

Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound

2003

http://www.ghc.org

A Health Maintenance Organization

Serving: Most of Washington State and Northern Idaho

Enrollment in this Plan is limited. You must live or work in our Geographic service area to enroll. See page 8 for requirements.





This plan has excellent accreditation from the NCQA. See the 2003 Guide for more information on NCQA.

Western Washington
Enrollment codes for this Plan:
541 Self Only
542 Self and Family

Eastern & Central Washington and Northern Idaho
Enrollment codes for this Plan:
VR1 Self Only
VR2 Self and Family

Authorized for distribution by the:





OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT WASHINGTON, DC 20415-0001

Dear Federal Employees Health Benefits Program Participant:

I am pleased to present this Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program plan brochure for 2003. The brochure explains all the benefits this health plan offers to its enrollees. Since benefits can vary from year to year, you should review your plan's brochure every Open Season. Fundamentally, I believe that FEHB participants are wise enough to determine the care options best suited for themselves and their families.

In keeping with the President's health care agenda, we remain committed to providing FEHB members with affordable, quality health care choices. Our strategy to maintain quality and cost this year rested on four initiatives. First, I met with FEHB carriers and challenged them to contain costs, maintain quality, and keep the FEHB Program a model of consumer choice and on the cutting edge of employer-provided health benefits. I asked the plans for their best ideas to help hold down premiums and promote quality. And, I encouraged them to explore all reasonable options to constrain premium increases while maintaining a benefits program that is highly valued by our employees and retirees, as well as attractive to prospective Federal employees. Second, I met with our own FEHB negotiating team here at OPM and I challenged them to conduct tough negotiations on your behalf. Third, OPM initiated a comprehensive outside audit to review the potential costs of federal and state mandates over the past decade, so that this agency is better prepared to tell you, the Congress and others the true cost of mandated services. Fourth, we have maintained a respectful and full engagement with the OPM Inspector General (IG) and have supported all of his efforts to investigate fraud and waste within the FEHB and other programs. Positive relations with the IG are essential and I am proud of our strong relationship.

The FEHB Program is market-driven. The health care marketplace has experienced significant increases in health care cost trends in recent years. Despite its size, the FEHB Program is not immune to such market forces. We have worked with this plan and all the other plans in the Program to provide health plan choices that maintain competitive benefit packages and yet keep health care affordable.

Now, it is your turn. We believe if you review this health plan brochure and the FEHB Guide you will have what you need to make an informed decision on health care for you and your family. We suggest you also visit our web site at www.opm.gov/insure.

Sincerely,

Kay Coles James

Director





Notice of the Office of Personnel Management's Privacy Practices

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.

By law, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), which administers the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program, is required to protect the privacy of your personal medical information. OPM is also required to give you this notice to tell you how OPM may use and give out ("disclose") your personal medical information held by OPM.

OPM will use and give out your personal medical information:

- To you or someone who has the legal right to act for you (your personal representative),
- To the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, if necessary, to make sure your privacy is protected,
- To law enforcement officials when investigating and/or prosecuting alleged or civil or criminal actions, and
- Where required by law.

OPM **has the right** to use and give out your personal medical information to administer the FEHB Program. For example:

- To communicate with your FEHB health plan when you or someone you have authorized to act on your behalf asks for our assistance regarding a benefit or customer service issue.
- To review, make a decision, or litigate your disputed claim.
- For OPM and the General Accounting Office when conducting audits.

OPM **may** use or give out your personal medical information for the following purposes under limited circumstances:

- For Government healthcare oversight activities (such as fraud and abuse investigations),
- For research studies that meet all privacy law requirements (such as for medical research or education), and
- To avoid a serious and imminent threat to health or safety.

By law, OPM must have your written permission (an "authorization") to use or give out your personal medical information for any purpose that is not set out in this notice. You may take back ("revoke") your written permission at any time, except if OPM has already acted based on your permission.

By law, you have the right to:

- See and get a copy of your personal medical information held by OPM.
- Amend any of your personal medical information created by OPM if you believe that it is wrong or if information is missing, and OPM agrees. If OPM disagrees, you may have a statement of your disagreement added to your personal medical information.
- Get a listing of those getting your personal medical information from OPM in the past 6 years. The listing will not cover your personal medical information that was given to you or your personal representative, any information that you authorized OPM to release, or that was given out for law enforcement purposes or to pay for your health care or a disputed claim.
- Ask OPM to communicate with you in a different manner or at a different place (for example, by sending materials to a P.O. Box instead of your home address).
- Ask OPM to limit how your personal medical information is used or given out. However,
 OPM may not be able to agree to your request if the information is used to conduct
 operations in the manner described above.
- Get a separate paper copy of this notice.

For more information on exercising your rights set out in this notice, look at www.opm.gov/insure on the web. You may also call 202-606-0191 and ask for OPM's FEHB Program privacy official for this purpose.

If you believe OPM has violated your privacy rights set out in this notice, you may file a complaint with OPM at the following address:

Privacy Complaints
Office of Personnel Management
P.O. Box 707
Washington, DC 20004-0707

Filing a complaint will not affect your benefits under the FEHB Program. You also may file a complaint with the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services.

By law, OPM is required to follow the terms in this privacy notice. OPM has the right to change the way your personal medical information is used and given out. If OPM makes any changes, you will get a new notice by mail within 60 days of the change. The privacy practices listed in this notice will be effective April 14, 2003.

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Introduction

This brochure describes the benefits provided by Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound under our contract (CS 1043) with the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), as authorized by the Federal Employees Health Benefits law. The address for Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound administrative offices is:

Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound 521 Wall Street Seattle WA 98121

This brochure is the official statement of benefits. No oral statement can modify or otherwise affect the benefits, limitations, and exclusions of this brochure. It is your responsibility to be informed about your health benefits.

If you are enrolled in this Plan you are entitled to the benefits described in this brochure. If you are enrolled in 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, 2003, unless those benefits are also shown in this brochure.

OPM negotiates benefits and rates with each plan annually. Benefit changes are effective January 1, 2003, and changes are summarized on page 9. Rates are shown at the end of this brochure.

Plain Language

All FEHB brochures are written in plain language 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 Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound.
- 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 OPM know. Visit OPM's "Rate Us" feedback area at www.opm.gov/insure or e-mail OPM at fehbwebcomments@opm.gov. You may also write to OPM at the Office of Personnel Management, Office of Insurance Planning and Evaluation Division, 1900 E Street, NW Washington, DC 20415-3650.

Stop Health Care Fraud!

Fraud increases the cost of health care for everyone and increases your Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program premium.

OPM's Office of the Inspector General investigates all allegations of fraud, waste, and abuse in the FEHB Program regardless of the agency that employs you or from which you retired.

Protect Yourself From Fraud—Here are some things you can do to prevent fraud:

- Be wary of giving your plan identification (ID) number over the telephone or to people you do not know, except to your doctor, other provider, or authorized plan or OPM representative.
- Let only the appropriate medical professionals review your medical record or recommend services.
- Avoid using health care providers who say that an item or service is not usually covered, but they know how to bill us
 to get it paid.
- Carefully review explanations of benefits (EOBs) that you receive from us.
- Do not ask your doctor to make false entries on certificates, bills or records in order to get us to pay for an item or service.
- If you suspect that a provider 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 1-888/901-4636 and explain the situation.
 - If we do not resolve the issue:

CALL — THE HEALTH CARE FRAUD HOTLINE 202-418-3300

OR WRITE TO:

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

- Do not maintain as a family member on your policy:
 - your former spouse after a divorce decree or annulment is final (even if a court order stipulates otherwise); or
 - your child over age 22 (unless he/she is disabled and incapable of self-support).
- If you have any questions about the eligibility of a dependent, check with your personnel office if you are employed or with OPM if you are retired.
- You can be prosecuted for fraud and your agency may take action against you if you falsify a claim to obtain FEHB benefits or try to obtain services for someone who is not an eligible family member or who is no longer enrolled in the Plan.

Section 1. Facts about this HMO plan

This Plan is a health maintenance organization (HMO). We require you to see specific providers, hospitals, and other providers that contract with us. These Plan providers coordinate your health care services. The Plan is solely responsible for the selection of these providers in your area. Contact the Plan for a copy of their most recent provider directory.

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 covered services from Plan providers, you generally 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 if a provider leaves our Plan. We cannot guarantee that any one provider, hospital, or other provider will be available and/or remain under contract with us.

