rendered. Any (direct or indirect) attempt to accomplish such an assignment shall be null and void. Nothing contained in this benefit booklet shall be construed to make Highmark, the group health plan or the group health plan sponsor liable to any assignee to whom a member may be liable for medical care, treatment, or services.

HM Health Insurance Company d/b/a Highmark Health Insurance Company

Introduction to Your Health Care Program

This booklet provides you with the information you need to understand your health care program. We encourage you to take the time to review this information, so you understand how your health care program works.

Refer to the Summary of Benefits at the end of this booklet. The Summary of Benefits will tell you what you need to know about your benefits, exclusions and how your plan works.

For a number of reasons, we think you'll be pleased with your health care program:

- ***Your health care program gives you freedom of choice.*** You are not required to select a primary care provider to receive covered care. You have access to a large provider network of physicians, hospitals, and other providers in the Highmark service area, as well as providers across the country who are part of the local Blue Cross and Blue Shield PPO network. For a higher level of coverage, you need to receive care from one of these network providers. However, you can go outside the network and still receive care at the lower level of coverage. To locate a network provider near you, or to learn whether your current physician is in the network, log onto your Highmark member website, www.highmarkbcbs.com.
- ***Your health care program gives you "stay healthy" care.*** You are covered for a range of preventive care, including physical examinations and selected diagnostic tests. Preventive care is a proactive approach to health management that can help you stay on top of your health status and prevent more serious, costly care down the road.

You can review your Preventive Care Guidelines online at your member website. And, as a member of your health care program, you get important extras. Along with 24-hour assistance with any health care question via Blues On Call, your member website connects you to a range of self-service tools that can help you manage your coverage. You can also access programs and services designed to help you make and maintain healthy improvements. And you can access a wide range of care cost and care provider quality tools to assure you spend your health care dollars wisely.

We understand that prescription drug coverage is of particular concern to our members. You'll find in-depth information on these benefits in this booklet.

If you have any questions on your health care program, please call the Member Service toll-free telephone number on the back of your ID card. For TTY/TDD hearing impaired service, please dial 711 and the number on the back of your ID card.

Information for Non-English-Speaking Members

Non-English-speaking members have access to clear benefits information. They can call the toll-free Member Service telephone number on the back of their ID card to be connected to

a language services interpreter line. Highmark Member Service representatives are trained to make the connection.

As always, we value you as a member, look forward to providing your coverage, and wish you good health.

How Your Benefits Are Applied

To help you understand your coverage and how it works, here's an explanation of some benefit terms found on the Summary of Benefits, which is included at the end of this booklet. For specific amounts, refer to the Summary of Benefits.

Benefit Period

The specified period of time during which charges for covered services must be incurred in order to be eligible for payment by Highmark. A charge shall be considered incurred on the date you receive the service or supply for which the charge is made. Refer to the Summary of Benefits for the benefit period under this program.

Your group's benefit is based on a contract year. The contract year is a consecutive 12-month period beginning on the contract effective date. However, depending on the effective date of your benefits, your initial benefit period may be less than 12 months.

Medical and Prescription Drug Cost-Sharing Provisions

Cost sharing is a requirement that you pay part of your expenses for covered services. The terms "copayment," "deductible" and "coinsurance" describe methods of such payment.

Coinsurance

The coinsurance is the specific percentage of the plan allowance for covered services that is your responsibility. You may be required to pay any applicable coinsurance at the time you receive care from a provider. Refer to the Plan Payment Level in the Summary of Benefits for the percentage amounts paid by the program.

Copayment

The copayment for certain covered services is the specific, upfront dollar amount which will be deducted from the plan allowance and is your responsibility. See the Summary of Benefits for the copayment amounts.

Deductible

The deductible is a specified dollar amount you must pay for covered services each benefit period before the program begins to provide payment for benefits. See the Summary of Benefits for the deductible amount. You may be required to pay any applicable deductible at the time you receive care from a provider.

Family Deductible

The family deductible is a specified dollar amount of covered services that must be incurred by covered family members before the program begins to provide payment for benefits. See the Summary of Benefits for the family deductible amount.

For a family with several covered dependents, the deductible you pay for all covered family members, regardless of family size, is specified under family deductible. To reach this total, you can count the expenses incurred by two or more covered family members. However, the deductible contributed towards the total by any one covered family member will not be more than the amount of the individual deductible. If one family member meets the individual deductible and needs to use benefits, the program would begin to pay for that person's covered services even if the deductible for the entire family has not been met.

Out-of-Pocket Limit

The out-of-pocket limit refers to the specified dollar amount of expense incurred for covered services in a benefit period. When the specified dollar amount is attained, the level of benefit increases as specified in the Summary of Benefits. See the Summary of Benefits for the out-of-pocket limit.

Out-of-Pocket Credit

If your group changes group health care expense coverage during your benefit period, the amount you paid toward your out-of-pocket limit during the last partial benefit period for services covered under the prior Highmark coverage will be applied to the network and out-of-network (combined) out-of-pocket limit of the initial benefit period under this program. This credit is similarly applied toward your total maximum out-of-pocket for network covered services.

Maximum

The greatest amount of benefits that the program will provide for covered services within a prescribed period of time. This could be expressed in dollars, number of days or number of services.

Covered Services - Medical Program

Your health care program may provide benefits for the following services you receive from a provider when such services are determined to be medically necessary and appropriate. All benefit limits, deductibles and copayment amounts are described in the Summary of Benefits included at the end of this booklet. For specific covered services, refer to the Summary of Benefits.

Network care is covered at a higher level of benefits than out-of-network care. For the lowest out-of-pocket costs, use a network provider. To make sure that a provider is in the network, call Member Service at the number on the back of your member ID card. Or visit www.highmarkbcbs.com.

Ambulance Service

Ambulance service providing local transportation by means of a specially designed and equipped vehicle used only for transporting the sick and injured:

- from your home, the scene of an accident or medical emergency to a hospital or skilled nursing facility;
- between hospitals; or
- between a hospital and a skilled nursing facility;

when such facility is the closest institution that can provide covered services appropriate for your condition. If there is no facility in the local area that can provide covered services appropriate for your condition, then ambulance service means transportation to the closest facility outside the local area that can provide the necessary service.

Transportation and related emergency services provided by an ambulance service will be considered emergency ambulance service if the injury or condition is considered emergency care. Refer to the Terms You Should Know section for a definition of emergency care services.

Use of an ambulance as transportation to an emergency room for an injury or condition that does not satisfy the criteria of emergency care will not be covered as emergency ambulance services.

Local transportation by means of a specially designed and equipped vehicle used only for transporting the sick and injured:

- from a hospital to your home, or
- from a skilled nursing facility to your home.

Anesthesia for Non-Covered Dental Procedures (Limited)

Benefits will be provided for general anesthesia and associated hospital and medical services normally related to the administration of general anesthesia which are rendered in connection with non-covered dental procedures or non-covered oral surgery. Benefits are provided for members age seven or under and for developmentally disabled members when determined by Highmark to be medically necessary and appropriate and when a successful result cannot be expected for treatment under local anesthesia, or when a superior result can be expected from treatment under general anesthesia.

Autism Spectrum Disorders

Benefits are provided to members under 21 years of age for the following:

Diagnostic Assessment of Autism Spectrum Disorders

Medically necessary and appropriate assessments, evaluations or tests performed by a physician, licensed physician assistant, psychologist or certified registered nurse practitioner to diagnose whether an individual has an autism spectrum disorder.

Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders

Services must be specified in a treatment plan developed by a physician or psychologist following a comprehensive evaluation or reevaluation performed in a manner consistent with the most recent clinical report or recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Highmark may review a treatment plan for autism spectrum disorders once every six months, or as agreed upon between Highmark and the physician or psychologist developing the treatment plan.

Treatment may include the following medically necessary and appropriate services:

Pharmacy care

Any assessment, evaluation, test or prescription drug prescribed or ordered by a physician, licensed physician assistant or certified registered nurse practitioner to determine the need or effectiveness of a prescription drug approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and designated by Highmark for the treatment of autism spectrum disorders.

Psychiatric and psychological care

Direct or consultative services provided by a psychologist or by a physician who specializes in psychiatry.

Rehabilitative care

Professional services and treatment programs, including Applied Behavioral Analysis, provided by an autism service provider to produce socially significant improvements in human behavior or to prevent loss of an attained skill or function.

Therapeutic care

Services that are provided by a speech language pathologist, occupational therapist or physical therapist.

Dental Services Related to Accidental Injury

Dental services initially rendered by a physician which are required as a result of accidental injury to the jaws, sound natural teeth, mouth or face. Follow-up services, if any, that are provided after the initial treatment are not covered. Injury as a result of chewing or biting shall not be considered an accidental injury.

Diabetes Treatment

Coverage is provided for the following when required in connection with the treatment of diabetes and when prescribed by a physician legally authorized to prescribe such items under the law:

- Equipment and supplies: Blood glucose monitors, monitor supplies, and insulin infusion devices
- Diabetes Education Program*: When your physician certifies that you require diabetes education as an outpatient, coverage is provided for the following when rendered through a diabetes education program:
 - Visits medically necessary and appropriate upon the diagnosis of diabetes
 - Subsequent visits under circumstances whereby your physician: a) identifies or diagnoses a significant change in your symptoms or conditions that necessitates changes in your self-management, or b) identifies, as medically necessary and appropriate, a new medication or therapeutic process relating to your treatment and/or management of diabetes

***Diabetes Education Program** – an outpatient program of self-management, training and education, including medical nutrition therapy, for the treatment of diabetes. Such outpatient program must be conducted under the supervision of a licensed health care professional with expertise in diabetes. Outpatient diabetes education services will be covered subject to Highmark's criteria. These criteria are based on the certification programs for outpatient diabetes education developed by the American Diabetes Association (ADA) and the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

Diagnostic Services

Benefits will be provided for the following covered services when ordered by a professional provider:

Advanced Imaging Services

Include, but are not limited to, computed tomography (CT), computed tomographic angiography (CTA), magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), magnetic resonance angiography (MRA), positron emission tomography (PET scan), positron emission tomography/computed tomography (PET/CT scan).

Basic Diagnostic Services

- **Standard Imaging Services** - procedures such as skeletal x-rays, ultrasound and fluoroscopy
- **Laboratory and Pathology Services** - procedures such as non-routine Papanicolaou (PAP) smears, blood tests, urinalysis, biopsies and cultures
- **Diagnostic Medical Services** - procedures such as electrocardiograms (ECG), electroencephalograms (EEG), echocardiograms, pulmonary studies, stress tests, audiology testing
- **Allergy Testing Services** - allergy testing procedures such as percutaneous, intracutaneous, and patch tests

Durable Medical Equipment

The rental or, at the option of Highmark, the purchase, adjustment, repairs and replacement of durable medical equipment for therapeutic use when prescribed by a professional provider within the scope of their license. Rental costs cannot exceed the total cost of purchase.

Enteral Foods

Enteral foods is a liquid source of nutrition equivalent to a prescription drug that is administered orally or enterally and which may contain some or all nutrients necessary to meet minimum daily nutritional requirements. Enteral foods are intended for the specific dietary management of a disease or condition for which distinctive nutritional requirements are identified through medical evaluation.

Coverage is provided for enteral foods when administered on an outpatient basis for:

- amino acid-based elemental medical formulae ordered by a physician for infants and children for food protein allergies, food protein-induced enterocolitis syndrome, eosinophilic disorders and short bowel syndrome; and
- nutritional supplements administered under the direction of a physician for the therapeutic treatment of phenylketonuria, branched-chain ketonuria, galactosemia and homocystinuria and;
- enteral formulae prescribed by a physician, when administered on an outpatient basis, considered to be your sole source of nutrition and provided:
 - through a feeding tube (nasogastric, gastrostomy, jejunostomy, etc.) and utilized instead of regular shelf food or regular infant formulas; or
 - orally and identified as one of the following types of defined formulae with: hydrolyzed (pre-digested) protein or amino acids, specialized content for special metabolic needs, modular components, or standardized nutrients.

Once it is determined that you meet the above criteria, coverage for enteral formulae will continue as long as it represents at least 50% of your daily caloric requirement.

Coverage for enteral formulae excludes the following:

- Blenderized food, baby food, or regular shelf food
- Milk or soy-based infant formulae with intact proteins
- Any formulae, when used for the convenience of you or your family members
- Nutritional supplements or any other substance utilized for the sole purpose of weight loss or gain, or for caloric supplementation, limitation or maintenance
- Semisynthetic intact protein/protein isolates, natural intact protein/protein isolates, and intact protein/protein isolates, when provided orally

This coverage does not include normal food products used in the dietary management of the disorders included above.

Home Health Care Services

This program covers the following services you receive from a home health care agency or a hospital program for home health care:

- Skilled nursing services of a Registered Nurse (RN) or Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)
- Physical medicine, speech therapy and occupational therapy

- Medical and surgical supplies provided by the home health care agency or hospital program for home health care
- Oxygen and its administration
- Medical social service consultations
- Health aide services when you are also receiving covered nursing services or therapy and rehabilitation services

No home health care benefits will be provided for:

- dietitian services;
- homemaker services;
- maintenance therapy;
- dialysis treatment;
- custodial care; and
- food or home-delivered meals.

Home Infusion and Suite Infusion Therapy Services

Benefits will be provided when performed by a home infusion and/or suite infusion therapy provider at an infusion suite or in a home setting. This includes pharmaceuticals, pharmacy services, intravenous solutions, medical/surgical supplies and nursing services associated with infusion therapy. Specific adjunct non-intravenous therapies are included when administered only in conjunction with infusion therapy.

Hospice Care Services

This program covers the following services you receive from a home health care agency or a hospital program for hospice care:

- Skilled nursing services of a Registered Nurse (RN) or Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)
- Physical medicine, speech therapy and occupational therapy
- Medical and surgical supplies provided by the home health care agency or hospital program for hospice care
- Oxygen and its administration
- Medical social service consultations
- Health aide services when you are receiving covered nursing services or therapy and rehabilitation services

- Family counseling related to the member's terminal condition

No hospice care benefits will be provided for:

- dietitian services;
- homemaker services;
- maintenance therapy;
- dialysis treatment;
- custodial care; and
- food or home delivered meals.

Hospital Services

This program covers the following services received in a facility provider. Benefits will be covered only when, and so long as, they are determined to be medically necessary and appropriate for the treatment of the patient's condition.

Inpatient Services

Bed and Board

Bed, board and general nursing services are covered when you occupy:

- a room with two or more beds;
- a private room. Private room allowance is the average semi-private room charge; or
- a bed in a special care unit which is a designated unit which has concentrated all facilities, equipment and supportive services for the provision of an intensive level of care for critically ill patients.

Ancillary Services

Hospital services and supplies including, but not restricted to:

- use of operating, delivery and treatment rooms and equipment;
- drugs and medicines provided to you while you are an inpatient in a facility provider;
- whole blood, administration of blood, blood processing, and blood derivatives;
- anesthesia, anesthesia supplies and services rendered in a facility provider by an employee of the facility provider. Administration of anesthesia ordered by the attending professional provider and rendered by a professional provider other than the surgeon or assistant at surgery;

- medical and surgical dressings, supplies, casts and splints;
- diagnostic services; or
- therapy and rehabilitation services.

Outpatient Services

Ancillary Services

Hospital services and supplies including, but not restricted to:

- use of operating, delivery and treatment rooms and equipment;
- drugs and medicines provided to you while you are an outpatient in a facility provider;
- whole blood, administration of blood, blood processing, and blood derivatives;
- anesthesia, anesthesia supplies and services rendered in a facility provider by an employee of the facility provider. Administration of anesthesia ordered by the attending professional provider and rendered by a professional provider other than the surgeon or assistant at surgery;
- medical and surgical dressings, supplies, casts and splints.

Emergency Care Services

In emergency situations, where you must be treated immediately, go directly to your nearest hospital emergency provider; or call "911" or your area's emergency number.

Emergency care services are services and supplies, including drugs and medicines, for the outpatient emergency treatment of bodily injuries resulting from an accident or a medical condition. Also included is a medical screening examination and ancillary services necessary to evaluate such injury or emergency medical condition and further medical examination and treatment as required to stabilize the patient.

Your outpatient emergency room visits may be subject to a copayment, which is waived if you are admitted as an inpatient. Refer to the Summary of Benefits section for your program's specific amounts.

Once the crisis has passed, call your physician to receive appropriate follow-up care.

Refer to the Terms You Should Know section for a definition of emergency care services. Treatment for any occupational injury for which benefits are provided under any worker's compensation law or any similar occupational disease law is not covered.

Pre-Admission Testing

Tests and studies, as indicated in the Basic Diagnostic Services subsection above, required in connection with your admission rendered or accepted by a hospital on an outpatient basis prior to a scheduled admission to the hospital as an inpatient.

Surgery

Hospital services and supplies for outpatient surgery including removal of sutures, anesthesia, anesthesia supplies and services rendered by an employee of the facility provider, other than the surgeon or assistant at surgery.

Inpatient Medical Services

Medical care by a professional provider when you are an inpatient for a condition not related to surgery, pregnancy or mental illness, except as specifically provided.

Concurrent Care

Medical care rendered concurrently with surgery during one inpatient stay by a professional provider other than the operating surgeon for treatment of a medical condition separate from the condition for which surgery was performed. Medical care by two or more professional providers rendered concurrently during one inpatient stay when the nature or severity of your condition requires the skills of separate physicians.

Consultation

Consultation services rendered to an inpatient by another professional provider at the request of the attending professional provider. Consultation does not include staff consultations which are required by facility provider rules and regulations.

Inpatient Medical Care Visits

Benefits are provided for inpatient medical care visits.

Intensive Medical Care

Medical care rendered to you when your condition requires a professional provider's constant attendance and treatment for a prolonged period of time.

Routine Newborn Care

Professional provider visits to examine newborn infant while the mother is an inpatient.

Maternity Services

Hospital, medical and surgical services rendered by a facility provider or professional provider for:

Complications of Pregnancy

Physical effects directly caused by pregnancy but which are not considered from a medical viewpoint to be the effect of normal pregnancy, including conditions related to ectopic pregnancy or those that require cesarean section.

Maternity Home Health Care Visit

You are covered for one maternity home health care visit provided at your home within 48 hours of discharge when the discharge from a facility provider occurs prior to: (a) 48 hours of inpatient care following a normal vaginal delivery, or (b) 96 hours of inpatient care following a cesarean delivery. This visit shall be made by a network provider whose scope of practice includes postpartum care. The visit includes parent education, assistance and training in breast and bottle feeding, infant screening, clinical tests, and the performance of any necessary maternal and neonatal physical assessments. The visit may, at your sole discretion, occur at the office of your network provider. The visit is subject to all the terms of this program and is exempt from any copayment, coinsurance or deductible amounts.

Under state law, entities such as Highmark which issue health insurance to your employer or union, are generally prohibited from restricting 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 cesarean section. However, state law does not prohibit the mother's or newborn's attending provider from discharging the mother or newborn earlier than 48 hours (or 96 hours as applicable) if the mother and newborn meet the medical criteria for a safe discharge contained in guidelines which recognize treatment standards used to determine the appropriate length of stay; including those of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. In any case, health insurance issuers like Highmark can only require that a provider obtain authorization for prescribing an inpatient hospital stay that exceeds 48 hours (or 96 hours).

Normal Pregnancy

Normal pregnancy includes any condition usually associated with the management of a difficult pregnancy but is not considered a complication of pregnancy.

