

# Grand Valley Health Plan http://www.gvhpchoosewell.com

2002

## **A Health Maintenance Organization**

Serving: Grand Rapids, Michigan Area

Enrollment in this Plan is limited; see page 6 for requirements.





GVHP has a 4 star, excellent accreditation from the NCQA. See the 2002 Guide for more information on NCOA.

**Enrollment codes for this Plan:** 

RL1 Self Only RL2 Self and Family

Authorized for distribution by the:





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#### Introduction

Grand Valley Health Plan 829 Forest Hill Ave., SE Grand Rapids, MI 49546

This brochure describes the benefits of Grand Valley Health Plan under our contract (CS 2632) with the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), as authorized by the Federal Employees Health Benefits law. This brochure is the official statement of benefits. No oral statement can modify or otherwise affect the benefits, limitations, and exclusions of this brochure.

If you are enrolled in this Plan, you are entitled to the benefits described in this brochure. If you are enrolled for Self and Family coverage, each eligible family member is also entitled to these benefits. You do not have a right to benefits that were available before January 1, 2002, unless those benefits are also shown in this brochure.

OPM negotiates benefits and rates with each plan annually. Benefit changes are effective January 1, 2002, and changes are summarized on page 7. Rates are shown at the end of this brochure.

#### Plain Language

Teams of Government and health plans' staff worked on all FEHB brochures to make them responsive, accessible, and understandable to the public. For instance,

- Except for necessary technical terms, we use common words. For instance, "you" means the enrollee or family member; "we" means Grand Valley Health Plan.
- We limit acronyms to ones you know. FEHB is the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program. OPM is the Office of Personnel Management. If we use others, we tell you what they mean first.
- Our brochure and other FEHB plans' brochures have the same format and similar descriptions to help you compare plans.

If you have comments or suggestions about how to improve the structure of this brochure, let us know. Visit OPM's "Rate Us" feedback area at <a href="www.opm.gov/insure">www.opm.gov/insure</a> or e-mail us at <a href="febbwebcomments@opm.gov">febbwebcomments@opm.gov</a>.

#### **Inspector General Advisory**

#### Stop health care fraud!

Fraud increases the cost of health care for everyone. If you suspect that a physician, pharmacy, or hospital has charged you for services you did not receive, billed you twice for the same service, or misrepresented any information, do the following:

- Call the provider and ask for an explanation. There may be an error.
- If the provider does not resolve the matter, call us at (616) 949-2410 and explain the situation.
- If we do not resolve the issue, call or write:

## THE HEALTH CARE FRAUD HOTLINE 202/418-3300

The United States Office of Personnel Management, Office of the Inspector General Fraud Hotline, 1900 E Street, NW, Room 6400, Washington, DC 20415.

**Penalties for Fraud** 

Anyone who falsifies a claim to obtain FEHB Program benefits can be prosecuted for fraud. Also, the Inspector General may investigate anyone who uses an ID card if the person tries to obtain services for someone who is not an eligible family member, or is no longer enrolled in the Plan and tries to obtain benefits. Your agency may also take administrative action against you.

### Section 1. Facts about this HMO plan

This Plan is a health maintenance organization (HMO). We require you to see specific physicians, hospitals, and other providers that contract with us. These Plan providers coordinate your health care services.

HMOs emphasize preventive care such as routine office visits, physical exams, well-baby care, and immunizations, in addition to treatment for illness and injury. Our providers follow generally accepted medical practice when prescribing any course of treatment.

When you receive services from Plan providers, you will not have to submit claim forms or pay bills. You only pay the copayments, coinsurance, and deductibles described in this brochure. When you receive emergency services from non-Plan providers, you may have to submit claim forms.

You should join an HMO because you prefer the plan's benefits, not because a particular provider is available. You cannot change plans because a provider leaves our Plan. We cannot guarantee that any one physician, hospital, or other provider will be available and/or remain under contract with us.

#### How we pay providers

We contract with individual physicians, medical groups, and hospitals to provide the benefits in this brochure. These Plan providers accept a negotiated payment from us, and you will only be responsible for your copayments or coinsurance.

#### **Your Rights**

OPM requires that all FEHB Plans provide certain information to their FEHB members. You may get information about us, our networks, providers, and facilities. OPM's FEHB website (<a href="www.opm.gov/insure">www.opm.gov/insure</a>) lists the specific types of information that we must make available to you. Some of the required information is listed below.

Grand Valley Health Plan is a Staff Model Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) that provides a wide variety of primary medical services at its health centers. In addition to health care providers (such as physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, clinical social workers, and registered dieticians), lab, X-ray and pharmacy are conveniently located at each health center. The Plan also arranges and covers care through specialists, hospitals and other health care professionals. Different family members may see different primary care providers at their health center. Women who wish to see a Plan Gynecologist for their annual routine examination should contact their Health Center to obtain a list of Plan providers.

We are a for-profit plan that has been in existence since 1982.

If you want more information regarding case management practices, staff provider credentials, contracted provider credentials, and health center and other facility information, call 616/949-2410, or write to Grand Valley Health Plan, 829 Forest Hill Ave., SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546. You may also contact us by fax at 616/949-4978 or visit our website at www.gvhpchoosewell.com.

#### Service Area

To enroll with us, you must live or work in our service area. This is where our providers practice. Our service area is:

All of Kent County and portions of Allegan, Ionia, and Ottawa Counties defined by the following zip codes:

Allegan County -- 49311, 49323, 49355, and 49348

Ionia County -- 48815

Ottawa County -- 49401, 49403, 49404, 49426, 49427, 49428, 49430, and 49435.

Ordinarily, you must get your care from providers who staffed or contracted with us. If you receive care outside our service area, we will pay only for emergency care. We will not pay for any other health care services out of our service area unless the services have prior plan approval.

If you or a covered family member move outside of our service area, you can enroll in another plan. If your dependents live out of the area (for example, if your child goes to college in another state), you should consider enrolling in a fee-for-service plan or an HMO that has agreements with affiliates in other areas. If you or a family member move, you do not have to wait until Open Season to change plans. Contact your employing or retirement office.

### Section 2. How we change for 2002

Do not rely on these change descriptions; this page is not an official statement of benefits. For that, go to Section 5 Benefits. Also, we edited and clarified language throughout the brochure; any language change not shown here is a clarification that does not change benefits.

#### **Program-wide changes**

 We removed the requirement that services must be needed to restore functional speech from the speech therapy benefit

#### Changes to this Plan

- Your share of the non-Postal premium will increase by 12.4 % for Self Only or 58.3 % for Self and Family.
- You may receive blood or blood plasma at an ambulatory surgical center, or during outpatient treatment at a hospital, for no charge.
- You will pay \$50 for professional ambulance service outside our service area.
- We now cover certain intestinal transplants (Section 5(b))

#### Section 3. How you get care

#### **Identification cards**

We will send you an identification (ID) card when you enroll. You should carry your ID card with you at all times. You must show it whenever you receive services from a Plan provider, or fill a prescription at a Plan pharmacy. Until you receive your ID card, use your copy of the Health Benefits Election Form, SF-2809, your health benefits enrollment confirmation (for annuitants), or your Employee Express confirmation letter.

If you do not receive your ID card within 30 days after the effective date of your enrollment, or if you need replacement cards, call us at (616) 949-2410.

#### Where you get covered care

You get care from "Plan providers" and "Plan facilities." You will only pay copayments, and you will not have to file claims.

#### Plan providers

Grand Valley Health Plan is a Staff Model Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) that provides a wide variety of primary medical services at its health centers. In addition to health care providers (such as physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, clinical social workers, and registered dieticians), lab, X-ray and pharmacy are conveniently located at each health center. The Plan also arranges and covers care through specialists, hospitals and other health care professionals. Different family members may see different primary care providers at their health center. Women who wish to see a Plan Gynecologist for their annual routine examination should contact their Health Center to obtain a list of Plan providers.

We list Plan providers in the provider directory, which we update periodically. The list is also on our website.

#### •Plan facilities

Plan facilities are our Health Centers, or hospitals and other facilities in our service area that we contract with to provide covered services to our members. We list these in the provider directory, which we update periodically. The list is also on our website.

## What you must do to get covered care

It depends on the type of care you need. First, you and each family member must choose a Health Center. This decision is important since your Health Center provides or arranges for most of your health care. You choose your Health Center when you enroll in the plan.

#### Primary care

Primary Care Providers at your Health Center are Family Practice Physicians and Physicians Assistants. These Primary Care Providers will provide most of your health care, or give you a referral to see a specialist.

If you want to change Health Centers, call us. We will help you select a new one.

#### • Specialty care

Except in a medical emergency, or when a primary care doctor has designated another doctor to see his or her patients, you must receive a referral from your primary care doctor before seeing any other doctor or obtaining special services. When you receive a referral from your primary care physician, you must return to the primary care physician after the consultation, unless your primary care physician authorized a certain number of visits. The primary care physician must provide or authorize all follow-up care. Do not go to the specialist for return visits unless your primary care physician gives you a referral.