How we pay providers

We contract with individual providers, 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.

Who provides my health care?

Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound is a Mixed Model Prepayment (MMP) Plan. The Plan provides medical care by doctors, nurse practitioners, and other skilled Medical personnel working as medical teams. Specialists are available as part of the medical teams for consultation and treatment.

For Central and Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho and Whatcom Division members only: All participating providers are practitioners who provide routine care within their private office settings in the community.

The first and most important decision each member must make is the selection of a primay care provider. The decision is important since it is usually through this provider that all other health services, particularly those of specialists, are obtained. It is the responsibility of your primary care provider to obtain any necessary authorizations from the Plan before referring you to a specialist or making arrangements for hospitalization. Services of other providers are covered only when there has been a Plan approved written referral by the member's primary care provider, with the following exception: a woman may see a participating General and Family Practitioner, Physician's Assistant, Gynecologist, Certified Nurse Midwife, Doctor of Osteopathy, Obstetrician or Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner who provide women's health care services directly, without a referral from her primary care provider, for medically appropriate maternity care, reproductive health services, preventive care and general examination, gynecological care and medically appropriate follow-up visits for the above services. If your chosen provider diagnoses a condition that requires referral to other specialists or hospitalization, you or your chosen provider must obtain preauthorization and care coordination in accordance with applicable Plan requirements.

Your Rights

OPM requires that all FEHB Plans provide certain information to their FEHB members. You can also find out about Care Management, which includes medical practice guidelines, disease management programs and how we determine if procedures are experimental or investigational. OPM's FEHB website www.opm.gov/insure lists the specific types of information that we must make available to you.

If you would like more information about us, call 1-888/901-4636, or write to Group Health Cooperative, Customer Service, P.O. Box 34590, Seattle WA 98124-1590. You may also contact us by fax at 1-206/901-4612 or visit our website at http://www.ghc.org. You may get information about us, our networks, providers and facilities.

Service Area

To enroll in this Plan, you must live or work in our Service Area. Group Health Cooperative providers practice in the following areas. Our service area is:

Western Washington (entire counties):

Island

King

Kitsap

• Lewis

Mason

Pierce

• San Juan

Skagit

Snohomish

• Thurston

Whatcom

In Grays Harbor County, the following cities, by Zip Code:

• Elma (98541)

• Oakville (98568)

• Malone (98559)

• Porter (98573)

McCleary (98557)

In Jefferson County, the following cities, by Zip Code:

• Brinnon (98320)

• Chimacum (98325)

Gardner (98334)Hadlock (98339)

• Nordland (98358)

Port Ludlow (98365)

• Port Townsend (98368)

• Quilcene (98376)

Central and Eastern Washington (entire counties):

• Benton

• Columbia

Franklin

Kittitas

Spokane

Walla Walla

• Whitman

Yakima

Northern Idaho (entire counties):

- Kootenai
- Latah

If you receive care outside our service area, we will pay only for emergency services as described on pages 29 and 30, or those services covered under "Travel Benefit" described on page 36. We will not pay for any other health care services.

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 service 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.

Plan members who are temporarily outside the service area of this Plan have access to care with Kaiser Permanente Plans. If you need services when out of the area, and are in the service area of a Kaiser Permanente Plan, you may obtain care from any Kaiser Permanente Provider, medical office, or medical center. If you plan to travel and wish to obtain more information about the benefits available to you, please call Customer Service at 1-888/901-4636.

Section 2. How we change for 2003

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

- A Notice of the Office of Personnel Management's Privacy Policy is included.
- A section on the Children's Equity Act describes when an employee is required to maintain Self and Family Coverage.
- Program information on TRICARE and CHAMPVA explains how annuitants or former spouses may suspend their FEHB Program enrollment.
- Program information on Medicare is revised.
- By law, the DoD/FEHB Demonstration project ends on December 31, 2002.

Changes to this Plan

- Your share of the non-Postal premium for Enrollment Code 54 will increase by 37.1% for Self Only or 33.% for Self and Family. Your share of the non-Postal premium for Enrollment Code VR will increase by 21.5% for Self Only or 47.5% for Self and Family.
- For all covered outpatient office visits, you will now pay a \$15 copayment per office visit. Previously, your outpatient office visit copayment was \$10 per office visit. (Section 5(a)).
- For all covered inpatient hospital services, you will now pay a \$200 inpatient copayment per day for 3 days; maximum of \$600 per person per hospitalization. Previously, you paid a \$100 inpatient copayment per day for 3 days; maximum of \$300 per person per calendar year. (Section 5(c)).
- For all covered outpatient surgical services, you will now pay a \$75 copayment per procedure or visit. Previously, you paid a \$10 copayment per procedure or visit. (Section 5(c)).
- For all prescription drugs, prescribed by your Plan doctor and obtained at a Plan pharmacy, you will now have a \$15 copayment for generic formulary drugs, a \$25 copayment for brand name formulary drugs and a \$50 copayment for any non-formulary drugs. Previously, your pharmacy copayment was \$10 for generic formulary drugs and \$20 for brand name formulary drugs. (Section 5(f)).
- A mail order drug program has been added. For all prescription drugs prescribed by your Plan doctor and obtained by the Group Health mail order pharmacy, you will have a \$10 copayment for generic formulary drugs, a \$20 copayment for brand name formulary drugs and a \$45 copayment for all non-formulary drugs, for each 30-day supply (If your prescription allows, you can obtain up to a 90-day supply by mail order; in this case, you would pay three times the 30-day copayment) (Section 5(f)).
- Your catastrophic protection out-of-pocket maximum will now be \$1,500 per person or \$3,000 per family enrollment in any calendar year. Previously, your catastrophic protection out-of-pocket maximum was \$1,000 per person or \$2,000 per family enrollment in any calendar year. (Section 4).
- For all covered full-time skilled nursing care, you will now be covered up to 60 days per calendar year. Previously, your covered full-time skilled nursing care was covered up to 30 days per calendar year. (Section 5(c)).
- For all covered services provided by a hospital or other facility, you will now have whole blood covered in full. Previously, whole blood was not covered and was listed in the not covered section. (Section 5(c)).

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, please call our Customer Service at 1-888/901-4636 or write to us at Group Health Cooperative, Customer Service, P.O. Box 34590, Seattle WA 98124-1590.

Where you get covered care

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

• Plan providers

Plan providers are physicians and other health care professionals in our service area that we contract with to provide covered services to our members.

We list Plan providers in our provider directories, which we update periodically. You may call Customer Service at 1-888/901-4636. The list is also on our website.

• Plan facilities

Plan facilities are hospitals and other facilities in our service area that we contract with to provide covered services to our members. We list these in our provider directories. The list is also on our website.

What you must do to get covered care

You and each family member should choose a primary care physician. This decision is important, since your primary care physician provides or arranges for most of your health care. There are several ways to select a physician; you may contact Customer Service 1-888/901-4636 or your chosen plan facility for assistance.

Primary care

Your primary care physician (such as a family practitioner or pediatrcian), will arrange for most of your health care, or give you a referral to see a specialist.

If you want to change primary care physicians or if your primary care physician leaves the Plan, call Customer Service at 1-888/901-4636 or contact your chosen plan facility. We will help you select a new one.

• Specialty care

Your primary care physician will refer you to a specialist for needed care. 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 without additional referrals. 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. However, you may see a woman's health care specialist or a mental health provider without a referral. A woman may see a participating General or Family Practitioner, Physician's Assistant, Gynecologist, Certified Nurse Midwife, Doctor of Osteopathy, Obstetrician or Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner who provide women's health care services directly, without a referral from her

primary care provider, for medically appropriate maternity care, reproductive health services, preventive care and general examination, gynecological care, and medically appropriate follow-up visits for the above services. If the chosen provider diagnoses a condition that requires a referral to other specialists or hospitalization, you or your chosen provider must obtain preauthorization and care coordination in accordance with applicable Plan requirements.

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 that allows you to see your specialist for a certain number of visits without additional referrals. Your primary care physician will use our criteria when creating your treatment plan (the physician may have to get an authorization or approval beforehand).
- 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 he or she decides 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 our Customer Service Department at 1-888/901-4636 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.

• Hospital care

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 required.

If you are in the hospital when your enrollment in our Plan begins, call our Customer Service department immediately at 1-888/901-4636. 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
- The day your benefits from your former plan run out; or
- The 92nd day after you become a member of this Plan, whichever happens first.