Nursery Care

Covered services provided to the newborn child from the moment of birth, including care which is necessary for the treatment of medically diagnosed congenital defects, birth abnormalities, prematurity and routine nursery care. Routine nursery care includes inpatient medical visits by a professional provider. Benefits will continue for a maximum of 31 days. To be covered as a dependent beyond the 31-day period, the newborn child must be enrolled as a dependent under this program within such period. Refer to the General Information section for further eligibility information.

If you are pregnant, now is the time to enroll in the Baby Blueprints® Maternity Education and Support Program offered by Highmark. Please refer to the Member Services section of this booklet for more information.

Mental Health Care Services

Your mental health is just as important as your physical health. That's why your program provides professional, confidential mental health care that addresses your individual needs. You have access to a wide range of mental health and substance abuse professional providers, so you can get the appropriate level of responsive, confidential care.

You are covered for a full range of counseling and treatment services. Your program covers the following services you receive from a provider to treat mental illness:

Inpatient Facility Services

Inpatient hospital services provided by a facility provider for the treatment of mental illness.

Inpatient Medical Services

Covered inpatient medical services provided by a professional provider:

- Individual psychotherapy
- Group psychotherapy
- Psychological testing
- Counseling with family members to assist in your diagnosis and treatment
- Electroshock treatment or convulsive drug therapy including anesthesia when administered concurrently with the treatment by the same professional provider

Partial Hospitalization Mental Health Care Services

Benefits are only available for mental health care services provided on a partial hospitalization basis when received through a partial hospitalization program. A mental health care service provided on a partial hospitalization basis will be deemed an outpatient care visit and is subject to any outpatient care cost-sharing amounts.

Outpatient Mental Health Care Services

Inpatient facility service and inpatient medical benefits (except room and board) provided by a facility provider or professional provider as previously described, are also available when you are an outpatient, including a virtual visit between you and a specialist or approved telemedicine provider via an audio and video telecommunications system.

Orthotic Devices

Purchase, fitting, necessary adjustment, repairs and replacement of a rigid or semi-rigid supportive device which restricts or eliminates motion of a weak or diseased body part.

Outpatient Medical Care Services (Office Visits)

Medical care rendered by a professional provider when you are an outpatient for a condition not related to surgery, pregnancy or mental illness, except as specifically provided. Benefits include medical care visits, telemedicine services and consultations for the examination, diagnosis and treatment of an injury or illness.

Please note that as a Highmark member, you enjoy many convenient options for where you can receive outpatient care. You can physically go to one of the following providers:

- Primary care provider's (PCP) or specialist's office
- Physician's office located in an outpatient hospital/hospital satellite setting
- Urgent Care Center
- Retail site, such as in a pharmacy or other retail store

Or you can interact with a professional provider as follows:

- A virtual visit between you and a PCP or retail clinic via an audio and video telecommunications system
- A virtual visit between you and a specialist via the internet or similar electronic communications for the treatment of skin conditions or diseases
- A specialist virtual visit between you and a specialist via audio and video telecommunications. Benefits are provided for a specialist virtual visit when you communicate with the specialist from any location, such as your home, office or another mobile location, or if you travel to a provider-based location referred to as a provider originating site. If you communicate with the specialist from a provider originating site, you will be responsible for the specialist virtual visit provider originating site fee. Benefits will not be provided for a specialist virtual visit if the visit is related to the treatment of mental illness or substance abuse.

Different types of providers and their locations may require different payment amounts. The specific amounts you are responsible for paying depend on your particular Highmark benefits.

Allergy Extract/Injections

Benefits are provided for allergy extract and allergy injections.

Therapeutic Injections

Therapeutic injections required in the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of an injury or illness.

Pediatric Extended Care Services

Benefits are provided for care received from a pediatric extended care facility that is licensed by the state and is primarily engaged in providing basic non-residential services to infants and/or young children who have complex medical needs requiring skilled nursing and therapeutic care and who may be technologically dependent.

Services rendered by a pediatric extended care facility pursuant to a treatment plan for which benefits may include one or more of the following:

- Skilled nursing services of a Registered Nurse (RN) or Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)
- Physical medicine, speech therapy and occupational therapy
- Respiratory therapy
- Medical and surgical supplies provided by the pediatric extended care facility
- Acute health care support
- Ongoing assessments of health status, growth and development

Pediatric extended care services will be covered for children eight years of age or under, pursuant to the attending physician's treatment plan only when provided in a pediatric extended care facility, and when approved by Highmark.

A prescription from the child's attending physician is necessary for admission to such facility.

No benefits are payable after the child has reached the maximum level of recovery possible for his or her particular condition and no longer requires definitive treatment other than routine supportive care.

Preventive Care Services

Benefits will be provided for covered services. Refer to the Summary of Benefits for your program's specific level of coverage.

Adult and Pediatric Care

Routine physical examinations, regardless of medical necessity and appropriateness, including a complete medical history for adults, and other items and services.

Well-woman benefits are provided for items and services including, but not limited to, an initial physical examination to confirm pregnancy, screening for gestational diabetes, coverage for contraceptive methods and counseling for all members capable of pregnancy and breastfeeding support and counseling.

Adult Immunizations

Benefits are provided for adult immunizations, including the immunizing agent, when required for the prevention of disease.

Colorectal Cancer Screenings

Benefits are provided for the following tests or procedures when ordered by a physician for the purpose of early detection of colorectal cancer:

- Basic diagnostic laboratory and pathology screening services such as a fecal-occult blood or fecal immunochemical test
- Basic diagnostic standard imaging screening services such as barium enema
- Surgical screening services such as flexible sigmoidoscopy and colonoscopy and hospital services related to such surgical screening services
- Such other basic diagnostic laboratory and pathology, basic diagnostic standard imaging, surgical screening tests, basic diagnostic medical and advanced imaging screening services consistent with approved medical standards and practices for the detection of colon cancer

Benefits are provided for members 50 years of age or older as follows, or more frequently and regardless of age when prescribed by a physician:

- An annual fecal-occult blood test or fecal immunochemical test
- A sigmoidoscopy every five years
- A screening barium enema or test consistent with approved medical standards and practices to detect colon cancer every five years
- A colonoscopy every 10 years

If you are determined to be at high or increased risk, regardless of age, benefits are provided for a colonoscopy or any other combination of covered services related to colorectal cancer screening when prescribed by a physician and in accordance with the American Cancer Society guidelines on screening for colorectal cancer as of January 1, 2008.

Colorectal cancer screening services which are otherwise not described herein and are prescribed by a physician for a symptomatic member are not considered preventive care services. The payment for these services will be consistent with similar medically necessary and appropriate covered services.

Diabetes Prevention Program

Benefits are provided if you meet certain medical criteria of having a high risk of developing type 2 diabetes and when you are enrolled in a diabetes prevention program that is offered through a network diabetes prevention provider or a YMCA diabetes prevention eligible provider. Coverage is limited to one enrollment in a diabetes prevention program per year, regardless of whether you complete the diabetes prevention program.

Mammographic Screening

Benefits are provided for the following:

- An annual routine mammographic screening starting at 40 years of age or older pursuant to the 2002 recommendations by the United States Preventive Services Task Force.
- Mammographic screenings for all members regardless of age when such services are prescribed by a physician.

Benefits for mammographic screening are payable only if performed by a mammography service provider who is properly certified by the Pennsylvania Department of Health in accordance with the Mammography Quality Assurance Act of 1992.

Pediatric Immunizations

Benefits are provided to members under 21 years of age and dependent children for those pediatric immunizations, including the immunizing agents, which conform with the standards of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Center for Disease Control and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Benefits are not subject to the program deductibles or dollar limits.

Routine Gynecological Examination and Pap Test

Benefits are provided for one routine gynecological examination, including a pelvic and clinical breast examination, and one routine Papanicolaou smear (pap test) per calendar year. Benefits are not subject to program deductibles or maximums.

Routine Screening Tests and Procedures

Benefits are provided for routine screening tests and procedures, regardless of medical necessity and appropriateness.

Tobacco Use, Counseling and Interventions

Benefits are provided for screenings for tobacco use and, for those who use tobacco products, two tobacco cessation attempts per year. A tobacco cessation attempt includes four tobacco cessation counseling sessions and covered medications.

Private Duty Nursing Services

Services of an actively practicing Registered Nurse (RN) or Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) when ordered by a physician, providing such nurse does not ordinarily reside in your home or is not a member of your immediate family.

- If you are an inpatient in a facility provider only when Highmark determines that the nursing services required are of a nature or degree of complexity or quantity that could not be provided by the regular nursing staff.
- If you are at home only when Highmark determines that the nursing services require the skills of an RN or an LPN.

Prosthetic Appliances

Purchase, fitting, necessary adjustments, repairs, and replacements of prosthetic devices and supplies which replace all or part of an absent body organ and its adjoining tissues, or replace all or part of the function of a permanently inoperative or malfunctioning body organ (excluding dental appliances and the replacement of cataract lenses). Initial and subsequent prosthetic devices to replace the removed breast(s) or a portion thereof are also covered.

Skilled Nursing Facility Services

Services rendered in a skilled nursing facility to the same extent benefits are available to an inpatient of a hospital.

No benefits are payable:

- after you have reached the maximum level of recovery possible for your particular condition and no longer require definitive treatment other than routine supportive care;
- when confinement is intended solely to assist you with the activities of daily living or to provide an institutional environment for your convenience; or
- for treatment of substance abuse or mental illness.

Spinal Manipulations

Spinal manipulations for the detection and correction by manual or mechanical means of structural imbalance or subluxation resulting from or related to distortion, misalignment, or subluxation of or in the vertebral column.

Substance Abuse Services

Benefits are provided for individual and group counseling and psychotherapy, psychological testing, and family counseling for the treatment of substance abuse when rendered by a facility provider or professional provider and include the following:

- Detoxication services rendered;
 - on an inpatient basis in a hospital or substance abuse treatment facility; or
 - on an outpatient basis
- Substance abuse treatment facility services for non-hospital inpatient residential treatment and rehabilitation services
- Outpatient services rendered in a hospital or substance abuse treatment facility and outpatient substance abuse treatment facility services for rehabilitation therapy

For purposes of this benefit, a substance abuse service provided on a partial hospitalization basis shall be deemed an outpatient care visit and is subject to any outpatient care cost-sharing amounts.

Surgical Services

This program covers the following services you receive from a professional provider. See the Health Care Management section for additional information which may affect your benefits.

Anesthesia

Administration of anesthesia for covered surgery when ordered by the attending professional provider and rendered by a professional provider other than the surgeon or the assistant at surgery. Benefits will also be provided for the administration of anesthesia for covered oral surgical procedures in an outpatient setting when ordered and administered by the attending professional provider.

Assistant at Surgery

Services of a physician who actively assists the operating surgeon in the performance of covered surgery. Benefits will be provided for an assistant at surgery only if a house staff member, intern or resident is not available.

Mastectomy and Breast Cancer Reconstruction

Benefits are provided for a mastectomy performed on an inpatient or outpatient basis and for the following:

- All stages of reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy has been performed

- Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance
- Prostheses; and
- Treatment of physical complications of mastectomy, including lymphedema

Benefits are also provided for one home health care visit, as determined by your physician, within 48 hours after discharge, if such discharge occurred within 48 hours after an admission for a mastectomy.

Special Surgery

- Oral Surgery

Benefits are provided for the following limited oral surgical procedures determined to be medically necessary and appropriate:

- Extraction of impacted third molars when partially or totally covered by bone
- Extraction of teeth in preparation for radiation therapy
- Mandibular staple implant, provided the procedure is not done to prepare the mouth for dentures
- Lingual frenectomy, frenotomy or frenoplasty (to correct tongue-tie)
- Facility provider and anesthesia services rendered in a facility setting in conjunction with non-covered dental procedures when determined by Highmark to be medically necessary and appropriate due to your age and/or medical condition
- Accidental injury to the jaw or structures contiguous to the jaw except teeth
- The correction of a non-dental physiological condition which has resulted in a severe functional impairment
- Treatment for tumors and cysts requiring pathological examination of the jaw, cheeks, lips, tongue, roof and floor of the mouth
- Orthodontic treatment of congenital cleft palates involving the maxillary arch, performed in conjunction with bone graft surgery to correct the bony deficits associated with extremely wide clefts affecting the alveolus

Second Surgical Opinion

A consulting physician's opinion and directly related diagnostic services to confirm the need for recommended elective surgery.

Keep in mind that:

- the second opinion consultant must not be the physician who first recommended elective surgery;
- elective surgery is covered surgery that may be deferred and is not an emergency;
- use of a second surgical opinion is at your option;
- if the first opinion for elective surgery and the second opinion conflict, then a third opinion and directly related diagnostic services are covered services; and
- if the consulting opinion is against elective surgery and you decide to have the elective surgery, the surgery is a covered service. In such instance, you will be eligible for a maximum of two such consultations involving the elective surgical procedure in question, but limited to one consultation per consultant.

Surgery

- Surgery performed by a professional provider. Separate payment will not be made for pre- and post-operative services.
- If more than one surgical procedure is performed by the same professional provider during the same operation, the total benefits payable will be the amount payable for the highest paying procedure and no allowance shall be made for additional procedures except where Highmark deems that an additional allowance is warranted.

Therapy and Rehabilitation Services

*Benefits will be provided for the following services when such services are ordered by a physician:

- Cardiac rehabilitation
- Chemotherapy
- Dialysis treatment
- Infusion therapy when performed by a facility provider or ancillary provider and for self-administration if the components are furnished and billed by a facility provider or ancillary provider.
- Occupational therapy
- Physical medicine

- Radiation therapy
- Respiratory therapy
- Speech therapy

*Refer to the Summary of Benefits for therapy and rehabilitation services covered under your plan.

Transplant Services

Benefits will be provided for covered services furnished by a hospital which are directly and specifically related to the transplantation of organs, bones, tissue or blood stem cells.

If a human organ, bone, tissue or blood stem cell transplant is provided from a living donor to a human transplant recipient:

- when both the recipient and the donor are members, each is entitled to the benefits of their program;
- when only the recipient is a member, both the donor and the recipient are entitled to the benefits of this program subject to the following additional limitations: 1) the donor benefits are limited to only those not provided or available to the donor from any other source, including, but not limited to, other insurance coverage, other Blue Cross or Blue Shield coverage or any government program; and 2) benefits provided to the donor will be charged against the recipient's coverage under this program to the extent that benefits remain and are available under this program after benefits for the recipient's own expenses have been paid;
- when only the donor is a member, the donor is entitled to the benefits of this program, subject to the following additional limitations: 1) the benefits are limited to only those not provided or available to the donor from any other source in accordance with the terms of this program; and 2) no benefits will be provided to the non-member transplant recipient; and
- if any organ, tissue or blood stem cell is sold rather than donated to the member recipient, no benefits will be payable for the purchase price of such organ, tissue or blood stem cell; however, other costs related to evaluation and procurement are covered up to the member recipient's program limit.

Covered Services - Prescription Drug Program

Prescription drugs are covered when you purchase them through the pharmacy network applicable to your program. For convenience and choice, these pharmacies include both major chains and independent stores. To locate a network pharmacy, go to your member website, log in and choose **Prescriptions**. Or call Member Service at the number on the back of your ID card.

Your program may also include a formulary. The formulary is a list of FDA-approved prescription drugs. It covers products in every major treatment category. The formulary is on your member website. You can also call Member Service for more information.

A drug formulary may restrict coverage of some drugs. To help manage costs, coverage will be for the generic drug if it is available. Generic drugs have the same active ingredient as brand names. Generic drugs must also meet the same FDA requirements.

Your program may also include a mandatory generic penalty (MGP) provision. The MGP provision provides that if you receive a brand name drug when a generic equivalent is available you must pay the price difference between the brand and generic prices in addition to the applicable copayment or coinsurance amount.

To help contain costs, if a generic drug is available, you will be given the generic. As you probably know, generic drugs have the same chemical composition and therapeutic effects as brand names and must meet the same FDA requirements.

Should you purchase or should your physician prescribe a brand name drug when a generic is available, you must pay the price difference between the brand and generic prices in addition to the applicable copayment or coinsurance amount.

Covered Drugs

Covered drugs include:

- those which, under Federal law, are required to bear the legend: "Caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without a prescription;"
- legend drugs under applicable state law and dispensed by a licensed pharmacist;
- prescription drugs listed in your program's prescription drug formulary;
- over-the-counter drugs listed in the formulary, upon presentation of a written prescription;
- preventive drugs that are offered in accordance with a predefined schedule and are prescribed for preventive purposes. Highmark periodically reviews the schedule based on legislative requirements and the advice of the American Academy of

Pediatrics, the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association and medical consultants. Therefore, the frequency and eligibility of services is subject to change. For a current schedule of covered preventive drugs, log onto your member website, or call Member Service at the toll-free telephone number listed on the back of your ID card;

- prescribed injectable insulin;
- diabetic supplies, including needles and syringes; and
- certain drugs that may require prior authorization

Exclusive Pharmacy Provider

Covered drugs also include selected prescription drugs within, but not limited to, the following drug classifications only when such drugs are covered medications and are dispensed through an exclusive pharmacy provider. These particular prescription drugs will be limited to your benefit program's retail cost-sharing provisions and retail days supply.

These selected prescription drugs may be ordered by a physician or other health care provider on your behalf or you may submit the prescription order directly to the exclusive pharmacy provider. In either situation, the exclusive pharmacy provider will deliver the prescription to you.

- Oncology-related therapies
- Interferons
- Agents for multiple sclerosis and neurological related therapies
- Antiarthritic therapies
- Anticoagulants
- Hematinic agents
- Immunomodulators
- Growth hormones
- Hemophilia related therapies
- Fertility drugs

For a complete listing of those prescription drugs that must be obtained through an exclusive pharmacy provider, contact Member Service at the toll-free telephone number on the back of your ID card.

Your prescription drug program follows a select drug list, which is referred to as a "formulary." As long as a medication is on the formulary, you will be covered. The formulary is an extensive list of Food & Drug Administration (FDA)-approved prescription drugs and selected over-the-counter drugs. It includes products in every major therapeutic category.

However, there is a process through which your physician can request that you receive coverage for a medication that is not on the formulary.

To receive a copy of the formulary, or to request coverage for a non-formulary medication, call your toll-free Member Service number. You can also look up the formulary via your Highmark member website, www.highmarkbcbs.com.

These listings are subject to periodic review and modification by Highmark or a designated committee of physicians and pharmacists.

What Is Not Covered

Except as specifically provided in this program or as Highmark is mandated or required to provide based on state or federal law, no benefits will be provided for services, supplies, prescription drugs or charges:

Key Word	Exclusion
Abortion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For elective abortions except those abortions necessary to avert the death of the mother or terminate pregnancies caused by rape or incest.
Acupuncture	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For acupuncture services.
Allergy Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For allergy testing, except as provided herein.
Ambulance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For ambulance services, except as provided herein.
Assisted Fertilization	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Related to treatment provided specifically for the purpose of assisted fertilization, including pharmacological or hormonal treatments used in conjunction with assisted fertilization.
Comfort/Convenience Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For personal hygiene and convenience items such as, but not limited to, air conditioners, humidifiers, or physical fitness equipment, stair glides, elevators/lifts or "barrier free" home modifications, whether or not specifically recommended by a professional provider.
Contraceptive Medications, Devices and Implants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For contraceptive services, including contraceptive prescription drugs, contraceptive devices, implants and injections, and all related services, except as otherwise set forth in the predefined preventive schedule. Please refer to the Preventive Services section of Covered Services for more information.
Cosmetic Surgery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For a cosmetic or reconstructive procedure or surgery done to improve the appearance of any portion of the body, and from which no improvement in physiological function can be expected, except: a) as otherwise provided herein, b) when required to correct a condition directly resulting from an accident; c) when necessary to correct a functional impairment which directly results from a covered disease or injury, or d) to correct a congenital birth defect.
Court Ordered Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For otherwise covered services ordered by a court or other tribunal unless medically necessary and appropriate or if

the reimbursement of such services is required by law..