Here are other things you should know about specialty care:

- If you need to see a specialist frequently because of a chronic, complex, or serious medical condition, your primary care physician will develop a treatment plan and authorization that allows you to see your specialist for a certain number of visits. Your primary care physician will use our criteria when creating your treatment plan. All visits to specialists must first be arranged and authorized by your primary care physician. Authorizations will be made for the adequate number of visits under an approved treatment plan. Any visits beyond that which is stated in the treatment plan will not be covered unless further authorization is obtained from your GVHP Primary Care Provider.
- If you are seeing a specialist when you enroll in our Plan, talk to your primary care physician Your primary care physician will decide what treatment you need. If they decide to refer you to a specialist, ask if you can see your current specialist. If your current specialist does not participate with us, you must receive treatment from a specialist who does. Generally, we will not pay for you to see a specialist who does not participate with our Plan.
- If you are seeing a specialist and your specialist leaves the Plan, call your primary care physician, who will arrange for you to see another specialist. You may receive services from your current specialist until we can make arrangements for you to see someone else.
- If you have a chronic or disabling condition and lose access to your specialist because we:
  - terminate our contract with your specialist for other than cause; or
  - drop out of the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program and you enroll in another FEHB Plan; or
  - reduce our service area and you enroll in another FEHB Plan.

you may be able to continue seeing your specialist for up to 90 days after you receive notice of the change. Contact us, or if we drop out of the Program, contact your new plan.

If you are in the second or third trimester of pregnancy and you lose access to your specialist based on the above circumstances, you can continue to see your specialist until the end of your postpartum care, even if it is beyond the 90 days.

Your Plan primary care physician or specialist will make necessary hospital arrangements and supervise your care. This includes admission to a skilled nursing or other type of facility.

If you are in the hospital when your enrollment in our Plan begins, call our customer service department immediately at (616) 949-2410. If you are new to the FEHB Program, we will arrange for you to receive care.

If you changed from another FEHB plan to us, your former plan will pay for the hospital stay until:

• You are discharged, not merely moved to an alternative care center; or

#### Hospital care

- The day your benefits from your former plan run out; or
- The 92<sup>nd</sup> day after you become a member of this Plan, whichever happens first.

These provisions apply only to the hospital benefit of the hospitalized person.

#### Circumstances beyond our control

Under certain extraordinary circumstances, such as natural disasters, we may have to delay your services or we may be unable to provide them. In that case, we will make all reasonable efforts to provide you with the necessary care.

## Services requiring our prior approval

Your primary care physician has authority to refer you for most services. For certain services, however, your physician must obtain approval from us. Before giving approval, we consider if the service is covered, medically necessary, and follows generally accepted medical practice.

We call this the Medical Opinion Review process. The Medical Opinion Review team, headed by the Vice President of Medical Affairs, will review all information pertaining to the requested services. The team will review factors such as whether the service is a covered benefit, medically necessary, or experimental, to make this decision.

If we deny the service, you have the right to pursue resolution through the disputed claims process (see Section 8).

## Section 4. Your costs for covered services

You must share the cost of some services. You are responsible for:

• Copayments A copayment is a fixed amount of money you pay to the provider, facility,

pharmacy, etc., when you receive services.

Example: When you see your primary care physician you pay a

copayment of \$10 per office visit.

•**Deductible** We do not have a deductible

•Coinsurance Coinsurance is the percentage of our negotiated fee that you must pay for

your care.

Example: In our Plan, you pay 50% of our allowance for fertility drugs

and growth hormone.

Your out-of-pocket maximum

for copayments

We do not have an out-of-pocket maximum.

### **Section 5. Benefits -- OVERVIEW**

(See page 7 for how our benefits changed this year and page 66 for a benefits summary.)

**NOTE**: This benefits section is divided into subsections. Please read the important things you should keep in mind at the beginning of each subsection. Also read the General Exclusions in Section 6; they apply to the benefits in the following subsections. To obtain claims forms, claims filing advice, or more information about our benefits, contact us at (616) 949-2410.

(a)	Medical services and supplies provided by physic	cians and other health care professionals	13-2	
	<ul> <li>Diagnostic and treatment services</li> <li>Lab, X-ray, and other diagnostic tests</li> <li>Preventive care, adult</li> <li>Preventive care, children</li> <li>Maternity care</li> <li>Family planning</li> <li>Infertility services</li> <li>Allergy care</li> <li>Treatment therapies</li> <li>Physical and occupational therapies</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Speech therapy</li> <li>Hearing services (testing, treatment, and supplies)</li> <li>Vision services (testing, treatment, and supplies)</li> <li>Foot care</li> <li>Orthopedic and prosthetic devices</li> <li>Durable medical equipment (DME)</li> <li>Home health services</li> <li>Chiropractic</li> <li>Alternative treatments</li> <li>Educational classes and programs</li> </ul>		
(b)	Surgical and anesthesia services provided by physicians and other health care professionals			
	•Surgical procedures •Reconstructive surgery	<ul><li>Oral and maxillofacial surgery</li><li>Organ/tissue transplants</li><li>Anesthesia</li></ul>		
(c)	Services provided by a hospital or other facility, a	and ambulance services	27-29	
	<ul><li>Inpatient hospital</li><li>Outpatient hospital or ambulatory surgical center</li></ul>	<ul><li>Extended care benefits/skilled nursing care facility benefits</li><li>Hospice care</li><li>Ambulance</li></ul>		
(d)	Emergency services/accidents  •Medical emergency	•Ambulance	30-31	
(e)	Mental health and substance abuse benefits		32-33	
(f)	Prescription drug benefits		34-35	
(g)	<ul> <li>Special features</li> <li>Flexible benefits option</li> <li>24 Hour Nurse/Provider Line</li> </ul>		36	
(b)			27	
(1)	TEND Denemits available to Plan members		38	
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## Section 5 (a) Medical services and supplies provided by physicians and other health care professionals

I M P O R T A N

#### Here are some important things to keep in mind about these benefits:

- Please remember that all benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations, and exclusions in this brochure and are payable only when we determine they are medically necessary.
- Plan physicians must provide or arrange your care.
- Be sure to read Section 4, *Your costs for covered services*, for valuable information about how cost sharing works. Also read Section 9 about coordinating benefits with other coverage, including with Medicare.

I M P O R T A N

Benefit Description	You pay
Diagnostic and treatment services	
Professional services of physicians	\$10 per office visit
• In physician's office	
• In an urgent care center	
Office medical consultations	
• Second surgical opinion	
Professional services of physicians	Nothing
• During a hospital stay	
• In a skilled nursing facility	
At home	Nothing

Diagnostic and treatment services -- Continued on next page

Lab, X-ray and other diagnostic tests	
Laboratory tests, such as:	Nothing
• Blood tests	
• Urinalysis	
Non-routine pap tests	
• Pathology	
• X-rays	
Non-routine Mammograms	
• Cat Scans/MRI	
• Ultrasound	
Electrocardiogram and EEG	
Preventive care, adult	
Routine screenings, such as: Routine Examinations, Physicals	Nothing if your receive these
• Total Blood Cholesterol – once every three years	services during your office visit; otherwise, \$10 per visit
Colorectal Cancer Screening, including	1
<ul> <li>Fecal occult blood test</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Sigmoidoscopy, screening – every five years starting at age 50</li> </ul>	
Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA test) – one annually for men age 40 and older	
Routine pap test	
Routine mammogram –covered for women age 35 and older, as follows:	
• From age 35 through 39, one during this five year period	
• From age 40 through 64, one every calendar year	
• At age 65 and older, one every two consecutive calendar years	
Routine Immunizations, limited to:	
• Tetanus-diphtheria (Td) booster – once every 10 years, ages19 and over (except as provided for under Childhood immunizations)	
Influenza/Pneumococcal vaccines, annually, age 65 and over	
Not covered: Physical exams required for obtaining or continuing employment or insurance, attending schools or camp, or travel.	All charges.