These provisions apply only to the benefits 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 review and approval process "prior approval." Your physician must obtain "prior approval" for the following services: Hospitalization, Specialty Care and orders for Durable Medical Equipment. Upon obtaining "prior approval," all of the above are subject to the applicable copays or coinsurance.

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 \$15 per office visit. When you are admitted to the hospital you pay \$200 per day up to \$600 per person per hospitalization.

• Deductible

A deductible is a fixed expense you must incur for certain covered services and supplies before we start paying benefits for them. Copayments do not count toward any deductible.

NOTE: If you change plans during open season, you do not have to start a new deductible under your old plan between January 1 and the effective date of your new plan. If you change plans at another time during the year, you must begin a new deductible under your new plan.

• Coinsurance

Coinsurance is the percentage of our allowed charges for specific benefits that you must pay for your care.

Example: In our Plan, you pay 50% of our allowed charges for infertility services, 20% of our allowed charges for durable medical equipment; devices, equipment and supplies and ambulance services; and varying amounts for dental care.

Your catastrophic protection out-of-pocket maximum for deductibles, coinsurance, and copayments

After your copayments, coinsurance and deductibles total \$1,500 per person or \$3,000 per family enrollment in any calendar year, you do not have to pay any more for covered services. However, copayments, coinsurance and deductibles for the following services do not count toward your catastrophic protection out-of-pocket maximum, and you must continue to pay copayments and coinsurance, and deductibles for these services:

- Infertility services
- Medical devices, equipment and supplies
- Dental care
- \$125 non-Plan emergency care copayment
- Ambulance services

Be sure to keep accurate records of your copayments, coinsurance and deductibles since you are responsible for informing us when you reach the maximum.

Section 5. Benefits — OVERVIEW

(See page 9 for how our benefits changed this year and page 58 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 subsection. To obtain claim forms, claims filing advice, or more information about our benefits, contact us at 1-888/901-4636 or at our website at www.ghc.org.

(a)	Medical services and supplies provided by physicians a	and other health care professionals	15–22
	 Diagnostic and treatment services Lab, X-ray, and other diagnostic tests Preventive care, adult Preventive care, children Maternity care Family planning Infertility services Allergy care Treatment therapies Physical and occupational therapies 	 Speech therapy Hearing services (testing and treatment) Vision services (testing and treatment) Foot care Orthopedic and prosthetic devices Durable medical equipment (DME) Home health services Chiropractic Alternative treatments Educational classes and programs 	
(b)	Surgical and anesthesia services provided by physicians	s and other health care professionals	23–25
	Surgical proceduresReconstructive surgeryAnesthesia	 Oral and maxillofacial surgery Organ/tissue transplants	
(c)	Services provided by a hospital or other facility, and an	nbulance services	26–28
	 Inpatient hospital Outpatient hospital or ambulatory surgical center Ambulance 	 Extended care benefits/skilled nursing care facility benefits Hospice care Rehabilitative therapies 	
(d)	Emergency services/accidents • Medical emergency	Ambulance	29–30
(e)	Mental health and substance abuse benefits		31–32
(f)	Prescription drug benefits		33–35
(g)	Special features		36
	Consulting NurseFlexible benefits optionReciprocity benefit	Services for deaf and hearing impairedTravel benefit	
(h)	Dental benefits		37–38
(i)	Non-FEHB benefits available to Plan members		39
Sur	nmary of benefits		58

Section 5 (a). Medical services and supplies provided by physicians and other health care professionals

I M P O R T A N T

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.

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Benefit Description	You pay
Diagnostic and treatment services	
Professional services of physicians	\$15 per office visit
In provider's office	
Professional services of physicians	\$15 per visit
• In an urgent care center	
Office medical consultations	
Second surgical opinion	
At home	Nothing
Lab, X-ray and other diagnostic tests	
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 according to the Plan's well adult schedule, such as	Nothing
but not limited to:Total Blood Cholesterol – once every five years	
Colorectal Cancer Screening, including	
- Fecal occult blood test	
 Sigmoidoscopy, screening – every five years starting at age 50 	Nothing

Preventive care, adult (continued)	You Pay
Routine Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) test – one annually for men age 40 and older	Nothing
Routine pap test	Nothing
Routine mammogram –covered for women age 35 and older, as follows:	Nothing
• 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 one to two years according to risk	
Not covered: Physical exams required for obtaining or continuing employment or insurance, or travel.	All charges
Routine immunizations, limited to:	Nothing
• Tetanus-diphtheria (Td) booster – once every 10 years, ages 19 and over (except as provided for under Childhood immunizations)	
Influenza vaccine, annually	
Pneumococcal vaccine, age 65 and over	
Preventive care, children	
Childhood immunizations recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics	Nothing
Well-child care charges for routine examinations, immunizations, immunization updates and care according to the Plan's well child schedule (under age 22)	Nothing
• Examinations, such as:	\$15 per visit
 Eye exams to determine the need for vision correction once every 12 months 	
Ear exams to determine the need for hearing correction	
Maternity care	
Complete maternity (obstertrical) care, such as:	Copays are waived for prenata
Prenatal care	and postnatal care
• Delivery	
Postnatal care	
Note: Here are some things to keep in mind:	
 You do not need to have "prior approval" for your normal delivery; see below 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 including circumcision 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.	

Maternity care - continued on next page

Maternity care (continued)	You pay
• We pay hospitalization and surgeon services (delivery) the same as for illness and injury. See "Hospital benefits" (Section 5c) and "Surgery benefits" (Section 5b).	Copays are waived for prenata and postnatal care
Not Covered: Routine sonograms to determine fetal age, size or sex.	All charges
Family planning	
A range of voluntary family planning services, limited to: • Voluntary sterilization. (See Surgical procedures Section 5(b) • Intrauterine devices (IUDs)-insertion • Injectable contraceptive drugs • Diaphragms-fitting	\$15 per office visit
Note: We cover oral contraceptives and implantable contraceptives under the prescription drug benefits (Section 5(f)	
Not covered: reversal of voluntary or involuntary surgical sterilization.	All charges
Infertility services	
Nonexperimental infertility services limited to general diagnostic services Specific diagnosis and treatment of infertility, such as: • Artificial insemination: - intravaginal insemination (IVI)	\$15 per office visit 50% of all charges
intracervical insemination (ICI)intrauterine insemination (IUI)	
Not covered: • Assisted reproductive technology (ART) procedures, such as: - in vitro fertilization - embryo transfer, gamete GIFT and zygote ZIFT - zygote transfer • Services and supplies related to excluded ART procedures • Cost of donor sperm • Cost of donor egg • Fertility drugs	All charges
Allergy care	
Testing and treatment	\$15 per office visit
Allergy injection	Nothing
Allergy serum	Nothing
Not covered: any testing or treatment that does not meet Plan protocols	All charges

Treatment therapies	You pay
• Chemotherapy and radiation therapy Note: High dose chemotherapy in association with autologous bone marrow transplants are limited to those transplants listed under "Organ/Tissue Transplants" on page 25.	\$15 per visit
Respiratory and inhalation therapy	
• Dialysis – hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis	
Intravenous (IV)/Infusion Therapy – Home IV and antibiotic therapy	Nothing when administered at home
• Growth hormone therapy (GHT)	Covered under prescription drug benefit
• Dietary formula for the treatment of Phenylketonuria (PKU)	Nothing
• Enteral nutritional therapy when necessary due to malabsorption, including equipment and supplies	20% of charges for enteral nutritional therapy. Equipment and supplies are covered under Durable medical equipment (DME)
Total parenteral nutritional therapy and supplies necessary for its administration	Nothing for formula. Equipment and supplies are covered under Durable medical equipment (DME)
Routine nutritional counseling	\$15 per visit
Not covered: over the counter formulas	All charges
Physical and occupational therapies	
Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy are subject to a combined limit of sixty (60) visits per condition per calendar year. Speech therapy benefit is described in the next section. The following physical and occupational therapy benefits are covered:	\$15 per outpatient visit Nothing when provided on an inpatient basis (See Section 5(c) for Hospital charges)
 qualified physical therapists; and 	, ,
• qualified occupational therapists	
• Cardiac rehabilitation following a heart transplant, bypass surgery or a myocardial infarction when provided at a Plan facility	
Not covered:	All charges
• long-term rehabilitative therapy	
• exercise programs	