- Custodial Care
 - For custodial care, domiciliary care, protective and supportive care including educational services, rest cures and convalescent care.
- Dental Care
 - Directly related to the care, filling, removal or replacement of teeth, the treatment of injuries to or diseases of the teeth, gums or structures directly supporting or attached to the teeth, including but not limited to, apicoectomy (dental root resection), root canal treatments, soft tissue impactions, alveolectomy and treatment of periodontal disease, except as provided herein.
- Diabetes Prevention Program
 - For a diabetes prevention program offered by other than a network diabetes prevention provider or a YMCA diabetes prevention eligible provider.
- Effective Date
 - Rendered prior to your effective date of coverage.
- Enteral Foods
 - For any food including, but not limited to, enteral foods, infant formulas, supplements, substances, products, enteral solutions or compounds used to provide nourishment through the gastrointestinal tract whether ingested orally or provided by tube, whether utilized as a sole or supplemental source of nutrition and when provided on an outpatient basis, except as provided herein.
- Experimental/
Investigative
 - Which are experimental/investigative in nature.
- Eyeglasses/Contact Lenses
 - For eyeglasses or contact lenses and the vision examination for prescribing or fitting eyeglasses or contact lenses (except for the initial pair of contact lenses/glasses prescribed following cataract extraction in place of surgically implanted lenses, or sclera shells intended for use in the treatment of disease or injury).
- Felonies
 - For any illness or injury you suffer during your commission of a felony, as long as such illness or injuries are not the result of a medical condition or an act of domestic violence.
- Foot Care
 - For palliative or cosmetic foot care including flat foot conditions, supportive devices for the foot, corrective shoes, the treatment of subluxations of the foot, care of corns, bunions, (except capsular or bone surgery), calluses, toe nails (except surgery for ingrown toe nails), fallen

arches, weak feet, chronic foot strain, and symptomatic complaints of the feet, except when such devices or services are related to the treatment of diabetes.

- Health Care Management program
 - For any care, treatment, prescription drug or service which has been disallowed under the provisions of Health Care Management program.
- Hearing Care Services
 - For hearing aid devices, tinnitus maskers, or examinations for the prescription or fitting of hearing aids.
- Home Health Care
 - For the following services you receive from a home health care agency, hospice or a hospital program for home health care and/or hospice care: dietitian services; homemaker services; maintenance therapy; dialysis treatment; custodial care; food or home-delivered meals.
- Immunizations
 - For immunizations required for foreign travel or employment, except as provided herein.
- Inpatient Admissions
 - For inpatient admissions which are primarily for diagnostic studies.
 - For inpatient admissions which are primarily for physical medicine services.
- Learning Disabilities
 - For any care that is related to conditions such as autism spectrum disorders, learning disabilities, behavioral problems or intellectual disabilities, which extends beyond traditional medical management or medically necessary inpatient confinement. Care which extends beyond traditional medical management includes the following: a) services that are primarily educational in nature, such as academic skills training or those for remedial education including tutorial services; b) neuropsychological testing, educational testing (such as I.Q., mental ability, achievement and aptitude testing), except for specific evaluation purposes directly related to medical treatment; c) services related to the treatment of learning disorders or learning disabilities; d) services provided primarily for social or environmental change or for respite care.
 - For any care that is related to autism spectrum disorders which extends beyond traditional medical management, except as otherwise provided herein. Care which extends beyond traditional medical management includes the following: a) services that are primarily educational in

nature, such as academic skills training or those for remedial education or those that may be delivered in a classroom-type setting, including tutorial services; b) neuropsychological testing, educational testing (such as I.Q., mental ability, achievement and aptitude testing); except for specific evaluation purposes directly related to medical treatment; and c) services provided primarily for respite care.

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| Legal Obligation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For which you would have no legal obligation to pay. |
| Medically Necessary and Appropriate | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which are not medically necessary and appropriate as determined by Highmark. |
| Medicare | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To the extent payment has been made under Medicare when Medicare is primary; however, this exclusion shall not apply when the group is obligated by law to offer you all the benefits of this program. • For any amounts you are required to pay under the deductible and/or coinsurance provisions of Medicare or any Medicare supplemental coverage. |
| Military Service | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To the extent benefits are provided to members of the armed forces while on active duty or to patients in Veteran's Administration facilities for service connected illness or injury, unless you have a legal obligation to pay. |
| Miscellaneous | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For telephone consultations which do not involve telemedicine services, charges for failure to keep a scheduled visit, or charges for completion of a claim form. • For any other medical or dental service or treatment or prescription drug except as provided herein or as mandated by law. |
| Motor Vehicle Accident | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For treatment or services for injuries resulting from the maintenance or use of a motor vehicle if such treatment or service is paid or payable under a plan or policy of motor vehicle insurance, including a certified or qualified plan of self-insurance, or any fund or program for the payment of extraordinary medical benefits established by law, including medical benefits payable in any manner under the Pennsylvania Motor Vehicle Financial Responsibility Act. |
| Nutritional Counseling | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For nutritional counseling, except as provided herein. |
| Obesity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For treatment of obesity, except as otherwise set forth in |

the predefined preventive schedule. Please refer to the Preventive Services section of Covered Services for more information.

- Oral Surgery
 - For oral surgery procedures, except as provided herein.
- Physical Examinations
 - For routine or periodic physical examinations, the completion of forms, and the preparation of specialized reports solely for insurance, licensing, employment or other non-preventive purposes, such as pre-marital examinations, physicals for school, camp, sports or travel, which are not medically necessary and appropriate, except as provided herein.
- Prescription Drugs (Medical Program)
 - For prescription drugs which were paid or are payable under a freestanding prescription drug program.
- Preventive Care Services
 - For preventive care services, wellness services or programs, except as provided herein.
- Provider of Service
 - Which are not prescribed by or performed by or upon the direction of a professional provider.
 - Rendered by other than ancillary providers, facility providers or professional providers..
 - Received from a dental or medical department maintained, in whole or in part, by or on behalf of an employer, a mutual benefit association, labor union, trust, or similar person or group.
 - Which are submitted by a certified registered nurse and another professional provider for the same services performed on the same date for the same member.
 - Rendered by a provider who is a member of your immediate family.
 - Performed by a professional provider enrolled in an education or training program when such services are related to the education or training program.
- Respite Care
 - For respite care.
- Sexual Dysfunction
 - For treatment of sexual dysfunction that is not related to organic disease or injury.
- Skilled Nursing
 - For skilled nursing facility services after you have reached the maximum level of recovery possible for your

particular condition and no longer require definitive treatment other than routine supportive care; when confinement is intended solely to assist you with the activities of daily living or to provide an institutional environment for your convenience; or for treatment of substance abuse or mental illness.

- Smoking (nicotine) Cessation
 - For nicotine cessation support programs and/or classes, except as otherwise set forth in the predefined preventive schedule. Please refer to the Preventive Services section of Covered Services for more information.
- Sterilization
 - For sterilization.
- Termination Date
 - Incurred after the date of termination of your coverage except as provided herein.
- Therapy
 - For outpatient therapy and rehabilitation services for which there is no expectation of restoring or improving a level of function or when no additional functional progress is expected to occur.
- TMJ
 - For treatment of temporomandibular joint (jaw hinge) syndrome with intra-oral prosthetic devices, or any other method to alter vertical dimensions and/or restore or maintain the occlusion and treatment of temporomandibular joint dysfunction not caused by documented organic joint disease or physical trauma.
- Vision Correction Surgery
 - For the correction of myopia, hyperopia or presbyopia, including but not limited to corneal microsurgery, such as keratomileusis, keratophakia, radial keratotomy, corneal ring implants, Laser-Assisted in Situ Keratomileusis (LASIK) and all related services.
- War
 - For losses sustained or expenses incurred as a result of an act of war whether declared or undeclared.
- Weight Reduction
 - For weight reduction programs, including all diagnostic testing related to weight reduction programs, unless medically necessary and appropriate.
- Workers' Compensation
 - For any illness or bodily injury which occurs in the course of employment if benefits or compensation are available, in whole or in part, under the provisions of any federal, state, or local government's workers' compensation, occupational

disease or similar type legislation. This exclusion applies whether or not you claim the benefits or compensation.

In addition, under your Prescription Drug benefits, except as specifically provided in this program or as Highmark is mandated or required to provide based on state or federal law, no benefits will be provided for:

- Allergy serums.
- Antihemophilia drugs.
- Any amounts above the deductible, coinsurance, copayment or other cost-sharing amounts for each prescription order or refill that are your responsibility.
- Any amounts you are required to pay directly to the pharmacy for each prescription order or refill order.
- Any charges by any pharmacy provider or pharmacist except as provided herein.
- Any drug or medication except as provided herein.
- Any drug or medication which does not meet the definition of covered maintenance prescription drug, except those set forth in the predefined preventive schedule. Please refer to the Covered Drugs section for more information.
- Any drugs and supplies which can be purchased without a prescription order, including, but not limited to blood glucose monitors and injection aids, except as provided herein.
- Any drugs prescribed for cosmetic purposes only.
- Any drugs requiring intravenous administration, except insulin and other injectables used to treat diabetes.
- Any drugs used to abort a pregnancy.
- Any drugs which are experimental/investigative.
- Any over-the-counter drug obtained without presentation of a written prescription order, except those set forth in the predefined preventive schedule. Please refer to the Covered Drugs section for more information.
- Any prescription drug purchased through mail order but not dispensed by a designated mail order pharmacy

provider.

- Any prescription drug which has been disallowed under the Prescription Drug Management section of this booklet.
- Any prescription drugs and over-the-counter drugs or supplies purchased at a non-participating pharmacy provider, except in connection with emergency care services as described herein.
- Any prescription for more than the retail days supply or mail-service days supply as outlined in the Summary of Benefits.
- Any selected diagnostic agents.
- Blood products.
- Charges for a prescription drug when such drug or medication is used for unlabeled or unapproved indications and where such use has not been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).
- Charges for administration of prescription drugs and/or injectable insulin, whether by a physician or other person.
- Charges for any prescription drug for more than the retail days supply or mail-service days supply as outlined in the Summary of Benefits.
- Charges for therapeutic devices or appliances (e.g., support garments and other non-medicinal substances).
- Compounded medications.
- Drugs and supplies that are not medically necessary and appropriate or otherwise excluded herein.
- Food supplements.
- Hair growth stimulants.
- Immunizations/biologicals, except as provided herein.
- Otherwise covered medications ordered by a court or other tribunal unless medically necessary and appropriate or if the reimbursement of such services is required by law.
- Over-the-counter drugs.

- Prescription drugs and over-the-counter drugs not listed in the formulary applicable to your program.
- Prescription drugs dispensed for treatment of an illness or an injury for which the group is required by law to furnish hospital care in whole or in part-including, but not limited to-state or federal workers' compensation laws, occupational disease laws and other employer liability laws.
- Prescription drugs or refills dispensed by a non-participating pharmacy provider.
- Prescription drugs to which you are entitled, with or without charge, under a plan or program of any government or governmental body.
- Services of your attending physician, surgeon or other medical attendant.

How Your Health Care Program Works

Your program is responsive, flexible coverage that lets you get the medically necessary and appropriate care you want from the health care provider you select.

Here is how your health care program works. When you or a covered family member needs certain medical services, including:

- Primary care provider office visits
- Specialist office visits
- Physical, speech and occupational therapy
- Diagnostic services
- Inpatient and outpatient hospital services
- Home health or hospice care

Network Care

Network care is care you receive from providers in your program's network.

When you receive health care within the network, you enjoy maximum coverage and maximum convenience. You present your ID card to the provider who submits your claim.

Out-of-Network Care

Out-of-network care is care you receive from providers who are not in your program's network.

Out-of-network providers are not in the program's network. When using out-of-network providers, you may still have coverage for most eligible services, except you will share more financial and paperwork responsibilities. In addition, you may be responsible for paying any differences between the program's payments and the provider's actual charges. Finally, you may need to file your own claims and obtain precertification for inpatient care. You should always check with the provider before getting care to understand at what level your care will be covered.

Remember: If you want to enjoy maximum benefits coverage, you need to be sure you receive care from a network provider. See the Summary of Benefits for your coverage details.

Even though a hospital may be in our network, not every doctor providing services in that hospital is in the network. For example: If you are having surgery, make sure that all of your providers, including surgeons, anesthesiologists and radiologists, are in the network.

Provider Reimbursement and Member Liability

Highmark uses the Plan Allowance to calculate the benefit payable and the financial liability of the member for Medically Necessary and Appropriate Services covered under this plan. Refer to the Terms You Should Know section for the definition of Plan Allowance.

Highmark's payment is determined by first subtracting any deductible and/or copayment liability from the Plan Allowance. The coinsurance percentage set forth in the Summary of Benefits is then applied to that amount. This amount represents Highmark's payment. Any remaining coinsurance amount is the member's responsibility. The member's total cost-sharing liability is the sum of the coinsurance plus any deductible and/or copayment obligations.

When a member receives covered services from an out-of-network provider, in addition to the member's cost-share liability described above, the member is responsible for the difference between Highmark's payment and the provider's billed charge. If a member receives services which are not covered under this plan, the member is responsible for all charges associated with those services.

Out-of-Area Care

Your program also provides coverage for you and your eligible dependents when you receive care from providers located outside the Plan Service Area. For specific details, see the Inter-Plan Arrangements section of this booklet.

If you are traveling and an urgent injury or illness occurs, you should seek treatment from the nearest hospital, emergency room or clinic: If the treatment results in an admission the provider must obtain precertification from Highmark. However, it is important that you confirm Highmark's determination of medical necessity and appropriateness. If precertification is not obtained and the admission is not considered to be medically necessary and appropriate, you will be responsible for all costs associated with the stay. For specific details, see the Health Care Management section of this booklet.

Inter-Plan Arrangements

Out-of-Area Services

Highmark has a variety of relationships with other Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield licensees referred to generally as "inter-plan arrangements." These inter-plan arrangements operate under rules and procedures issued by the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association. Whenever members access health care services outside the geographic area Highmark serves, the claim for those services may be processed through one of these inter-plan arrangements, as described generally below.

Typically, when accessing care outside the geographic area Highmark serves, members obtain care from health care providers that have a contractual agreement ("participating

providers") with the local Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield Licensee in that other geographic area ("Host Blue"). In some instances, members may obtain care from health care providers in the Host Blue geographic area that do not have a contractual agreement ("non-participating providers") with the Host Blue. Highmark remains responsible for fulfilling our contractual obligations to you. Highmark's payment practices in both instances are described below.

BlueCard® Program

The BlueCard® Program is an inter-plan arrangement. Under this arrangement, when members access covered services outside the geographic area Highmark serves, the Host Blue will be responsible for contracting and handling all interactions with its participating health care providers. The financial terms of the BlueCard Program are described generally below.

Liability Calculation Method per Claim

Unless subject to a fixed dollar copayment, the calculation of the member liability on claims for covered services will be based on the lower of the participating provider's billed charges for covered services or the negotiated price made available to Highmark by the Host Blue.

Host Blues determine a negotiated price, which is reflected in the terms of each Host Blue's health care provider contracts. The negotiated price made available to Highmark by the Host Blue may be represented by one of the following:

- an actual price - An actual price is a negotiated rate of payment in effect at the time a claim is processed without any other increases or decreases, or
- an estimated price - An estimated price is a negotiated rate of payment in effect at the time a claim is processed, reduced or increased by a percentage to take into account certain payments negotiated with the provider and other claim- and non-claim-related transactions. Such transactions may include, but are not limited to, anti-fraud and abuse recoveries, provider refunds not applied on a claim-specific basis, retrospective settlements and performance-related bonuses or incentives, or
- an average price - An average price is a percentage of billed charges for covered services in effect at the time a claim is processed representing the aggregate payments negotiated by the Host Blue with all of its health care providers or a similar classification of its providers and other claim- and non-claim-related transactions. Such transactions may include the same ones as noted above for an estimated price.

Host Blues determine whether or not they will use an actual, estimated or average price. Host Blues using either an estimated price or an average price may prospectively increase or reduce such prices to correct for over- or underestimation of past prices, (ie, prospective adjustment may mean that a current price reflects additional amounts or credits for claims already paid or anticipated to be paid to providers or refunds received or anticipated to be

received from providers). However, the BlueCard Program requires that the amount paid by the member is a final price; no future price adjustment will result in increases or decreases to the pricing of past claims. The method of claims payment by Host Blues is taken into account by Highmark in determining your premiums.

Special Cases: Value-Based Programs

Highmark has included a factor for bulk distributions from Host Blues in your premium for Value-Based Programs when applicable under your program. Additional information is available upon request.

Return of Overpayments

Recoveries of overpayments from a Host Blue or its participating and non-participating providers can arise in several ways, including, but not limited to, anti-fraud and abuse recoveries, audits/health care provider/hospital bill audits, credit balance audits, utilization review refunds and unsolicited refunds. Recoveries will be applied so that corrections will be made, in general, on either a claim-by-claim or prospective basis. If recovery amounts are passed on a claim-by-claim basis from a Host Blue to Highmark, they will be credited to your account. In some cases, the Host Blue will engage a third party to assist in identification or collection of overpayments. The fees of such a third party may be charged to you as a percentage of the recovery.

Non-Participating Providers Outside of the Plan Service Area

Member Liability Calculation

When covered services are provided outside of the Plan service area by non-participating providers, the amount(s) a member pays for such services will generally be based on either the Host Blue's non-participating provider local payment or the pricing arrangements required by applicable law. In these situations, the member may be responsible for the difference between the amount that the non-participating provider bills and the payment Highmark will make for the covered services as set forth in this paragraph. Payments for out-of-network emergency services are governed by applicable federal and state law.

Exceptions

In some exception cases, Highmark may pay claims from non-participating health care providers outside of the Plan service area based on the provider's billed charge. This may occur in situations where a member did not have reasonable access to the participating provider, as determined by Highmark in Highmark's sole and absolute discretion or by applicable law. In other exception cases, Highmark may pay such claims based on the payment Highmark would make if Highmark were paying a non-participating provider inside the Plan service area. This may occur where the Host Blue's corresponding payment would be more than the plan in-service area non-participating provider payment. Highmark may choose to negotiate a payment with such provider on an exception basis.

Unless otherwise stated, in any of these exception situations, the member may be responsible for the difference between the amount that the non-participating health care provider bills and payment Highmark will make for the covered services as set forth in this paragraph.

Blue Cross Blue Shield Global Core Program

If members are outside the United States (hereinafter "BlueCard service area"), they may be able to take advantage of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Global Core Program when accessing covered services. The Blue Cross Blue Shield Global Core Program is unlike the BlueCard Program available in the BlueCard service area in certain ways. For instance, although the Blue Cross Blue Shield Global Core Program assists members with accessing a network of inpatient, outpatient and professional providers, the network is not served by a Host Blue. As such, when members receive care from providers outside the BlueCard service area, they will typically have to pay the providers and submit the claims themselves to obtain reimbursement for these services.