Preventive care, children	You pay
• Well-child care charges for routine examinations, immunizations and care (through age 22)	\$10 per office visit
• Examinations, such as:	
<ul> <li>Eye exams through age 17 to determine the need for vision correction.</li> </ul>	
Ear exams through age 17 to determine the need for hearing correction	
- Examinations done on the day of immunizations (through age 22)	
• Childhood immunizations recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics	
Maternity care	
Complete maternity (obstetrical) care, such as:	Nothing
Prenatal care	
Postnatal care	
• Delivery	
Note: Here are some things to keep in mind:	
• You do not need to pre-certify your normal delivery; see page xx for other circumstances, such as extended stays for you or your baby.	
• You may remain in the hospital up to 48 hours after a regular delivery and 96 hours after a cesarean delivery. We will extend your inpatient stay if medically necessary.	
• We cover routine nursery care of the newborn child during the covered portion of the mother's maternity stay. We will cover other care of an infant who requires non-routine treatment only if we cover the infant under a Self and Family enrollment.	
• We pay hospitalization and surgeon services (delivery) the same as for illness and injury. See Hospital benefits (Section 5c) and Surgery benefits (Section 5b).	
Not covered: Routine sonograms to determine fetal age, size or sex	All charges

Family planning	
A broad range of voluntary family planning services, limited to:	\$10 per office visit
Voluntary sterilization	
<ul> <li>Surgically implanted contraceptives (such as Norplant)</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Injectable contraceptive drugs (such as Depo provera)</li> </ul>	
• Intrauterine devices (IUDs)	
• Diaphragms	
<ul> <li>NOTE: We cover oral contraceptives under the prescription drug benefit.</li> </ul>	
Not covered: reversal of voluntary surgical sterilization, genetic counseling,	All charges.
Infertility services	You pay
Diagnosis and treatment of infertility, such as:	\$10 per visit
Artificial insemination:	
<ul> <li>intravaginal insemination (IVI)</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>intracervical insemination (ICI)</li> </ul>	
- intrauterine insemination (IUI)	
Fertility drugs	
Note: We cover injectable fertility drugs under medical benefits and oral fertility drugs under the prescription drug benefit.	
Not covered:	All charges.
<ul> <li>Assisted reproductive technology (ART) procedures, such as:</li> </ul>	
<ul><li>in vitro fertilization</li></ul>	
<ul> <li>embryo transfer and GIFT</li> </ul>	
<ul><li>Zygote transfer</li></ul>	
• Services and supplies related to excluded ART procedures	
• Cost of donor sperm	
• Cost of donor egg	

Nothing  Nothing  All charges.  You pay  \$10 per visit
All charges.  You pay
You pay
2 0
\$10 per visit
\$10 per visit
\$10 per visit

\$10 per outpatient visit
Nothing per visit during covered inpatient admission
All charges.
\$10 per outpatient visit
Nothing per visit during covered inpatient admission
All charges.

Hearing services (testing, treatment, and supplies)	
• First hearing aid and testing only when necessitated by accidental injury	\$10 per visit
<ul> <li>Hearing testing for children through age 17 (see Preventive care, children)</li> </ul>	
Not covered:	All charges.
<ul> <li>All other hearing testing</li> <li>Hearing aids, testing and examinations for them</li> </ul>	
	<b>5</b> 7
Vision services (testing, treatment, and supplies)	You pay
<ul> <li>One pair of eyeglasses or contact lenses to correct an impairment directly caused by accidental ocular injury or intraocular surgery (such as for cataracts)</li> </ul>	Nothing
• Eye exam to determine the need for vision correction for children through age 17 (see preventive care)	\$10 per visit
Annual eye refractions	
Not covered:	All charges.
• Eyeglasses or contact lenses and, after age 17, examinations for them	
Eye exercises and orthoptics	
Radial keratotomy and other refractive surgery	
Foot care	
Routine foot care when you are under active treatment for a metabolic or peripheral vascular disease, such as diabetes.	\$10 per visit
See orthopedic and prosthetic devices for information on podiatric shoe inserts.	
Not covered:	All charges.
• Cutting, trimming or removal of corns, calluses, or the free edge of toenails, and similar routine treatment of conditions of the foot, except as stated above	
<ul> <li>Treatment of weak, strained or flat feet or bunions or spurs; and of any instability, imbalance or subluxation of the foot (unless the treatment is by open cutting surgery)</li> </ul>	

Orthopedic and prosthetic devices	You pay
Artificial limbs and eyes; stump hose	Nothing
<ul> <li>Externally worn breast prostheses and surgical bras, including necessary replacements, following a mastectomy</li> </ul>	
• Internal prosthetic devices, such as artificial joints, pacemakers, cochlear implants, and surgically implanted breast implant following mastectomy. Note: See 5(b) for coverage of the surgery to insert the device.	
<ul> <li>Corrective orthopedic devices for the non-dental treatment of temporomandibular joint (TMJ) pain dysfunction syndrome.</li> </ul>	
• Foot orthotics	
Not covered:	All charges.
• orthopedic and corrective shoes	
• arch supports	
• heel pads and heel cups	
• lumbosacral supports	
• corsets, trusses, elastic stockings, support hose, and other supportive devices	
Durable medical equipment (DME)	
Rental or purchase, at our option, including repair and adjustment, of durable medical equipment prescribed by your Plan physician, such as oxygen and dialysis equipment. Under this benefit, we also cover:	Nothing
<ul> <li>hospital beds;</li> </ul>	
• wheelchairs;	
• crutches;	
• walkers;	
motorized wheelchairs when medically necessary	
blood glucose monitors; and     inculin numps	
• insulin pumps.	
Not covered:  • luxury or deluxe items, such as bath tub seats, reachers, raised toilet seat  • devices, braces used to affect performance in sport related	All charges.
activities	

Home health services	You pay
<ul> <li>Home health care ordered by a Plan physician and provided by a registered nurse (R.N.), licensed practical nurse (L.P.N.), licensed vocational nurse (L.V.N.), or home health aide.</li> </ul>	Nothing
<ul> <li>Services include oxygen therapy, intravenous therapy and medications.</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Not covered:</li> <li>nursing care requested by, or for the convenience of, the patient or the patient's family;</li> </ul>	All charges.
<ul> <li>home care primarily for personal assistance that does not include a medical component and is not diagnostic, therapeutic, rehabilitative</li> </ul>	
Chiropractic	
No Benefit	All Charges
Alternative treatments	
Acupuncture – by a doctor of medicine or osteopathy for: anesthesia/pain relief	\$10 per visit
Not covered:	All charges.
<ul><li>naturopathic services</li><li>hypnotherapy</li></ul>	
• biofeedback	

Educational classes and programs	You pay
Population Based Programs: Any members who fall into the following categories can participate in the appropriate program      Diabetes Program     Asthma Program     Depression Program     Congestive Heart Failure Program     Obstetrical Program	\$10 copay for visits with practitioners, \$5 copay for prescription drugs, otherwise nothing
<ul> <li>Health Education Classes: Classes are free to members. A minimal charge for materials may be required for some classes.</li> <li>Intuitive Eating: This 8-10 class series will help you say good-bye to dieting forever. Learn to make peace with food while honoring healthful eating. Start developing a healthier relationship with food and your body now!</li> <li>Managing your Cholesterol: A Registered Dietitian will help you evaluate you overall risk, interpret cholesterol numbers, and suggest ways to eat healthier and fit exercise into you life.</li> <li>Practical Stress Management: This 2 session class is designed to help you handle stress overloads that often happen in daily life. Situations from home to work and families to co-workers will be covered. You will learn a number of different methods to help you cope and take control.</li> <li>Asthma Classes: Learn and discuss: "What is asthma?," "What causes asthma?," "Medications used to treat asthma," and "How to get asthma under control."</li> <li>Back Education: Got back pain? Learn correct body mechanics, appropriate exercises and stretching techniques.</li> <li>Tobacco Free for Good: This class, consisting of 7 sessions, is designed to help tobacco users deal with triggers, withdrawal symptoms, daily stress and weight control.</li> <li>Prepared Childbirth Classes: This 5 class series prepares both the mother and her coach for a special, shared birth experience. Topics include labor and delivery, hospital procedures, breast and bottle feeding and much more. The classes also include practice sessions in breathing and relaxation techniques. Refresher Childbirth Classes are available as well.</li> <li>Breast Feeding Classes: This 1 session class offers information and support to foster a positive breastfeeding experience. Before your baby arrives, learn the "how-to's" of breast feeding and how to avoid common difficulties.</li> </ul>	Nothing

## Section 5 (b). Surgical and anesthesia services provided by physicians and other health care professionals

	Here are some important things to keep in mind about these benefits:	
I	• Please remember that all benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations, and exclusions in this brochure and are payable only when we determine they are medically necessary.	I
M	<ul> <li>Plan physicians must provide or arrange your care.</li> </ul>	M
P O R	• Be sure to read Section 4, <i>Your costs for covered services</i> , for valuable information about how cost sharing works. Also read Section 9 about coordinating benefits with other coverage, including with Medicare.	P O R
T A N T	• The amounts listed below are for the charges billed by a physician or other health care professional for your surgical care. Look in Section 5(c) for charges associated with the facility (i.e. hospital, surgical center, etc.).	T A N T

Benefit Description	You pay
Surgical procedures	
<ul> <li>A comprehensive range of services, such as:</li> <li>Operative procedures</li> <li>Treatment of fractures, including casting</li> <li>Normal pre- and post-operative care by the surgeon</li> <li>Correction of amblyopia and strabismus</li> <li>Endoscopy procedures</li> <li>Biopsy procedures</li> <li>Removal of tumors and cysts</li> <li>Correction of congenital anomalies (see reconstructive surgery)</li> <li>Surgical treatment of morbid obesity a condition in which an individual weighs 100 pounds or 100% over his or her normal weight according to current underwriting standards; eligible members must be age 18 or over</li> <li>Insertion of internal prosthetic devices. See 5(a) - Orthopedic and prosthetic devices for device coverage information.</li> <li>Vasectomies</li> <li>Tubal Ligations</li> <li>Treatment of burns</li> </ul>	\$10 per office visit; nothing for surgical center or hospital visits

Surgical procedures continued on next page.