Speech therapy	You pay
Speech therapy, physical therapy and occupational therapy are subject to a combined limit of sixty (60) visits per condition per calendar year.	\$15 per outpatient visit
The physical and occupational therapy benefits are described under "Physical and Occupational therapies." Speech therapy is covered:	Nothing when provided on an inpatient basis (see
• Qualified speech therapists	Section 5(c) for Hospital charges)
Hearing services (testing, treatment, and supplies)	
Hearing testing to determine hearing loss	\$15 per office visit
Not covered:	
• hearing aids, testing and examinations for them	All charges
Vision services (testing, treatment, and supplies)	
 When dispensed through a Plan facility one contact lens per diseased eye following cataract surgery provided by a Plan doctor in lieu of an intraocular lens. Replacement will be provided only when needed due to change in your medical condition and will be replaced only one time within any 12 month period. 	\$15 per visit
• Eye exam to determine the need for vision correction	\$15 per office visit
Annual eye exams or refractions	
Note: See "Preventive care, children," for eye exams for children.	
Not covered:	All charges
• Eyeglasses	
 Contact lenses and related supplies including examinations and fittings for them, except as provided above 	
Eye exercises and orthoptics	
 Evaluations and surgical procedures to correct refractions which are not related to eye pathology including complications 	
Foot care	
Routine foot care when you are under active treatment for a metabolic or peripheral vascular disease, such as diabetes.	\$15 per office 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	
• 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)	

Orthopedic and prosthetic devices	You pay
Artificial limbs and eyes; stump hose	20% of charges
 Externally worn breast prostheses and surgical bras, including necessary replacements, following a mastectomy 	
 Ostomy supplies necessary for the removal of bodily secretions or waste through an artificial opening 	
 Internal prosthetic devices, such as artificial joints, pacemakers, cochlear implants, intraocular lenses, and surgically implanted breast implant following mastectomy. 	
Note: We pay internal prosthetic devices as hospital benefits; see Section 5(c) for payment information. See Section 5(b) for coverage of the surgery to insert the device.	
 Occlusal splints (including fittings) for non-dental treatment of temporomandibular joint (TMJ) pain dysfunction syndrome. 	
• Therapeutic shoe inserts for severe diabetic foot disease	
• Braces, such as back, knee, and leg braces, but not dental braces	
Not covered:	All charges
Orthopedic and corrective shoes	
• arch supports	
• foot orthotics	
 heel pads and heel cups 	
• lumbosacral supports	
 corsets, trusses, elastic stockings, support hose, and other supportive devices 	
• cost of artificial or mechanical heart	
• cost of penile implanted device	
 Orthopedic and prosthetic replacements provided except when medically necessary 	
 Replacement of devices, equipment and supplies due to loss, breakage or damage 	
Durable medical equipment (DME)	
Rental or purchase, at our option, including repair and adjustment, of durable medical equipment prescribed by your Plan physician. Under this benefit, we cover:	20% of charges
• hospital beds;	
• standard wheelchairs;	
• crutches;	
• walkers;	
• canes;	
 oxygen and oxygen equipment for home use; 	
• nasal CPAP device	
blood glucose monitors;	
• external insulin pumps; and medically necessary replacement of supplies.	
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Durable medical equipment (DME) - continued on next page

Durable medical equipment (DME) (continued)	You Pay	
Not covered:	All charges	
 Motorized wheelchairs except when approved by the medical director as medically necessary 		
 Replacement of devices, equipment and supplies due to loss, breakage or damage 		
• Equipment not listed as covered in our DME formulary		
Home health services		
Home health care ordered by a Plan physician and provided by a registered nurse (R.N.), licensed practical nurse (L.P.N.), licensed	Nothing per visit by provider	
vocational nurse (L.V.N.), or home health aide.	20% for oxygen therapy	
Services include oxygen therapy, intravenous therapy and medications	\$15 copay per prescription for generic formulary oral medications and \$25 copay per prescription for brand name formulary oral medications	
	A \$50 copay for non formulary oral medications when prescribed by a Plan doctor.	
Not covered:	All charges	
 nursing care requested by, or for the convenience of, the patient or the patient's family; 		
• home care primarily for personal assistance that does not include a medical component and is not diagnostic, therapeutic, or rehabilitative.		
Chiropractic		
Manipulative therapy services – for manipulation of the spine and extremities when treatment is received from a Plan provider and meets Plan protocols.	\$15 copay per visit	
Not covered:	All charges	
maintenance therapy		
• care given on a non-acute asymptomatic basis		
• services provided for the convenience of the member		

Alternative treatments	You Pay
Acupuncture – for pain relief for such conditions as chronic arthritis; chronic myofascial pain and chronic headaches when authorized in advance by your Plan provider and treatment meets Plan protocols.	\$15 per visit
Naturopathic services – for treatment of conditions such as chronic arthritis; chronic fatigue syndrome and fibromyalgia when authorized in	\$15 per visit
advance by your Plan provider and treatment meets Plan protocols.	
Not covered:	All charges
• maintenance therapy	
• vitamins	
• food supplements	
• care given on a non-acute asymptomatic basis	
• services provided for the convenience of the member	
• hypnotherapy	
biofeedback	
• botanical and herbal medicines	
Educational classes and programs	
Coverage is limited to:	
 Tobacco Cessation – Participation in the Plan's "Free and Clear (tobacco cessation) Program" is required in order to receive coverage for one course of nicotine replacement or other approved pharmacy product therapy per year. Diabetes self-management 	Nothing for the Program; (See Section 5(f) for pharmacy charges for nicotine replacement therapy) \$15 copay

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:

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- 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.
- 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.).
- YOUR PLAN DOCTOR MUST GET "PRIOR APPROVAL" OF SOME SURGICAL PROCEDURES. Please refer to the "prior approval" information shown in Section 3 to be sure which services require "prior approval" and identify which surgeries require "prior approval."

I M P O R T A N T

Benefit Description	You pay
Surgical procedures	
A comprehensive range of services, such as:	\$15 per visit for outpatient care
Operative procedures	Nothing when provided on an
 Treatment of fractures, including casting 	inpatient basis
 Normal pre- and post-operative care by the surgeon 	(See Section 5(c) for
 Correction of amblyopia and strabismus 	hospital charges)
 Endoscopy procedures 	
Biopsy procedures	
 Removal of tumors and cysts 	
 Correction of congenital anomalies (see reconstructive surgery) 	
• Surgical treatment of morbid obesity — a condition for which an individual's Body Mass Index (BMI) must be 40 or greater, and when all other medical criteria is met including the requirement that eligible members must be age 20 or over.	
• Insertion of internal prosthetic devices. See Section 5(a) — "Orthopedic and prosthetic devices" for device coverage information.	
 Voluntary sterilization (e.g., tubal ligation, vasectomy) 	
• Treatment of burns	
• Circumcision	
Note: Generally, we pay for internal prostheses (devices) according to where the procedure is done. For example, we pay Hospital benefits for a pacemaker and Surgery benefits for insertion of the pacemaker.	
Not covered:	All charges
Reversal of voluntary sterilization	
 Routine treatment of conditions of the foot; see Foot care 	
Cost of a penile implanted device	
Cost of an artificial or mechanical heart	
Weight loss programs	

Reconstructive surgery	You pay
• Surgery to correct a functional defect	\$15 per visit for outpatient care.
• Surgery to correct a condition caused by injury or illness if:	Nothing, when provided on an
 the condition produced a major effect on the member's appearance and 	inpatient basis (See Section 5(c) for Hospital charges)
- the condition can reasonably be expected to be corrected by such surgery	
• 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.	
• All stages of breast reconstruction surgery following a mastectomy, such as:	See above
 surgery to produce a symmetrical appearance on the other breast; 	
- treatment of any physical complications, such as lymphedemas;	
 compression garments to treat lymphedema (see Durable Medical Equipment) 	
 breast prostheses and surgical bras and replacements (see Prosthetic devices) 	
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.	
Not covered:	All charges
• 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	
Oral and maxillofacial surgery	
Oral surgical procedures, limited to:	\$15 per visit
• Reduction of fractures of the jaws or facial bones;	Nothing, when provided on an
• Surgical correction of cleft lip or cleft palate;	inpatient basis (See Section
• Removal of stones from salivary ducts;	5(c) for Hospital charges)
• Excision of malignancies;	
 Excision of non-dental cysts and incision of non-dental abscesses when done as independent procedures; and 	
 Other surgical procedures that do not involve the teeth or their supporting structures. 	
Not covered:	All charges
• Oral implants including preparation for implants and transplants	
• Procedures that involve the teeth or their supporting structures	
(such as the periodontal membrane, gingiva, and alveolar bone)	

Organ/tissue transplants	You pay
Limited to: Cornea Heart Heart/lung Kidney Kidney/Pancreas Liver Lung: Single or Double Allogenic (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 small intestine with the liver or small intestine with multiple organs such as, the liver, stomach and pancreas. Note: We cover related medical and hospital expenses of the donor when we cover the recipient. These expenses are limited to procurement center fees, travel costs for a surgical team, excision fees, and matching tests.	\$15 per visit for outpatient care Nothing when provided on inpatient basis (See Section 5(c) for Hospital charges)
 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 Transportation and living expenses 	All charges
Anesthesia	
Professional services provided in – • Hospital (inpatient) • Skilled nursing facility	Nothing
Professional services provided in — • Hospital outpatient department • Ambulatory surgical center • Provider's office	\$15 per visit

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

I M P O R T A N

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 Section 5(a) or (b).