Inpatient Services

In most cases, if members contact the service center for assistance, hospitals will not require members to pay for inpatient covered services, except for their cost-sharing amounts. In such cases, the hospital will submit member claims to the service center to initiate claims processing. However, if the member paid in full at the time of service, the member must submit a claim to obtain reimbursement for covered services. **Members must contact Highmark to obtain precertification or preauthorization for non-emergency inpatient services.**

Outpatient Services

Physicians, urgent care centers and other outpatient providers located outside the BlueCard service area will typically require members to pay in full at the time of service. Members must submit a claim to obtain reimbursement for covered services.

Submitting a Blue Cross Blue Shield Global Core Claim

When members pay for covered services outside the BlueCard service area, they must submit a claim to obtain reimbursement. For institutional and professional claims, members should complete a Blue Cross Blue Shield Global Core International claim form and send the claim form with the provider's itemized bill(s) to the service center address on the form to initiate claims processing. The claim form is available from Highmark, the service center or online at www.bcbsglobalcore.com. If members need assistance with their claim submissions, they should call the service center at 800-810-BLUE (2583) or call collect at 804-673-1177, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Your Provider Network

The network includes: primary care providers; a wide range of specialists; mental health and substance abuse providers; community and specialty hospitals; and laboratories.

To determine if your physician is in the network, call the Member Service toll-free telephone number on the back of your ID card, or log onto www.highmarkbcbs.com.

Getting your care "through the network" also assures you get quality care. All physicians are carefully evaluated before they are accepted into the network. We consider educational background, office procedures and performance history to determine eligibility. Then we monitor care on an ongoing basis through office record reviews and patient satisfaction surveys.

Please note that while you or a family member can use the services, including behavioral health and well-woman care, of any network physician or specialist without a referral and receive the maximum coverage under your benefit program, you are encouraged to select a personal or primary care provider. This helps establish an ongoing relationship based on knowledge and trust and helps make your care consistent. Your personal provider can help you select an appropriate specialist and work closely with that specialist when the need arises. In addition, primary care providers or their covering physicians are on call 24/7.

Remember:

It is *your* responsibility to ensure that you receive network care. You may want to double-check any provider recommendations to make sure the doctor or facility is in the network.

How to Obtain Information Regarding Your Physician

To view information regarding your PCP or network specialist, visit your member website at www.highmarkbcbs.com and click on "Find a Doctor" to start your search. Search for the physician, then click on the provider's name to view the following information:

- Name, address, telephone numbers
- Professional qualifications
- Specialty
- Medical school attended
- Residency completion
- Board certification status
- Hospital affiliations

In addition to this information, to obtain more information on network providers, you may call Member Service at the toll-free telephone number on the back of your ID card.

Eligible Providers

Eligible network providers include facilities, general practitioners, internists, obstetricians/gynecologists and a wide range of specialists.

Facility Providers

- Hospital
- Psychiatric hospital
- Rehabilitation hospital
- Ambulatory surgical facility
- Birthing facility
- Day/night psychiatric facility
- Freestanding dialysis facility
- Freestanding nuclear magnetic resonance facility/magnetic resonance imaging facility
- Home health care agency
- Hospice
- Outpatient substance abuse treatment facility
- Outpatient physical rehabilitation facility
- Outpatient psychiatric facility
- Pediatric extended care facility
- Pharmacy provider
- Residential treatment facility
- Skilled nursing facility
- State-owned psychiatric hospital
- Substance abuse treatment facility

Professional Providers

- Audiologist
- Certified registered nurse*
- Chiropractor
- Clinical social worker
- Dentist
- Dietician-nutritionist
- Licensed practical nurse
- Marriage and family therapist
- Nurse-midwife
- Occupational therapist
- Optometrist
- Physical therapist
- Physician
- Podiatrist
- Professional counselor
- Psychologist
- Registered nurse
- Respiratory therapist
- Speech-language pathologist
- Teacher of hearing impaired

Ancillary Providers:

- Ambulance service
- Clinical laboratory
- Diabetes prevention provider
- Home infusion therapy provider
- Independent diagnostic testing facility (IDTF)
- Suite infusion therapy provider
- Suppliers

Contracting Suppliers (for the sale or lease of):

- Durable medical equipment
- Supplies
- Orthotics
- Prosthetics

**Excluded from eligibility are registered nurses employed by a health care facility or by an anesthesiology group.*

Prescription Drug Providers

You must purchase drugs from a network pharmacy to be eligible for benefits under this program. *No benefits are available if drugs are purchased from a non-network pharmacy.*

- **Network Pharmacy:** Network pharmacies have an arrangement with Highmark to provide prescription drugs to you at an agreed upon price. When you purchase covered drugs from a pharmacy in the network applicable to your program, present your prescription and ID card to the pharmacist. (Prescriptions that the pharmacy receives by phone from your physician or dentist may also be covered.) You should request and retain a receipt for any amounts you have paid if needed for income tax or any other purpose.

If you travel within the United States and need to refill a prescription, call Member Service for help. They can help you find a network pharmacy near the area you are visiting. You also can use the member website to find a pharmacy. Once you have the name and address of the network pharmacy, take the prescription bottle to that pharmacy. The pharmacist will contact your home pharmacy to start the refill process.

Note: Save the new medicine container. This will make it easier to transfer the prescription back to your pharmacy at home.

- **Mail Order Pharmacy:** Express Scripts® is your program's mail order pharmacy. This option offers savings and convenience for prescriptions you may take on an ongoing basis.

To start using mail order:

1. Ask your doctor to write a prescription for up to a 90-day supply, plus refills for up to one year, if appropriate.
2. Complete the Pharmacy Mail Order Form and Health, Allergy & Medication Questionnaire. You can get these forms by calling Member Service or from your member website. After logging in, click on the "Prescriptions" tab. Scroll down the page to "Forms to Manage Your Plan" and click on "Mail order form and health questionnaire (PDF)".
3. Send the completed forms and your payment to the address listed on the mail order form. It usually takes about five days to get your prescription after it has been processed.

Your mail order will include directions for ordering refills.

- **Exclusive Pharmacy Provider:** The exclusive pharmacy provider has an agreement, either directly or indirectly, with Highmark pertaining to the payment and exclusive dispensing of selected prescription drugs provided to you. Please refer to the Covered Services - Prescription Drug Program section for a list of the selected prescription drug categories.

Health Care Management

Medical Management

For your benefits to be paid under your program, services and supplies must be considered medically necessary and appropriate. However, not all medically necessary and appropriate services are covered under your program.

Highmark, or its designated agent, is responsible for determining whether care is medically necessary and provided in the appropriate setting.

A Highmark nurse will review your request for an inpatient admission to ensure it is appropriate for the treatment of your condition, illness, disease or injury, in accordance with standards of good medical practice, and the most appropriate supply or level of service that can safely be provided to you. When applied to hospitalization, this further means that you require acute care as an inpatient due to the nature of the services rendered for your condition and you cannot receive safe or adequate care as an outpatient.

Pre-Admission Certification

When you require inpatient facility care, benefits for covered services will be provided as follows:

In-Area Network Care

When you use a network facility provider in the Highmark western region or central region service area for inpatient care, the facility will contact Highmark prior to the proposed admission, or within 48 hours or as soon as reasonably possible after an emergency admission, to obtain precertification for the admission.

You will be held harmless whenever precertification for an admission is not obtained. If the admission is determined not to be medically necessary and appropriate, you will be held harmless, except when Highmark provides prior written notice to you that the admission will not be covered. In such case, you will be financially responsible for charges for that admission.

Out-of-Area Network Care

In the event of a proposed inpatient stay or emergency admission to a network facility provider located outside the plan service area, the facility will contact Highmark prior to the proposed admission, or within 48 hours or as soon as reasonably possible after an emergency admission, to obtain precertification for the admission. ***You are also responsible*** for contacting Highmark at the toll-free number listed on the back of your ID card to confirm Highmark's determination of medical necessity and appropriateness.

If precertification for a medically necessary and appropriate inpatient admission has been obtained, benefits for covered services will be provided. If a network facility does not contact Highmark for precertification, the inpatient admission will be reviewed for medical necessity and appropriateness. **It is important that you confirm Highmark's determination of medical necessity and appropriateness. If your admission is determined not to be medically necessary and appropriate, you will be responsible for the full amount of the network facility provider's charge.**

If you elect to be admitted after receiving written notification from Highmark that any portion of the proposed admission is not medically necessary and appropriate, you will be financially responsible for all charges associated with that portion of care. In an emergency admission, if you elect to remain hospitalized after receiving written notification Highmark that the level of care is no longer medically necessary and appropriate, you will be financially responsible for all charges from the date appearing on the written notification.

Out-of-area network providers are not obligated to abide by any determination of medical necessity and appropriateness rendered by Highmark. You may, therefore, receive services which are not medically necessary and appropriate for which you will be solely responsible.

Out-of-Network Care

In the event of a proposed inpatient stay or emergency admission to an out-of-network facility provider, **you are responsible** for notifying Highmark prior to your proposed admission or within 48 hours or as soon as reasonably possible after an emergency admission. However, some facility providers will contact Highmark and obtain precertification of the inpatient admission on your behalf. Be sure to verify that your provider is contacting Highmark for precertification. If not, you are responsible for contacting Highmark.

If precertification for a medically necessary and appropriate inpatient admission has been obtained, benefits for covered services will be provided. If you do not contact Highmark for precertification as required, the inpatient admission will be reviewed for medical necessity and appropriateness. **If your admission is determined not to be medically necessary and appropriate, you will be responsible for the full amount of the out-of-network facility provider's charge.**

If you elect to be admitted after receiving written notification from Highmark that any portion of the proposed admission is not medically necessary and appropriate, you will be financially responsible for all charges associated with that portion of care. In an emergency admission, if you elect to remain hospitalized after receiving written notification Highmark that the level of care is no longer medically necessary and appropriate, you will be financially responsible for all charges from the date appearing on the written notification.

Care Utilization Review Process

In order to assess whether care is provided in the appropriate setting, Highmark administers a care utilization review program comprised of prospective, concurrent and/or retrospective reviews. In addition, Highmark assists hospitals with discharge planning. These activities are conducted by a Highmark nurse working with a medical director. Here is a brief description of these review procedures:

Prospective Review

Prospective review, also known as precertification or pre-service review, begins upon receipt of treatment information.

After receiving the request for care, Highmark:

- verifies your eligibility for coverage and availability of benefits;
- reviews diagnosis and plan of treatment;
- assesses whether care is medically necessary and appropriate;
- authorizes care and assigns an appropriate length of stay for inpatient admissions

Concurrent Review

Concurrent review may occur during the course of ongoing treatment and is used to assess the medical necessity and appropriateness of the length of stay and level of care.

Discharge Planning

Discharge planning is a process that begins prior to your scheduled hospital admission. Working with you, your family, your attending physician(s) and hospital staff, Highmark will help plan for and coordinate your discharge to assure that you receive safe and uninterrupted care when needed at the time of discharge.

Outpatient Procedure or Covered Service Precertification

Precertification may be required to determine the medical necessity and appropriateness of certain outpatient procedures or covered services as determined by Highmark prior to the receipt of services.

In-Area Network Care

Network providers are responsible for the precertification of such procedures or covered services and you will be held harmless whenever certification for such procedures or covered services is not obtained. If the procedure or covered service is deemed not to be medically necessary and appropriate, you will be held harmless, except when Highmark provides prior written notice to you that charges for the procedure or covered service will not be covered. In such case, you will be financially responsible for such procedure or covered service.

Out-of-Area Care

Whenever you utilize an out-of-area provider, it is your responsibility to first contact Highmark to confirm the medical necessity and appropriateness of such procedures or covered services. If you do not contact Highmark for certification, those procedures or covered services may be reviewed after they are received to determine medical necessity and appropriateness. If the procedure or covered service is determined to be medically necessary and appropriate, benefits will be paid in accordance with the plan. If the procedure or covered service is determined not to be medically necessary and appropriate, no benefits will be provided. In such case you will be financially responsible for the full amount of the out-of-area provider's charge.

Out-of-Network Care

Whenever you utilize an out-of-network provider, it is your responsibility to first contact Highmark to confirm the medical necessity and appropriateness of such procedures or covered services. If you do not contact Highmark for certification, those procedures or covered services may be reviewed after they are received to determine medical necessity and appropriateness. If the procedure or covered service is determined to be medically necessary and appropriate, benefits will be paid in accordance with the plan. You will be financially responsible for the difference between what is covered by the plan and the full amount of the out-of-network provider's charge. If such procedure or covered service is determined not to be medically necessary and appropriate, no benefits will be provided. In such case, you will be financially responsible for the full amount of the out-of-network provider's charge.

If you have any questions regarding Highmark's determination of medical necessity and appropriateness of certain outpatient procedures or covered services, you can contact Highmark via the toll-free Member Service telephone number located on the back of your ID card.

Retrospective Review

Retrospective review may occur when a service or procedure has been rendered without the required precertification.

Case Management Services

Case Management is a voluntary program in which a case manager, with input from you and your health care providers, assists when you are facing and/or recovering from a hospital admission, dealing with multiple medical problems or facing catastrophic needs. Highmark case managers can provide educational support, assist in coordinating needed health care services, put you in touch with community resources, assist in addressing obstacles to your recovery such as benefit and caregiver issues and answer your questions.

Individual Case Management

Highmark, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to limit access to a benefit, regardless of the disease or condition, when Highmark identifies utilization patterns that could potentially result in harm to you or the public.

Highmark case managers are a free resource to all Highmark members. If you have an inpatient hospital admission, you may be contacted as part of our Outreach program. If your claims history indicates that your needs appear to be more complex, you may be contacted by a case manager from our Complex program. In either case, you are always free to call and request case management services if you feel you need it by contacting Member Services at the telephone number listed on the back of your ID card.

Selection of Providers

You have the option of choosing where and from whom to receive for covered services. You may utilize a network provider or an out-of-network provider. However, covered services received from a network provider are usually provided at a higher level of benefits than those received from an out-of-network provider and certain non-emergency services may only be covered when rendered by a network provider. Please note that benefits for covered telemedicine services are only provided when such services are rendered by a designated telemedicine provider.

In the event you require non-emergency covered services that are not available within the network, Highmark may refer you to an out-of-network provider. You must notify Highmark prior to receiving a covered service from an out-of-network provider in order for Highmark to facilitate this arrangement. In such cases, services will be covered at the network level so that you will not be responsible for any greater out-of-pocket amount than if services had been rendered by a network provider. You will not be responsible for any difference between Highmark's payment and the out-of-network provider's billed charge.

Prescription Drug Management

Your prescription drug program provides the following provisions which will determine the medical necessity and appropriateness of covered medications and supplies.

Early Refill Authorization

Unexpected Event

If your prescription is lost or stolen due to an event such as a fire or theft, you may be able to get an early refill. Call Member Service at the number on your member ID card for help. You will need a copy of the report from the fire department, police department or other agency.

Please note: The early refill authorization does not apply to events that can be controlled, such as spilling or losing the medicine.

Traveling Abroad

If you will be out of the country when it is time to refill your prescription, call Member Service for help. Be sure to have your member ID card and your prescription information. Please allow at least five business days to complete the request.

Individual Case Management

Highmark, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to limit access to a benefit, regardless of the disease or condition, when Highmark identifies utilization patterns that could potentially result in harm to you or the public.

Prescription Drug Management for Closed Formulary

Your coverage includes a closed formulary. To obtain prescription medication that is not included in the formulary, or to request prior authorization for a managed care prescription drug, your physician must complete the "Prescription Drug Medication Request Form" and return it using either the fax number or the address as shown on the form for clinical review. Once a clinical decision has been made, a decision letter will be mailed to you and your provider.

To print a copy of the "Prescription Drug Medication Request Form" for your physician to complete:

- Log onto Highmark's website
- Click on the Prescriptions tab
- Scroll down the page to Pre-Approval Process
- Click on "Prescription drug medication request form"
- Print the form and give it to your physician
- Or, you can submit an online request

Once a decision is made, a letter documenting the decision will be mailed to you and your provider.

If we say no to your request for an exception, you can ask for a review of our decision by making an appeal.

Quantity Level Limits

Quantity level limits may be imposed on certain prescription drugs by Highmark. Such limits are based on the manufacturer's recommended daily dosage or as determined by Highmark. Quantity level limits control the quantity covered each time a new prescription order or refill is dispensed for selected prescription drugs. Each time a prescription order or refill is dispensed, the pharmacy provider may limit the amount dispensed.

Managed Prescription Drug Coverage

This program focuses on select drug therapies and promotes the appropriate dose and duration of drug therapy. A prescription order or refill which may exceed the manufacturer's recommended dosage over a specified period of time may be denied by Highmark when presented to the pharmacy provider. Highmark may contact the prescribing physician to determine if the covered medication is medically necessary and appropriate. The covered medication will be dispensed if it is determined by Highmark to be medically necessary and appropriate. If it is determined by Highmark that the prescription is not medically necessary and appropriate, you are responsible for the full cost of the prescription drug if you elect to have the prescription dispensed. The drug therapies reviewed under this program are updated periodically.

Preauthorization

Certain prescription drugs may require preauthorization to ensure the medical necessity and appropriateness of the prescription order. The prescribing physician must obtain authorization from Highmark prior to prescribing certain covered medications. The specific drugs or drug classifications which require preauthorization may be obtained by calling the toll-free Member Service telephone number appearing on your ID card.

Precertification, Preauthorization and Pre-Service Claims Review Processes

The precertification, preauthorization and pre-service claims review processes information described below applies to both medical and prescription drug management.

Authorized Representatives

You have a right to designate an authorized representative to file or pursue a request for precertification or other pre-service claim on your behalf. Highmark reserves the right to establish reasonable procedures for determining whether an individual has been authorized to act on your behalf. Procedures adopted by Highmark will, in the case of an urgent care claim, permit a physician or other professional health care provider with knowledge of your medical condition to act as your authorized representative.

Decisions Involving Requests for Precertification and Other Non-Urgent Care Pre-Service Claims

You will receive written notice of any decision on a request for precertification or other pre-service claim, whether the decision is adverse or not, within a reasonable period of time appropriate to the medical circumstances involved. That period of time will not exceed 15 days from the date Highmark receives the claim.

Decisions Involving Urgent Care Claims

If your request involves an urgent care claim, Highmark will make a decision on your request as soon as possible taking into account the medical exigencies involved. You will receive notice of the decision that has been made on your urgent care claim no later than 72 hours following receipt of the claim.

If Highmark determines in connection with an urgent care claim that you have not provided sufficient information to determine whether or to what extent benefits are provided under your coverage, your physician will be notified within 24 hours following Highmark's receipt of the claim of the specific information needed to complete your claim. Your physician will then be given not less than 48 hours to provide the specific information to Highmark. Highmark will thereafter notify you of its determination on your claim as soon as possible but not later than 48 hours after the earlier of (i) its receipt of the additional specific information, or (ii) the date Highmark informed your physician that it must receive the additional specific information.

Similarly, when your urgent care claim seeks to extend a previously approved course of treatment and that request is made at least 24 hours prior to the expiration of the previously approved course of treatment, Highmark will notify you of its decision as soon as possible, but no later than 24 hours following receipt of the request.

Notices of Determination Involving Precertification Requests and Other Pre-Service Claims

Any time your request for precertification or other pre-service claim is approved, you will be notified in writing that the request has been approved. If your request for precertification or approval of any other pre-service claim has been denied, you will receive written notification of that denial which will include, among other items, the specific reason or reasons for the adverse benefit determination and a statement describing your right to file an internal appeal or request an external review.