Surgical procedures (Continued)	You pay
Not covered:  Reversal of voluntary sterilization Cosmetic Surgery Routine treatment of conditions of the foot; see Foot care.  Reconstructive surgery	All charges.
<ul> <li>Surgery to correct a functional defect</li> <li>Surgery to correct a condition caused by injury or illness if:         <ul> <li>the condition produced a major effect on the member's appearance and</li> <li>the condition can reasonably be expected to be corrected by such surgery</li> </ul> </li> <li>Surgery to correct a condition that existed at or from birth and is a significant deviation from the common form or norm. Examples of congenital anomalies are: protruding ear deformities; cleft lip; cleft palate; birth marks; webbed fingers; and webbed toes.</li> </ul>	Nothing
<ul> <li>All stages of breast reconstruction surgery following a mastectomy, such as:         <ul> <li>surgery to produce a symmetrical appearance on the other breast;</li> <li>treatment of any physical complications, such as lymphedemas;</li> <li>breast prostheses and surgical bras and replacements (see Prosthetic devices)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Note: If you need a mastectomy, you may choose to have the procedure performed on an inpatient basis and remain in the hospital up to 48 hours after the procedure.</li> </ul>	Nothing
Not covered:  • Cosmetic surgery – any surgical procedure (or any portion of a procedure) performed primarily to improve physical appearance through change in bodily form, except repair of accidental injury  • Surgeries related to sex transformation	All charges

Oral and maxillofacial surgery	
<ul> <li>Oral surgical procedures, limited to:</li> <li>Reduction of fractures of the jaws or facial bones;</li> <li>Surgical correction of cleft lip, cleft palate or severe functional malocclusion;</li> <li>Removal of stones from salivary ducts;</li> <li>Excision of leukoplakia or malignancies;</li> <li>Excision of cysts and incision of abscesses when done as independent procedures; and</li> <li>Other surgical procedures that do not involve the teeth or their supporting structures.</li> </ul>	\$10 per office visit
<ul> <li>Not covered:</li> <li>Oral implants and transplants</li> <li>Procedures that involve the teeth or their supporting structures (such as the periodontal membrane, gingiva, and alveolar bone)</li> </ul>	All charges.

Organ/tissue transplants	You pay
Limited to:  Cornea  Heart  Heart/lung  Kidney  Kidney/Pancreas  Liver  Lung: Single –Double  Pancreas  Allogeneic (donor) bone marrow transplants  Autologous bone marrow transplants (autologous stem cell and peripheral stem cell support) for the following conditions: acute lymphocytic or non-lymphocytic leukemia; advanced Hodgkin's lymphoma; advanced neuroblastoma; breast cancer; multiple myeloma; epithelial ovarian cancer; and testicular, mediastinal, retroperitoneal and ovarian germ cell tumors.  Intestinal transplants (small intestine) and the small intestine with the liver or small intestine with multiple organs such as the liver, stomach, and pancreas  National Transplant Program (NTP)  Limited Benefits - Treatment for breast cancer, multiple myeloma, and epithelial ovarian cancer may be provided in an NCI- or NIH-approved clinical trial at a Plan-designated center of excellence and if approved by the Plan's medical director in accordance with the Plan's protocols.	Nothing  Nothing
Not covered:  • Donor screening tests and donor search expenses, except those performed for the actual donor  • Implants of artificial organs  • Transplants not listed as covered	All charges
Anesthesia	You pay
Professional services provided in —  • Hospital (inpatient)  • Hospital outpatient department  • Skilled nursing facility  • Ambulatory surgical center	Nothing
Professional services provided in –  • Office	\$10 per visit

## Section 5 (c). Services provided by a hospital or other facility, and ambulance services

I M P O R T A N T

## Here are some important things to remember about these benefits:

- Please remember that all benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations, and exclusions in this brochure and are payable only when we determine they are medically necessary.
- Plan physicians must provide or arrange your care and you must be hospitalized in a Plan facility.
- Be sure to read Section 4, *Your costs for covered services*, for valuable information about how cost sharing works. Also read Section 9 about coordinating benefits with other coverage, including with Medicare.
- The amounts listed below are for the charges billed by the facility (i.e., hospital or surgical center) or ambulance service for your surgery or care. Any costs associated with the professional charge (i.e., physicians, etc.) are covered in Sections 5(a) or (b).

I M P O R T A N

Benefit Description	You pay
Inpatient hospital	
Room and board, such as  • ward, semiprivate, or intensive care accommodations;  • general nursing care; and  • meals and special diets.  NOTE: If you want a private room when it is not medically necessary, you pay the additional charge above the semiprivate room rate.	Nothing

Inpatient hospital continued on next page.

Inpatient hospital (Continued)	You pay
Other hospital services and supplies, such as:  Operating, recovery, maternity, and other treatment rooms  Prescribed drugs and medicines  Diagnostic laboratory tests and X-rays  Administration of blood and blood products  Blood or blood plasma, if not donated or replaced  Dressings, splints, casts, and sterile tray services  Medical supplies and equipment, including oxygen  Anesthetics, including nurse anesthetist services  Medical supplies, appliances, medical equipment, and any covered items billed by a hospital for use at home	Nothing
<ul> <li>Not covered:</li> <li>Custodial care</li> <li>Non-covered facilities</li> <li>Personal comfort items, such as telephone, television, barber services, guest meals and beds</li> <li>Private nursing care</li> </ul>	All charges.
Outpatient hospital or ambulatory surgical center	
<ul> <li>Operating, recovery, and other treatment rooms</li> <li>Prescribed drugs and medicines</li> <li>Diagnostic laboratory tests, X-rays, and pathology services</li> <li>Administration of blood, blood plasma, and other biologicals</li> <li>Blood and blood plasma, if not donated or replaced</li> <li>Pre-surgical testing</li> <li>Dressings, casts, and sterile tray services</li> <li>Medical supplies, including oxygen</li> <li>Anesthetics and anesthesia service</li> <li>NOTE: – We cover hospital services and supplies related to dental procedures when necessitated by a non-dental physical impairment. We do not cover the dental procedures.</li> </ul>	Nothing
Extended care benefits/skilled nursing care facility benefits	You pay
Extended care benefit: We provide a comprehensive range of benefits for up to 45 days per member in a 12-month period with no dollar limit when full-time skilled nursing care is necessary and confinement in a skilled nursing facility is medically appropriate as determined by a Plan doctor. We cover all necessary services including:  • Bed, board and general nursing care  • Drugs, biologicals, supplies, and equipment ordinarily provided or arranged by the skilled nursing facility when prescribed by a Plan doctor.	Nothing
Not covered: custodial care	All charges

Hospice care	
We cover supportive and palliative care for a terminally ill member in the home or hospice facility. Services include inpatient and outpatient care, and family counseling; these services are provided under the direction of a Plan doctor who certifies that the patient is in the terminal stages of illness, with a life expectancy of approximately six months or less.	Nothing
Not covered: Independent nursing, homemaker services	All charges
Ambulance	
Local professional ambulance service when medically appropriate	Nothing

### Section 5 (d). Emergency services/accidents

#### What is a medical emergency?

A medical emergency is the sudden and unexpected onset of a condition or an injury that you believe endangers your life or could result in serious injury or disability, and requires immediate medical or surgical care. Some problems are emergencies because, if not treated promptly, they might become more serious; examples include deep cuts and broken bones. Others are emergencies because they are potentially life-threatening, such as heart attacks, strokes, poisonings, gunshot wounds, or sudden inability to breathe. There are many other acute conditions that we may determine are medical emergencies – what they all have in common is the need for quick action.

#### What to do in case of emergency:

**Emergencies within our service area:** If you are in an emergency situation, please call your primary care doctor. In extreme emergencies, if you are unable to contact your doctor, contact the local emergency system (e.g., the 911 telephone system) or go to the nearest hospital emergency room. Be sure to tell the emergency room personnel that you are a Plan member so they can notify the Plan. You or a family member should notify the Plan within 48 hours. It is your responsibility to ensure that the Plan has been timely notified.

If you need to be hospitalized, the Plan must be notified within 48 hours or on the first working day following your admission, unless it was not reasonably possible to notify the Plan within that time. If you are hospitalized in non-Plan facilities and Plan doctors believe care can be better provided in a Plan hospital, you will be transferred when medically feasible with any ambulance charges covered in full.

Benefits are available for care from non-Plan providers in a medical emergency only if delay in reaching a Plan provider would result in death, disability or significant jeopardy to your condition.

To be covered by this Plan, any follow-up care recommended by non-Plan providers must be approved by the Plan or provided by Plan providers.