I P O R T A N T

Benefit Description	You pay
Inpatient hospital	
Room and board, such as • Semiprivate room accommodations; • special care units such as intensive care or cardiac units • 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.	A \$200 inpatient copayment per day for 3 days; maximum of \$600 per person per hospitalization.
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 and blood derivatives Dressings, splints, casts, and sterile tray services Medical supplies and equipment, including oxygen Anesthetics, including nurse anesthetist services	Nothing except the \$200 inpatient copayment per day for 3 days; maximum of \$600 per person per hospitalization.
 Medical supplies, appliances, medical equipment, and any covered items billed by a hospital for use at home 	According to the benefit of the specific item you take home, i.e., hospital bed, pharmacy items, etc
 Not covered: Custodial care, rest cures, domiciliary or convalescent care Non-covered facilities, such as nursing home, schools Personal comfort items, such as telephone, television, barber services, guest meals and beds Private nursing care 	All charges

Outpatient hospital or ambulatory surgical center	You pay
 Operating, recovery, and other treatment rooms Prescribed drugs and medicines administered at the facility Diagnostic laboratory tests, X-rays, and pathology services Administration of blood, blood plasma, and other biologicals Blood and blood derivatives Pre-surgical testing Dressings, casts, and sterile tray services Medical supplies, including oxygen Anesthetics and anesthesia service 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. 	Outpatient surgery is subject to a \$75 copayment per procedure or visit.
Rehabilitative therapies	
Physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy - Two months per condition per calendar year for the services of each of the following in a certified rehabilitation facility: • qualified physical therapists • qualified speech therapists; and • qualified occupational therapists	Nothing after the \$200 inpatient copayment per day for 3 days; maximum of \$600 per person per hospitalization.
Not covered: Long-term rehabilitative therapy	All charges
Extended care benefits/skilled nursing care facility benefits	
Skilled nursing facility (SNF) benefit: When full-time skilled nursing care is necessary and confinement in a skilled nursing facility is medically appropriate as determined by a Plan doctor and authorized by the Plan you will receive up to 60 days per calendar year.	Nothing
Not covered: • custodial care; • rest cures; • domiciliary or convalescent care • personal comfort items, such as telephone and television	All charges

Hospice care	You pay		
Supportive and palliative care for a terminally ill member is covered in the home or a hospice facility. Services could include:			
• inpatient and outpatient care			
• drugs			
 biologicals 			
 medical appliances and supplies that are used primarily for the relief of pain and symptom management 			
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.			
Not covered: Independent nursing, homemaker services	All charges		
Ambulance			
 Ground and air ambulance transportation to a Plan facility, Plan designated facility, or non-Plan designated facility, when medically appropriate and ordered or authorized by a Plan doctor. 	20% of charges		

Section 5 (d). Emergency services/accidents

I M P O R T A N T

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.
- 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 T

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. Remember, it is your responsibility to notify the Plan.

If you need to be hospitalized in a non-Plan facility, the Plan must be notified within 24 hours by calling the Plan notification line at 1-888/457-9516, unless it was not reasonably possible to do so. If you are hospitalized in a non-Plan facility and a Plan doctor believes that better care can be provided in a Plan hospital, you will be transferred when medically feasible with ambulance charges covered in full. If you have questions about acute illnesses other than emergencies, you should call your primary care physician.

Benefits are available for care received from non-Plan providers in a medical emergency only if the delay in reaching a Plan provider would have resulted 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.

If you are admitted to an in-Plan hospital or designated facility directly from the emergency room, we will waive the in-Plan copayment.

Emergencies outside our service area: Benefits are available for 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 24 hours or on the first working day following your admission, unless it was not reasonably possible to do so. If you are hospitalized in a non-Plan facility and a Plan doctor believes that better care can be provided in a Plan hospital, you will be transferred when medically feasible with 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 or urgent care at a Plan doctor's office Emergency or urgent care at a Plan urgent care center.	\$15 copay \$15 copay	
 Emergency or urgent care at a Plan urgent care center Emergency care at a Plan or a Plan designated emergency department 	\$75 copay	
Emergency care at a non-plan facility, including doctors' services	\$125 copay per member per visit	
Not covered: Elective care or non-emergency care	All charges except at Plan doctor's office or Plan urgent care center	
Emergency outside our service area		
Emergency care or urgent care at a doctor's office	\$125 copay per member	
• Emergency care or urgent care at an urgent care center	per visit	
• Emergency care at a hospital, including doctors' services		
Not covered:	All charges.	
Elective care or non-emergency care		
• Emergency care provided outside the service area if the need for care could have been foreseen before leaving the service area		
• Medical and hospital costs resulting from a normal full-term delivery of a baby outside the service area		
Ambulance		
Professional ambulance service which include both ground and air ambulance transportation when medically appropriate and approved by the Plan.	20% of charges	
See Section 5(c) for non-emergency service.		
Not covered: Cabulance	All charges.	

Section 5 ((e).	Mental healt	h and subs	stance abuse	benefits
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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:

- 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 clinically appropriate to treat your condition.
- Plan doctor 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.

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Benefit Description	You pay
Mental health and substance abuse benefits	
We will cover all diagnostic and treatment services for the treatment of mental health and substance abuse conditions that are clinically necessary and recommended by the member's primary physician and approved by the Plan Medical Director or designee.	Cost sharing and limitations for benefits that we cover (for example, visit/day limits, copayments, and out-of-pocket maximums) for mental health and substance abuse are based on the cost sharing and limits for similar benefits under our Plan medical, hospital, prescription drug, diagnostic testing, and surgical benefits.
Examples of mental health inpatient and	For example:
 outpatient treatment can include: Diagnosis evaluation Diagnostic tests Consultation services Psychiatric treatment (individual, family and group therapy) by providers such as psychiatrists, psychologists, or clinical social workers Hospitalization (including professional services) Services in approved alternative care settings such as partial hospitalization Medication management visits Examples of substance abuse inpatient and outpatient treatment can include: Diagnosis, treatment and counseling for 	 The same \$15 copayment that applies when you visit a specialist for a physical illness or disease applies to a visit to a mental health or substance abuse provider for a therapy session. The same \$15 copay for generic formulary drugs or \$25 copay for brand name formulary drugs and a \$50 copay for non formulary drugs when prescribed by a Plan doctor, to treat a mental health or substance abuse condition as you would for a prescription to treat a physical illness or disease. The same \$200 inpatient copayment per day for 3 days; maximum of \$600 per person per hospitalization as you would for a physical illness or disease.
alcoholism and drug addiction • Diagnostic tests • Detoxification	A \$25 copayment per day for partial hospitalization; no day limit
 Hospitalization (including inpatient professional services) 	A \$15 copayment for each office visit
 Medication management visits Alcohol and drug education	Nothing for diagnostic tests
 Services in approved alternative care settings such as intensive outpatient treatment 	

Mental health and substance abuse benefits - continued on next page

Mental health and substance abuse benefits (Continued)	You Pay
Not covered by the Plan: The same exclusions that apply to other benefits apply to these mental health and substance abuse benefits.	All charges.
Examples of mental health inpatient and outpatient treatment that the Plan excludes are:	
 Psychiatric evaluation or therapy that is court ordered as a condition of parole or probation unless determined by a Plan provider to be necessary and appropriate 	
 Psychological testing that is not medically necessary 	
• Services that are custodial in nature	
 Assessment and treatment services that are primarily vocational and academic in nature (i.e., educational testing) 	
• Services provided under a Federal, state, or local government program	
• Services rendered or billed by a school or a member of its staff	
• Continued services if you do not substantially follow your treatment plan	
• Treatment not authorized by a Plan provider, provided by the Plan, or specifically contracted for by the Plan	
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.	