For a description of your right to file an appeal concerning an adverse benefit determination involving a request for precertification or any other pre-service claim, see the Appeal Procedure subsection in the How to File a Claim section of this benefit booklet.

General Information

Who is Eligible for Coverage

The following eligibility information applies **only** if your group provides coverage for dependents. Your group administrator can determine if you have dependent coverage.

You may enroll your:

- Spouse under a legally valid existing marriage
- Children under 26 years of age, unless otherwise extended pursuant to applicable state or federal law, including:
 - Newborn children
 - Stepchildren
 - Children legally placed for adoption
 - Legally adopted children and children for whom the employee or the employee's spouse is the child's legal guardian
 - Children awarded coverage pursuant to an order of court

An eligible dependent child's coverage automatically terminates and all benefits hereunder cease at the end of the month the dependent reaches the limiting age or ceases to be an eligible dependent as indicated above, whether or not notice to terminate is received by Highmark.

- Unmarried children over age 26 who are not able to support themselves due to intellectual disability, physical disability, mental illness or developmental disability that started before age 26. Coverage automatically terminates and all benefits hereunder cease, except as otherwise indicated, on the day following the date on which the disability ceases, whether or not notice to terminate is received by Highmark.

NOTE: To the extent mandated by the requirements of Pennsylvania Act 83 of 2005, eligibility will be continued past the limiting age for children who are enrolled as dependents under their parent's coverage at the time they are called or ordered into active military duty. They must be a member of the Pennsylvania National Guard or any reserve component of the armed forces of the United States, who is called or ordered to active duty, other than active duty for training, for a period of 30 or more consecutive days, or be a member of the Pennsylvania National Guard ordered to active state duty for a period of 30 or more consecutive days. If they become a full-time student for the first term or semester starting 60 or more days after their release from active duty, they shall be eligible

for coverage as a dependent past the limiting age for a period equal to the duration of their service on active duty or active state duty.

For the purposes of this note, full-time student shall mean a dependent who is enrolled in, and regularly attending, an accredited school, college or university, or a licensed technical or specialized school for 15 or more credit hours per semester, or, if less than 15 credit hours per semester, the number of credit hours deemed by the school to constitute full-time student status.

A dependent child who takes a medically necessary leave of absence from school, or who changes enrollment status (such as changing from full-time to part-time) due to a serious illness or injury may continue coverage for one year from the first day of the medically necessary leave of absence or other change in enrollment, or until the date coverage would otherwise terminate under the terms of this program, whichever is earlier. Highmark may require certification from the dependent child's treating physician in order to continue such coverage.

*The following Domestic Partner provision applies **only** if your group provides coverage for this benefit. Your group administrator can determine if you are eligible for this coverage.*

- A domestic partner** shall be considered for eligibility as long as a domestic partnership (a voluntary relationship between two domestic partners) exists with you. In addition, the children of the domestic partner shall be considered for eligibility as if they were your children as long as the domestic partnership exists.

**"Domestic Partner" means a member of a domestic partnership consisting of two partners, each of whom has registered with a domestic partner registry in effect in the municipality/governmental entity within which the domestic partner currently resides, or who meets the definition of a domestic partner as defined by the state or local government where the individual currently resides or meets all of the following:

- Is unmarried, at least 18 years of age, resides with the other partner and intends to continue to reside with the other partner for an indefinite period of time
- Is not related to the other partner by adoption or blood
- Is the sole domestic partner of the other partner and has been a member of this domestic partnership for the last six months
- Agrees to be jointly responsible for the basic living expenses and welfare of the other partner
- Meets (or agrees to meet) the requirements of any applicable federal, state, or local laws or ordinances for domestic partnerships which are currently enacted, or which may be enacted in the future

To be eligible for dependent coverage, proof that dependents meet the above criteria may be required.

Changes in Membership Status

In order for there to be consistent coverage for you and your dependents, you must keep your Employee Benefit Department informed about any address changes or changes in family status (births, adoptions, deaths, marriages, divorces, etc.) that may affect your coverage.

Your newborn child may be covered under your program for a maximum of 31 days from the moment of birth. To be covered as a dependent beyond the 31-day period, the newborn child must be enrolled as a dependent under this program within such period.

Medicare

If you or a dependent are entitled to Medicare benefits your program will not duplicate payments or benefits provided under Medicare. However, your program may supplement the Medicare benefits, including the deductible and coinsurance not covered by Medicare, provided the services are eligible under your group's program. Contact your plan administrator for specific details.

Covered Active Employees Age 65 or Over

If you are age 65 or over and actively employed in a group with 20 or more employees, you will remain covered under the program for the same benefits available to employees under age 65. As a result:

- the program will pay all eligible expenses first.
- Medicare will then pay for Medicare eligible expenses, if any, not paid for by the program.

- or -

Non-Covered Active Employees Age 65 or Over

If you are age 65 or over and actively employed, you may elect not to be covered under your program. In such a case, Medicare will be your only coverage. If you choose this option, you will not be eligible for any benefits under the program. Contact your plan administrator for specific details.

Spouses Age 65 or Over of Active Employees

If you are actively employed in a group with 20 or more employees, your spouse has the same choices for benefit coverage as indicated above for the employee age 65 and over.

Regardless of the choice made by you or your spouse, each one of you should apply for Medicare Part A coverage about three months prior to becoming age 65. If you elect to be covered under the program, you may wait to enroll for Medicare Part B. You will be able to enroll for Part B later during special enrollment periods without penalty.

Leave of Absence or Layoff

Upon your return to work following a leave of absence or layoff that continued beyond the period of your coverage, your group's program may, in some cases, allow you to resume your coverage. You should consult with your plan administrator/employer to determine whether your group program has adopted such a policy.

Continuation of Coverage

The Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) is a federal law that covers group health plans sponsored by an employer (private sector or state/local government) that employed at least 20 employees on more than 50 percent of its typical business days in the previous calendar year. Employers that are subject to COBRA must temporarily extend their health care coverage to certain categories of employees and their covered dependents when, due to certain "qualifying events," they are no longer eligible for group coverage.

Act 2 of 2009 is a Pennsylvania law that is sometimes referred to as "mini-COBRA" since it is similar in purpose to federal COBRA. However, unlike federal COBRA, mini-COBRA only applies to employers who employed between 2 and 19 employees on a typical business day during the previous calendar year.

Contact your employer for more information about COBRA and the events that may allow you or your dependents to temporarily extend health care coverage.

Conversion

If your employer does not offer continuation of coverage, or if you do not wish to continue coverage through your employer's program, you may be able to enroll in an individual conversion program available from Highmark. Also, conversion is available to anyone who has elected continued coverage through your employer's program and the term of that coverage has expired.

If your coverage through your employer is discontinued for any reason, except as specified below, you may be able to convert to a direct payment program.

The conversion opportunity is not available if either of the following applies:

- You are eligible for another group health care benefits program through your place of employment.

- When your employer's program is terminated and replaced by another health care benefits program.

Termination of Your Coverage Under the Employer Contract

Your coverage can be terminated in the following instances:

- When you cease to be an employee, the group shall promptly notify Highmark that you are no longer eligible for coverage and that your coverage should be terminated as follows:
 - When prompt notification is received, coverage will be terminated no earlier than the date on which you cease to be eligible.
 - When a group requests a retroactive termination of coverage, coverage will be terminated no earlier than the first day of the month preceding the month in which Highmark received notice from the group.
- When you fail to pay the required contribution, your coverage will terminate at the end of the last month for which payment was made.
- Termination of the employer contract automatically terminates the coverage of all the members. It is the responsibility of the employer to notify you of the termination of coverage. However, coverage will be terminated regardless of whether the notice is given to you by the employer.
- If it is proven that you obtained or attempted to obtain benefits or payment for benefits through fraud or intentional misrepresentation of a material fact, Highmark may, upon 30-day advance written notice to you, terminate your coverage under the program.
- It is understood that you have an affirmative obligation to notify the group or Highmark as soon as the domestic partnership has been terminated. Upon termination of the domestic partnership, coverage of the former domestic partner and the children of the former domestic partner will terminate at the end of the month the domestic partnership terminated.

Benefits After Termination of Coverage

- If you are an inpatient on the day your coverage terminates, facility provider benefits for inpatient covered services will be continued as follows:
 - Until the maximum amount of benefits has been paid; or
 - Until the inpatient stay ends; or

- Until you become covered, without limitation as to the condition for which you are receiving inpatient care, under another group program; whichever occurs first.
- If you are pregnant on the date coverage terminates, no additional coverage will be provided.
- If you are totally disabled at the time your coverage terminates due to termination of active employment, benefits will be continued for covered services directly related to the condition causing such total disability. This benefit extension does not apply to covered services relating to other conditions, illnesses, diseases or injuries and is not available if your termination was due to fraud or intentional misrepresentation of a material fact. This total disability extension of benefits will be provided as long as you remain so disabled as follows:
 - Up to a maximum period of 12 consecutive months; or
 - Until the maximum amount of benefits has been paid; or
 - Until the total disability ends; or
 - Until you become covered without limitation as to the disabling condition under other group coverage, whichever occurs first.
- If you are required to pay any premium, your benefits will not be continued if your coverage is terminated because you failed to pay the required premium.

Coordination of Benefits

Most health care programs, including your health care program, contain a coordination of benefits provision. This provision is used when you, your spouse or your covered dependents are eligible for payment under more than one health care program. The object of coordination of benefits is to ensure that your covered expenses will be paid, while preventing duplicate benefit payments.

Here is how the coordination of benefits provision works:

- When your other coverage does not mention "coordination of benefits," then that coverage pays first. Benefits paid or payable by the other coverage will be taken into account in determining if additional benefit payments can be made under your program.
- When the person who received care is covered as an employee under one contract, and as a dependent under another, then the employee coverage pays first.

- When a dependent child is covered under two contracts, the contract covering the parent whose birthday falls earlier in the calendar year pays first. But, if both parents have the same birthday, the program which covered the parent longer will be the primary program. If the dependent child's parents are separated or divorced, the following applies:
 - The parent with custody of the child pays first.
 - The coverage of the parent with custody pays first but the stepparent's coverage pays before the coverage of the parent who does not have custody.
 - Regardless of which parent has custody, whenever a court decree specifies the parent who is financially responsible for the child's health care expenses, the coverage of that parent pays first.
- When none of the above circumstances applies, the coverage you have had for the longest time pays first, provided that:
 - the benefits of a program covering the person as an employee other than a laid-off or retired employee or as the dependent of such person shall be determined before the benefits of a program covering the person as a laid-off or retired employee or as a dependent of such person and if
 - the other program does not have this provision regarding laid-off or retired employees, and, as a result, plans do not agree on the order of benefits, then this rule is disregarded.

If you receive more than you should have when your benefits are coordinated, you will be expected to repay any overpayment.

Prescription drug benefits are not coordinated against any other health care or drug benefit coverage.

Subrogation

Subrogation means that if you incur health care expenses for injuries caused by another person or organization, the person or organization causing the accident may be responsible for paying these expenses.

For example, if you or one of your dependents receives benefits through your program for injuries caused by another person or organization, Highmark has the right, through subrogation, to seek repayment from the other person or organization or any applicable insurance company for benefits already paid.

Highmark will provide eligible benefits when needed, but you may be asked to show documents or take other necessary actions to support Highmark in any subrogation efforts.

A Recognized Identification Card

Carry your ID card with you at all times, destroy any previously issued cards, and show this card to the hospital, doctor, pharmacy, or other health care professional whenever you need medical care.

If your card is lost or stolen, please contact Highmark Member Service immediately. You can also request additional or replacement cards online by logging onto www.highmarkbcbs.com.

Below is a sample of the type of information that will be displayed on your ID card:

- Your name and your dependent's name, if applicable
- Identification number
- Group number
- Copayment for physician office visits and emergency room visits
- Pharmacy network logo (when applicable)
- Member Service toll-free number (on back of card)
- Toll-free telephone number for Out-of-network facility admissions (on back of card)
- Suitcase symbol

There is a logo of a suitcase on your ID card. This suitcase logo lets hospitals and doctors know that you are a member of a Blue Cross and Blue Shield plan, and that you have access to Blue providers nationwide.

How to File a Claim

In most instances, hospitals and physicians will submit a claim on your behalf. If your claim is not submitted directly by the provider, you may be required to file the claim yourself.

If you receive medications from a network pharmacy and present your ID card, you will not have to file a claim. If you forget your ID card when you go to a network pharmacy, the pharmacy may ask you to pay in full for the prescription.

If you have to file a claim, the procedure is simple. Just take the following steps:

- **Know Your Benefits.** Review this information to see if the services you received are eligible under your medical program.
- **Get an Itemized Bill.** Itemized bills must include:
 - The name and address of the service or pharmacy provider
 - The patient's full name
 - The date of service or supply or purchase
 - A description of the service or medication/supply
 - The amount charged
 - For a medical service, the diagnosis or nature of illness
 - For durable medical equipment, the doctor's certification
 - For private duty nursing, the nurse's license number, charge per day and shift worked, and signature of provider prescribing the service;
 - For ambulance services, the total mileage
 - Drug and medicine bills must show the prescription name and number and the prescribing provider's name.

Please note: If you've already made payment for the services you received, you must also submit proof of payment (receipt from the provider) with your claim form. Cancelled checks, cash register receipts or personal itemizations are not acceptable as itemized bills.

- **Copy Itemized Bills.** You must submit originals, so you may want to make copies for your records. Once your claim is received, itemized bills cannot be returned.
- **Complete a Claim Form.** Make sure all information is completed properly, and then sign and date the form. *Claim forms can be downloaded from the member website by entering "forms" in the search box. Claim forms are also available from your employee benefits department, or call the Member Service telephone number on the back of your ID card.*

- **Attach Itemized Bills to the Claim Form and Mail.** After you complete the above steps, attach all itemized bills to the claim form and mail everything to the address on the back of your ID card.

Remember: Multiple services or medications for the same family member can be filed with one claim form. However, a separate claim form must be completed for each member.

If you file the claim yourself, your claim must be submitted within 90 days of the date of service, but in no event will it be accepted later than one year from the 90-day timeframe.

Your Explanation of Benefits Statement

When you submit a claim, you will receive an Explanation of Benefits (EOB) statement that lists:

- The provider's actual charge
- The allowable amount as determined by Highmark
- The copayment; deductible and coinsurance amounts, if any, that you are required to pay
- Total benefits payable
- The total amount you owe

In those instances when you are not required to submit a claim because, for example, the network provider will submit the bill as a claim for payment under its contract with Highmark, you will receive an EOB only when you are required to pay amounts other than your required copayment.

You can get your EOBs online. Simply register on your member website. Your EOB can also be mailed to you. If you do not owe a payment to the provider, you may not receive an EOB.

How to Voice a Complaint

In the event that you are dissatisfied with any aspect of your health care benefits or you have an objection regarding participating health care providers, coverage, operations or management policies, please contact Highmark via the toll-free Member Service telephone number located on the back of your ID card or by mail at the address listed below. Please include your identification and group numbers as displayed on your ID card.

HM Health Insurance Company
P.O. Box 226
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

A representative will review, research and respond to your inquiry as quickly as possible.

If the informal dissatisfaction process is not successful and does not meet your needs, you have the right to have your objection reviewed by our Member Grievance and Appeals Department. For details about how this process works, please refer to the Appeal Procedure section of this booklet or call Member Service at the number on your member ID card.

Fraud or Provider Abuse

If you think that a provider is committing fraud, please let us know. Examples of fraud include: Submitting claims for services that you did not get; Adding extra charges for services that you did not get; Giving you treatment for services you did not need. Please call the local state toll-free Fraud Hotline.

Additional Information on How to File a Claim

Member Inquiries

General inquiries regarding your eligibility for coverage and benefits do not involve the filing of a claim, and should be made by directly contacting the Member Service Department using the telephone number on your ID card.

Filing Benefit Claims

– *Authorized Representatives*

You have the right to designate an authorized representative to file or pursue a request for reimbursement or other post-service claim on your behalf. Highmark reserves the right to establish reasonable procedures for determining whether an individual has been authorized to act on your behalf.

– *Requests for Precertification and Other Pre-Service Claims*

For a description of how to file a request for precertification or other pre-service claim, see the Precertification, Preauthorization and Pre-Service Claims Review Processes subsection in the Health Care Management section of this benefit booklet.

– *Requests for Reimbursement and Other Post-Service Claims*

When a hospital, physician or other provider submits its own reimbursement claim, the amount paid to that provider will be determined in accordance with the provider's agreement with Highmark or the local licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association serving your area. Highmark will notify you of the amount that was paid to the provider. Any remaining amounts that you are required to pay in the form of a copayment, coinsurance or program deductible will also be identified in that EOB or

notice. If you believe that the copayment, coinsurance or deductible amount identified in that EOB or notice is not correct or that any portion of those amounts are covered under your benefit program, you may file a claim with Highmark. For instructions on how to file such claims, you should contact the Member Service Department using the telephone number on your ID card.

Determinations on Benefit Claims

- ***Notice of Benefit Determinations Involving Requests for Precertification and Other Pre-Service Claims***

For a description of the time frames in which requests for precertification or other pre-service claims will be determined by Highmark and the notice you will receive concerning its decision, whether adverse or not, see the Precertification, Preauthorization and Pre-Service Claims Review Processes subsection in the Health Care Management section of this benefit booklet.

- ***Notice of Adverse Benefit Determinations Involving Requests for Reimbursement and Other Post-Service Claims***

Highmark will notify you in writing of its determination on your request for reimbursement or other post-service claim within a reasonable period of time following receipt of your claim. That period of time will not exceed 30 days from the date your claim was received. However, this 30-day period of time may be extended one time by Highmark for an additional 15 days, provided that Highmark determines that the additional time is necessary due to matters outside its control, and notifies you of the extension prior to the expiration of the initial 30-day post-service claim determination period. If an extension of time is necessary because you failed to submit information necessary for Highmark to make a decision on your post-service claim, the notice of extension that is sent to you will specifically describe the information that you must submit. In this event, you will have at least 45 days in which to submit the information before a decision is made on your post-service claim.

If your request for reimbursement or other post-service claim is denied, you will receive written notification of that denial which will include, among other items, the specific reason or reasons for the adverse benefit determination and a statement describing your right to file an appeal.

For a description of your right to file an appeal concerning an adverse benefit determination of a request for reimbursement or any other post-service claim, see the Appeal Procedure subsection below.

Appeal Procedure

Internal Appeal Process

Highmark maintains an internal appeal process involving one level of review.

At any time during the appeal process, you may choose to designate an authorized representative to participate in the appeal process on your behalf. You or your authorized representative shall notify Highmark in writing of the designation. For purposes of the appeal process, "you" includes designees, legal representatives and, in the case of a minor, parents entitled or authorized to act on your behalf. Highmark reserves the right to establish reasonable procedures for determining whether an individual has been authorized to act on your behalf. Such procedures as adopted by Highmark shall, in the case of an urgent care claim, permit a physician or other health care provider with knowledge of your medical condition to act as your authorized representative.

At any time during the appeal process, you may contact the Member Service Department at the toll-free telephone number listed on your ID card to inquire about the filing or status of your appeal.

If you receive notification that your coverage has been rescinded or that a claim has been denied by Highmark, in whole or in part, you may appeal the decision. Your appeal must be submitted within 180 days from the date of your receipt of notification of the adverse decision.