**Emergencies outside our service area:** Benefits are available for any medically necessary health service that is immediately required because of injury or unforeseen illness.

If you need to be hospitalized, the Plan must be notified within 48 hours or on the first working day following your admission, unless it was not reasonably possible to notify the Plan within that time. If a Plan doctor believes care can be better provided in a Plan hospital, you will be transferred when medically feasible with any ambulance charges covered in full.

To be covered by this Plan, any follow-up care recommended by non-Plan providers must be approved by the Plan or provided by Plan providers.

Benefit Description	You pay
Emergency within our service area	
Emergency care at a Grand Valley Health Plan doctor's office	\$10 per visit
Emergency care at a Grand Valley Health Plan urgent care center	
Emergency care at a non-Grand Valley Health Plan urgent care center or doctor's office	\$25 per visit
Emergency care at a hospital, including doctors' services	\$50 per visit
Note: If emergency results in admission to a hospital, we waive the emergency room copay.	
Not covered: Elective care or non-emergency care	All charges.
Emergency outside our service area	
• Emergency care at an urgent care center or doctor's office	\$25 per visit
Emergency care at a hospital, including doctors' services	\$50 per visit
Note: If emergency results in admission to a hospital, we waive the emergency room copay.	
Not covered:	All charges.
Elective care or non-emergency care	
<ul> <li>Emergency care provided outside the service area if the need for care could have been foreseen before leaving the service area</li> <li>Medical and hospital costs resulting from a normal full-term delivery of a baby outside the service area</li> </ul>	
Ambulance	
Professional ambulance service in the service area when medically appropriate.	Nothing
Professional ambulance service outside the service area when medically appropriate	\$50 per service
See 5(c) for non-emergency service.	

#### Section 5 (e). Mental health and substance abuse benefits

I M P O R T A N T When you get our approval for services and follow a treatment plan we approve, cost-sharing and limitations for Plan mental health and substance abuse benefits will be no greater than for similar benefits for other illnesses and conditions.

#### Here are some important things to keep in mind about these benefits:

- All benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations, and exclusions in this brochure.
- Be sure to read Section 4, *Your costs for covered services*, for valuable information about how cost sharing works. Also read Section 9 about coordinating benefits with other coverage, including with Medicare.
- YOU MUST GET PREAUTHORIZATION OF THESE SERVICES. See the instructions after the benefits description below.

Benefit Description	You pay
Mental health and substance abuse benefits	
All diagnostic and treatment services recommended by a Plan provider and contained in a treatment plan that we approve. The treatment plan may include services, drugs, and supplies described elsewhere in this brochure.	Your cost sharing responsibilities are no greater than for other illness or conditions.
Note: Plan benefits are payable only when we determine the care is clinically appropriate to treat your condition and only when you receive the care as part of a treatment plan that we approve.	
<ul> <li>Professional services, including individual or group therapy by providers such as psychiatrists, psychologists, or clinical social workers</li> </ul>	\$10 per visit
Medication management	

Mental health and substance abuse benefits - continued on next page

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Mental health and substance abuse benefits (continued)		You pay	
Diagnostic tests		\$10 per visit	
Services provided by a hospital or other facility		Nothing	
<ul> <li>Services in approved alternative care settings such as partial hospitalization, half-way house, residential treatment, full-day hospitalization, facility based intensive outpatient treatment {plan- specific explanation of this information}</li> </ul>			
Not covered: Services we have not approved.		All charges.	
Note: OPM will base its review of disputes about treatment plans on the treatment plan's clinical appropriateness. OPM will generally not order us to pay or provide one clinically appropriate treatment plan in favor of another.			
Preauthorization	To be eligible to receive these benefits you must follow your treatment plan and all the following authorization processes:		
	Please contact your Grand Valley Health Plan health center for service		

### Section 5 (f). Prescription drug benefits

Here are some important things to keep in mind about these benefits:	
<ul> <li>We cover prescribed drugs and medications, as described in the chart beginning</li></ul>	I
on the next page.	M
<ul> <li>All benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations and exclusions in this</li></ul>	P
brochure and are payable only when we determine they are medically	O
necessary.	P
<ul> <li>Be sure to read Section 4, Your costs for covered services, for valuable</li></ul>	R
information about how cost sharing works. Also read Section 9 about	T
coordinating benefits with other coverage, including with Medicare.	A
	N T

There are important features you should be aware of. These include:

- Who can write your prescription. A licensed practitioner must write the prescription
- Where you can obtain them. You must fill the prescription at a plan pharmacy, or by mail for a maintenance medication
- These are the dispensing limitations. All prescriptions will be filled at a 30 day supply unless noted on approved 90-day drug list

A generic equivalent will be dispensed if it is available, unless your physician specifically requires a name brand. If you receive a name brand drug when a Federally-approved generic drug is available, and your physician has not specified Dispense as Written for the name brand drug, you have to pay the difference in cost between the name brand drug and the generic, plus the copay amount.

• Why us Generic Drugs. Generic drugs contain the same active ingredients and are equivalent in strength and dosage to the original brand name product. Generic drugs cost you and your plan less money than a name-brand drug.

Prescription drug benefits begin on the next page.

Benefit Description	You pay
Covered medications and supplies	
We cover the following medications and supplies prescribed by a Plan physician and obtained from a Plan pharmacy or through our mail order program:	\$5 per prescription
• Drugs and medicines that by Federal law of the United States require a physician's prescription for their purchase, except those listed as <i>Not covered</i> .	
• Insulin	
<ul> <li>Disposable needles and syringes for the administration of covered medications</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Diabetes supplies, including insulinsyringes, needles, glucose test tablets and test tape, Benedict's solution, or equivalent, and acetone test tablets.</li> </ul>	
Drugs for sexual dysfunction	
Contraceptive drugs and devices	
Fertility Drugs	50% of charges
Growth Hormone	
Not covered:	All charges.
• Drugs and supplies for cosmetic purposes	
• Vitamins and nutritional supplements that can be administered without a prescription	
• Drugs to enhance athletic performance	
• Drugs obtained at a non-Plan pharmacy; except for out-of-area emergencies	
Nonprescription medicines	
• Smoking Cessation drugs and medication, including nicotine patches	
• Medications for Travel	

# Section 5 (g). Special features

Feature	Description		
Flexible benefits	Under the flexible benefits option, we determine the most effective way to provide services.		
option	<ul> <li>We may identify medically appropriate alternatives to traditional care and coordinate other benefits as a less costly alternative benefit.</li> </ul>		
	Alternative benefits are subject to our ongoing review.		
	By approving an alternative benefit, we cannot guarantee you will get it in the future.		
	<ul> <li>The decision to offer an alternative benefit is solely ours, and we may withdraw it at any time and resume regular contract benefits.</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Our decision to offer or withdraw alternative benefits is not subject to OPM review under the disputed claims process.</li> </ul>		
24 hour nurse/provider line	For any of your health concerns, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, you may call your Health Center number, and talk with a provider who will discuss treatment options and answer your health questions. The Health Center phone numbers are listed below.		
	Beckwith Health Center – (616) 224-1515 Cascade Health Center – (616) 949-6003 Jenison Health Center – (616) 457-3830 Kentwood Health Center – (616) 534-8323 Rockford Health Center – (616) 866-9568 Walker Health Center – (616) 784-4717 Wyoming Health Center – (616) 532-1100		

# Section 5 (h). Dental benefits

I M P O R T A	Please remember that all benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations, and exclusions in this brochure and are payable only when we determine they are medically necessary.  Plan dentists must provide or arrange your care.  We cover hospitalization for dental procedures only when a non-dental physical impairment exists which makes hospitalization necessary to safeguard the health of the patient; we do not cover the dental procedure unless it is described below.  Be sure to read Section 4, <i>Your costs for covered services</i> , for valuable information about how	I M P O R T A
A N T	cost sharing works. Also read Section 9 about coordinating benefits with other coverage, including with Medicare.	A N T

Accidental injury benefit	You pay		
We cover restorative services and supplies necessary to promptly repair (but not replace) sound natural teeth. The need for these services must result from an accidental injury.	\$10 per office visit		
Dental benefits			
We cover the following dental services when provided by participating Plan dentists:	Nothing		
• Oral exam; two in 12 months			
• Prophylaxis (cleaning); two in 12 months			
• Topical applications of fluoride to age 19			
Oral cancer exam			
Study models			
Emergency services and supplies necessary to promptly relieve pain			

## Section 5 (i). Non-FEHB benefits available to Plan members

The benefits on this page are not part of the FEHB contract or premium, and you cannot file an **FEHB disputed claim about them**. Fees you pay for these services do not count toward FEHB deductibles or out-of-pocket maximums.

### **Expanded Dental Care**

Basic services are covered at 50% after an annual deductible of \$50.00 per person (maximum of three deductibles per family). Coverage would include fillings, root canals, X-rays, periodontic services and oral surgery. Maximum benefit of \$500.00 per member per year.