Section 5 (f). Prescription drug benefits

I M P O R T A N T

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

- We cover prescribed drugs and medications, as described in the chart beginning on the next page.
- 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.
- 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.

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

- Who can write your prescription. A Plan physician or referral doctor must write the prescription.
- Where you can obtain them. You must fill the prescription at a Plan pharmacy.
- We use a formulary. Prescriptions written by Plan physicians are dispensed in accordance with the Plan's drug
 formulary. A drug formulary is a list of preferred pharmaceutical products that our pharmacists and physicians,
 have developed to assure that you receive quality prescription drugs at a reasonable price. Non-formulary drugs
 will be covered only if based on medical necessity and if prescribed by a plan doctor. For information about
 specific formulary drugs, please call Customer Service at 1-888/901-4636.

A generic equivalent to a brand name drug will be dispensed if it is available. If your physician believes that a name brand product is medically necessary, or if there is no generic equivalent available, your physician may prescribe a name brand drug. You pay a higher copay when a brand name drug is prescribed.

- These are the dispensing limitations. Prescription drugs prescribed by Plan doctors and filled at Plan pharmacies will be dispensed for up to a 30-day supply. You will be required to pay a copay for each 30-day supply. If your prescription is written for more than a 30-day supply, such as a 90 day supply, you are responsible for three copays, one for each 30-day supply.
- Why use generic drugs? Generic drugs offer a safe and economic way to meet your prescription drug needs. The generic name of a drug is its chemical name; the name brand is the name under which a manufacturer advertises and sells that drug. They must contain the same active ingredients and must be equivalent in strength and dosage to the original brand-name product. Under federal law, generic and name brand drugs must meet the same standards for safety, purity, strength, and effectiveness. 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: Drugs (including injectibles) for which a prescription is required by Federal law Insulin Diabetic supplies, including needles, syringes, lancets, urine and blood glucose testing reagents; a copay charge applies per item per each 30-day supply Oral, injectable, and implanted contraceptive drugs and devices Compound dermatological preparations Disposable needles and syringes for the administration of covered prescribed medications Allergy serum Intravenous fluids and medication for home use are covered under (Section 	A \$15 copay for generic formulary drugs and a \$25 copay for brand name formulary drugs, per prescription unit or refill for up to a 30-day supply or 100-unit supply, whichever is less; or one commercially prepared unit (i.e., one inhaler, one vial ophthalmic medication or insulin). A \$50 copay for non-formulary drugs when prescribed by a Plan doctor. Nothing for Allergy serum	
5(a) – "Treatment Therapies") Mail Order Drug Program • Prescription medications mailed to your home by the Group Health mail order pharmacy. (Mail order issues up to a 90 day supply)	\$10 copay for generic formulary drugs or a \$20 copay for brand name formulary drugs, for each 30-day supply. A \$45 copay for non-formulary drugs when prescribed by a Plan	
	doctor, for each 30-day supply.	
Limited benefits:	\$15 cancer for consular formular	
 Drugs to aid in tobacco cessation. Participation in the Plan's Free and Clear Program is required in order to receive coverage for one course of nicotine replacement therapy per calendar year. 	\$15 copay for generic formulary drugs or a \$25 copay for brand name formulary drugs per 30-day supply. A \$50 copay for non-formulary drugs when prescribed by a Plan doctor.	
 Sexual dysfunction drugs; dosage limits set by the Plan. Contact Customer Service at 1-888/901-4636 for details. 	50% copayment	

Covered medications and supplies – continued on the next page.

Covered medications and supplies (Continued)	You Pay
Not covered:	All Charges.
 Drugs available without a prescription or for which there is a nonprescription equivalent available 	
 Drugs obtained at a non-Plan pharmacy; except when due to an out of area emergency 	
 Vitamins and nutritional substances, including dietary formulas and special diets, except for the treatment of phenylketonuria (PKU); total parenteral; and enteral nutrition therapy 	
Oral nutritional supplements	
 Medical supplies such as dressings, antiseptics, etc 	
• Experimental drugs, devices and biological products	
• Drugs for cosmetic purposes	
Drugs to enhance athletic performance	
• Fertility drugs	
• Replacement of lost or stolen drugs, medicines or devices.	

Section 5 (g). Special Features

Feature	Description
Flexible benefits option	 Under the flexible benefits option, we determine the most effective way to provide services. We may identify medically appropriate alternatives to traditional care and coordinate other benefits as a less costly alternative benefit. Alternative benefits are subject to our ongoing review. By approving an alternative benefit, we cannot guarantee you will get it in the future. The decision to offer an alternative benefit is solely ours, and we may withdraw it at any time and resume regular contract benefits. Our decision to offer or withdraw alternative benefits is not subject to OPM review under the disputed claims process.
Consulting Nurse Service	For urgent care information and after hours care between 5:30 PM and 8:30 AM call toll-free 1-800/297-6877 for Western WA or 1-800/497-2210 for Eastern WA and Idaho.
Services for deaf and hearing impaired	Members who are hearing or speech-impaired may use the following number to access a Group Health Facility, staff member, or Group Health provider. Washington: 711 or 1-800/833-6388 Idaho: 711 or 1-800/377-3529
Reciprocity benefit	Plan members who temporarily reside or are traveling outside the service area of this Plan may have access to care with Kaiser Permanente Plans. If you need services when out of the area, and are in the service area of a Kaiser Permanente Plan, you may obtain care from any Kaiser Permanente provider, medical office, or medical center, applicable copays will apply. If you plan to travel and wish to obtain more information about the benefits available to you, please call our Customer Service Center at 1-888/901-4636.
Travel benefit	If you are traveling, and are outside the Plans' service area by more than 100 miles, certain health services, i.e., follow-up care and continuing care, are covered. You pay a \$25 copay per follow-up or continuing care visit, up to a maximum Plan copayment of \$1,200 per person per calendar year. You must pay the provider at the time you receive the services. If the services are covered under this benefit, you will be reimbursed the reasonable charges for the care, up to a maximum of \$1,200 per person per calendar year, and the \$25 copay per visit will be deducted from the payment you receive from the Plan. Submit a claim to the Plan for the services on a HCFA Form 1500, with necessary supporting documentation, i.e., itemized bills and receipts, along with an explanation of the services, and the identification information from your ID card. Send the claims to Group Health Cooperative, Claims Administration, P.O. Box 34585, Seattle, WA 98124-1585.

Section 5 (h). Dental benefits

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.
- You are not required to receive your care from specified dental providers.

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- 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. See Section 5 (c) for inpatient hospital benefits. We do not cover the dental procedure unless it is described below.
- 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 following is a summary of the Plan's dental benefits. Please call the Plan's member Services Department at 1-206/522-2300 or 1-800/554-1907 or you may visit our website at www.deltadentalwa.com for more information on additional exclusions and limitations.
- Benefits are provided only for services included in the list of covered dental services
 and no charges will be paid in excess of the reasonable and customary charge. No dental
 benefit will be paid for any dental service or supply which is incomplete or temporary.

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The Dental program will pay a percentage of the reasonable and customary charge for dental services listed below and will reimburse any dentist, dental hygienist (under the supervision of a dentist), or denturist, that you select. You pay an annual deductible of \$50 per member and \$150 per family, per year up to \$1,000 maximum benefit, per member per year as well as any amounts over Plan payment. You are not required to receive your care from specified dental providers.

Important: Benefits are provided only for services included in the list of covered dental services and no charge will be paid in excess of the reasonable and customary charge. No dental benefit will be paid for any dental service or supply which is incomplete or temporary.

Dental Benefits	
Service	You Pay
Preventive Care	Nothing after the deductible
 Prophylaxis (cleaning and polishing of teeth) not more than once in any five month period 	
 Routine oral examinations, except for orthodontics 	
 Fluoride treatment for children under age 16 	
 Dental X-rays, except for orthodontics 	
 Bacteriologic cultures and biopsies of tissue 	
 Emergency palliative treatment for relief of dental pain 	
Space maintainers, except for orthodontics	

Dental benefits – continued on the next page.