Upon request to Highmark, you may review all documents, records and other information relevant to your appeal and shall have the right to submit or present additional evidence or testimony which includes any written or oral statements, comments and/or remarks, documents, records, information, data or other material in support of your appeal. Your appeal will be reviewed by a representative from the Member Grievance and Appeals Department. The representative shall not have been involved or be the subordinate of any individual that was involved in any previous decision to deny the claim or matter which is the subject of your appeal. In rendering a decision on your appeal, the Member Grievance and Appeals Department will take into account all evidence, comments, testimony, documents, records, and other information submitted by you without regard to whether such information was previously submitted to or considered by Highmark. The Member Grievance and Appeals Department will afford no deference to any prior adverse decision on the claim which is the subject of your appeal.

Each appeal will be promptly investigated and Highmark will provide written notification of its decision within the following time frames:

- When the appeal involves a non-urgent care pre-service claim, within a reasonable period of time appropriate to the medical circumstances involved not to exceed 30 days following receipt of the appeal;
- When the appeal involves an urgent care claim, as soon as possible taking into account the medical exigencies involved but not later than 72 hours following receipt of the appeal; or
- When the appeal involves a post-service claim or a decision by Highmark to rescind coverage, within a reasonable period of time not to exceed 30 days following receipt of the appeal.

If Highmark fails to provide notice of its decision within the above-stated time frames or otherwise fails to strictly adhere to these appeal procedures, you may be permitted to request an external review and/or pursue any applicable right to arbitration.

In the event Highmark renders an adverse decision on your internal appeal, the notification shall include, among other items, the specific reason or reasons for the adverse decision and a statement regarding your right to request an external review and/or pursue any applicable right to arbitration.

External Review Process

You shall have four months from the receipt of the notice of Highmark's decision to appeal the denial resulting from the internal appeal process by requesting an external review of the decision. To be eligible for external review, Highmark's decision to be reviewed must involve:

- a claim that was denied involving medical judgment, including application of Highmark's requirements as to medical necessity, appropriateness, health care setting, level of care, effectiveness of a covered service or a determination that the treatment is experimental or investigational, or
- a determination made by Highmark to rescind your coverage.

In the case of a denied claim, the request for external review may be filed by either you or your health care provider, with your written consent in the format required by or acceptable to Highmark. The request for external review should include any reasons, material justification and all reasonable necessary supporting information as part of the external review filing.

Preliminary Review and Notification

Within five business days from receipt of the request for external review, Highmark will complete a preliminary review of the external review request to determine:

- in the case of a denied claim, whether you are or were covered under this program at the time the covered service which is the subject of the denied claim was or would have been received;
- whether you have exhausted Highmark's internal appeal process, unless otherwise not required to exhaust that process; and
- whether you have provided all of the information and any applicable forms required by Highmark to process the external review request.

Within one business day following completion of its preliminary review of the request, Highmark shall notify you, or the health care provider filing the external review request on your behalf, of its determination.

In the event that the external review request is not complete, the notification will describe the information or materials needed to complete the request in which case you, or the health care provider filing the external review request on your behalf, must correct and/or complete the external review request no later than the end of the four month period in which you were required to initiate an external review of Highmark's decision, or alternatively, 48 hours following receipt of Highmark's notice of its preliminary review, whichever is later.

In the event that the external review request is complete but not eligible for external review, notification by Highmark will include the reasons why the request is ineligible for external review and contact information that you may use to receive additional information and assistance.

Final Review and Notification

Requests that are complete and eligible for external review will be assigned to an independent review organization (IRO) to conduct the external review. The assigned IRO will notify you, or the health care provider filing the external review on your behalf, that the request has been accepted and is eligible for external review. The notice will further state that the IRO has been assigned to conduct the external review and that any additional information which you or the health care provider may have in support of the request must be submitted, in writing, within 10 business days following receipt of the notice. Any additional information timely submitted by you or the health care provider and received by the assigned IRO will be forwarded to Highmark. Upon receipt of the information, Highmark shall be permitted an opportunity to reconsider its prior decision regarding the claim that was denied or the matter which is the subject of the external review request.

The assigned IRO will review all of the information and documents that it timely received and make a decision on the external review request. The decision shall be made without regard or deference to the decision that was made in Highmark's internal appeal process. The assigned IRO shall provide written notice of its final external review decision to

Highmark and you, or the health care provider filing the external review request on your behalf, within 45 days from receipt by the IRO of the external review request. Written notice of the decision shall provide, among other information, a statement of the principal reasons for the decision including the rationale and standards relied upon by the IRO, a statement that arbitration may be available to you and current contact information for the Pennsylvania Insurance Department Office of Consumer Services or such other applicable office of health insurance consumer assistance or ombudsman.

Expedited External Review (applies to urgent care claims only)

If Highmark's initial decision or the denial resulting from Highmark's internal appeal process involves an urgent care claim, you or the health care provider on behalf of you may request an expedited external review of Highmark's decision. Requests for expedited external review are subject to review by Highmark to determine whether they are timely, complete and eligible for external review. When the request involves a denied urgent care claim, Highmark must complete its preliminary review and provide notice of its eligibility determination immediately upon receipt of the request for expedited external review. If the request is eligible for expedited external review, Highmark must then transmit all necessary documents and information that was considered in denying the urgent care claim involved to an assigned IRO in an expeditious manner. The assigned IRO will conduct the review and provide notice of its final external review decision as expeditiously as your medical condition or circumstances require, but in no event more than 72 hours following receipt by the IRO of the request for expedited external review. If notice of the decision by the IRO is not provided in writing, the IRO must provide within 48 hours following initial notice of its final external review decision, written confirmation of that decision to Highmark and you, or the health care provider filing the expedited external review request on your behalf.

Member Assistance Services

You may obtain assistance with Highmark's internal appeal and external review procedures as described herein by contacting the Pennsylvania Insurance Department Office of Consumer Services or such other applicable office of health insurance consumer assistance or ombudsman.

Autism Spectrum Disorders Expedited Review and Appeal Procedures

Upon denial, in whole or in part, of a pre-service claim or post-service claim for diagnostic assessment or treatment of autism spectrum disorders, there is an appeal procedure for expedited internal review which you may choose as an alternative to those procedures set forth above. In order to obtain an expedited review, you or your authorized representative shall identify the particular claim as one related to the diagnostic assessment or treatment of an autism spectrum disorder to the Member Service Department and request an expedited review which will be provided by Highmark. If, based on the information provided at the time the request is made, the claim cannot be determined as one based on

services for the diagnostic assessment or treatment of autism spectrum disorders, Highmark may request from you or the health care provider additional clinical information including the treatment plan described in the Covered Services section of the booklet.

An appeal of a denial of a claim for services for the diagnostic assessment or treatment of an autism spectrum disorder is subject to review by a Review Committee. The request to have the decision reviewed by the Review Committee may be communicated orally or be submitted in writing within 180 days from the date the denial of the claim is received, and may include any written information from you or the health care provider. The Review Committee shall be comprised of three employees of Highmark who were not involved or the subordinate of any individual that was previously involved in any decision to deny coverage or payment for the health care service. The Review Committee will hold an informal hearing to consider the appeal. When arranging the hearing, Highmark will notify you or the health care provider of the hearing procedures and rights at such hearing, including your or the health care provider's right to be present at the review and to present a case. If you or the health care provider cannot appear in person at the review, Highmark shall provide you or the health care provider the opportunity to communicate with the Review Committee by telephone or other appropriate means.

Highmark shall conduct the expedited internal review and notify you or your authorized representative of its decision as soon as possible but not later than 48 hours following the receipt of your request for an expedited review. The notification to you and the health care provider shall include, among other items, the specific reason or reasons for the adverse decision including any clinical rationale, the procedure for obtaining an expedited external review and a statement regarding your right to pursue legal action.

Following the receipt of the expedited internal review decision, you may contact Highmark to request an expedited external review pursuant to the expedited external review procedure for autism spectrum disorders established by the Pennsylvania Insurance Department.

Member Service

When you have questions about a claim, benefits or coverage, our Member Service Representatives are here to help you. Just call Member Service at the toll-free number on your member ID card or log in to your Highmark member website at www.highmarkbcbs.com. For TTY/TDD hearing impaired service, please dial 711 and the number on the back of your ID card.

As a Highmark member, you have access to a wide range of readily available health education tools and support services, all geared to help you "Have a Greater Hand in Your Health."

Blues On Callsm - 24/7 Health Decision Support

Just call **1-888-BLUE-428 (1-888-258-3428)** to be connected to a specially-trained wellness professional. You can talk to a Health Coach whenever you like, any time of the day, any day of the week.

Health Coaches are specially-trained registered nurses, dietitians and respiratory therapists who can help you make more informed health care and self-care (when appropriate) decisions. They can assist with a health symptom assessment, provide health-related information, and discuss your treatment options. Please be assured that your discussions with your Health Coach are kept strictly confidential.

Help with common illnesses, injuries and questions

Health Coaches can address any health topic that concerns you:

- Everyday conditions, such as a rash, an earache or a sprain
- A recent diagnosis you've received
- A scheduled medical test
- Planned surgery or other medical procedure
- Questions to ask your doctor at your next appointment
- How to care for a child or elder

You don't have to be ill to talk to a Health Coach. Call to learn about programs and other resources available to help you manage:

- Stress
- Personal nutrition
- Weight management
- Physical activities
- Insomnia
- Depression

Help with chronic conditions

If you have diabetes, asthma, congestive heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease or coronary artery disease, you need to manage your condition every day in order to stay healthy and avoid hospital stays. That means keeping track of medications, tests, doctor appointments and your diet. Your Blues On Call Health Coach can help you work more closely with your doctor and get more involved in taking good care of yourself.

You can even establish a relationship with a specific Health Coach and schedule time to talk about your concerns and conditions.

myCare Navigatorsm - 24/7 Health Advocate Support

Getting the right care and finding the right doctor and wellness services for you and your family is now as quick and easy as calling myCare Navigator at **1-888-BLUE-428**.

Your dedicated health advocate can help you and your family members:

- locate a primary care physician or get an appointment with a hard-to-reach specialist;
- get your medical records transferred;
- get a second opinion;
- understand your health care options;
- locate wellness resources, such as services for your special needs child or quality elder care for a parent; or
- handle billing questions and make the most of your care dollars.

Get the help you need to navigate the health care system easily and effectively. The same number that connects you to Blues On Call now connects you to your health advocate, myCare Navigator. So call **1-888-BLUE-428** for *total* care support!

Highmark Website

As a Highmark member, you have a wealth of health information at your fingertips. It's easy to access all your online offerings. Whether you are looking for a health care provider or managing your claims...want to make informed health care decisions on treatment options, or lead a healthier lifestyle, Highmark can help with online tools and resources.

Go to www.highmarkbcbs.com. Then click on the Members tab and log in to your home page to take advantage of all kinds of programs and resources to help you understand your health status, including an online Wellness Profile. Then, take steps toward real health improvement.

Baby Blueprints®

If You Are Pregnant, Now Is the Time to Enroll in Baby Blueprints

If you are expecting a baby, this is an exciting time for you. It's also a time when you have many questions and concerns about your health and your developing baby's health.

To help you understand and manage every stage of pregnancy and childbirth, Highmark offers the Baby Blueprints Maternity Education and Support Program.

By enrolling in this free program, you will have access to online information on all aspects of pregnancy and childbirth. Baby Blueprints will also provide you with personal support from a nurse health coach available to you throughout your pregnancy.

Easy Enrollment

Just call toll-free at 1-866-918-5267. You can enroll at any time during your pregnancy.

Member Rights and Responsibilities

Your participation in your health care program is vital to maintaining quality in your program and services. Your importance to this process is reflected in the following statement of principles.

You have the right to:

1. Receive information about Highmark, its products and its services, its practitioners and providers, and your rights and responsibilities.
2. Be treated with respect and recognition of your dignity and right to privacy.
3. Participate with practitioners in decision-making regarding your health care. This includes the right to be informed of your diagnosis and treatment plan in terms that you understand and participate in decisions about your care.
4. Have a candid discussion of appropriate and/or medically necessary treatment options for your condition(s), regardless of cost or benefit coverage. Highmark does not restrict the information shared between practitioners and patients and has policies in place, directing practitioners to openly communicate information with their patients regarding all treatment options regardless of benefit coverage.
5. Voice a complaint or file an appeal about Highmark or the care provided and receive a reply within a reasonable period of time.
6. Make recommendations regarding the Highmark Members' Rights and Responsibilities policies.

You have a responsibility to:

1. Supply to the extent possible, information that the organization needs in order to make care available to you, and that its practitioners and providers need in order to care for you.
2. Follow the plans and instructions for care that you have agreed on with your practitioners.
3. Communicate openly with the physician you choose. Ask questions and make sure you understand the explanations and instructions you are given, and participate in developing mutually agreed upon treatment goals. Develop a relationship with your doctor based on trust and cooperation.

How We Protect Your Right to Confidentiality

We have established policies and procedures to protect the privacy of our members' protected health information ("PHI") in all forms, including PHI given verbally, from unauthorized or improper use. Some of the ways we protect your privacy include not discussing PHI outside of our offices, e.g., in hallways, elevators, as well as verifying your identity before we discuss PHI with you over the phone. As permitted by law, we may use or disclose protected health information for treatment, payment and health care operations, such as: claims management, routine audits, coordination of care, quality assessment and measurement, case management, utilization review, performance

measurement, customer service, credentialing, medical review and underwriting. With the use of measurement data, we are able to manage members' health care needs, even targeting certain individuals for quality improvement programs, such as health, wellness and disease management programs.

If we ever use your protected health information for non-routine uses, we will ask you to give us your permission by signing a special authorization form, except with regard to court orders and subpoenas.

You have the right to access the information your doctor has been keeping in your medical records, and any such request should be directed first to your network physician.

You benefit from the many safeguards we have in place to protect the use of data we maintain. This includes requiring our employees to sign statements in which they agree to protect your confidentiality, using computer passwords to limit access to your protected health information, and including confidentiality language in our contracts with physicians, hospitals, vendors and other health care providers.

Our Privacy Department reviews and approves policies regarding the handling of confidential information.

Recognizing that you have a right to privacy in all settings, we even inspect the privacy of examination rooms when we conduct on-site visits to physicians' offices. It's all part of safeguarding the confidentiality of your protected health information.

Terms You Should Know

The following terms apply **only** if your group provides coverage for this benefit. Depending on your health care program not all terms may apply. Your group administrator can determine if you are eligible for this coverage. Please refer to the Schedule of Benefits section of this booklet

Assisted Fertilization - Any method used to enhance the possibility of conception through retrieval or manipulation of the sperm or ovum. This includes, but is not limited to, Artificial Insemination, In Vitro Fertilization (IVF), Gamete Intra-Fallopian Transfer (GIFT), Zygote Intra-Fallopian Transfer (ZIFT), Tubal Embryo Transfer (TET), Peritoneal Ovum Sperm Transfer, Zona Drilling, and sperm microinjection.

Autism Spectrum Disorders - Any of the pervasive developmental disorders defined by the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, or its successor, including autistic disorder, Asperger's disorder and pervasive developmental disorder not otherwise specified.

Benefit Period - The specified period of time during which charges for covered services must be incurred in order to be eligible for payment by your program. A charge shall be considered incurred on the date you receive the service or supply for which the charge is made.

Blues On Call - A 24-hour health decision support program that gives you ready access to a specially-trained health coach.

Board-Certified - A designation given to those physicians who, after meeting strict standards of knowledge and practices, are certified by the professional board representing their specialty.

Brand Drug - A recognized trade name prescription drug product, usually either the innovator product for new drugs still under patent protection or a more expensive product marketed under a brand name for multi-source drugs and noted as such in the pharmacy database used by Highmark.

Claim – A request for precertification, preauthorization or prior approval of a covered service or for the payment or reimbursement of the charges or costs associated with a covered service. Claims include:

- **Pre-Service Claim** – A request for precertification, preauthorization or prior approval of a covered service which under the terms of your coverage must be approved before you receive the covered service.

- **Urgent Care Claim** – A pre-service claim which, if decided within the time periods established for making non-urgent care pre-service claim decisions, could seriously jeopardize your life, health or ability to regain maximum function or, in the opinion of a physician with knowledge of your medical condition, would subject you to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the service. Whether a request involves an urgent care claim will be determined by your attending physician or provider.
- **Post-Service Claim** – A request for payment or reimbursement of the charges or costs associated with a covered service that you have received.

Covered Maintenance Prescription Drug – A maintenance prescription drug, which Highmark is contractually obligated to pay or provide as a benefit to you under this program when dispensed by a participating maintenance pharmacy. Any prescription order for not more than a 90-day supply of a legend drug shall be considered a covered maintenance prescription drug, unless otherwise expressly excluded.

Covered Services - A service or supply specified by your program which is eligible for payment when rendered by a provider.

Custodial Care - Care provided primarily for maintenance of the patient or which is designed essentially to assist the patient in meeting the activities of daily living and which is not primarily provided for its therapeutic value in the treatment of an illness, disease, bodily injury, or condition.

Designated Agent - An entity that has contracted, either directly or indirectly, with your health care program to perform a function and/or service in the administration of this program. Such function and/or service may include, but is not limited to, medical management and provider referral.

Diabetes Prevention Program - A 12-month program using curriculum approved by the Centers for Disease Control to deliver a prevention lifestyle intervention for those at high risk of developing type 2 diabetes. The program includes behavioral and motivational content focusing on moderate changes in both diet and physical activity.

Diabetes Prevention Provider - An entity that offers a diabetes prevention program.

Emergency Care Services - The treatment of bodily injuries resulting from an accident, or following the sudden onset of a medical condition, or following, in the case of a chronic condition, a sudden and unexpected medical event that manifests itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity or severe pain, such that a prudent layperson who possesses an average knowledge of health and medicine could reasonably expect the absence of immediate medical attention to result in:

- placing your health or, with respect to a pregnant member, the health of the member or the unborn child in serious jeopardy;
- causing serious impairment to bodily functions; and/or
- causing serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part

and for which care is sought as soon as possible after the medical condition becomes evident to you.

Exclusions - Services, supplies or charges that are not covered by your program.

Experimental/Investigative - The use of any treatment, service, procedure, facility, equipment, drug, device or supply (intervention) which is not determined by Highmark Inc. to be medically effective for the condition being treated. Highmark will consider an intervention to be experimental/investigative if: the intervention does not have Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval to be marketed for the specific relevant indication(s); or, available scientific evidence does not permit conclusions concerning the effect of the intervention on health outcomes; or, the intervention is not proven to be as safe and as effective in achieving an outcome equal to or exceeding the outcome of alternative therapies; or, the intervention does not improve health outcomes; or, the intervention is not proven to be applicable outside the research setting. If an intervention, as defined above, is determined to be experimental/investigative at the time of the service, it will not receive retroactive coverage, even if it is found to be in accordance with the above criteria at a later date.

Medical researchers constantly experiment with new medical equipment, drugs and other technologies. In turn, health care plans must evaluate these technologies.

Highmark believes that decisions for evaluating new technologies, as well as new applications of existing technologies, for medical and behavioral health procedures, pharmaceuticals and devices should be made by medical professionals. That is why a panel of more than 400 medical professionals work with our nationally recognized Medical Affairs Committee to review new technologies and new applications for existing technologies for medical and behavioral health procedures and devices. To stay current and patient-responsive, these reviews are ongoing and all-encompassing, considering factors such as product efficiency, safety and effectiveness. If the technology passes the test, the Medical Affairs Committee recommends it be considered as acceptable medical practice and a covered benefit. Technology that does not merit this status is usually considered "experimental/investigative" and is not generally covered. However, it may be re-evaluated in the future.