## **Expanded Vision Care**

Discounts are available through SVS Shoppes for Grand Valley Health Plan members.

## Section 6. General exclusions -- things we don't cover

The exclusions in this section apply to all benefits. Although we may list a specific service as a benefit, we will not cover it unless your Plan doctor determines it is medically necessary to prevent, diagnose, or treat your illness or condition.

We do not cover the following:

- Care by non-Plan providers except for authorized referrals or emergencies (see Emergency Benefits);
- Services, drugs, or supplies you receive while you are not enrolled in this Plan;
- Services, drugs, or supplies that are not medically necessary;
- Services, drugs, or supplies not required according to accepted standards of medical, dental, or psychiatric practice;
- Experimental or investigational procedures, treatments, drugs or devices;
- Services, drugs, or supplies related to abortions, except when the life of the mother would be
  endangered if the fetus were carried to term or when the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or
  incest
- Services, drugs, or supplies related to sex transformations; or
- Services, drugs, or supplies you receive from a provider or facility barred from the FEHB Program

## Section 7. Filing a claim for covered services

When you see Plan physicians, receive services at Plan hospitals and facilities, or obtain your prescription drugs at Plan pharmacies, you will not have to file claims. Just present your identification card and pay your copayment.

You will only need to file a claim when you receive emergency services from non-plan providers. Sometimes these providers bill us directly. Check with the provider. If you need to file the claim, here is the process:

# Medical, hospital and drug benefits

In most cases, providers and facilities file claims for you. Physicians must file on the form HCFA-1500, Health Insurance Claim Form. Facilities will file on the UB-92 form. For claims questions and assistance, call us at (616) 949-2410. When you must file a claim -- such as for out-of-area care -- submit it on the HCFA-1500 or a claim form that includes the information shown below. Bills and receipts should be itemized and show:

- Covered member's name and ID number;
- Name and address of the physician or facility that provided the service or supply;
- Dates you received the services or supplies;
- Diagnosis;
- Type of each service or supply;
- The charge for each service or supply;
- A copy of the explanation of benefits, payments, or denial from any primary payer --such as the Medicare Summary Notice (MSN); and
- Receipts, if you paid for your services.

**Submit your claims to:** Grand Valley Health Plan

829 Forest Hill Ave., SE Grand Rapids, MI 49546

#### Deadline for filing your claim

Send us all of the documents for your claim as soon as possible. You must submit the claim by December 31 of the year after the year you received the service, unless timely filing was prevented by administrative operations of Government or legal incapacity, provided the claim was submitted as soon as reasonably possible.

#### When we need more information

Please reply promptly when we ask for additional information. We may delay processing or deny your claim if you do not respond.

## Section 8. The disputed claims process

Follow this Federal Employees Health Benefits Program disputed claims process if you disagree with our decision on your claim or request for services, drugs, or supplies – including a request for preauthorization:

#### Step Description

- 1 Ask us in writing to reconsider our initial decision. You must:
  - (a) Write to us within 6 months from the date of our decision; and
  - (b) Send your request to us at: Grand Valley Health Plan, 829 Forest Hill Ave. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546; and
  - (c) Include a statement about why you believe our initial decision was wrong, based on specific benefit provisions in this brochure; and
  - (d) Include copies of documents that support your claim, such as physicians' letters, operative reports, bills, medical records, and explanation of benefits (EOB) forms.
- 2 We have 30 days from the date we receive your request to:
  - (a) Pay the claim (or arrange for the health care provider to give you the care); or
  - (b) Write to you and maintain our denial -- go to step 4; or
  - (c) Ask you or your medical provider for more information. If we ask your provider, we will send you a copy of our request—go to step 3.
- You or your provider must send the information so that we receive it within 60 days of our request. We will then decide within 30 more days.

If we do not receive the information within 60 days, we will decide within 30 days of the date the information was due. We will base our decision on the information we already have.

We will write to you with our decision.

4 If you do not agree with our decision, you may ask OPM to review it.

You must write to OPM within:

- 90 days after the date of our letter upholding our initial decision; or
- 120 days after you first wrote to us -- if we did not answer that request in some way within 30 days; or
- 120 days after we asked for additional information.

Write to OPM at: Office of Personnel Management, Office of Insurance Programs, Contracts Division 3, 1900 E Street, NW, Washington, DC 20415-3630

Send OPM the following information:

- A statement about why you believe our decision was wrong, based on specific benefit provisions in this brochure;
- Copies of documents that support your claim, such as physicians' letters, operative reports, bills, medical records, and explanation of benefits (EOB) forms;
- Copies of all letters you sent to us about the claim;
- Copies of all letters we sent to you about the claim; and
- Your daytime phone number and the best time to call.

Note: If you want OPM to review different claims, you must clearly identify which documents apply to which claim.

Note: You are the only person who has a right to file a disputed claim with OPM. Parties acting as your representative, such as medical providers, must include a copy of your specific written consent with the review request.

Note: The above deadlines may be extended if you show that you were unable to meet the deadline because of reasons beyond your control.

- 5 OPM will review your disputed claim request and will use the information it collects from you and us to decide whether our decision is correct. OPM will send you a final decision within 60 days. There are no other administrative appeals.
- 6 If you do not agree with OPM's decision, your only recourse is to sue. If you decide to sue, you must file the suit against OPM in Federal court by December 31 of the third year after the year in which you received the disputed services, drugs, or supplies, or from the year in which you were denied pre-certification or prior approval. This is the only deadline that may not be extended.

OPM may disclose the information it collects during the review process to support their disputed claim decision. This information will become part of the court record.

You may not sue until you have completed the disputed claims process. Further, Federal law governs your lawsuit, benefits, and payment of benefits. The Federal court will base its review on the record that was before OPM when OPM decided to uphold or overturn our decision. You may recover only the amount of benefits in dispute.

**NOTE:** If you have a serious or life threatening condition (one that may cause permanent loss of bodily functions or death if not treated as soon as possible), and

- (a) We haven't responded yet to your initial request for care or preauthorization/prior approval, then call us at 616/949/2410 and we will expedite our review; or
- (b) We denied your initial request for care or preauthorization/prior approval, then:
- If we expedite our review and maintain our denial, we will inform OPM so that they can give your claim expedited treatment too, or
- You can call OPM's Health Benefits Contracts Division 3 at 202/606-0755 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. eastern time.

## Section 9. Coordinating benefits with other coverage

#### When you have other health coverage

You must tell us if you are covered or a family member is covered under another group health plan or have automobile insurance that pays medical expenses without regard to fault. This is called "double coverage."

When you have double coverage, one plan normally pays its benefits in full as the primary payer and the other plan pays a reduced benefit as the secondary payer. We, like other insurers, determine which coverage is primary according to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' guidelines.

When we are the primary payer, we will pay the benefits described in this brochure.

When we are the secondary payer, we will determine our allowance. After the primary plan pays, we will pay what is left of our allowance, up to our regular benefit. We will not pay more than our allowance.

#### •What is Medicare?

Medicare is a Health Insurance Program for:

- People 65 years of age and older.
- Some people with disabilities, under 65 years of age.
- People with End-Stage Renal Disease (permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a transplant).

#### Medicare has two parts:

- Part A (Hospital Insurance). Most people do not have to pay for Part A. If you or your spouse worked for at least 10 years in Medicare-covered employment, you should be able to qualify for premium-free Part A insurance. (Someone who was a Federal employee on January 1, 1983 or since automatically qualifies.) Otherwise, if you are age 65 or older, you may be able to buy it. Contact 1-800-MEDICARE for more information.
- Part B (Medical Insurance). Most people pay monthly for Part B.
   Generally, Part B premiums are withheld from your monthly Social Security check or your retirement check.

If you are eligible for Medicare, you may have choices in how you get your health care. Medicare + Choice is the term used to describe the various health plan choices available to Medicare beneficiaries. The information in the next few pages shows how we coordinate benefits with Medicare, depending on the type of Medicare managed care plan you have.

#### • The Original Medicare Plan (Part A or Part B)

The Original Medicare Plan is available everywhere in the United States. It is the way everyone used to get Medicare benefits and is the way most people get their Medicare Part A and Part B benefits now. You may go to any doctor, specialist, or hospital that accepts Medicare. Medicare pays its share and you pay your share. Some things are not covered under Original Medicare, like prescription drugs.

When you are enrolled in Original Medicare along with this Plan, you still need to follow the rules in this brochure for us to cover your care. Your care must be authorized and coordinated by your health center team in order for you to be covered.

We will not waive any of our copayments.

(Primary payer chart begins on next page.)

The following chart illustrates whether Original Medicare or this Plan should be the primary payer for you according to your employment status and other factors determined by Medicare. It is critical that you tell us if you or a covered family member has Medicare coverage so we can administer these requirements correctly.