Dental Benefits (continued)	You Pay		
Basic Dental Care • Endodontic treatment as follows: root canal therapy, pulpotomy, apicoectomy, and retrograde fillings	50% of reasonable and customary charges after the deductible		
• Simple extractions			
Oral surgery			
Basic periodontal services, limited to occlusal adjustment when performed with a covered root scaling			
Study models			
Crown build-up on non-vital teeth			
• Pin retention of fillings			
• Fillings (restorations) using amalgam, silicate, acrylic synthetic porcelain and composite fill materials to restore teeth broken down by decay or injury; on posterior teeth, an allowance will only be made for an amalgam filling			
Recementing inlays, onlays, and crowns			
Recementing bridges			
• Repairs to full and partial dentures and bridges			
General anesthetics and analgesics			
• Injectable antibiotics			
Major dental care	70% of reasonable and		
 Major periodontal treatment of the gums and supporting structure of the teeth 	customary charges after the deductible		
Bridges and dentures			
Crowns and gold restorations			
Replacement of damaged appliances			
Not covered: Other dental services not shown as covered.	All charges		

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 catastrophic protection out-of-pocket maximums.

Vision Hardware (See Centers)

Federal employees and their dependents are eligible for a 10% vision hardware discount at Group Health Cooperative "See Centers." The discount applies to the cost of one or more pairs of prescription eyeglasses or one pair of contact lenses per year if these items are purchased through a See Center. Fitting and evaluation fees are not included in the discount.

Take Care Stores

"Take Care" stores sell self-care and wellness products such as back support cushions, blood pressure monitors, and allergy-control bedding. There are four Take Care Stores (located at Group Health Capitol Hill, Group Health Northgate Medical Center, Group Health Eastside Hospital, and Group Health Olympia Medical Center), or you can order directly online from the Take Care website www.take-care.com.

Hear Centers

Our "Hear Centers" offer a full range of the latest hearing aid technology from the world's leading manufacturers, as well as custom noise plugs, swim molds, assistive listening devices, other accessories and batteries. There are four Hear Centers (located in Redmond, Seattle, Tacoma, and Olympia).

Smoking Cessation

Group Health continues to pave the way in smoking cessation benefits with our nationally recognized "Free & Clear" program. Any currently enrolled Group Health member may participate in the "Free & Clear" program. Participants pay extra for any pharmaceuticals used. To learn more, call Free & Clear at 1-800-462-5327.

Weight Management Program

Group Health's Weight Management program offers a total lifestyle plan. It teaches positive behaviors that promote health, and helps improve overall well-being through weight management. For more information, call 206-527-6920 in Seattle or 1-888-874-7783 toll free.

MyGroupHealth

MyGroupHealth is an online health center available to all members. MyGroupHealth provides access to valuable health risk assessment tools, doctor profiles and selection, medical center locations and programs, and 22,000 pages of reliable health care information. Visit MyGroupHealth at www.ghc.org.

SilverSneakers (FOR WESTERN WASHINGTON MEMBERS ONLY)

As a member of the FEHB Medicare Managed Care Plan, your member ID card entitles you to participate in our popular SilverSneakers program. With over twenty health and fitness facilities to choose from throughout the Puget Sound area, you choose what you want to do: relax in a sauna, improve your posture and flexibility in a SilverSneakers class, or tone your body with weight training, circuit training, or aerobics.

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, disease, injury, or condition and we agree, as discussed under What Services Require Our Prior Approval on page 12.

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;
- Procedures, 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;
- Procedures, services, drugs, or supplies related to sex transformations;
- Procedures, services, drugs, or supplies you receive from a provider or facility barred from the FEHB Program; or
- Services, drugs, or supplies you receive without charge while in active military service.

Section 7. Filing a claim for covered services

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

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 and hospital 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 1-888/901-4636.

When you must file a claim — such as for services you receive outside of the Plan's service area — 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: Group Health Cooperative, Claims Administration, P.O. Box 34585, Seattle WA 98124-1585

Prescription drugs

Outpatient drugs and medicines obtained at non-Plan pharmacies are not covered; except when due to an out of area emergency.

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

- 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: Group Health Cooperative, Appeals Department, P.O. Box 34593, Seattle WA 98124; 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 providers' letters, operative reports, bills, medical records, and explanation of benefits (EOB) forms.
- We have 30 days from the date we receive your request to:
 - (a) Pay the claim (or, if applicable, 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 provider for more information. If we ask your provider, we will send you a copy of our request—go to step 3.
- 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, Health Benefits Contracts Division 3, 1900 E Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20415-3630.

The Disputed Claims Process — continued on next page

The disputed claims process (continued)

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 more than one claim, 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.

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.

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 precertification 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 1-888/901-4636 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 may call OPM's Health Benefits Contracts Division 3 at 1-202/606-0755 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. eastern standard time.

Section 9. Coordinating benefits with other coverage

When you have other health coverage

What is Medicare?

You must tell us if you or a covered family member have coverage under another group health plan, or have automobile insurance that pays health care 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, after the primary plan pays, we will apply benefits as described in this brochure to any balances left owing.

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 (Original Medicare) 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. The Original Medicare Plan 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 continue to be authorized by your Plan PCP or preauthorized as required.

Claims process when you have the Original Medicare Plan - You probably will never have to file a claim form when you have both our Plan and the Original Medicare Plan.

- When we are the primary payer, we process the claim first.
- When Original Medicare is the primary payer, Medicare processes

your claim first. In most cases, your claim will be coordinated automatically and we will then provide secondary benefits for covered charges. You will not need to do anything. To find out if you need to do something to file your claim, call us at 1-888/901-4636.

We do not waive any costs if the Original Medicare Plan is your primary payer.

(Primary payer chart begins on next page.)

The following chart illustrates whether the Original Medicare Plan 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
1) Are an active employee with the Federal government (including when you or a family member are eligible for Medicare solely because of a disability),		√
2) Are an annuitant,	✓	
3) Are a reemployed annuitant with the Federal government when		
a) The position is excluded from FEHB, or	✓	
b) The position is not excluded from FEHB		✓
(Ask your employing office which of these applies to you)		
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),		
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		
1) Are within the first 30 months of eligibility to receive Part A benefits solely because of ESRD,		√
2) Have completed the 30-month ESRD coordination period and are still eligible for Medicare due to ESRD,	✓	
3) 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		
1) Are eligible for Medicare based on disability, and		
a) Are an annuitant, or	✓	
b) Are an active employee, or		√
c) Are a former spouse of an annuitant, or	✓	
d) Are a former spouse of an active employee		✓

Please note, if your Plan physician does not participate in Medicare, you will have to file a claim with Medicare.

• Medicare managed care plan

If you are eligible for Medicare, you may choose to enroll in and get your Medicare benefits from a Medicare managed care plan. These are health care choices (like HMOs) in some areas of the country. In most Medicare managed care plans, you can only go to doctors, specialists, or hospitals that are part of the plan. Medicare managed care plans provide all the benefits that Original Medicare covers. Some cover extras, like prescription drugs. To learn more about enrolling in a Medicare managed care plan, contact Medicare at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) or at www.medicare.gov.

If you enroll in a Medicare managed care plan, the following options are available to you:

This Plan and our Medicare managed care plan: You may enroll in our Medicare managed care plan and also remain enrolled in our FEHB plan. When you elect to become part of our Medicare managed care plan, we will waive your outpatient copayment and your hospital emergency room copayment. We will also waive all coinsurances and deductibles. You are responsible for your outpatient drug copayment.

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 and 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 plan's service area.

• If you do not 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 Medcare Part B and, if you can't get premium-free Part A, we will not ask you to enroll in it.

TRICARE and CHAMPVA

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

Suspended FEHB coverage to enroll in TRICARE or CHAMPVA: If you are an annuitant or former spouse, you can suspend your FEHB coverage to enroll in a one of these programs, eliminating your FEHB premium. (OPM does not contribute to any applicable plan premiums.) For information on suspending your FEHB enrollment, contact your retirement office. If you later want to re-enroll in the FEHB Program, generally you may do so only at the next Open Season unless you involuntarily lose coverage under the program.

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, up to the benefit limits of this plan. You must use our providers.