A similar process is followed for evaluating new pharmaceuticals. The Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P & T) Committee assesses new pharmaceuticals based on national and

international data, research that is currently underway and expert opinion from leading clinicians. The P & T Committee consists of at least one Highmark-employed pharmacist and/or medical director, five board-certified, actively practicing network physicians and two Doctors of Pharmacy currently providing clinical pharmacy services within the Highmark service area. At the committee's discretion, advice, support and consultation may also be sought from physician subcommittees in the following specialties: cardiology, dermatology, endocrinology, hematology/oncology, obstetrics/gynecology, ophthalmology, psychiatry, infectious disease, neurology, gastroenterology and urology. Issues that are addressed during the review process include clinical efficacy, unique value, safety, patient compliance, local physician and specialist input and pharmacoeconomic impact. After the review is complete, the P & T Committee makes recommendations.

Highmark recognizes that situations may occur when you elect to pursue experimental/investigative treatment. If you have a concern that a service you will receive may be experimental/investigational, you or the hospital and/or professional provider may contact Highmark's Member Service to determine coverage.

Explanation of Benefits (EOB) - This is the statement you'll receive from Highmark after your claim is processed. It lists: the provider's charge, allowable amount, copayment, deductible and coinsurance amounts, if any, you're required to pay; total benefits payable; and total amount you owe.

Generic Drug - A drug that is available from more than one manufacturing source and accepted by the FDA as a substitute for those products having the same active ingredients as a brand drug and listed in the FDA "Approved Drug Products with Therapeutic Equivalence Evaluations," otherwise known as the Orangebook, and noted as such in the pharmacy database used by Highmark.

Highmark Blue Shield Service Area - The geographic area, within Pennsylvania, in which Highmark Blue Shield operates as a hospital plan corporation consisting of the following counties in central Pennsylvania:

Adams	Franklin	Lehigh	Perry
Berks	Fulton	Mifflin	Schuylkill
Centre (part)	Juniata	Montour	Snyder
Columbia	Lancaster	Northampton	Union
Cumberland	Lebanon	Northumberland	York
Dauphin			

Immediate Family - Your spouse, child, stepchild, parent, brother, sister, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, grandchild, grandparent, stepparent, stepbrother or stepsister.

Infertility - The medically documented inability to conceive with unprotected sexual intercourse between partners of the opposite biological sex for a period of at least 12 months. The inability to conceive may be due to either partner.

Inpatient - A member who is a registered bed patient in a hospital or skilled nursing facility and for whom a room and board charge is made.

Maintenance Prescription Drug - A prescription drug prescribed for the control of a chronic disease or illness, or to alleviate the pain and discomfort associated with a chronic disease or illness.

Maximum - The greatest amount payable by the program for covered services. This could be expressed in dollars, number of days, or number of services for a specified period of time. There are two types of maximums:

Program Maximum - The greatest amount payable by the program for all covered services.

Benefit Maximum - The greatest amount payable by the program for a specific covered service.

Medically Necessary and Appropriate (Medical Necessity and Appropriateness) - Services, covered medications or supplies that a provider, exercising prudent clinical judgment, would provide to a patient for the purpose of preventing, evaluating, diagnosing or treating an illness, injury, disease or its symptoms, and that are: (i) in accordance with generally accepted standards of medical practice; and (ii) clinically appropriate, in terms of type, frequency, extent, site and duration, and considered effective for the patient's illness, injury or disease; and (iii) not primarily for the convenience of the patient, physician, or other provider, and not more costly than an alternative service or sequence of services at least as likely to produce equivalent therapeutic or diagnostic results as to the diagnosis or treatment of that patient's illness, injury or disease.

Highmark reserves the right, utilizing the criteria set forth in this definition, to render the final determination as to whether a service, covered medications or supply is medically necessary and appropriate. No benefits hereunder will be provided unless Highmark determines that the service, covered medications or supply is medically necessary and appropriate.

Medicare Eligible Expenses - Expenses of the kinds covered by Medicare, to the extent recognized as reasonable and medically necessary and appropriate by Medicare. If

this program provides for benefits not covered by Medicare, Highmark reserves the right to determine whether such benefits are medically necessary and appropriate.

Multi-Source Brand Drug - A recognized trade name drug product that does not have patent protection and for which a generic equivalent exists.

Network - Depending on where you receive services, the network is designated as one of the following:

- **Keystone Health Plan West Network** - all Keystone Health Plan West facility providers and Keystone Health Plan West professional providers that have entered into a network agreement, either directly or indirectly, with Highmark.
- **Highmark Blue Shield Participating Facility Provider Network** - all Highmark Blue Shield participating facility providers that have entered into an agreement, either directly or indirectly, with Highmark.
- **PremierBlue Shield Preferred Professional Provider Network** - all PremierBlue Shield Preferred Professional providers who have an agreement, either directly or indirectly, with Highmark.

Network Provider - An ancillary provider, professional provider or facility provider who has entered into an agreement, either directly or indirectly, with HM Health Insurance Company or with any licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association located out-of-area, pertaining to payment as a participant in your network for covered services rendered to a member.

Network Service - A service, treatment or care that is provided by a network provider.

Partial Hospitalization - The provision of medical, nursing, counseling or therapeutic mental health care services or substance abuse services on a planned and regularly scheduled basis in a facility provider designed for a patient or client who would benefit from more intensive services than are generally offered through outpatient treatment but who does not require inpatient care.

Participating Pharmacy Provider - A Pharmacy Provider that has an agreement, either directly or indirectly, with Highmark pertaining to the payment of covered medications or specific devices provided to the member.

Plan - Refers to Highmark, which is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association. Any reference to the plan may also include its designated agent as defined

herein and with whom the plan has contracted, either directly or indirectly, to perform a function or service in the administration of this program.

Plan Allowance - The amount used to determine payment by Highmark for covered services provided to you and to determine your liability. Plan allowance is based on the type of provider who renders such services or as required by law. The plan allowance for an in-area out-of-network provider is based on an adjusted contractual allowance for like services rendered by a network provider in the same geographic region. You will be responsible for any difference between the provider's billed charges and Highmark's payment. The plan allowance for an out-of-area provider is determined, for other than pediatric dental and vision care and telemedicine covered services, based on prices received from local licensees of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association in accordance with your health care program's participation in the BlueCard program described in the How Your Health Care Program Works section of this booklet.

Precertification (Preauthorization) - The process through which medical necessity and appropriateness of inpatient admissions, services or place of services is determined by Highmark prior to or after an admission or the performance of a procedure or service.

Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) Program - A program that does not require the selection of a primary care provider, but is based on a provider network made up of physicians, hospitals and other health care facilities. Using this provider network helps assure that you receive maximum coverage for eligible services.

Prescription Drugs - Any drugs or medications ordered by a professional provider by means of a valid prescription order, bearing the federal legend: "Caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without a prescription," or legend drugs under applicable state law and dispensed by a licensed pharmacist. Also included are prescribed injectable insulin and disposable insulin syringes, as well as compounded medications, consisting of the mixture of at least two ingredients other than water, one of which must be a legend drug.

Primary Care Provider (PCP) - A physician whose practice is limited to family practice, general practice, internal medicine or pediatrics, or a certified registered nurse practitioner each of whom has an agreement with Highmark pertaining to payment as a network participant and has specifically contracted with Highmark to: a) be designated as a PCP; b) supervise, coordinate and provide specific basic medical services to you; and c) maintain continuity of patient care.

Provider's Allowable Price - The amount at which a participating pharmacy provider has agreed, either directly or indirectly, with the health plan to provide covered medications to you under this program.

Single Source Brand Drug - A recognized brand drug under patent protection which prohibits the manufacturing of generic equivalent products.

Specialist - A physician, other than a primary care provider, whose practice is limited to a particular branch of medicine or surgery.

Telemedicine Service - A real time interaction between you and a designated telemedicine provider conducted by means of telephonic or audio and video telecommunications, for the purpose of providing specific outpatient covered services.

Totally Disabled (or Total Disability) - A condition resulting from illness or injury as a result of which, and as certified by a physician, for an initial period of 24 months, you are continuously unable to perform all of the substantial and material duties of your regular occupation. However: (i) after 24 months of continuous disability, "totally disabled" (or total disability) means your inability to perform all of the substantial and material duties of any occupation for which you are reasonably suited by education, training or experience; (ii) during the entire period of total disability, you may not be engaged in any activity whatsoever for wage or profit and must be under the regular care and attendance of a physician, other than your immediate family. If you do not usually engage in any occupation for wages or profits, "totally disabled" (or total disability) means you are substantially unable to engage in the normal activities of an individual of the same age and sex.

You or Your - Refers to individuals who are covered under the program.

Highmark is a registered mark of Highmark Inc.

PPO Blue, Blues On Call and myCare Navigator are service marks of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association, an association of independent Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies.

Baby Blueprints, BlueCard, Blue Cross, Blue Shield and the Cross and Shield symbols are registered service marks of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association.

The Blue Cross Blue Shield Association is an independent company that does not provide Highmark Health Insurance Company products and services.

Express Scripts is a registered trademark of Express Scripts Holding Company.

You are hereby notified, your health care benefit program is between the Group, on behalf of itself and its employees and Highmark Health Insurance Company. Highmark Health Insurance Company is an independent corporation operating under licenses from the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association ("the Association"), which is a national association of independent Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies throughout the United States. Although all of these independent Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies operate from a license with the Association, each of them is a separate and distinct operation. The Association allows Highmark Health Insurance Company to use the familiar Blue Cross and Blue Shield

words and symbols. Highmark Health Insurance Company shall be liable to the Group, on behalf of itself and its employees, for any Highmark Health Insurance Company obligations under your health care benefit program.

Summary of Benefits

This Summary of Benefits outlines your covered services. More details can be found in the Covered Services section.

Benefits	Network	Out-of-Network
General Provisions		
Benefit Period ¹	Contract Year	
Deductible (per benefit period)		
Individual	None	\$500
Family	None	\$1,000
Plan Payment Level - Based on the plan allowance	100%	80% after deductible until out-of-pocket limit is met; then 100%
Out-of-Pocket Limits		
Individual	None	\$3,000
Family	None	\$6,000
Office/Clinic/Urgent Care Visits		
Retail Clinic Visits (including virtual visits)	100% after \$20 copayment	80% after deductible
Primary Care Provider Office Visits (including virtual visits) ^{2,3}	100% after \$20 copayment	80% after deductible
Specialist Office Visits (including virtual visits) ²	100% after \$20 copayment	80% after deductible
Virtual Visit Originating Site Fee ²	100%	80% after deductible
Urgent Care Center Visits	100% after \$20 copayment	80% after deductible
Telemedicine Services ⁴	100% after \$10 copayment	Not Covered
Preventive Care Services ⁵		
Adult		
Routine physical exams	100%	80% after deductible
Adult Immunizations	100%	80% after deductible
Routine gynecological exams, including a PAP Test	100%	80%; deductible does not apply
Mammograms, annual routine and medically necessary	100%	80% after deductible
Colorectal cancer screening	100%	80% after deductible
Diabetes prevention program	100%	Not Covered
Tobacco use counseling and interventions	100%	80% after deductible
Pediatric		
Routine physical exams	100%	80% after deductible
Pediatric immunizations	100%	80%; deductible does not apply
Hospital and Medical/Surgical Expenses (including maternity)		
Hospital Services - Inpatient	100%	80% after deductible
Hospital Services - Outpatient ⁶	100%	80% after deductible
Maternity (non-preventive facility and professional services)	100%	80% after deductible
Medical Care (including inpatient visits and consultations)/ Surgical Expenses	100%	80% after deductible

Benefits	Network	Out-of-Network	
Emergency Services			
Emergency Room Services	100% after \$50 copayment (waived if admitted as an inpatient)		
Emergency Ambulance Service	100%	100%; deductible does not apply	
Non-Emergency Ambulance Service	100%	100%; deductible does not apply	
Therapy and Rehabilitation Services			
Cardiac Rehabilitation	100%	80% after deductible	
Chemotherapy	100%	80% after deductible	
Dialysis Treatment	100%	80% after deductible	
Infusion Therapy	100%	80% after deductible	
Occupational Therapy	100% after \$20 copayment	80% after deductible	
	Limit: 20 visits per benefit period		
Physical Medicine	100% after \$20 copayment	80% after deductible	
	Limit: 20 visits per benefit period		
Radiation Therapy	100%	80% after deductible	
Respiratory Therapy	100%	100%; deductible does not apply	
Speech Therapy	100% after \$20 copayment	80% after deductible	
	Limit: 20 visits per benefit period		
Spinal Manipulations	100% after \$20 copayment	80% after deductible	
	Limit: 20 visits per benefit period		
Mental Health/Substance Abuse Services			
Mental Health Care Services - Inpatient	100%	80% after deductible	
Mental Health Care Services - Outpatient (including virtual visit) ⁴	100%	80% after deductible	
Substance Abuse Services - Inpatient	100%	80% after deductible	
Substance Abuse Services - Outpatient	100%	80% after deductible	
Other Services			
Allergy Extracts and Injections	100%	80% after deductible	
Anesthesia for Non-Covered Dental Procedures (Limited)	100%	80% after deductible	
Diabetes Treatment	100%	80% after deductible	
Diagnostic Services <i>Advanced Imaging (MRI, CAT Scan, PET scan, etc.)</i>	100%	80% after deductible	
	Basic Diagnostic Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • standard imaging • diagnostic medical • lab/pathology • allergy testing 	80% after deductible	
Durable Medical Equipment		100%	80% after deductible
Enteral Foods		100%	80%; deductible does not apply
Home Infusion and Suite Infusion Therapy Services		100%	100%; deductible does not apply
Home Health Care ⁷	100%	80% after deductible	

Benefits	Network	Out-of-Network
Hospice	100%	80% after deductible
Orthotics	100%	80% after deductible
Pediatric Extended Care Services	100%	80% after deductible
	Limit: 100 days per benefit period	
Private Duty Nursing	100%	100%; deductible does not apply
Prosthetics	100%	80 % after deductible
Skilled Nursing Facility Care	100%	80% after deductible
Transplant Services	100%	80% after deductible
Precertification Requirements	Yes ⁹	

Note: Certain benefits may be subject to day, visit, and/or hour limits. In connection with such benefits, all services you receive during a benefit period will reduce the remaining number of days, visits, and/or hours available under that benefit, regardless of whether you have satisfied your deductible.

- ¹ Your group's benefit period is based on a contract year. The contract year is a consecutive 12-month period beginning on the group's effective date.
- ² You **may** be responsible for a facility fee, clinic charge or similar fee or charge (in addition to any professional fees) if your office visit or service is provided at a hospital, facility provider, ancillary provider, retail clinic or urgent care center. The specialist virtual visit is subject to availability within your service area.
- ³ A physician whose practice is limited to family practice, general practice, internal medicine or pediatrics.
- ⁴ Telemedicine services are provided for acute care for minor illnesses when provided by an approved telemedicine provider. Virtual behavioral health visits provided by an approved telemedicine provider are eligible under the outpatient mental health benefits.
- ⁵ Services are limited to those on the Highmark Preventive Schedule and the Women's Health Preventive Schedule. Gender, age and frequency limits may apply.
- ⁶ Other cost sharing provisions and/or limits may apply to specific benefits, i.e., physical medicine, therapies, diagnostic services, mental health/substance abuse visits.
- ⁷ The maternity home health care visit for network care is not subject to the program copayment, coinsurance or deductible amounts, if applicable. See Maternity Home Health Care Visit in the Covered Services section.
- ⁹ Highmark must be contacted prior to a planned inpatient admission or within 48 hours of an emergency inpatient admission. Some facility providers will contact Highmark and obtain precertification of the inpatient admission on your behalf. Be sure to verify that your provider is contacting Highmark for precertification. If your provider does not, you are responsible for contacting Highmark. Also be sure to confirm Highmark's determination of medical necessity and appropriateness. If this does not occur and it is later determined that all or part of the inpatient stay was not medically necessary or appropriate, the patient will be responsible for payment of any costs not covered.

Prescription Drug Ben/efits Mandatory Generic ¹	Retail Pharmacy Up to 31/60/90-day supply ^{2 3 4}	Maintenance Prescription Drugs through Mail Order Up to 90-day supply
Pharmacy Network	National	Express Scripts Pharmacy
The following cost-sharing provisions do NOT apply to self-administered chemotherapy medications, including oral chemotherapy medications.		
Generic Prescription Drug	\$8/\$16/\$24 copayment	\$16 copayment
Brand Prescription Drug	\$40/\$80/\$120 copayment	\$80 copayment
Selected Over-The-Counter Drugs With Written Prescription	\$8/\$16/\$24 copayment	\$16 copayment
Preventive Medications		
Preventive Covered Drugs⁵	Deductibles, coinsurance and/or copayments do not apply	

¹ Prescriptions are covered as long as they are listed on the prescription drug formulary applicable to your program. Under the mandatory generic provision, you are responsible for the payment differential when a generic drug is available and the doctor or patient specifies a brand name drug. Your payment is the price difference between the brand drug and generic drug in addition to the brand drug copayment or coinsurance amounts which may apply.

² Your program offers a choice of three ranges of day supply: Up to 31 days, between 32 days and 60 days, and between 61 days and 90 days.

³ Certain retail participating pharmacy providers may have agreed to make covered medications available at the same cost-sharing and quantity limits as the mail order coverage. You may contact Highmark at the toll-free number or the Web site appearing on the back of your ID card for a listing of those pharmacies who have agreed to do so.

⁴ The quantity level limit for your initial prescription order may be reduced, depending on the particular medication, to a quantity level necessary to establish that you can tolerate the medication. The cost-sharing provisions indicated above will be adjusted accordingly for the initial prescription order based upon the initial quantity dispensed. If you are able to tolerate the medication, the remainder of the available days supply for the initial prescription order will be filled and you will be responsible for the balance of the applicable cost-sharing amount indicated above.

⁵ This includes prescriptions and over-the-counter drugs that are set forth within the predefined schedule and that are prescribed for preventive purposes. Please refer to the Covered Services - Prescription Drug Program section for more information.

Si necesita ayuda para traducir esta información, por favor comuníquese con el departamento de Servicios a miembros de Highmark al número al réves de su tarjeta de identificación de Highmark. Estos servicios están disponibles de lunes a viernes, de 8:00 a 19:00, y los sábados de 8:00 a 17:00.

HIGHMARK INC. NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

PART I – NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES (HIPAA)

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

THIS NOTICE ALSO DESCRIBES HOW WE COLLECT, USE AND DISCLOSE NON-PUBLIC PERSONAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION.

Our Legal Duties

At Highmark Inc. ("Highmark"), we are committed to protecting the privacy of your "Protected Health Information" (PHI). PHI is your individually identifiable health information, including demographic information, collected from you or created or received by a health care provider, a health plan, your employer, or a health care clearinghouse that relates to: (i) your past, present, or future physical or mental health or condition; (ii) the provision of health care to you; or (iii) the past, present, or future payment for the provision of health care to you.

This Notice describes our privacy practices, which include how we may use, disclose, collect, handle, and protect our members' protected health information. We are required by applicable federal and state laws to maintain the privacy of your protected health information. We also are required by the HIPAA Privacy Rule (45 C.F.R. parts 160 and 164, as amended) to give you this Notice about our privacy practices, our legal duties, and your rights concerning your protected health information. We are also required to notify affected individuals following a breach of unsecured health information.

We will inform you of these practices the first time you become a Highmark customer. We must follow the privacy practices that are described in this Notice as long as it is in effect. This Notice became effective September 23, 2013, and will remain in effect unless we replace it.