Primary Payer Chart					
A. When either you or your covered spouse are age 65 or over and	Then the primary	payer is			
	Original Medicare	This Plan			
Are an active employee with the Federal government (including when you or a family member are eligible for Medicare solely because of a disability),		<b>√</b>			
2) Are an annuitant,	<b>√</b>				
Are a reemployed annuitant with the Federal government when     a) The position is excluded from FEHB	<b>√</b>				
<ul> <li>b) Or, the position is not excluded from FEHB</li> <li>Ask your employing office which of these applies to you.</li> </ul>		✓			
4) Are a Federal judge who retired under title 28, U.S.C., or a Tax Court judge who retired under Section 7447 of title 26, U.S.C. (or if your covered spouse is this type of judge),	<b>✓</b>				
5) Are enrolled in Part B only, regardless of your employment status,	√ (for Part B services)	(for other services)			
6) Are a former Federal employee receiving Workers' Compensation and the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs has determined that you are unable to return to duty,	(except for claims related to Workers' Compensation.)				
B. When you or a covered family member – have Medicare based on end stage renal disease (ESRD) and					
<ol> <li>Are within the first 30 months of eligibility to receive Part A benefits solely because of ESRD,</li> </ol>		✓			
<ol> <li>Have completed the 30-month ESRD coordination period and are still eligible for Medicare due to ESRD,</li> </ol>	<b>√</b>				
Become eligible for Medicare due to ESRD after Medicare became primary for you under another provision,	✓				
C. When you or a covered family member have FEHB and					
<ol> <li>Are eligible for Medicare based on disability,</li> <li>a) And are an annuitant</li> </ol>	<b>✓</b>				
b) And are an active employee		✓			
c) Are a former spouse of an annuitant	<b>✓</b>				
d) Are a former spouse of an active employee		✓			

#### •Medicare managed care

If you are eligible for Medicare, you may choose to enroll in a Medicare managed care plan. To learn more about enrolling in a Medicare managed care plan, contact Medicare at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) or at <a href="https://www.medicare.gov">www.medicare.gov</a>. If you enroll in a Medicare managed care plan, the following options are available to you:

This Plan and another plan's Medicare managed care plan: You may enroll in another plan's Medicare managed care plan and also remain enrolled in our FEHB plan. We will still provide benefits when your Medicare managed care plan is primary, even out of the managed care plan's network and/or service area (if you use our Plan providers), but we will not waive any of our copayments, coinsurance, or deductibles. If you enroll in a Medicare managed care plan, tell us. We will need to know whether you are in the Original Medicare Plan or in a Medicare managed care plan so we can correctly coordinate benefits with Medicare.

Suspended FEHB coverage to enroll in a Medicare managed care plan: If you are an annuitant or former spouse, you can suspend your FEHB coverage to enroll in a Medicare managed care plan, eliminating your FEHB premium. (OPM does not contribute to your Medicare managed care plan premium). For information on suspending your FEHB enrollment, contact your retirement office. If you later want to reenroll in the FEHB Program, generally you may do so only at the next open season unless you involuntarily lose coverage or move out of the Medicare managed care service area.

#### • If you enroll in Medicare Part A or Part B

If you do not have one or both Parts of Medicare, you can still be covered under the FEHB Program. We will not require you to enroll in Medicare Part B and, if you can't get premium-free Part A, we will not ask you to enroll in it.

#### TRICARE

TRICARE is the health care program for eligible dependents of military persons, and retirees of the military. TRICARE includes the CHAMPUS program. If both TRICARE and this Plan cover you, we pay first. See your TRICARE Health Benefits Advisor if you have questions about TRICARE coverage.

#### **Workers' Compensation**

We do not cover services that:

- you need because of a workplace-related illness or injury that the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) or a similar Federal or State agency determines they must provide; or
- OWCP or a similar agency pays for through a third party injury settlement or other similar proceeding that is based on a claim you filed under OWCP or similar laws.

Once OWCP or similar agency pays its maximum benefits for your treatment, we will cover your care. You must use our providers.

Medicaid

When you have this Plan and Medicaid, we pay first.

When other Government agencies are responsible for your care

When others are responsible for injuries

We do not cover services and supplies when a local, State, or Federal Government agency directly or indirectly pays for them.

When you receive money to compensate you for medical or hospital care for injuries or illness caused by another person, you must reimburse us for any expenses we paid. However, we will cover the cost of treatment that exceeds the amount you received in the settlement.

If you do not seek damages you must agree to let us try. This is called subrogation. If you need more information, contact us for our subrogation procedures.

## Section 10. Definitions of terms we use in this brochure

Calendar year January 1 through December 31 of the same year. For new enrollees, the

calendar year begins on the effective date of their enrollment and ends on

December 31 of the same year.

**Coinsurance** Coinsurance is the percentage of our allowance that you must pay for

your care. See page 11.

**Copayment** A copayment is a fixed amount of money you pay when you receive

covered services. See page 11.

**Covered services** Care we provide benefits for, as described in this brochure.

Custodial care Room and board, nursing care, and personal care designed to assist a

person in the activities of daily living.

**Deductible**A deductible is a fixed amount of covered expenses you must incur for certain covered services and supplies before we start paying benefits for

those services. See page 11.

**Experimental or** A procedure, drug, device or biological product is experimental or investigational services investigational when:

a. There is not sufficient outcome data available from controlled clinical trials published in the peer reviewed literature to substantiate its safety and effectiveness for the disease or injury involved, or:

b. Required FDA approval has not been granted for marketing; or

c. A recognized national medical or dental society or regulatory agency has determined, in writing, that it is experimental or for research purposes; or

d. The written protocol(s) used by the treating facility or the protocol(s) of any other facility studying substantially the same drug, device, procedure or treatment or the written informed consent used by the treating facility or by another facility studying the same drug, device, procedure or treatment states that it is experimental or for research purposes; or it is not of proven benefit for the specific diagnosis or treatment of a member's particular condition;

e. It is not generally recognized by the medical community as effective or appropriate for the specific diagnosis or treatment of a member's particular condition; or it is provided or performed in special settings for research purposes

freatment of a member's particular condition; or it is provided or performed in special settings for research purposes.

Group health coverage

Health care coverage that a member is eligible for because of

Health care coverage that a member is eligible for because of employment by, membership in, or connection with, a particular organization or group that provides payment for hospital, medical, or other health care services or supplies.

Medical necessity A service, procedure, treatment, supply or accommodation prescribed,

ordered, supplied, authorized or provided to you, which has been determined by your Health Center Team to be necessary for your general care and well being, and which is generally acceptable according to the

standards of medical practice.

Us/We Us and we refer to Grand Valley Health Plan

You You refers to the enrollee and each covered family member.

### Section 11. FEHB facts

No pre-existing condition limitation

Where you can get information about enrolling in the FEHB Program We will not refuse to cover the treatment of a condition that you had before you enrolled in this Plan solely because you had the condition before you enrolled.

See <a href="www.opm.gov/insure">www.opm.gov/insure</a>. Also, your employing or retirement office can answer your questions, and give you a Guide to Federal Employees

Health Benefits Plans, brochures for other plans, and other materials you need to make an informed decision about:

- When you may change your enrollment;
- How you can cover your family members;
- What happens when you transfer to another Federal agency, go on leave without pay, enter military service, or retire;
- When your enrollment ends; and
- When the next open season for enrollment begins.

We don't determine who is eligible for coverage and, in most cases, cannot change your enrollment status without information from your employing or retirement office.

Types of coverage available for you and your family

Self Only coverage is for you alone. Self and Family coverage is for you, your spouse, and your unmarried dependent children under age 22, including any foster children or stepchildren your employing or retirement office authorizes coverage for. Under certain circumstances, you may also continue coverage for a disabled child 22 years of age or older who is incapable of self-support.

If you have a Self Only enrollment, you may change to a Self and Family enrollment if you marry, give birth, or add a child to your family. You may change your enrollment 31 days before to 60 days after that event. The Self and Family enrollment begins on the first day of the pay period in which the child is born or becomes an eligible family member. When you change to Self and Family because you marry, the change is effective on the first day of the pay period that begins after your employing office receives your enrollment form; benefits will not be available to your spouse until you marry.

Your employing or retirement office will **not** notify you when a family member is no longer eligible to receive health benefits, nor will we. Please tell us immediately when you add or remove family members from your coverage for any reason, including divorce, or when your child under age 22 marries or turns 22.

If you or one of your family members is enrolled in one FEHB plan, that person may not be enrolled in or covered as a family member by another FEHB plan.

# When benefits and premiums start

# Your medical and claims records are confidential

The benefits in this brochure are effective on January 1. If you are new to this Plan, your coverage and premiums begin on the first day of your first pay period that starts on or after January 1. Annuitants' premiums begin on January 1.

We will keep your medical and claims information confidential. Only the following will have access to it:

- OPM, this Plan, and subcontractors when they administer this contract;
- This Plan and appropriate third parties, such as other insurance plans and the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) when coordinating benefit payments and subrogating claims;
- Law enforcement officials when investigating and/or prosecuting alleged civil or criminal actions:
- OPM and the General Accounting Office when conducting audits;
- Individuals involved in bona fide medical research or education that does not disclose your identity; or
- OPM, when reviewing a disputed claim or defending litigation about a claim.