Medicaid

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

Suspended FEHB coverage to enroll in Medicaid or a similar State-sponsored program of medical assistance: If you are an annuitant or former spouse, you can suspend your FEHB coverage to enroll in one of these State programs, eliminating your FEHB premium. For information on suspending your FEHB enrollment, contact your retirement office. If you later want to re-enroll in the FEHB Program, generally you may do so only at the next Open Season unless you involuntarily lose coverage under the program.

When other Government agencies are responsible for your care

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

When others are responsible for injuries

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 our Customer Service at 1-888/901-4636 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 13.

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

services. See page 13.

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

Custodial care Care furnished for the purpose of meeting non-medically necessary personal

needs which could be provided by persons without professional skills or training, such as assistance in mobility, dressing, bathing, eating, preparation of special diets, and taking medication. Custodial care is not covered by the Medicare managed care plan, or Medicare, unless provided in conjunction with skilled nursing care and/or skilled rehabilitation services. Custodial care

that lasts 90 days or longer is sometimes known as long term care.

DeductibleA 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 13.

The Plan makes its determination of experimental or investigational treatment, including medical and surgical services, drugs, devices and biological products upon review of evidence provided by evaluations of national medical associations, consensus panels, and/or other technological evaluations, including the scientific quality of such supporting evidence and rationale. The information it reviews comes from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and from scientific evidence in published medical literature, as well as

in published peer-reviewed medical literature.

Group health coverage Coverage offered by your employer

Medical necessityMedical services or hospital services which are determined by the Plan
Medical Director or designee to be:

a) Rendered for the treatment or diagnosis of an injury or illness; and

b) Appropriate for the symptoms, consistent with diagnosis, and otherwise in accordance with sufficient scientific evidence and professionally recognized

standards; and

c) Not furnished primarily for the convenience of the Member, the attending

physician, or other Provider of service.

Whether there is "sufficient scientific evidence" shall be determined by the Plan based on the following: peer-reviewed medical literature; publications, reports, evaluations, and regulations issued by state and federal government agencies; Medicare local carriers, and intermediaries; and such other authoritative medical sources as deemed necessary by the Plan.

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2003 Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound

Experimental or

investigational services

Plan allowance

Plan allowance is the amount we use to determine our payment and your coinsurance for covered services. Plans determine their allowances in different ways. We determine our allowance as follows: the charges are consistent with those normally charged by the provider or organization for the same services or supplies; and the charges are within the general range of charges made by other providers in the same geographical area for the same services or supplies.

Us and we refer to Group Heath Cooperative of Puget Sound

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 www.opm.gov/insure. Also, your employing or retirement office can answer your questions, 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 your FEHB coverage. These materials tell you:

- 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, 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.

Children's Equity Act

OPM has implemented the Federal Employees Health Benefits Children's Equity Act of 2000. This law mandates that you be enrolled for Self and Family coverage in the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program, if you are an employee subject to a court or administrative order requiring you to provide health benefits for your child(ren).

If this law applies to you, you must enroll for Self and Family coverage in a health plan that provides full benefits in the area where your children live or provide documentation to your employing office that you have obtained other health benefits coverage for your children. If you do not do so, your employing office will enroll you involuntarily as follows:

- If you have no FEHB coverage; your employing office will enroll you for Self and Family coverage in the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Service Benefit Plan's Basic Option,
- if you have a Self Only enrollment in a fee-for-service plan or in an HMO that serves the area where your children live, your employing office will change your enrollment to Self and Family in the same option of the same plan; or
- if you are enrolled in an HMO that does not serve the area where the children live, your employing office will change your enrollment to Self and Family in the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Service Benefit Plan's Basic Option.

As long as the court/administrative order is in effect, and you have at least one child identified in the order who is still eligible under the FEHB Program, you cannot cancel your enrollment, change to Self Only, or change to a plan that doesn't serve the area in which your children live, unless you provide documentation that you have other coverage for the children. If the court/administrative order is still in effect when you retire, and you have at least one child still eligible for FEHB coverage, you must continue your FEHB coverage into retirement (if eligible) and cannot make any changes after retirement. Contact your employing office for further information.

The benefits in this brochure are effective on January 1. If you joined this Plan during Open Season, your coverage begins on the first day of your first pay period that starts on or after January 1. Annuitants' coverage and premiums begin on January 1. If you joined at any other time during the year, your employing office will tell you the effective date of coverage.

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 benefits and premiums start

When you retire

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. This is the case even when the court has ordered your former spouse to supply health coverage to you. But, you may be eligible for your own FEHB coverage under the spouse equity law or Temporary Continuation of Coverage (TCC). 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. You can also download the guide from OPM's website, www.opm.gov/insure.

• Temporary continuation of coverage (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 www.opm.gov/insure. 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. See also the FEHB web site www.opm.gov/insure/health; 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 Still Available!

Open Season for Long Term Care Insurance

- You can protect yourself against the high cost of long term care by applying for insurance in the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program.
- Open Season to apply for long term care insurance through LTC Partners ends on December 31, 2002.
- If you're a Federal employee, you and your spouse need only answer a few questions about your health during Open Season.
- If you apply during the Open Season, your premiums are based on your age as of July 1, 2002. After Open Season, your premiums are based on your age at the time LTC Partners receives your application.

FEHB Doesn't Cover It

• Neither FEHB plans nor Medicare cover the cost of long term care. Also called "custodial care", long term care helps you perform the activities of daily living such as bathing or dressing yourself. It can also provide help you may need due to a severe cognitive impairment such as Alzheimer's disease.

You Can Also Apply Later, But...

- Employees and their spouses can still apply for coverage after the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program Open Season ends, but they will have to answer more health-related questions.
- For annuitants and other qualified relatives, the number of health-related questions that you need to answer is the same during and after the Open Season.

You Must Act to Receive an Application

- Unlike other benefit programs, YOU have to take action you won't receive an application automatically. You must request one through the toll-free number or website listed below.
- Open Season ends December 31, 2002 act NOW so you won't miss the abbreviated underwriting available to employees and their spouses, and the July 1 "age freeze"!

Find Out More – Contact LTC Partners by calling 800/LTC-FEDS (800/582-3337) (TDD for the hearing impaired: 800/843-3557) or visiting www.ltcfeds.com to get more information and to request an application.

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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 Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound—2003

- 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 summarized 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 providers, except in emergencies.

Benefits	You Pay	Page
Medical services provided by physicians:		
Diagnostic and treatment services provided in the office	Office visit copay: \$15 primary care or specialist	15
Services provided by a hospital:		
• Inpatient	\$200 per day for 3 days; maximum of \$600 per person per hospitalization	26
Outpatient	\$75 per visit	27
Emergency benefits:		
• In-area	\$75 copay	30
Out-of-area	\$125 copay	30
Mental health and substance abuse treatment	Regular cost sharing	31–32
Prescription drugs:		
Up to a 30-day supply per prescription unit or refill	\$15 copay for generic prescriptions / \$25 copay for brand name prescriptions / \$50 copay for non-formulary prescriptions	34
Mail order: 30-day supply per prescription unit or refill (issued up to 90-day supply)	\$10 copay for generic prescriptions / \$20 copay for brand name prescriptions / \$45 copay for non-formulary prescriptions	34
Dental Care		37–38
See Dental Schedule for complete coverage	per family), variable copays for most care, and any charges beyond the Plan payment	
Vision Care	\$15 copay per outpatient visit	19
Routine eye exam and refractions for eyeglasses		
Special features:		
Flexible benefits options; Consulting Nurse service; Services for deaf and hearing impaired; Reciprocity benefit; and Travel benefit		36
Protection against catastrophic costs (your catastrophic protection out-of-pocket maximum)	Nothing after \$1,500/Self Only or \$3,000/Self and Family enrollment per year. Some costs do not count toward this protection.	13

NOTES

2003 Rate Information for Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound

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 a special FEHB guide is published 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		
		Biwo	weekly Monthly		Biweekly		
Type of Enrollment	Code	Gov't Share	Your Share	Gov't Share	Your Share	USPS Share	Your Share
Western Washi	ngton						
High Option Self only	541	\$109.30	\$44.19	\$236.82	\$95.74	\$129.03	\$24.46
High Option Self and Family	542	\$249.62	\$96.90	\$540.84	\$209.95	\$294.70	\$51.82
Eastern and Central Washington and Northern Idaho							
High Option Self only	VR1	\$108.73	\$36.24	\$235.58	\$78.52	\$128.66	\$16.31
High Option Self and Family	VR2	\$249.62	\$122.70	\$540.84	\$265.85	\$294.70	\$77.62