On an ongoing basis, we will review and monitor our privacy practices to ensure the privacy of our members' protected health information. Due to changing circumstances, it may become necessary to revise our privacy practices and the terms of this Notice. We reserve the right to make the changes in our privacy practices and the new terms of our Notice will become effective for all protected health information that we maintain, including protected health information we created or received

before we made the changes. Before we make a material change in our privacy practices, we will change this Notice and notify all affected members in writing in advance of the change. Any change to this notice will be posted on our website and we will further notify you of any changes in our annual mailing.

You may request a copy of our Notice at any time. For more information about our privacy practices, or for additional copies of this Notice, please contact us using the information listed at the end of this Notice.

I. Uses and Disclosures of Protected Health Information

In order to administer our health benefit programs effectively, we will collect, use and disclose protected health information for certain of our activities, including payment and health care operations.

A. Uses and Disclosures of Protected Health Information for Payment and Health Care Operations

The following is a description of how we may use and/or disclose protected health information about you for payment and health care operations:

Payment

We may use and disclose your protected health information for all activities that are included within the definition of “payment” as set out in 45 C.F.R. § 164.501. We have not listed in this Notice all of the activities included within the definition of “payment,” so please refer to 45 C.F.R. § 164.501 for a complete list.

For example:

We may use and disclose your protected health information to pay claims from doctors, hospitals, pharmacies and others for services delivered to you that are covered by your health plan, to determine your eligibility for benefits, to coordinate benefits, to examine medical necessity, to obtain premiums, and/or to issue explanations of benefits to the person who subscribes to the health plan in which you participate.

Health Care Operations

We may use and disclose your protected health information for all activities that are included within the definition of “health care operations” as set out in 45 C.F.R. § 164.501. We have not listed in this Notice all of the activities included within the definition of “health care operations,” so please refer to 45 C.F.R. § 164.501 for a complete list.

For example:

We may use and disclose your protected health information to rate our risk and determine the premium for your health plan, to conduct quality assessment and improvement activities, to credential health care providers, to engage in care coordination or case management, and/or to manage our business.

B. Uses and Disclosures of Protected Health Information to Other Entities

We also may use and disclose protected health information to other covered entities, business associates, or other individuals (as permitted by the HIPAA Privacy Rule) who assist us in administering our programs and delivering health services to our members.

(i) Business Associates.

In connection with our payment and health care operations activities, we contract with individuals and entities (called “business associates”) to perform various functions on our behalf or to provide certain types of services (such as member service support, utilization management, subrogation, or pharmacy benefit management). To perform these functions or to provide the services, business associates will receive, create, maintain, use, or disclose protected health information, but only after we require the business associates to agree in writing to contract terms designed to appropriately safeguard your information.

(ii) Other Covered Entities.

In addition, we may use or disclose your protected health information to assist health care providers in connection with *their* treatment or payment activities, or to assist other covered entities in connection with certain of *their* health care operations. For example, we may disclose your protected health information to a health care provider when needed by the provider to render treatment to you, and we may disclose protected health information to another covered entity to conduct health care operations in the areas of quality assurance and improvement activities, or accreditation, certification, licensing or credentialing.

II. Other Possible Uses and Disclosures of Protected Health Information

In addition to uses and disclosures for payment, and health care operations, we may use and/or disclose your protected health information for the following purposes:

A. To Plan Sponsors

We may disclose your protected health information to the plan sponsor of your group health plan to permit the plan sponsor to perform plan administration functions. For example, a plan sponsor may contact us regarding a member’s question, concern, issue regarding claim, benefits, service, coverage, etc. We

may also disclose summary health information (this type of information is defined in the HIPAA Privacy Rule) about the enrollees in your group health plan to the plan sponsor to obtain premium bids for the health insurance coverage offered through your group health plan or to decide whether to modify, amend or terminate your group health plan.

B. Required by Law

We may use or disclose your protected health information to the extent that federal or state law requires the use or disclosure. For example, we must disclose your protected health information to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services upon request for purposes of determining whether we are in compliance with federal privacy laws.

C. Public Health Activities

We may use or disclose your protected health information for public health activities that are permitted or required by law. For example, we may use or disclose information for the purpose of preventing or controlling disease, injury, or disability.

D. Health Oversight Activities

We may disclose your protected health information to a health oversight agency for activities authorized by law, such as: audits; investigations; inspections; licensure or disciplinary actions; or civil, administrative, or criminal proceedings or actions. Oversight agencies seeking this information include government agencies that oversee: (i) the health care system; (ii) government benefit programs; (iii) other government regulatory programs; and (iv) compliance with civil rights laws.

E. Abuse or Neglect

We may disclose your protected health information to a government authority that is authorized by law to receive reports of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence.

F. Legal Proceedings

We may disclose your protected health information: (1) in the course of any judicial or administrative proceeding; (2) in response to an order of a court or administrative tribunal (to the extent such disclosure is expressly authorized); and (3) in response to a subpoena, a discovery request, or other lawful process, once we have met all administrative requirements of the HIPAA Privacy Rule. For example, we may disclose your protected health information in response to a subpoena for such information.

G. Law Enforcement

Under certain conditions, we also may disclose your protected health information to law enforcement officials. For example, some of the reasons for such a disclosure may include, but not be limited to: (1) it is required by law or some other legal process; or (2) it is necessary to locate or identify a suspect, fugitive, material witness, or missing person.

H. Coroners, Medical Examiners, Funeral Directors, and Organ Donation

We may disclose protected health information to a coroner or medical examiner for purposes of identifying a deceased person, determining a cause of death, or for the coroner or medical examiner to perform other duties authorized by law. We also may disclose, as authorized by law, information to funeral directors so that they may carry out their duties. Further, we may disclose protected health information to organizations that handle organ, eye, or tissue donation and transplantation.

I. Research

We may disclose your protected health information to researchers when an institutional review board or privacy board has: (1) reviewed the research proposal and established protocols to ensure the privacy of the information; and (2) approved the research.

J. To Prevent a Serious Threat to Health or Safety

Consistent with applicable federal and state laws, we may disclose your protected health information if we believe that the disclosure is necessary to prevent or lessen a serious and imminent threat to the health or safety of a person or the public.

K. Military Activity and National Security, Protective Services

Under certain conditions, we may disclose your protected health information if you are, or were, Armed Forces personnel for activities deemed necessary by appropriate military command authorities. If you are a member of foreign military service, we may disclose, in certain circumstances, your information to the foreign military authority. We also may disclose your protected health information to authorized federal officials for conducting national security and intelligence activities, and for the protection of the President, other authorized persons, or heads of state.

L. Inmates

If you are an inmate of a correctional institution, we may disclose your protected health information to the correctional institution or to a law enforcement official for: (1) the institution to provide health care to you; (2) your health and safety and the health and safety of others; or (3) the safety and security of the correctional institution.

M. Workers' Compensation

We may disclose your protected health information to comply with workers' compensation laws and other similar programs that provide benefits for work-related injuries or illnesses.

N. Others Involved in Your Health Care

Unless you object, we may disclose your protected health information to a friend or family member that you have identified as being involved in your health care. We also may disclose your information to an entity assisting in a disaster relief effort so that your family can be notified about your condition, status, and location. If you are not present or able to agree to these disclosures of your protected health information, then we may, using our professional judgment, determine whether the disclosure is in your best interest.

O. Underwriting

We may disclose your protected health information for underwriting purposes; however, we are prohibited from using or disclosing your genetic information for these purposes.

P. Health Information Exchange

We all participate in a Health Information Exchange (HIE). An HIE is primarily a secure electronic data sharing network. In accordance with federal and state privacy regulations, regional health care providers participate in the HIE to exchange patient information in order to facilitate health care, avoid duplication of services, such as tests, and to reduce the likelihood that medical errors will occur.

The HIE allows your health information to be shared among authorized participating healthcare providers, such as health systems, hospitals and physicians, for the purposes of Treatment, Payment or Healthcare Operations purposes. Examples of this health information may include:

- General laboratory, pathology, transcribed radiology reports and EKG Images
- Results of outpatient diagnostic testing (GI testing, cardiac testing, neurological testing, etc.)
- Health Maintenance documentation/Medication
- Allergy documentation/Immunization profiles
- Progress notes, Urgent Care visit progress notes
- Consultation notes
- Inpatient operative reports
- Discharge summary/Emergency room visit discharge summary notes

All participating providers who provide services to you will have the ability to access your information. Providers that do not provide services to you will not have access to your information. Information may be provided to others as necessary for referral, consultation, treatment or the provision of other healthcare services, such as pharmacy or laboratory services. All participating providers have agreed to a set of standards relating to their use and disclosure of the information available through the HIE. Your health information shall be available to all participating providers through the HIE.

You cannot choose to have only certain providers access your information. Patients who do not want their health information to be accessible through the HIE may choose not to participate or may "opt-out."

In order to opt-out, you must complete an opt-out Form, which is available at highmark.com or by calling the customer service number located on the back of your membership card. You should be aware, if you choose to opt-out, your health care providers will not be able to access your health information through the HIE. Even if you chose to opt-out, your information will be sent to the HIE, but provider will not be able to access this information. Additionally, your opt-out does not affect the ability of participating providers to access health information entered into the HIE prior to your opt-out submission.

III. Required Disclosures of Your Protected Health Information

The following is a description of disclosures that we are required by law to make:

A. Disclosures to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

We are required to disclose your protected health information to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services when the Secretary is investigating or determining our compliance with the HIPAA Privacy Rule.

B. Disclosures to You

We are required to disclose to you most of your protected health information that is in a "designated record set" (defined below) when you request access to this information. We also are required to provide, upon your request, an accounting of many disclosures of your protected health information that are for reasons other than payment and health care operations.

IV. Other Uses and Disclosures of Your Protected Health Information

Sometimes we are required to obtain your written authorization for use or disclosure of your health information. The uses and disclosures that require an authorization under 45 C.F.R. § 164.508(a) are:

1. For marketing purposes

2. If we intend to see your PHI
3. For use of Psychotherapy notes, which are notes recorded (in any medium) by a health care provider who is a mental health professional documenting or analyzing the contents of a conversation during a private counseling session or a group, joint, or family counseling session and that are separated from the rest of the individual's medical record. An Authorization for use of psychotherapy notes is required unless:
 - a. Used by the person who created the psychotherapy note for treatment purposes, or
 - b. Used or disclosed for the following purposes:
 - (i) the provider's own training programs in which students, trainees, or practitioners in mental health learn under supervision to practice or improve their skills in group, joint family or individual counseling;
 - (ii) for the provider to defend itself in a legal action or other proceeding brought by an individual that is the subject of the notes;
 - (iii) if required for enforcement purposes;
 - (iv) if mandated by law;
 - (v) if permitted for oversight of the provider that created the note;
 - (vi) to a coroner or medical examiner for investigation of the death of any individual in certain circumstances; or
 - (vii) if needed to avert a serious and imminent threat to health or safety.

Other uses and disclosures of your protected health information that are not described above will be made only with your written authorization. If you provide us with such an authorization, you may revoke the authorization in writing, and this revocation will be effective for future uses and disclosures of protected health information. However, the revocation will not be effective for information that we already have used or disclosed, relying on the authorization.

V. Your Individual Rights

The following is a description of your rights with respect to your protected health information:

A. Right to Access

You have the right to look at or get copies of your protected health information in a designated record set. Generally, a "designated record set" contains medical and billing records, as well as other records that are used to make decisions about your health care benefits. However, you may not inspect or

copy psychotherapy notes or certain other information that may be contained in a designated record set.

You may request that we provide copies in a format other than photocopies. We will use the format you request unless we cannot practicably do so, if you request the information in an electronic format that is not readily producible, we will provide the information in a readable electronic format as mutually agreed upon. You must make a request in writing to obtain access to your protected health information.

To inspect and/or copy your protected health information, you may obtain a form to request access by using the contact information listed at the end of this Notice. You may also request access by sending us a letter to the address at the end of this Notice. The first request within a 12-month period will be free. If you request access to your designated record set more than once in a 12-month period, we may charge you a reasonable, cost-based fee for responding to these additional requests. If you request an alternative format, we will charge a cost-based fee for providing your protected health information in that format. If you prefer, we will prepare a summary or an explanation of your protected health information for a fee. Contact us using the information listed at the end of this Notice for a full explanation of our fee structure.

We may deny your request to inspect and copy your protected health information in certain limited circumstances. If you are denied access to your information, you may request that the denial be reviewed. A licensed health care professional chosen by us will review your request and the denial. The person performing this review will not be the same one who denied your initial request. Under certain conditions, our denial will not be reviewable. If this event occurs, we will inform you in our denial that the decision is not reviewable.

B. Right to an Accounting

You have a right to an accounting of certain disclosures of your protected health information that are for reasons other than treatment, payment or health care operations. You should know that most disclosures of protected health information will be for purposes of payment or health care operations.

An accounting will include the date(s) of the disclosure, to whom we made the disclosure, a brief description of the information disclosed, and the purpose for the disclosure.

You may request an accounting by contacting us at the Customer Service phone number on the back of your identification card, or submitting your request in writing to the Highmark Privacy Department, 120 Fifth Avenue Place

1814, Pittsburgh, PA 15222. Your request may be for disclosures made up to 6 years before the date of your request, but in no event, for disclosures made before April 14, 2003.

The first list you request within a 12-month period will be free. If you request this list more than once in a 12-month period, we may charge you a reasonable, cost-based fee for responding to these additional requests. Contact us using the information listed at the end of this Notice for a full explanation of our fee structure.

C. Right to Request a Restriction

You have the right to request a restriction on the protected health information we use or disclose about you for treatment, payment or health care operations. We are not required to agree to these additional restrictions, but if we do, we will abide by our agreement unless the information is needed to provide emergency treatment to you. Any agreement we may make to a request for additional restrictions must be in writing signed by a person authorized to make such an agreement on our behalf. We will not be bound unless our agreement is so memorialized in writing. We have a right to terminate this restriction, however if we do so, we must inform you of this restriction.

You may request a restriction by contacting us at the Customer Service phone number on the back of your identification card, or writing to the Highmark Privacy Department, 120 Fifth Avenue Place 1814, Pittsburgh, PA 15222. In your request tell us: (1) the information whose disclosure you want to limit; and (2) how you want to limit our use and/or disclosure of the information.

D. Right to Request Confidential Communications

If you believe that a disclosure of all or part of your protected health information may endanger you, you have the right to request that we communicate with you in confidence about your protected health information by alternative means or to an alternative location. For example, you may ask that we contact you only at your work address or via your work e-mail.

You must make your request in writing, and you must state that the information could endanger you if it is not communicated in confidence by the alternative means or to the alternative location you want. We must accommodate your request if it is reasonable, specifies the alternative means or location, and continues to permit us to collect premiums and pay claims under your health plan, including issuance of explanations of benefits to the subscriber of the health plan in which you participate.

In the event that a Confidential Communication is placed against you, then you will no longer have the ability to access any of your health and/or policy information online.

E. Right to Request Amendment

If you believe that your protected health information is incorrect or incomplete, you have the right to request that we amend your protected health information. Your request must be in writing, and it must explain why the information should be amended.

We may deny your request if we did not create the information you want amended or for certain other reasons. If we deny your request, we will provide you a written explanation. You may respond with a statement of disagreement to be appended to the information you wanted amended. If we accept your request to amend the information, we will make reasonable efforts to inform others, including people you name, of the amendment and to include the changes in any future disclosures of that information.

F. Right to a Paper Copy of this Notice

If you receive this Notice on our web site or by electronic mail (e-mail), you are entitled to receive this Notice in written form. Please contact us using the information listed at the end of this Notice to obtain this Notice in written form.

VI. Questions and Complaints

If you want more information about our privacy policies or practices or have questions or concerns, please contact us using the information listed below.

If you are concerned that we may have violated your privacy rights, or you disagree with a decision we made about access to your protected health information or in response to a request you made to amend or restrict the use or disclosure of your protected health information or to have us communicate with you in confidence by alternative means or at an alternative location, you may complain to us using the contact information listed below.

You also may submit a written complaint to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. We will provide you with the address to file your complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services upon request.

We support your right to protect the privacy of your protected health information. We will not retaliate in any way if you choose to file a complaint with us or with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Contact Office: Highmark Privacy Department
Telephone: 1-866-228-9424 (toll free)
Fax: 1-412-544-4320
Address: 120 Fifth Avenue Place 1814
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

PART II – NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES (GRAMM-LEACH-BLILEY)

Highmark is committed to protecting its members' privacy. This notice describes our policies and practices for collecting, handling and protecting personal information about our members. We will inform each group of these policies the first time the group becomes a Highmark member and will annually reaffirm our privacy policy for as long as the group remains a Highmark customer. We will continually review our privacy policy and monitor our business practices to help ensure the security of our members' personal information. Due to changing circumstances, it may become necessary to revise our privacy policy in the future. Should such a change be required, we will notify all affected customers in writing in advance of the change.

In order to administer our health benefit programs effectively, we must collect, use and disclose non-public personal financial information. Non-public personal financial information is information that identifies an individual member of a Highmark health plan. It may include the member's name, address, telephone number and Social Security number or it may relate to the member's participation in the plan, the provision of health care services or the payment for health care services. Non-public personal financial information does not include publicly available information or statistical information that does not identify individual persons.

Information we collect and maintain: We collect non-public personal financial information about our members from the following sources:

- We receive information from the members themselves, either directly or through their employers or group administrators. This information includes personal data provided on applications, surveys or other forms, such as name, address, Social Security number, date of birth, marital status, dependent information and employment information. It may also include information submitted to us in writing, in person, by telephone or electronically in connection with inquiries or complaints.
- We collect and create information about our members' transactions with Highmark, our affiliates, our agents and health care providers. Examples are: information provided on health care claims (including the name of the health care provider, a diagnosis code and the services provided), explanations of benefits/payments (including the reasons for claim decision, the amount charged by the provider and the amount we paid), payment history, utilization review, appeals and grievances.

Information we may disclose and the purpose: We do not sell any personal information about our members or former members for marketing purposes. We use and disclose the personal information we collect (as described above) only as necessary to deliver health care products and services to our members or to comply with legal requirements. Some examples are:

- We use personal information internally to manage enrollment, process claims, monitor the quality of the health services provided to our members, prevent fraud, audit our own performance or to respond to members' requests for information, products or services.
- We share personal information with our affiliated companies, health care providers, agents, other insurers, peer review organizations, auditors, attorneys or consultants who assist us in administering our programs and delivering health services to our members. Our contracts with all such service providers require them to protect the confidentiality of our members' personal information.
- We may share personal information with other insurers that cooperate with us to jointly market or administer health insurance products or services. All contracts with other insurers for this purpose require them to protect the confidentiality of our members' personal information.
- We may disclose information under order of a court of law in connection with a legal proceeding.
- We may disclose information to government agencies or accrediting organizations that monitor our compliance with applicable laws and standards.
- We may disclose information under a subpoena or summons to government agencies that investigate fraud or other violations of law.

How we protect information: We restrict access to our members' non-public personal information to those employees, agents, consultants and health care providers who need to know that information to provide health products or services. We maintain physical, electronic, and procedural safeguards that comply with state and federal regulations to guard non-public personal financial information from unauthorized access, use and disclosure.

For questions about this Privacy Notice, please contact:

Contact Office: Highmark Privacy Department
Telephone: 1-866-228-9424 (toll free)
Fax: 1-412-544-4320
Address: 120 Fifth Avenue Place 1814
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

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