### When you retire

When you retire, you can usually stay in the FEHB Program. Generally, you must have been enrolled in the FEHB Program for the last five years of your Federal service. If you do not meet this requirement, you may be eligible for other forms of coverage, such as Temporary Continuation of Coverage (TCC).

#### When you lose benefits

•When FEHB coverage ends

You will receive an additional 31 days of coverage, for no additional premium, when:

- Your enrollment ends, unless you cancel your enrollment, or
- You are a family member no longer eligible for coverage.

You may be eligible for spouse equity coverage or Temporary Continuation of Coverage.

# • Spouse equity coverage

If you are divorced from a Federal employee or annuitant, you may not continue to get benefits under your former spouse's enrollment. But, you may be eligible for your own FEHB coverage under the spouse equity law. If you are recently divorced or are anticipating a divorce, contact your ex-spouse's employing or retirement office to get RI 70-5, the *Guide to Federal Employees Health Benefits Plans for Temporary Continuation of Coverage and Former Spouse Enrollees*, or other information about your coverage choices.

•TCC

If you leave Federal service, or if you lose coverage because you no longer qualify as a family member, you may be eligible for Temporary Continuation of Coverage (TCC). For example, you can receive TCC if you are not able to continue your FEHB enrollment after you retire, if you lose your job, if you are a covered dependent child and you turn 22 or marry, etc.

You may not elect TCC if you are fired from your Federal job due to gross misconduct.

**Enrolling in TCC.** Get the RI 79-27, which describes TCC, and the RI 70-5, the *Guide to Federal Employees Health Benefits Plans for Temporary Continuation of Coverage* 

and Former Spouse Enrollees, from your employing or retirement office or from <a href="https://www.opm.gov/insure">www.opm.gov/insure</a>. It explains what you have to do to enroll.

#### Converting to individual coverage

You may convert to a non-FEHB individual policy if:

- Your coverage under TCC or the spouse equity law ends. If you canceled your coverage or did not pay your premium, you cannot convert;
- You decided not to receive coverage under TCC or the spouse equity law; or
- You are not eligible for coverage under TCC or the spouse equity law.

If you leave Federal service, your employing office will notify you of your right to convert. You must apply in writing to us within 31 days after you receive this notice. However, if you are a family member who is losing coverage, the employing or retirement office will **not** notify you. You must apply in writing to us within 31 days after you are no longer eligible for coverage.

Your benefits and rates will differ from those under the FEHB Program; however, you will not have to answer questions about your health, and we will not impose a waiting period or limit your coverage due to pre-existing conditions.

# Getting a Certificate of Group Health Plan Coverage

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) is a Federal law that offers limited Federal protections for health coverage availability and continuity to people who lose employer group coverage. If you leave the FEHB Program, we will give you a Certificate of Group Health Plan Coverage that indicates how long you have been enrolled with us. You can use this certificate when getting health insurance or other health care coverage. Your new plan must reduce or eliminate waiting periods, limitations, or exclusions for health related conditions based on the information in the certificate, as long as you enroll within 63 days of losing coverage under this Plan. If you have been enrolled with us for less than 12 months, but were previously enrolled in other FEHB plans, you may also request a certificate from those plans.

For more information get OPM pamphlet RI 79-27, Temporary Continuation of Coverage (TCC) under the FEHB Program. Also, see the FEHB web site (<a href="www.opm.gov/insure/health">www.opm.gov/insure/health</a>); refer to the "TCC and HIPAA frequently asked questions. These highlight HIPAA rules, such as the requirement that Federal employees must exhaust any TCC eligibility as one condition for guaranteed access to individual health coverage under HIPAA, and have information about Federal and State agencies you can contact for more information.

## **Long Term Care Insurance Is Coming Later in 2002!**

- Many FEHB enrollees think that their health plan and/or Medicare will cover their long-term care needs. Unfortunately, they are *WRONG*!
- How are YOU planning to pay for the future custodial or chronic care you may need?
- You should consider buying long-term care insurance.

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) will sponsor a high-quality long term care insurance program effective in October 2002. As part of its educational effort, OPM asks you to consider these questions:

# What is long term care (LTC) insurance?

- It's insurance to help pay for long term care services you may need if you can't take care of yourself because of an extended illness or injury, or an age-related disease such as Alzheimer's.
- LTC insurance can provide broad, flexible benefits for nursing home care, care in an assisted living facility, care in your home, adult day care, hospice care, and more. LTC insurance can supplement care provided by family members, reducing the burden you place on them.

# I'm healthy. I won't need long term care. Or, will I?

- Welcome to the club!
- 76% of Americans believe they will never need long term care, but the facts are that about half of them will. And it's not just the old folks. About 40% of people needing long term care are under age 65. They may need chronic care due to a serious accident, a stroke, or developing multiple sclerosis, etc.
- We hope you will never need long term care, but everyone should have a plan just in case. Many people now consider long term care insurance to be vital to their financial and retirement planning.

#### Is long term care expensive?

- Yes, it can be very expensive. A year in a nursing home can exceed \$50,000. Home care for only three 8- hour shifts a week can exceed \$20,000 a year. And that's before inflation!
- Long term care can easily exhaust your savings. Long term care insurance can protect your savings.

## But won't my FEHB plan, Medicare or Medicaid cover my long term care?

- Not FEHB. Look at the "Not covered" blocks in sections 5(a) and 5(c) of your FEHB brochure. Health plans don't cover custodial care or a stay in an assisted living facility or a continuing need for a home health aide to help you get in and out of bed and with other activities of daily living. Limited stays in skilled nursing facilities can be covered in some circumstances.
- Medicare only covers skilled nursing home care (the highest level of nursing care) after a hospitalization for those who are blind, age 65 or older or fully disabled. It also has a 100 day limit.
- Medicaid covers long term care for those who meet their state's poverty guidelines, but has restrictions on covered services and where they can be received. *Long term care insurance can provide choices of care and preserve your independence.*

# When will I get more information on how to apply for this new insurance coverage?

- Employees will get more information from their agencies during the LTC open enrollment period in the late summer/early fall of 2002.
- Retirees will receive information at home.

# How can I find out more about the program NOW?

Our toll-free teleservice center will begin in mid-2002. In the meantime, you can learn more about the program on our web site at <a href="www.opm.gov/insure/ltc">www.opm.gov/insure/ltc</a>.

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Do not rely on this page; it is for your convenience and may not show all pages where the terms appear.

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NOTES:

## Summary of benefits for Grand Valley Health Plan - 2002

- **Do not rely on this chart alone.** All benefits are provided in full unless indicated and are subject to the definitions, limitations, and exclusions in this brochure. On this page we summarize specific expenses we cover; for more detail, look inside.
- If you want to enroll or change your enrollment in this Plan, be sure to put the correct enrollment code from the cover on your enrollment form.
- We only cover services provided or arranged by Plan physicians, except in emergencies.

Benefits	You Pay	Page
Medical services provided by physicians:  • Diagnostic and treatment services provided in the office	Office visit copay: \$10 primary care; \$10 specialist	13-22
Services provided by a hospital:  Inpatient  Outpatient	Nothing In office: \$10 copay Surgical Center: Nothing	27-29 23-26
Emergency benefits:  • In-area  • Out-of-area	\$50 per visit \$50 per visit	30-31 30-31
Mental health and substance abuse treatment	Regular cost sharing.	32-33
Prescription drugs	\$5 per prescription	34-35
Dental Care	Nothing for preventive services; scheduled allowance for other services	37-38
Vision Care	\$10 per visit	19
Special features: Flexible Benefits, 24 Hour Health Center Line		
Protection against catastrophic costs (your out-of-pocket maximum)	No out-of- pocket maximums	

# **2001 Rate Information for Grand Valley Health Plan**

**Non-Postal rates** apply to most non-Postal enrollees. If you are in a special enrollment category, refer to the FEHB Guide for that category or contact the agency that maintains your health benefits enrollment.

**Postal rates** apply to career Postal Service employees. Most employees should refer to the FEHB Guide for United States Postal Service Employees, RI 70-2. Different postal rates apply and special FEHB guides are published for Postal Service Nurses, RI 70-2B; and for Postal Service Inspectors and Office of Inspector General (OIG) employees (see RI 70-2IN).

Postal rates do not apply to non-career postal employees, postal retirees, or associate members of any postal employee organization who are not career postal employees. Refer to the applicable FEHB Guide.

		Non-Postal Premium				Postal Premium	
		Biweekly		Monthly		Biweekly	
Type of Enrollment	Code	Gov't Share	Your Share	Gov't Share	Your Share	USPS Share	Your Share
Self Only	RL1	\$87.72	\$29.24	\$190.06	\$63.35	\$103.80	\$13.16
Self and Family	RL2	\$223.41	\$105.39	\$484.06	\$228.34	\$263.75	\$65.05